

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
March 16, 1998 7:00 p.m.

The regularly scheduled March Council meeting was called to order by President Pile at 7:00 p.m. After the pledge to the flag, the March 16, 1998 meeting of Council convened.

PRESENT: President Pile, Mr. Leventry, Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Rovansek, Mr. Krupa (8:40 p.m.) , Mr. Kory, Mr. Davis, Mayor Lary Koval, Solicitor: Daniel R. Lovette, Engineer: Ron Walker, Street Commissioner: Jan Bosley, Zoning Officer-Fred Pullen, West Hills Police: Chief Andy Havas, Fire Department: Fire Chief Butler and Secretary: Judith Czyrnik

ABSENT: none

VISITORS: Pete Chiodo 943-B Menoher Blvd.

President Pile asked for approval of the February 16, 1998 minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to approve the February 16, 1998 minutes. Seconded by Mr. Rovansek. All in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Rovansek to approve the February 24, 1998 Special Meeting minutes, as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

At this time, President Pile called on Mr. Pete Chiodo who was representing Mr. Brian Chirillo of John Hill Real Estate. Mr. Chiodo explained to Council that Mr. Chirillo is anticipating the purchase of lot #3 in the Cheney Oak Development area. This lot is directly up from the current 4 unit townhouses at the entrance of Cheney Oak Drive. John Hill Real Estate has made application for 4, 2 family units to be developed on this lot #3. In order to sell these units the developer wants to sub-divide this one lot into 8 separate units. Mr. Pullen was presented copies of the development with the Building Permit applications. The houses will be connected with a common wall between them. The Building Permits would have to be approved before the purchase and sub-division of lot # 3 is done.

No other development would be done on this side of Cheney Oak Drive, as the retention pond is next to this proposed (lot #3) development.

Mr. Chiodo was only informing Council of the proposed plan for this area. After the Zoning Administrator reviews the permits, and when the applications are approved, the sub-division will be presented to Council. The developer has proposed a starting date of April 15, 1998. There are set backs that must be reviewed by the Zoning Hearing Board. The developer is requesting a 30' frontal set back.

At this time, President Pile asked Mr. Ron Walker if there were any items he had to discuss while Mr. Chiodo was still in attendance. Mr. Walker reviewed with Council that Berti Construction has submitted an invoice for payment in the amount of \$29,445. and the Engineers estimate that approximately \$52,000. is required to complete the project. The escrow account does not have enough money in it to pay this invoice and still have the 10% surplus in the account required by the agreement. Some of Mr. Berti's items are for work that is not completed. Mr. Walker cannot approve the payment and Mr. Chiodo agrees, since the work has not been completed. Council suggested that Mr. Walker set up a meeting between the Engineers, Contractor, Borough Street Committee and C & D Associates, to keep the project moving. This meeting will be on March 18, 1998 at the Borough Building at 11:00 a.m.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Havas submitted his report to Council. The report records revenues for the month of February were \$588.05. Chief Havas reported that the Department will be participating in a CPR recertification training program during the month of March. Any one interested in recertification should contact the West Hills Regional Police Department. Chief Havas reported that the Department will be stepping up the Vascar and Accu-Track speed controls in all the municipalities, when the weather breaks. On a question of the amount of service calls, Chief Havas reported that the calls are based on incident calls, stops, reports, or any investigated call. Most of the incidents, arrests and/or offense calls are non-resident motorists.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Pullen's written report records that no new permits were issued since last month. Mr. Knapp is cleaning up his property. Progress is being made. The unlicensed vehicle at 1044 Menoher Blvd. has been removed. Mr. Pullen informed Council that a citation has been filed on the property owned by Mr. George Haidar at 1027 Luzerne Street and we are waiting for the Magistrate to schedule the hearing. Assistant Zoning Office, Mr. Glass has returned from vacation.

Mr. Pullen reported that there is a potential BOCA code violation at 118 Mabel Street. There is a pond on the property and Mr. Pullen has advised the property owner of the "attractive nuisance" that exists.

Mr. Pullen reviewed a sample ordinance on regulating communication towers. Our Ordinance No. 359 does not list such construction in any of the zoning regions within the Borough. He will get other sample ordinances to review, as Council suggested.

The Engineers will review the sub-division for the Lot #3 in the Cheney Oak Development area proposed by Mr. Chiodo for John Hill Real Estate, before Mr. Pullen proceeds with the building Permits.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

Chief Butler's written monthly report records total emergency responses in the Borough and assists at 19 for the month. The Fire Department responded to seven incidents of trees and electrical wires down during the heavy wet snowfall on February 24, 1998.

