

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
February 19, 2001 7:00 p.m.

The scheduled February Council meeting was called to order by President Pile at 7:00 p.m. After the pledge to the flag, the February 19, 2001 meeting of Council convened.

PRESENT: President Pile, Mr. Rodgers, (7:05), Mr. Rovansek, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Kory, Secretary/Treasurer: Judith Czyrnik, Solicitor: Daniel R. Lovette, Engineer: David Duray, West Hills Police: Chief Andy Havas, Detective George Muslin, Zoning Officer: Dyke Orms

ABSENT: Mayor Lary Koval-conflict of schedule, Street Commissioner: Jan Bosley-conflict of schedule, Fire Dept.: Michael Butler

VISITORS: None

President Pile asked for approval of the January 15 and January 30, 2001 minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Krupa to accept the minutes as presented. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried.

At this time President Pile asked for a motion to open the 2001 Street Paving Bids. Motion made by Mr. Kory to open the bids. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

Three bids were received, as follows:

	Base Bid	Alternate Bid	Total Bid
Derry Construction	\$76,500.99	\$3,683.00	\$80,183.99
Quaker Sales	\$69,438.75	\$4,419.60	\$73,855.35
Whitaker Roads Corp	\$70,912.50	\$6,896.60	\$77,809.10

After discussion, Mr. Danyluk made a motion to accept the low bid from Quaker Sales in the amount of \$73,858.35, pending the Engineer's and Solicitor's approval of the proper bid specifications. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried.

(Mr. Rodgers arrived at 7:05 p.m.)

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Havas's written report which records the revenues for the month of January at \$327.29. Chief Havas reported that the Department has been notified that they have been approved to receive a Municipal Sharing Grant in the amount of \$20,000 from the Department of Economic and Community Development. The Department has received numerous letters from citizens commending them for their work at the Westwood Theater fire and the tragic Brownstown house fire. Council had some questions on the amount of calls in Lower Yoder. Chief Havas reported that most of the calls were incidents and /or calls relating to approximately 100 Parking tickets at the Westwood Shopping Center area. The transition into Lower Yoder Township has gone remarkably well, with very few problems arising. The Police Commission meeting will be at Lower Yoder Township on Tuesday, February 20, 2001 at 7:00 p.m.

ZONING OFFICERS REPORT

Mr. Orms, Zoning Administrator reported on the January report submitted to Council. On Mr. Pullen's (former Zoning Officer) report, a hearing was held at District Magistrate Barron's office for Mr. Ronald Witkosky of Peden Lane. Mr. Witkosky failed to install a fence with a secured gate around a pond on his property. Mr. Witkosky did not appear at the hearing and therefore has been fined \$500.00 by the Magistrate. A new hearing will be scheduled. Mr. Pullen has been notified by Attorney Kiniry that Ms. Bridget Morse will no longer provide a Day Care Center at 206 Violet Street. Solicitor Kiniry advised that there be spot checking on the former Day Care Center. Mrs. Morse has been made aware of what she would need to do in order to reopen a Day Care Business in Southmont. Mr. Pullen reminded the Engineers that when Mr. Haidar applies for a building permit for the retaining wall around his proposed parking lot, a review of the construction costs will be necessary. This was the ruling of the Zoning Hearing Board at the October 5, 2000 Hearing Board meeting.

Mr. Orms reported that he investigated the tarped car at 417 Southmont Blvd. The car is licensed as a "Historic Antique" and does not require inspection. Two building permits were issued for the month, in the amount of \$3,685.00. Mr. Orms received a call from Mid-Atlantic Capital in reference to property in the PineBrooke Development area on Cheney Oak Drive. They are seeking information on the set backs and etc. for proposed development of a 5 unit townhouse to be built on three lots. (165 feet front) Mr. Orms checked with Zoning Solicitor Attorney Patrick Kiniry. It appears this would be acceptable. No permit has been applied for to date. Mr. Orms explained the building that is going on in the PineBrooke Development Area. Mr. Duray is suggesting that storm water management needs to be done to verify the volume in the sewer system, as per our original specifications for this area. Council discussed the Zoning restrictions in the remaining lots in PineBrooke area. No further report.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

In Chief Butler's absence, his written report records 11 activities for the month. The Fire Department's activities list, for the year 2001, has been submitted to Council. Also Chief Butler included the total overnight calls during the 11 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. There were 20 pager calls in 2000. The Hilltop Ambulance report shows a total of 74 runs in the month of January.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. David Duray of Hinks and Locher Engineers reported that the 2000 Corrective Action reports to the Department of Environmental Protection have been completed and forwarded. The request for 11 EDU's (equivalent dwelling units) was made to the PA Department of Environmental Protection. A report to the Johnstown Redevelopment Authority for the wasteload management was completed and forwarded.

