

# SEPTEMBER 4, 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. Christian, Mr. Cwalina, Mr. Keating, Ms. O'Donnell and Mr. Alunni. Mr. Olejnick was absent. Also present were Mayor Concert, Atty. Yeager, Borough Solicitor and Jeff Zupko, Street Department Supervisor.

A motion to accept the minutes of the August 6 meeting was made by Mr. Keating and seconded by Ms. O'Donnell. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

Mayor Concert presented a proclamation to George Vitanovec who was turning 100 years old on September 15. The audience stood to acknowledge this rare occasion.

Monthly bills totaling \$43,861.28 were paid on a motion made by Ms. O'Donnell and seconded Mr. Cwalina. The vote was 4-0 in favor. Mr. Christian abstained.

### BOROUGH COORDINATOR'S REPORT

- An update was given on the Harry E coal bank removal. The company removing the bank is waiting for Pagnotti Enterprises to sign the agreement so the project can get started. The agreement is being reviewed by Pagnotti's legal department. As soon as it is signed a meeting will be arranged so residents can ask questions about the project and understand more about what will happen.
- The 2019 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the pension plans was read. Recording them in the minutes brings the borough into compliance with state requirements for the pension plans. The Non Uniform Plan MMO for 2019 is \$16,164.00. The Police Pension MMO for 2019 is \$30,037.00. The large increase in the police MMO is due to a few things: the 2017 actuarial valuation is now being used instead of the 2015; there was a new hire and salaries have increased and the surplus funding credit is being used up and not much is left. These changes and increases cause the MMO to rise.
- Luzerne County Solid Waste Management is offering a free tire recycling day on October 13 from 8 AM to 2 PM at the Hanover Jr./Sr. High School. There is a 15 tire limit per vehicle and residents must register by calling Luzerne Solid Waste Management at 1-800-821-7654.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Finance:** Ms. O'Donnell: Read the July financial reports: **General Fund:** beginning checkbook balance: \$98,063.55; transfers and revenue for the month: \$45,969.48; expenses and transfers for the month: \$97,371.64; ending checkbook balance: \$46,661.39. **Liquid Fuels:** beginning checkbook balance: \$384.36; transfers and revenue for the month: \$7,700.29; expenses and transfers for the month \$7,967.16; ending checkbook balance: \$117.49. **Refuse Fund:** beginning checkbook balance: \$27,073.14; transfers and revenue for the month: \$13,401.82; expenses and transfers for the month \$8,005.60; ending checkbook balance: \$32,469.36. **Sanitary/Storm Sewer Assessment Fund:** beginning checkbook balance: \$1,917.53; transfers and revenue for the

month: \$41,246.69; expenses and transfers for the month \$4,333.63; ending checkbook balance: \$38,830.59.

**Liaison Officer:** Mr. Christian: No report.

**Street Department:** Mr. Cwalina for Mr. Olejnick: The vactor truck will be used to clean wet wells in the storm water stations on October 4 and 5 and also help with the cleaning of the Slocum Street ponding basin.

**Police Department:** Mr. Keating: The Police report for August 2018 was read. Fines totaling \$179.59 received for the month were placed in the proper fund on a motion made by Mr. Keating and seconded by Mr. Christian. The vote was 5-0 in favor.

**Fire Department:** Mr. Cwalina: No reports during summer months.

**Mayor Concert:** Swoyersville Kiwanis Club golf tournament will be held on Sept. 9 at Wilkes-Barre Municipal; 3 swing sets, 1 per park, were received through a partial grant from Luzerne County. The swing sets can also be used by the handicapped; Swoyersville Ambulance will have a Nite at the Races on September 29; Gene Breznay, Borough Manager, received a Board of Director's Award from the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs for 30 years of service to the town.

A crossing guard needs to be hired to help with a shift the current guard cannot fill in the afternoon. Therefore the position must be advertised. A motion was made by Mr. Keating and seconded by Ms. O'Donnell to advertise. The position pays \$8.65/hour. Council will fill the spot at the council meeting on October 1.

Mr. Cwalina reported that the Swoyersville Ambulance accounting firm, Carver and Associates, cannot do audits and recommended Ray Knaub to do the audit. Trans Med has been very patient with the ambulance during the past months and is paid current by them. Their finances are better than the past boards and are on their way to doing much better.

**Atty. Yeager:** No report.

Mayor Concert said Wendy Specht, president of the Swoyersville Ambulance, announced that they are in the process of buying the building they are in. There will be a closing in the next week or two. The mayor requested an updated personnel roster to include all certifications due to a complaint he receive about someone responding to a call and the individual was allegedly not certified.

Mr. Christian asked Wendy Specht if the ambulance is getting a loan to pay for the building. Specht replied that it is a private 10 year mortgage with the current owners of the building.

## **MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC**

Ann Marie Saunders, Milbre Street- She asked for an update on the trees overhanging the road on Chapel Street. She brought it to council's attention last month. Mr. Cwalina said Mike Galanda, Zoning Officer, was checking it out, and being a state road perhaps the state would help. Mr. Breznay said he communicated with PennDOT's District Office in Dunmore and said it is not the

state's responsibility that it is tree owner's responsibility to trim the trees. Mr. Galanda will be in touch with the owners and have them trim the trees.

Mark Nenichka, 77 Brook Street- Asked if there was an inspection for Wade Run? Yes there was and there were no issues with the project. Is the vacor truck going to be used to clean Wade Run? Yes it will. Nenichka said he's been asking for 3 years to get it cleaned. Does not want a repeat of what happened in 2006. Mr. Breznay commented that what happened in 2006 was because of a big pipe going into a small pipe, and the flood control project was redone to eliminate that. Nenichka said the sediment is very deep with lots of mosquitoes. He wanted it on record that there is deep sediment in the stilling basin and channel. The area is a breeding ground for mosquitoes to the Dennison Street area. This project should be cleaned every year, so he wants the Street Department to start doing their jobs.

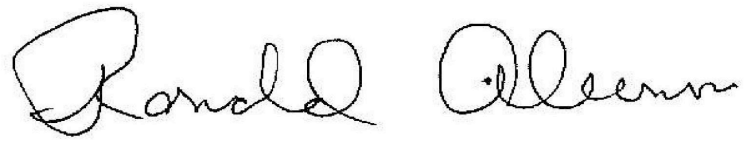
Kathy Breznay, Swoyersville Kiwanis Club- The Kiwanis buys street signs for the town and every so often new ones have to be bought to replace one that are old, faded, damaged, etc. She just wants to make sure that the ones the Kiwanis buys as replacements are put up.

Bill Hooper, 28 Brook Street- A tree fell across the upper Wade Run project. The Street Department came and cleaned it up. He says the Street Department does a good job.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Keating and seconded by Ms. O'Donnell. The vote was 5-0 in favor. Next meeting will be held on October 1, 2018



Gene Breznay  
Borough Secretary-Treasurer-Manager



Ronald Alunni  
Council President