

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
August 21, 2006 7:00 p.m.

The scheduled August Council meeting was called to order by President Pile at 7:00 p.m. After the pledge to the flag the August 21, 2006 meeting of Council convened.

PRESENT: President Pile, Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa, Mayor: Gerry Sloat, Solicitor: Daniel R. Lovette, West Hills Police Chief: Andy Havas, Engineer: Dave Duray and Ryan Farabaugh, and Borough Manager: Loretta Spak.

ABSENT: Zoning Officer: Ryan Adams, out of town; Street Commissioner: Jan Bosley, and Fire Chief: Chet Borosky.

VISITORS: Mrs. Judy Kelly, 102 Violet St., Garden Club sign at Barnette Street.

President Pile asked for approval of the July 17, 2006 Council Minutes and the committee meeting notes of August 8, 2006. A motion was made by Mr. Strittmatter to accept the Minutes and notes as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried.

President Pile called upon Mrs. Kelly to address Council concerning the garden club sign. Mrs. Kelly informed Council about the garden club which was established in 1930, they currently have 93 members with 68 active members. They do projects throughout the city; some examples are replanting and maintenance at the flood museum, art center, gazebo at central park, Russell house in Moxham, band shell at Roxbury, etc. The garden club also participates with habitat for humanity, nursing homes, and scouts. Mrs. Kelly suggests going with Big City Signs for the "Welcome to Southmont/Beautification by Garden Club" sign at Barnette Street; discussion followed. Mr. Kory made a motion to approve sending a two hundred dollar (\$200) deposit to Big City Signs to create draft of sign; deposit will be used toward cost of sign. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried. The draft of sign will be placed on the next committee meeting agenda. The garden club is looking for some help from the Borough i.e. budget line item for weed spraying and/or mulch, borough labor to help with clearing out bank once or twice a year, use of cones and picking up trash. Mrs. Kelly is to put request in writing.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT:

West Hills Police report for July shows revenue in the amount of \$720.08 (ordinance violations \$532.89 and vehicle violations \$187.19). Police Chief Havas is looking for ways to stop the vandalism at the soccer field restroom/shed. He suggests having the wooded hillside area below the restrooms trimmed; this will be placed on the next committee meeting agenda. Police Chief Havas mentioned items are being stolen from vehicles; make sure vehicle doors are locked.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT: (Cont'd)

Council had a lengthy discussion concerning the use of speed humps to control traffic on Lower State Street. Chief Havas indicated that he plans to use a radar speed display sign on State Street when it is received by the Police Department. Chief Havas believes that this equipment and further patrolling will take care of any alleged problem. Chief Havas further reported that the Police Department has monitored the area and does not feel the need for the use of speed humps. Solicitor Lovette reported that if the speed humps or other similar equipment are used, legal liability issues could arise. He indicated he was not aware of any court cases in Pennsylvania. Council then received a report from the Borough Engineer regarding a rating chart in the traffic calming procedure instituted by Council. Mr. Duray stated that according to the chart, 85% of vehicles are traveling slower than 35 mph on Lower State Street. Mayor Sloat questioned Mr. Duray if his 85th percentile numbers meant that 15% of the drivers on State Street were going over 35 miles per hour and Mr. Duray stated "yes". Mr. Duray further indicated that in his opinion the 25 miles per hour speed limit on Southmont Boulevard is what is causing some of the traffic to bypass Southmont Boulevard and use Lower State Street. He also commented that the use of traffic calming devices which were installed on Lower State Street was effective to temporarily reduce speed and traffic on Lower State Street.

After considerable discussion by Council, Mr. Danyluk made a motion to have the West Hills Police Department continue to monitor traffic conditions on Lower State Street and furthermore the installation of any obstructions such as humps, bumps, tables, etc. shall be prohibited on any Southmont Borough street. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rodgers. The vote was six (6) yeas and one (1) nay, motion carried. Mr. Danyluk stated the motion was made based on liability concerns expressed by the Borough insurance carrier, the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSAB), reports from the West Hills Police Department, Solicitor Lovette, and the Borough Engineer.

ZONING OFFICERS REPORT

Mr. Adams, out of town, report was received. Report records activity of eighteen (18) permits at a total construction of \$419,117 as of 8/15/06.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

Chief Borosky's written report records eleven (11) responses during the month of July. There were two (2) calls between the hours of 10 PM to 7 AM. Southmont had eight (8) assists in July; five (5) to Upper Yoder, two (2) to Lower Yoder, and one (1) to Westmont. The Hilltop Ambulance report was received and is on file.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Duray introduced Mr. Ryan Farabaugh who is an engineer with Paul C. Rizzo & Associates. Mr. Farabaugh will attend meetings when Mr. Duray cannot. Mr. Farabaugh for the past four (4) years has handled a lot of the Borough work and is very familiar with Southmont's needs. Mr. Duray's written Engineer's report for August was received and reviewed. Quaker Sales has completed all the 2006 paving; waiting for final invoice and then will ask for approval to pay. Mr. Duray will be answering the Office of County Commissioners letter dated May 1st requesting five (5) municipal priorities. Mr. Duray passed out a handout summarizing the eight (8) hours for Johnstown Brewing Company maps.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STREET COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Received Mr. Bosley's written report. Received a quote of \$545 to install flood light to illuminate flag; Mr. Bosley will receive more quotes.