Mr. Duray reviewed with Council the cost sheet he submitted on the flow meters. After monitoring the selected manholes with Mr. Bosley, Mr. Duray reviewed with Council the monitoring necessary at the Wonder Street manhole and another meter he is recommending at Southmont Blvd. and State Street.

The meter for State Street will be able to monitor 3 separate lines plus the rain guage. The cost of the two meters is \$11,448.00 plus \$500.00 for training. Council discussed the purchase of these meters further.

After discussion, Mr. Danyluk made a motion to purchase the two flow meters at a cost of \$11,448.00 through the South Hills Council of Government's bidding process. Motion seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Rovansek, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory and Mr. Pile, all in favor, opposed none. Motion carried.

Mr. Duray discussed the 2001 Street Paving program that includes portions of Violet Street, Leon Street, Shady Lane, Diamond Blvd., Gardner Street, Floyd Street, Luzerne Street and Mabel Street. Three alleys will be graded and the asphalt milled material compacted. The alleys recommended are Tomato, Kale and Lettuce Alley. After discussion, Mr. Danyluk made a motion to prepare a proposal for Bluff Alley for the milling application, to do the work and add a change order to the bid. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried. Solicitor Lovette prepared an agreement to submit to Upper Yoder Sewer Authority, as per Council's instructions. After review and discussion with Engineer Mr. Duray, a motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to authorize Solicitor Lovette to present our proposal/agreement to Attorney Robert Shadade, Solicitor for Upper Yoder Township Sewer Authority. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Duray had nothing further to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STREET COMMISSIONERS REPORT

In Mr. Bosley's absence his written report records streets and alleys were plowed and salted as needed. Repaired a leak in the map room. The maps were wet and had to be dried out before replacing them. Picked up Christmas trees. Took recyclables to Boswell and had the recycling trailer inspected. Removed plowed snow from the intersections that caused obstructed traffic sight. Informed residents and businesses to do the same. Removed thick ice from 112 Susan Drive. Resident has a water problem that is running from the driveway into the street. Resident has been informed that this must be corrected in the Spring. Had to replace a bumper on the Dodge and a tire on the 1998 GMC due to winter accidents. Samples were taken at 106 Weaver Ct., for a sewerage problem. It is the residents inside problem. Measured alleys for the Engineers for the milling project. Began sending Penelec requests for the placement of alley lights. Mario Marisa will do repairs to the Borough Building in the Spring. The surge suppressor was installed February 9, 2001. Our salt usage has exceeded the estimated tonnage requested for the winter season. We will have to purchase salt from Sleek Trucking at \$46.00 per ton, opposed to \$35.56 per ton from American Rock Salt.

STREET COMMITTEE

Mr. Danyluk had nothing further to report.

ADMINISTRATION/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

No report.

POLICE COMMISSION

In Mayor Koval's absence, President Pile reported on the Police Commission meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2001 at Lower Yoder Township.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Report submitted. Nothing further to report.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory reported that we received the Liability Insurance Quote from PIRMA in the amount of \$7,265.34 and a proposed figure from EMC umbrella renewal of \$4069.00, for a total of \$11,334.34. Our Insurance agent is checking to see if we have any savings with a higher deductible. More at the March meeting.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Rodgers reported that the former Police Pension Fund is still growing. The invested monies are in Treasury Funds. We are awaiting word from the Auditor General's office about the fund. The Borough has reimbursed the State all of the required Revenue Sharing monies.

SHADE TREE

Mr. Krupa reported that the Shade Tree Commission will be holding a meeting on March 15, 2001, to discuss the 2001 Arbor Day celebration. It will be advertised. Arbor Day will be May 5, 2001. A location still has to be decided. Trees are being thinned out at the Burnheimer's property on Susan Drive. Mr. Krupa has inspected the area. It appears it is going well. Stumps are left, run-off should not be a problem. The Service doing the cutting will cut several trees on Borough property free of charge. Some reimbursement will be contributed to the Shade Tree Commission for the sale of these trees. Mr. Krupa will use the reimbursement to possibly hire an Arborist. Mr. Krupa received a call about clearing trees along Menoher Blvd. near Kesslak's property. This would be the hillside overlooking Barnett Street. Mr. Krupa feels this would cause a run-off problem. Mr. Krupa would not issue a permit for this cutting.

