

MAY 4, 2020 6:30 PM

**REGULAR MEETING OF SWOYERSVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Council President Keating calls the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call was taken, those present included Mr. Brown, Mr. Christian, Mr. Cwalina, Mr. Menta, Mr. Olejnick and Mr. Keating. Also noted as present were Mayor Concert, Gene Breznay, Borough Manager and Attorney Yeager, Borough Solicitor.

Mr. Keating presented the rules of conduct for Council to follow for the "Live" Facebook Council Meeting.

A motion was requested by Mr. Keating to accept the minutes from the April 14, 2020 meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Christian. Vote was 6-0 in favor.

Ms. O'Donnell, Council Secretary, presented the monthly bills totaling \$18,517.88. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Christian and seconded by Mr. Olejnick. Vote was 6-0 in favor.

**BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Mr. Breznay requested approval for a resolution authorizing an extension of the real tax face value payment due date until August 18, 2020. A motion was made by Mr. Olejnick and seconded by Mr. Cwalina. Vote was 6-0 in favor.

- Mr. Breznay informed Council that 3,000 recycling containers have been ordered. The delivery date is expected within approximately 5 weeks. The Street Department will distributed only to those residents who have purchased a 2020 sticker.

- Mr. Breznay shared that the 2020 Community Development Block Grant for the Borough is still on schedule for allotment. Once Luzerne County Community Development receives word from HUD about proceeding, they will notify the Borough. No amount has been given for this year's allotment.

- Mr. Breznay presented "Possible Conditions for Public in Borough Building Once Reopened" for review and discussion. Council members were requested to review and provide comments and or suggested updates within 2 weeks. The final "Conditions" will be implemented when the Governor approves a stage that permits re-opening of the Borough.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Finance:** Mr. Brown presented the March Finance Report. **General Fund:** beginning checkbook balance: \$98,088.92; transfers & revenue for the month: \$57,818.98; Expenses & Transfers for the month: \$142,946.30; ending checkbook balance: \$12,961.60. **Liquid Fuels:** beginning checkbook balance: \$69.00; transfers and revenue for month: \$12,050.14; expenses and transfers for the month: \$11,982.07; ending checkbook balance: \$137.07. **Solid Waste Collection:** beginning checkbook balance: \$15,538.02; transfers and revenue for the month: \$23,026.51; expenses and transfers for the month: \$19,177.28; ending checkbook balance: \$19,387.25. **Sanitary/Storm Water Assessment:** beginning checkbook balance: \$8870.75; transfers and revenue for the month: \$2,698.14; expenses and transfers for the month: \$7,698.14; ending checkbook balance: \$3,870.75.

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

**Street Department:** Mr. Olejnick requested an amendment to a motion made at last month's meeting regarding the promotion of Rob Koval & raise discussed. The amendment reflects the new hourly rate of \$15.75. A motion was made by Mr. Keating to approve the hourly rate and was seconded by Mr. Cwalina. Vote was 6-0 in favor.

-A motion was made by Mr. Olejnick to hire Ian Nuton and Colleen Cwalina as summer help and seconded by Mr. Brown. Vote was 5-0 in favor with Mr. Cwalina abstaining from the vote.

- A motion was made by Mr. Olejnick to advertise for a bid to have a tree cut down within the Borough. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brown. Vote was 6-0 in favor.

-Mr. Olejnick shared a request made by Jeff Zupko, Street Dept. Supervisor for No Parking Signs to be placed at the Cul-DeSacs on Bond and Stock Avenues in the Borough for garbage days and during snow emergencies. A motion was made by Mr. Olejnick to approve and seconded by Mr. Cwalina. Vote was 6-0 in favor. A resolution will be presented at the June Council Meeting for approval.

-Mr. Olejnick shared a request made by Jeff Zupko, Street Dept. Supervisor for a No Parking Sign (At All Times) to be placed on Hemlock Street near the dead end. A motion was made by Mr. Olejnick and seconded by Mr. Menta. Vote was 6-0 in favor. A resolution will be presented at the June Council Meeting for approval.

-The Street Department has requested approval for a change in their working hours for the summer to 6:00 am to 2:30 pm on Thursday & Friday. A motion was made by Mr. Olejnick for approval and seconded by Mr. Christian. Vote was 6-0 in favor.

**Police Department:** Mr. Keating read the police report for April 2020 which included a breakdown of hours for Crossing Guards. There was a total of 126 service calls and 2 vehicle accidents reported. Fees collected totaled \$723.14. A motion was made to place monies in the appropriate fund by Mr. Keating and was seconded by Mr. Cwalina. Vote was 6-0 in favor.

**Fire Department:** No Report.

**Mayor Concert:** Mayor Concert thanked Mr. Christian and Mr. Brown for providing lunch to the Borough Staff. It was very much appreciated.

-Mayor Concert shared that a Landlord/Tenant Policy has been provided to Atty Yeager for review. Once reviewed & approved by Attorney Yeager, it will be presented to Council for review & approval.

**Attorney Yeager:** No report.

**An Executive Session was called at 6:49 pm and ended at 6:59 pm.**

**Old & New Business:**

Mr. Christian made a motion to amend the Borough employees boot allowance to permit the employee to purchase boots at their choice of vendor as the current vendor is closed due to the pandemic emergency. Employees would then be reimbursed by the Borough through their boot allowance upon submission of a receipt. The motion was seconded by Mr. Olejnick. Vote was 6-0 in favor.

Mr. Olejnick made a motion to advertise to sell the Borough's 1990 recycling truck. Motion was seconded by Mr. Cwalina. Vote was 6-0 in favor.

Mr. Christian motioned for the Council to approve the suggested re-opening conditions presented by Mr. Breznay as is to ensure there is something in place if the Governor allows re-opening of the county prior to the 6/1/20 meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Christian & seconded by Mr. Cwalina. Vote was 6-0 in favor.

## MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC

A question was presented regarding when the summer help would start. It was shared that the start date will be May 18, 2020.

A question was presented asking when street sweeping would begin. Council noted that WVSA is responsible for street sweeping and as of this meeting it is not known when the start date will be.

Mr. Christian inquired if there will be spraying of the basins/weeds. Mr. Breznay shared that it is planned.

Mr. Christian asked if there was an update available on the Birch Street issue that was mentioned at a previous meeting. Mr. Olejnick will check on the issue.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Keating and seconded by Mr. Cwalina. Vote was 6-0 in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:13 pm. Next meeting will be held on June 1, 2020 at 6:30 pm.



Barb O'Donnell  
Borough Council Secretary

William Keating  
Council President