Chief Butler reported on the three bids received for the proposed new Fire Department building. The three bids with special requirements either added or deducted were from Burgo at \$143,850., Murray at \$132,592., and Wilson at \$170,500. The bids were for a 40' x 48' x 18' high building (one story building). Alternate # 1 provides for a steel and reinforced cement roof, in the event a future second floor would be added. The bids include paving and painting of the building concrete block. The Fire Department is recommending that the bid from Murray be accepted. Chief Butler reported that they will make application for a 2% loan from the State in the amount of approximately \$66,000., and the balance will be paid by the Fire Department through a Fund Drive and with continued contributions from the Borough. Chief Butler is asking for all fees for a Building Permit and sewer tap-in be waived. A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers, seconded by Mr. Davis to waive the fees. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Pullen asked that the Fire Company prepare the building permit for his files. He will approve the application and waive the fee.

Council noted that the Hilltop Ambulance Association run summary was received and the Fire Department 's activities list has been received.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Ron Walker reported to Council that Mr. Dave DuRay prepared and filed the application for a grant for the Southmont Blvd. retaining wall. The project needs to be moved on this year. Design work is not completed for the Southmont Blvd. retaining wall. The Engineers need to proceed with the drawings. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to complete the Engineering Design work at an approximate cost of \$6,000.00. Also, authorized were soil test borings at the site at an estimated cost of \$2,500.00 to \$3,000.00. Motion seconded by Mr. Davis. Roll Call: Rodgers, Rovansek, Davis, Leventry, and Pile, all aye. Abstained: Kory. absent: Krupa. Motion carried 5 -1 -0 . The Engineers asked for the Street Commissioner to cut a hole in the concrete for the soil test boring.

Mr. Rodgers discussed the purchase of the Chapin Arch right of way that PennDot wants to sell to the Borough in the amount \$100.00. The property must be in the Borough's name before the grant is made available to refurbish the parking area and provide parking spaces at the Arch. PennDot is to re-bid the project in the Spring in conjunction with other PennDot projects, for possibly a lower bid than received in the fall. A motion was made by Mr. Davis to approve the purchase of the PennDot Right of Way in the amount \$100.00. Seconded by Mr. Leventry. All in favor, motion carried. A meeting was set April 2, 1998 for Street Inspections, at 3:15 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STREET COMMISSIONER

Mr. Bosley's report records that employees have checked flows of water in designated sanitary sewer manholes three times per week, to compare wet weather to dry weather flows. Worked on the ballfield drainage, as weather permits. Did the annual housekeeping on the offices. Finished picking up Christmas trees and used Westmont's chipper to chip the brush pile in the park. Did routine maintenance work on the vehicles and equipment and installed several more street signs.

Mr. Bosley has continued to check on the above ground diesel tanks. Mr. Bosley reviewed quotes on the 300 gallon above ground diesel tank. In order to be approved by the State Fire Marshall the tank must be a steel tank with concrete walls. One quote was from Bolger Bros., in the amount of \$3950.00 and one from Reitz Inc. for \$3,200.00. A motion was made by Leventry to approve installation of the 300 gallon diesel above ground tank in the amount of \$3,200.00, contingent upon the State Fire Marshall's permit and approval. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Bosley is still getting prices on tank removal for the two underground tanks. Mr. Bosley is looking for a source of gasoline supply for when the tanks are removed, possibly August or September.

The owners of the Southmont Park Complex are working with Mr. Bosley to correct the garage downspout drainage on to the field. Mr. Bosley requested approval to attend a workshop on March 27 in Bedford on Spring Road Maintenance, in the amount of \$25.00. An approval was made by Mr. Rodgers, seconded by Mr. Davis. All in favor, motion carried. The March 26 seminar in Somerset had been canceled.

The 1998 truck has been ordered from Fiore of Altoona, in the amount of \$32,188.00. It will take 6 to 8 Months for delivery.

STREET COMMITTEE

No further report.

ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Davis reported that the new copier has been installed and is working properly. The elected auditors have almost completed the 1997 audit. It will be filed within the next week. No other report.

POLICE COMMISSION

President Pile suggested that Mr. Leventry be re-appointed as the alternate to attend the Police Commission meetings. Mr. Rodgers made a motion to approve the re-appointment. Mr. Kory seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. President Pile suggested that we look at the amount of service calls, and then a meeting should be set with the Police Committee & Commission to go over these items.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

No report. Newspaper recycling schedule is March 28, June 6, August 8, and October 18, 1998. It has been advertised and will be published in the Newsletter.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory discussed his conversation with John Azpell with PIRMA in reference to possibly eliminating any duplicate services with the Fire Department.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

No report.

SHADE TREE

Mr. Krupa reported on the Shade Tree Commission meeting scheduled for March 17, 1998. Arbor Day, Shade Tree inventory and planting of Shade Trees will be discussed.

RECREATION/PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

President Pile reported that Ms. Sythe had resigned her position as Director and the Committee is reviewing several applications for a new Director. Mr. Koval reported they have two applicants that they are prepared to offer the position. Both applicants have experience in the recreation field.