STREET COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Vitko's, 121 Floyd Street, letter dated July 24, 2006 was discussed. Mr. Danyluk made a motion to remove the street light over driveway at 121 Floyd Street, where to relocate will be determined. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

ADMNS. & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

At 8:00 an Executive Session was called. At 8:10 p.m. Council reconvened, discussed Personnel issues.

Mr. Krupa mentioned the request by Mr. Miller, AFSCME union representative, to change the work hours of road crew. Council considered, decided to leave as is. Mr. Krupa made a motion to approve Ms. Spak's goals along with her working with Mr. Bosley on his goals to be in same format. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Krupa made a motion to approve Ms. Spak's incentive check of five hundred dollars (\$500) effective Sept. 1st; as discussed at November 21, 2005 meeting. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

POLICE COMMITTEE

Mayor Sloat had nothing new to report.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory is pleased with recycling of plastic to Haresh Pandya. Southmont Borough receives a reimbursement of seven cents (7¢) per pound average weight is four hundred eighty (480) pounds.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Rodgers had nothing new to report.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Discussion ensued about payment of truck which will be addressed under payment of bills. Mr. Strittmatter had nothing new to report.

SHADE TREE REPORT

Mr. Krupa updated Council on letter that was sent to Lucetta Street residents stating we need their corrective action plan by August 31, 2006 and completion by September 30, 2006. Informed Council of letter he received from Ms. Alexander, 107 Lucetta Street, of contractors not responding. Mr. Krupa updated Council on Nationwide response concerning tree that was removed from Langhorne. Mr. Bosley will look for map plans on the Cheney Run project and inform Solicitor Lovette. Ms. Spak will contact Mr. & Mrs. Rosenbaum for insurance policy and will forward along with Nationwide reply to Solicitor Lovette. Solicitor Lovette will give his opinion on matter next month. Mr. Krupa is working with an arborist on requests for tree planting/removal (priority list).

RECREATION COMMITTEE

President Pile mentioned receiving Mr. John Khuri's letter of resignation from the Westmont Hilltop Recreation Commission. Mr. Kory made a motion to send a letter of "thank you" to Mr. Khuri for his years serving as chairman for the recreation commission. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried. President Pile appointed Mr. Ewald to replace Mr. Khuri on the Westmont Hilltop Recreation Commission. The new director for the Westmont Hilltop Recreation is Mr. Dave Roman, Jr.

BUILDING/GROUNDS REPORT

Mr. Krupa made a motion for Solicitor Lovette to research the property owner for the wooded hill area below the soccer field restrooms/shed. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Kory reinforced what Chief Police Havas stated earlier concerning the vandalism at the soccer field.

COG REPORT

Mr. Ewald had nothing new to report.

GRANDVIEW COMMITTEE

Ms. Spak will send copy of letter dated August 8, 2006 plus all other correspondence to/from Citizens Cemetery Association concerning ZP2005-21 (fence) to Solicitor Lovette and Mr. Kory. Ms. Spak did contact Southern Alleghenies Conservancy and they are aware of arch needing maintenance.

GREATER JOHNSTOWN WATER AUTHORITY

The July minutes were received. Mr. Pile updated Council on water authority issues i.e. windmills, no new rates since 1998, and new contracts.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mr. Danyluk made a motion to approve the Proclamation implementing the NIMS. Seconded by Mr. Ewald. All in favor, motion carried. Ms. Spak reminded all to review the NIMS Implementation Plan which is due to PEMA by September 30, 2006.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Danyluk made a motion to send second notice letters to Southmont Boulevard residents concerning clean up of dead trees, branches, etc. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Spak's written report was submitted. Mr. Rodgers made a motion to approve Mr. Livingston and Mr. Gentile to attend pipeline group workshop on August 24, 2006 in Bedford. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Rodgers made a motion to pay the Stoneycreek River Stormwater Management three (3) annual payments of \$262.95. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Kory moved to accept the Manager's report. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Rodgers made a motion to approve July's Treasurer Report in the amount of \$348,733.74. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Rodgers noted we received the July Tax Collector's report with Real Estate revenues at \$10,456.78 for the month. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Mr. Rodgers made a motion to approve payment of bills, holding check #8462 in the amount of \$29,014.27, the total of \$55,960.84 and releasing Paul C. Rizzo check #8402. Seconded by Mr. Kory. Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none.

OLD BUSINESS

President Pile asked to remove lower State Street from the "Tickler List". The street light list was updated for Council inspections.

NEW BUSINESS

President Pile noted we received the Forest Hills Regional Alliance budget workshop information. Mr. Kory made a motion to allow any councilmen who wish to attend the PSAB Fall Leadership Conference October 20-22, 2006; if going let Ms. Spak know. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried. The Kiwanis flag request was discussed, no motion made.

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There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Kory for adjournment of the August 21, 2006 meeting at 9:20 P.M. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Loretta Spak, Borough Manager

9/14/2006 8:46 AM