

BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
148 Wonder Street
Johnstown, PA 15905

Minutes for February 16, 2009

The pledge of allegiance was conducted and the scheduled February 16, 2009 Council meeting was called to order by President Rodgers at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Solicitor Dan Lovette, Manager Richard Wargo, Sec. /Tres. Judith A. Czynnik, Clerk- Amanda Claycomb, President Richard Rodgers, Council Members; Mr. Ed Danyluk, Mr. Herb Ewald, Mr. Kevin Pile, Mr. Tom Strittmatter and Mr. William Krupa, Mayor Gerry Sloat, Fire Chief Mike Leckey, West Hills Police Chief Andy Havas, Engineer Dave Duray

Absent: Council Member Mr. William Kory (on sabbatical leave)

Visitors: Mr. Tom Swab and Mr. Ron Budash, Upper Yoder Sewer Authority; Mr. Ken Mesko, Upper Yoder Engineer; Mr. Vern Walker, Upper Yoder Sewer Authority Member

Meeting Agenda

A motion to approve the January 19, 2009 Council Meeting Minutes was made by Mr. Krupa. Motion seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor. motion carried. At this time Mr. Rodgers called on Mr. Tom Swab and Mr. Ron Budash. Mr. Swab, Mr. Budash and Council agreed upon a separate meeting to discuss sanitary sewer issues on March 17, 2009.

Police Chief's Report

Chief Havas reported the mandatory in-service training for 2009 has been completed. Chief Havas stated a grant in the amount of approximately \$13,500 was received for equipment and left over funds may be used to purchase more equipment.

Zoning Officers Report

Mr. Wargo reported on sewage compliance activity stating two applications for sewer compliance were received and did not require dye tests. Mr. Wargo also noted a zoning permit was issued to 105 Diamond Boulevard for a new entrance installation.

Fire Company Report

Chief Leckey submitted reported on 2008 flooding incidents and 2008 Menoher Boulevard incidents. A brief discussion was held regarding storm water running down Harshberger Road. The Hilltop Ambulance Association report was received and is on file.

Engineer's Report

Mr. Duray reported on 2008 CAP activities stating the sanitary sewer cleaning and televising work being performed by Hydro Technical Services, Inc. is complete. Mr. Wargo noted the report and videos submitted by Hydro Technical Services are being reviewed. Mr. Duray reported the State Street flow meter has been restarted and is currently in use. Mr. Duray stated a request was received for information regarding the Annual Wasteload Management Report for the Johnstown Sewage Treatment Plant and the status of the Corrective Action Plan. A brief discussion followed regarding the Corrective Action Plan. Mr. Wargo reported stimulus funds are available and suggested the money be used for the State Street interceptor and to replace terra cotta sewer lines. A motion to submit the proposal for stimulus funds in the amount of \$750,000 was made by Mr. Pile. Motion seconded by Mr. Ewald. All in favor, motion carried.

1) COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Streets: Mr. Ewald reported the specs for the new truck arrived and the truck must be ordered by March 15, 2009. A motion was made to purchase the truck for \$61,849.00 with delivery in fall 2009 and invoice in January 2010 was made by Mr. Pile. Motion seconded by Mr. Ewald. Roll call: Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Pile, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Rodgers in favor. Mr. Kory absent. Motion carried (6-0). Mr. Ewald reported salt usage is higher than 2008.

B. Personnel: A motion to separate the Secretary/Treasurer position from the Manager's job description was made by Mr. Danyluk and seconded by Mr. Ewald. All in favor, motion carried. A motion to approve the revised job descriptions for the Manager and Secretary/Treasurer was made by Mr. Pile. Motion seconded by Mr. Ewald. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Pile made a motion for Solicitor Lovette to prepare an Ordinance for the Secretary/Treasurer position and a Resolution for Assistant Secretary/Treasurer. Motion seconded by Mr. Ewald. All in favor, motion carried.

C. Police Committee: Mayor Sloat reported February 17, 2009 is his last meeting as Chairman for the West Hill Regional Police Committee. Nothing further to report.

D. Insurance Committee: Mr. Strittmatter reported a letter was received from the appraisal company. Ms. Czyrnik reported a visual appraisal has not been completed for over ten years. Mr. Pile suggested the Borough obtain third party insurance. The matter will be discussed at a Committee Meeting.

E. Budget Committee: Mr. Wargo reported \$20,000 was budgeted for salt and as of February 16, 2009, \$33,000 was spent on salt. A brief discussion on liquid fuels followed. Ms. Czyrnik reported limb removal services, which were needed because of heavy winds, have been accounted to the grass cutting/maintenance account.

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F. Shade Tree Report: Mr. Krupa reported an application for a TreeVitalize Grant in the amount of \$6,000 has been submitted noting the Borough would have to match the \$6,000. Mr. Krupa noted the grant would be used to plant thirty trees within the Borough. Mr. Krupa noted an approval of the grant requires two staff and two volunteers to attend a training seminar.

G. Recreation Committee: Mr. Pile reported a December meeting was not held because there was not a quorum and was held in January. Mr. Pile noted the Recreation Committee is looking into purchasing furniture, a television and cable for the Ridge. Mr. Pile also noted the Recreation Committee has agreed that no raises will be issued in 2009.

H. Properties Committee: Mr. Kory absent. Mr. Danyluk noted the railings at the bird sanctuary need fixed. Mr. Krupa noted sidewalk slabs around Borough building need leveled.

I. COG Report: Mr. Krupa reported COG has decided against salt bidding. Mr. Krupa suggested the Borough pay the \$450.00 COG membership fee and decides in June if the Borough would like to continue the membership.

J. Greater Johnstown Water Authority: Mr. Pile reported the Water Authority rates are rising twenty-five percent (25%). Mr. Pile stated Investment Valley has been hired to invest seventy million dollars. Mr. Pile reported the Water Authority is still looking into windmills with Saint Francis University.

K. Open Records: Mr. Kory absent. Ms. Czynnik noted the open records office has been notified of the Southmont Borough Open Records Officials.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Sloat had nothing to report.

Solicitor's Report

Solicitor Lovette reported Johnstown has filed an answer to the declaratory judgment regarding stipends and Westmont will file in the near future.

Manager's Report

Mr. Wargo noted the PennSTEP application was denied for higher priority applications. Mr. Wargo reported a draft cable contract was received. Mr. Wargo stated random drug testing has been reinstated for office staff, full and part-time public works employees and Borough equipment operators.

Treasurer's Report

A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve the treasurer's report. Motion seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried.

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Tax Collector's Report

Tax Collector's report not received.

Payment of Bills

A motion to approve the bills for January 2009 in the amount of \$52,542.52 was made by Mr. Pile. Motion seconded by Mr. Danyluk. Roll call: Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Pile, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Rodgers in favor. Mr. Kory absent. Motion carried (6-0).

New Business

Ms. Czarnik reported Central Tax Bureau has been sending updated lists to the Borough regarding past due taxes sent out.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Krupa for adjournment of the February 16, 2009 meeting at 8:45 P.M. Motion seconded by Mr. Pile. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda D. Claycomb
Borough Clerk