The H.A.R.P. group for the High School/Mound Playground renovation has received a grant in the amount of \$15,000.00. They are having a problem with plans between the School Board and the HARP Committee. The Westmont Hilltop Recreation Commission's maintenance man, Mr. Denny Hammers was injured and a temporary maintenance man was hired through Sargent's Temporary Services. The WHRC approved a wage of \$9.40 per hour through the Service. Mr. Koval ask for some clarification on the use of the Southmont Ballfield. Mr. Pile reported that because of the drainage construction and the Firemen's Jubilee the field will not be available until the Fall. The field will be aerated and re-seeded after the Jubilee.

BUILDING /GROUNDS COMMITTEE

No report.

C.O.G. Report

Mr. Rovansek attended the COG meeting. The 1998 COG purchase survey's have been sent out to the Municipalities. They are to be returned by March 27, and the bid tabulation results will be opened April 15, 1998. Conemaugh Twp., Cambria County is the 44th municipality to join COG. The Hepatitis shots are available thru COG at a cost of \$42.50 per shot as a group at the hospital and \$47.50 at our location. This is a series of three shots per person.

CHAPIN ARCH No report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Koval informed Council of a program called SPARK, Stroke Prevention Awareness and Recognition of PA. Campaign. They are asking the Mayor's to designate a month to make residents aware of the program. Mayor Koval suggested we set a date and provide the service at the Municipal Building for the Stroke screening, which can be done thru the Lee Hospital. Mayor Koval will schedule the date and it will be published in the Newsletter.

SOLICITOR

Solicitor Lovette had no report.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mrs. Czyrnik's report records that Mr. Walsh has been invoiced \$450.00 for the fees paid to advertise, survey and to prepare legal descriptions to vacate Leek Alley. Mr. Chiodo has been invoiced for the sewer tap-in fee at the new office building at 941 Menoher Blvd. in the amount of \$2,552.34.

Mr. Davis made a motion to approve Mr. Kory attending the Spring Conference at Hershey on March 29 thru 31. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried.

A resolution #98-01, prepared for the disposition of Borough records was approved by Mr. Rodgers, seconded by Mr. Davis. All in favor, motion carried.

The AG-490 Municipal Pension Form and the AG-385 Foreign Fire Distribution certifications were filed for the prior year 1997.

A motion to approve advertisement of the Shade Tree meeting on March 17, 1998 and the newspaper/Spring Clean-up schedule was made by Mr. Rodgers and seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried. There will be a Committee meeting on March 24, 1998 in reference to the codification draft copy submitted to Council.

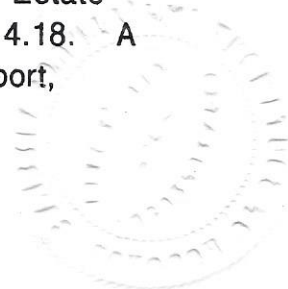
Video's have been ordered for the Safety meetings scheduled by Mr. Bosley. Work will begin on the 1998 Community map. Mrs. Czyrnik will not be at the April 20, 1998 meeting. Mrs. Bednarz will attend the April meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to approve the Treasurer's report for the month of February in the amount of \$314,012.74 in the General Fund balance. Motion seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

TAX COLLECTOR

Mr. Quinn's written report for February records \$5,150.18 in Real Estate collections and \$264.00 collected in Per Capita. Total collections \$5,414.18. A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers that we accept the Tax Collector's report, seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.



APPROVAL TO PAY THE BILLS

After questions, and recommendations to include the contribution to the Community Art Center of Cambria County in this months bills in the amount of \$1,500.00, a motion was made by Mr. Rodgers and seconded by Mr. Davis to approve the payment of the bills in the amount of \$34,161.04 Roll call: Rodgers, Rovansek, Davis, Krupa, Kory, Leventry and Pile. All in favor, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Items on the "Tickler List" were discussed. Items were reviewed, removed and relisted. Above ground storage tank was removed. Removal of underground storage tank and fees to T. Walsh for vacating a portion of Leek Alley and P. Chiodo for sanitary sewer tap-in at 941 Menoher Blvd. were added.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to accept the Engineers fees for new rates as submitted, seconded by Mr. Leventry. All in favor, motion carried. Any Council member who wants to attend the Local Government Opportunity Forum or the Excellence in Local Government should call your reservation in prior to the meeting. The annual conference will be held June 21, thru June 24, 1998 at the Hershey Motor Lodge, anyone interested in attending please contact Mrs. Czyrnik.

A letter was received from Mr. Jim Brant of 117 Dahlia Street in reference to Lettuce Alley. The mild weather has contributed to the problem of holes and they are asking that fill be put in when weather permits. Mr. Bosley stated it will be done in the Spring.

Meeting adjourned 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.



Judith A. Czyrnik,
Borough Secretary