RECREATION/PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

President Pile reported that the Westmont Hilltop School District has reservations about the Commission's request for the Reserve Fund proposal for the 1/4 mill tax request, from all entities. The Recreation Commission would like to solicit these funds amicably, therefore, they are requesting that each entity contribute \$1.00 per resident, based on the current Census figures, as opposed to the original 1/4 mill proposal. Each entity will pay less than the proposed 1/4 mill request and the Commission is confident that a two year reserve will be sufficient to meet the goals. The Commission is concerned that in the event of an emergency situation at the facilities or equipment, they would have to close down services. Currently the recreation Commission does not have any reserve funds. All playgrounds have been updated in recent years, leaving the Commission without reserves.

Mr. Rodgers made a motion to contribute the \$2,415.00 request, to be used in the event of an emergency. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

After discussion, Mr. Rodgers made a motion to appoint Mr. John Khuri to the Westmont Hilltop Recreation Commission, for a five year term. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried.

BUILDINGS and GROUNDS

Mr. Kory reported that the low bidder for the surge/lighting protection was Lichtenfels Electric in the amount of \$884.90. A motion by Mr. Krupa to accept the low bid. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried. A bid was received from Marisa to repair the Municipal Building brickwork in the amount of \$3,325.00. Bricks have become loosened and many areas need repointed. A motion was made by Mr. Krupa to accept the repointing and repair work from Marisa Masonry. Motion seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Marisa will do this in the Spring. Mr. Kory will inspect the roof on the outside garage. It is leaking. Mr. Danyluk will talk with Mr. Bosley later this week.

COG REPORT

Mr. Rovansek reported that COG discussed the flow meters. The cost would be \$.53 per capita for Municipalities to rent the flow meters. Mr. Rovansek will notify COG that we are purchasing our own flow meters. Mr. Rovansek submitted a booklet on the advantages of Magnesium Chloride. (Southmont has been using magnesium chloride, as it is less corrosive.)

CHAPIN ARCH

Mr. Kory had nothing to report on the deed transfers. Solicitor Lovette will call PennDot to check on the hold up of these deed transfers.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Nothing further to report.

SOLICITOR

Solicitor Lovette reviewed Resolution 2001-01 providing for Zoning Hearing Board estimated fee change to \$600.00, from the estimated \$550.00 previous fee. Providing that Zoning Hearing Board meetings are paid prior to scheduling any meeting. This was approve January 15, 2001.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary's report records that Mr. Tim Lutz of PIRMA Insurance, reviewed the proposed 2001-2002 Liability Insurance. Mr. Lutz will look over the Emergency Management Agreement from East Conemaugh Borough. He will review the agreement and confirm in writing. Solicitor Lovette will find out where the deeds are for the Holding Pond that has been accepted and turned over to the Borough from PineBrooke Development. Occupation Privilege forms and past due sewer b/garbage billings have been mailed out to residents.

Mr. Orms will check into complaints of residents who are not keeping garbage can lids on the cans. Reports of rats have been received in areas where bagged garbage and cans without lids are used.

The Department of Environmental Protection will be showcasing Southmont Borough's Cheney Run at their Spring meeting on April 3 through 5, 2001. This will be held here in Johnstown this year. A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to approve the Resolution 2001-02, for disposition of records. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to accept the January Treasurers Report, as presented, in the amount of \$258,113.71. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers noting that the Borough has received the January Tax Collector's report with no Real Estate collections and \$93.50 Per Capita collections. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Mr. Krupa to approve payment of the bills, in the amount of \$38,782.05. Seconded by Mr. Rovansek. Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Rovansek, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory and Mr. Pile. All in favor, opposed none.

OLD BUSINESS

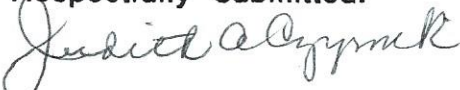
President Pile asked for review of items on the "Tickler List". Items were reviewed, removed or relisted. Some new items will be added.

NEW BUSINESS

The Council discussed the change in the fire siren "time schedule" for overnight pager use. The siren is not used during the hours of 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. It is Council's consensus to use the pagers from the hours of 8:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. A motion was made by Mr. Strittmatter to notify the Fire Department and 911 to use the pagers during the hours of 8:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Pete Chiodo will be sent a final letter reminding him that the sidewalks must be installed in front of the house built at 300 and 302 Cheney Oak Drive. Mr. Krupa will check on the low hanging tree limbs on the sidewalks in the Borough. Letters will be sent to the residents. Mr. Danyluk made a motion to approve Mr. Orms attending Zoning Conferences, if he can attend. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.



Judith A. Czyrnik,
Borough Secretary

