

BOROUGH OFFICERS

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DENEEN SWARTZWELDER

Borough Manager

GREG BACHY

Solicitor

ROBERT L. MCTIERNAN



BOROUGH COUNCIL

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ANGELA D. STRIBLING

BOROUGH OF SWISSVALE COUNCIL AGENDA AUGUST 30, 2023 7:00 P.M.

1. AGENDA MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:02 P.M.
2. ROLL CALL
 - a. Present: C. Ansell; S. Alfonso Wells; W. Price; J. Miser; F. Quinn; Mayor Swartzwelder
 - b. Absent: W. Scales; A. Stribling
3. PUBLIC COMMENT
 - a. Gib & Mary Miller (Hanover) – Church Street Parklet and relocation of the monument at the former borough building. C. Ansell stated that he circulated a plan that G. Miller had provided. Mr. Bachy estimated it would take about \$35,000 to complete the project. C. Ansell and Mayor Swartzwelder promised \$5,000 from their ARPA funds to help complete the project.
4. AGENDA ITEMS
 - a. Discuss awarding a contract for Accessible Ramp Construction.
 - i. The Turtle Creek COG awarded a \$28,018 grant for the construction of accessible handicapped ramps between the Borough Building and Fire Department. The low bidder was El Grande Industries with a bid of \$54,500.00. Mr. Bachy recommended awarding the contract to El Grande in the amount of \$30,000.00 to construct ramp numbers 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 in the bid documents. The Borough share of the project will be \$1,982.00 plus engineering. A copy of the bid tabulation is attached.
 - b. Discuss a contract for Asbestos Abatement Inspection.
 - i. Mr. Bachy recommended awarding a contract to Skelly and Loy in the amount of \$18,000.00 for asbestos abatement management, daily air sampling, project oversight and creation of the final report certifying that all asbestos has been properly removed and disposed. A copy of the proposed contract was provided to the Council.
 - c. Discuss a \$10,000.00 grant to Swissvale Food Pantry from ARPA funds.
 - i. C. Ansell proposed allocating \$10,000.00 from his \$45,000.00 allotment of the ARPA funds and donating it to the Swissvale Food Pantry.

- d. Discuss Borough Building financing.
 - i. The DCED does not allow a balloon payment as was proposed in the original loan agreement which would require a new loan after 15 years. First Commonwealth Bank agreed to a 25-year loan. The necessary ordinance has been properly advertised. Council may approve the updated borrowing ordinance as required.
- e. Discuss resolutions for various grant applications.
 - i. There are several grant programs open soon which require resolutions:
 - Community Development Block Grant for additional handicapped accessible curb ramps.
 - Community Development Block Grant for Schley Avenue Sanitary Sewer Replacement (Re-Apply for funds that were not received in 2022).
 - Local Share Account (LSA) for sidewalk replacement, elevator installation and other improvements at the Wilkins School Community Center.
 - Local Share Account (LSA) for a study of traffic calming methods in the Borough and funds for implementation.
 - I. C. Ansell expressed his thanks to Mr. Bachy for his work in obtaining so many grants for the Borough.
 - ii. Discussion by Council about parking penalties.
- f. Discuss an ordinance prohibiting parking in EV Charging spaces.
 - i. The EV Charging stations are being installed along Aurelius Street. Mr. McTiernan is drafting an ordinance to prohibit parking in the five spaces designated for EV Charging. The Ordinance will prescribe a \$50.00 fine for any non-EV found parked in these spaces or any EV which remains parked in the spaces after a certain amount of time when the vehicle charging is complete.
 - ii. Discussion by Council about parking penalties.
- g. Discuss returning to in-person meetings.
 - i. Further discussion by Council regarding returning to in-person meetings and at what location. C. Ansell recommended returning to in-person meetings for Regular Meetings and remaining virtual for Agenda Meetings. The in-person meetings would begin on October 4th. Consensus of Council was returning to in-person meetings at Dickson STEAM Academy on October 4th.

5. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

- a. POLICE – Chief Watson
 - i. The Police Committee has made changes to the Police Academy requirements. The Swissvale residential requirement was changed to Allegheny County resident.
- b. CODE and FIRE – Chief Wilhelm
 - i. Three grants were completed. About \$200,000 worth of grant funding was used for the purchase of new equipment and gear.
 - ii. Code enforcement has been busy.
 - iii. Several zoning hearings have been held.
 - iv. Invited Council to a structural burn evaluation training day on Sept 9.

- v. Members of the Fire Department are attending the Commonwealth Building Officials conferences Sept 14-16.
 - vi. Multiple training courses are coming up.
 - vii. A fire forum for members of the COG is being hosted by Swissvale.
 - viii. Members of the FD are enrolled in train training with Norfolk Southern in October.
- c. PUBLIC WORKS – Jordan D’Ambrosio
- i. Streetlights on Noble and Washington Street have been repaired.
 - ii. Public Works is about $\frac{3}{4}$ complete with painting of handicap spaces. All signs were replaced in the winter/spring.
 - iii. W. Scales thanked Mr. D’Ambrosio for hosting the summer work program.
- d. BOROUGH MANAGER - Greg Bachy
- i. The Police Regionalization report has been submitted to the DCED. Braddock Hills has also completed and submitted theirs. The police Committee will be scheduling a kickoff meeting with the DCED.
 - ii. DPW Committee met on Friday and discussed paving. \$250,000 was allocated from ARPA funds which will be used for Mansion Place, Varsity Road and others. A list will be circulated to Council of locations. Hoping to bid the project in December or January to award in February. Work would be completed by June.
 - iii. Swissvale is no longer collecting trash in Homestead.
 - iv. The Administrative Office will be closed on Monday for Labor Day. There will be a delay in trash and recycling collection for the holiday on Monday.
- e. COUNCIL PRESIDENT – Chris Ansell
- i. Council will be meeting in executive session for issues of personnel.
 - ii. C. Ansell expressed excitement about the progress on the EV project on Aurelius. Sept 20th – CONNECT is hosting an EV tour to show off different locations and will stop in Swissvale. September 28th at 1:00 pm will be the official ribbon cutting for the charging stations.
- f. SOLICITOR – Robert McTiernan
- i. Nothing further to report.
7. OTHER NEW BUSINESS
- i. None.
8. MOTION TO ADJOURN THE AGENDA MEETING AT 8:19 P.M. Moved by W. Scales, 2nd by J. Miser. All Ayes, Motion carries.