

AUGUST 6, 2018 6:30 PM

REGULAR MEETING OF SWOYERSVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Council President Alunni calls the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call was taken, those present: Mr. Cwalina, Mr. Keating, Ms. O'Donnell, Mr. Olejnick and Mr. Alunni. Also present were Mayor Concert. Atty. Yeager, Borough Solicitor, was absent.

A motion to accept the minutes of the July 2 and July 24, 2018 meetings was made by Mr. Keating and seconded by Mr. Cwalina. The vote was 4-0 in favor. Mr. Christian and Ms. O'Donnell abstained.

Monthly bills totaling \$28,452.45 were paid on a motion made by Mr. Olejnick and seconded Mr. Christian. The vote was 6-0 in favor.

BOROUGH COORDINATOR'S REPORT

- An update was given on the Harry E coal bank removal. The company removing the bank has submitted all the paperwork necessary to DEP for the permit and is waiting their approval. The target date for starting the removal is August or September. As soon as the approval comes from the state they will contact the borough. There will be a meeting with the residents to answer questions and explain the operation that will take place. The company wants to be upfront and get the right information to the residents. The meeting will be held at Swoyersville Hose Company #2 hall since the council chambers are too small for such a large crowd. There will be more to follow as soon as we are made aware of any developments.
- The multimodal grant application for street paving has been completed and submitted. The amount to be spent on roads, with approval of the grant, will be over \$1 million and will take care of 13 streets. As soon as we are notified either way of the status of the grant it will be passed on to council and the mayor.
- A letter from the Swoyersville Kiwanis Club was read. The letter asked council if they would like to be a golf sponsor for their upcoming tournament in September. As I the past years council did approve the donation. A motion was made by Ms. O'Donnell and seconded by Mr. Olejnick to give the same amount as in the past years, \$100.00. The vote was 6-0 in favor.

Mr. Alunni announced new committee assignments: Ms. O'Donnell will be the Finance Chairperson and Mr. Olejnick will be Street Department Chairman.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance: Mr. Olejnick, for this meeting only, read the June 2018 financial reports: **General Fund:** beginning checkbook balance: \$136,360.56; transfers and revenue for the month: \$99,736.69; expenses and transfers for the month: \$138,033.70; ending checkbook balance: \$98,063.55.

Liquid Fuels: beginning checkbook balance: \$67.00; transfers and revenue for the month: \$5,800.06; expenses and transfers for the month \$5,482.70; ending checkbook balance: \$384.36.

Refuse Fund: beginning checkbook balance: \$28,161.28; transfers and revenue for the month: \$23,690.26; expenses and transfers for the month \$24,778.40; ending checkbook balance: \$27,073.14.

Sanitary/Storm Sewer Assessment Fund: beginning checkbook balance: \$350.59; transfers and revenue for the month: \$6,016.89; expenses and transfers for the month \$4,449.95; ending checkbook balance: \$1,917.53.

Street Department: Mr. Olejnick: A new home was being built at 416 Owen Street and a lateral needs to be installed, bids will be sought for the new lateral installation. The back hoe needs work which will cost a few thousand dollars. The John Deere tractor needs a new clutch estimated at \$5,000. Other bids will be received for fixing the John Deere tractor clutch.

Liaison Officer: Mr. Christian: There is an issue with a police employee and wants to discuss it with council and the mayor. Mr. Alunni called for an executive session at 6:41 PM to go over the details. Council returns from the executive session at 6:50 PM.

Police Department: Mr. Keating: The Police report for July 2018 was read. Fines totaling \$140.25 received for the month were placed in the proper fund on a motion made by Mr. Keating and seconded by Mr. Cwalina. The vote was 6-0 in favor.

Fire Department: Mr. Cwalina: No reports during summer months. Mr. Cwalina reported that the West Side Council of Governments will be purchasing a new street sweeper which does not require a CDL to operate.

Mayor Concert: EMA Director Ms. O'Donnell was checking out the Dana Street ponding basin during the last rainstorm. The basin started to fill up because the pump station was malfunctioning. The problem was repaired by Joe Ferraro and the station is back to working properly. There will be a "Movie Night" at the Girl's Softball Field on August 18. Movie will start at 8 PM. Mayor Concert wanted to go on record that he, nor council, as a whole, wants to replace our fire department with Kingston Fire. He is totally satisfied with the 2 fire company's coverage and work in town.

Atty. Yeager: Absent. No report.

Mr. Keating has asked at the last meeting that the ambulance produce an audit prior to this council meeting. He will extend that request for 1 more month. Wendi Specht, President, Swoyersville Ambulance, says their CPA says it takes months for an audit to be conducted. Mr. Keating said council has been asking for an audit for many, many months.

MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC

Wendy Specht, President, Swoyersville Ambulance- Received their charter of organization back. 55 calls in town and took 38 total calls. Ms. O'Donnell questioned the 16 out of town calls whereby another unit was needed to cover the town. Mayor Concert asked about the Swoyersville Ambulance vehicle, when will it be back in service. Wendy Specht said it would be coming back the week of August 6th.

Bill Smedley- Asked about the flood control ditch by his house. The ditch was full of weeds and the weeds are coming into the yards because the growth is out of control. There are mosquitoes and animals around the area too. The cover on the creek is intense and something needs to be done about it. Mr. Cwalina said manpower is the problem. The Borough had prisoners scheduled to come in on several occasions to cut the creeks but because guards, who watch the prisoners, are not always available on the day scheduled, they cannot come out. Mr. Keating said Mr. Breznay was looking into something. Mr. Breznay replied that the area was sprayed with a chemical which will kill the weeds, be environmentally safe, and keep the growth under control. This will be done next year too in either May or June and there should be no issues like this next year.

Jeff Zdancewicz, Jr., Swoyersville Mini Football- Want to have a car wash again on August 18. Had one planned last year but never did it. They want permission to host this again. He asked about the update on the bathrooms as football practice is underway. Bathrooms are done; locks are being rekeyed so they will work the keys mini football has which also open all the locks. The outside of the building is in the process of being repainted too to include the press box. Mini football wanted permission to hold a bonfire again as they have done in the past. The problem is what is being burned; there are couches being burned and other pieces of wood that have paint and stain on them, all of which can be potentially hazardous. A motion was made by Ms. O'Donnell and seconded by Mr. Christian to try the bonfire again. The vote was 6-0 in favor. There should be a sign with the times for delivering wood for the bonfire; that needs to be watched carefully.

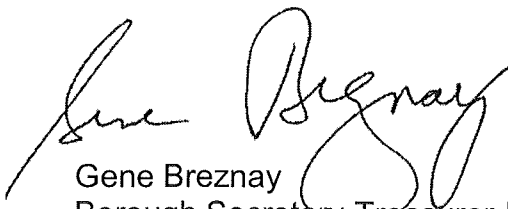
Barbara Brody, Perrin Street- The pave cut that was made to fix her broken sewer lateral in January still needs to be restored, it is caving in. Mr. Christian said Jeff Zupko, St. Dept. Supervisor, will get to it in the next few weeks. Ms. Brody asked if paving the cut was in the contract and the answer was that it was not. She questioned Mr. Breznay about this. Mr. Breznay said again he does not handle these things that is the Street Department Supervisor's job and further told Ms. Brody that Mr. Zupko got the bids and awarded the bid for that job. Ms. Brody also wanted to know where Atty. Yeager was as she had something to discuss with him. She was advised that Atty. Yeager was ill and could not attend tonight's meeting.

Ann Marie Saunders, Milbre Street- She asked who was responsible for handicap ramps; especially the ones on Hemlock and Shoemaker Street. There are people in wheelchairs using the roads to get around instead of the ramps to get on the sidewalks. Ms. O'Donnell said the men in the wheelchairs are safer using the streets for their wheelchairs then trying to go up the ramps. She also complained about trees overgrown on Chapel Street hanging over the road. Wanted to know who can cut the trees.

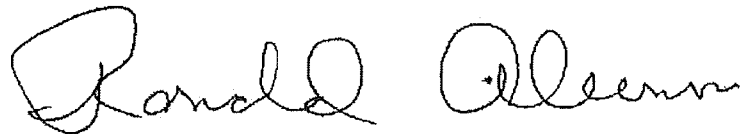
Dave Zasada, 348 Main Street- He asked about the procedure of how an ambulance gets dispatched on calls out of town and if Swoyersville's ambulance was out of town on calls that county 911 dispatches why is that being held against them. The procedure is as follows for an ambulance being sent to responses out of town. If our ambulance is available and there is a call in another town but that town's ambulance is handling a call at the time then our ambulance, or any other ambulance that is on the list for being called as second due, will get dispatched.

Mr. Christian congratulated Ed Connor for receiving the Badge of Honor award from the Times Leader for his duties with the ambulance for over 30 years. Congratulations to Ed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Christian and seconded by Mr. Cwalina. The vote was 6-0 in favor. Next meeting will be held on September 4, 2018, the day after Labor Day which is a Monday.



Gene Breznay
Borough Secretary-Treasurer-Manager



Ronald Alunni
Council President