

BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
148 Wonder Street
Johnstown, PA 15905

Minutes for May 18, 2009

The pledge of allegiance was conducted and the scheduled May 18, 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 Sgt. George Muslin

Absent: Council Member Mr. William Kory (on sabbatical leave), Engineer Dave Duray (excused from attending), West Hills Police Chief Andy Havas

Visitors: Mr. John Lovette, 305 Leon Street (observing); Mr. Skip Paolini, 7 Gardner Street (observing); Mr. Bill Trevorrow, 455 Orchard Street (observing)

Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve the Council Meeting Minutes of April 20, 2009. Motion seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried. A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve the Committee Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2009. Motion seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried.

Police Chief's Report

Chief Havas absent. Sgt. George Muslin reported Chief Havas has made necessary arrangements to provide police protection for the Jubilee.

Fire Company Report

Chief Leckey reported the proposed purchase of a new fire truck for approximately \$350,000 has been reconsidered and a decision made to refurbish the current truck engine for approximately \$150,000. Chief Leckey noted Matt McGlynn and Joel Weslager have achieved the State Nationally Certified Fire Fighter I Certification. The Hilltop Ambulance report was received and is on file.

Zoning Officers Report

Mr. Wargo reported property maintenance violations will be monitored throughout the Borough. Mr. Wargo noted three zoning permits issued and two negative sewage compliance tests. Mr. Wargo reported the dumping issue at 220 Wonder Street has been cleaned up by the owner and trespassing signs and fencing erected. Mr. Wargo noted property maintenance notices have been sent out regarding high grass.

Engineer's Report

Mr. Duray absent. Mr. Wargo reported Mr. Duray will have a quote for railings at the Harding Street steps for the next Council meeting.

1) COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Streets: Mr. Ewald reported crack sealing and paving are complete.

B. Personnel: Mr. Wargo reported Mr. Matt McGlynn has been hired part-time for the street department.

C. Police Committee: Mayor Sloat reported the next meeting will be held May 19, 2009 to discuss contract proposals made to the officers regarding pay and benefits.

D. Insurance Committee: Ms. Czymnik reported new quotes for short-term/long-term disability on the administration personnel are needed as the current amount paid is \$134.00 per month.

E. Budget Committee: Mr. Pile reported the garbage/sewer maintenance checking account has been divided into separate line accounts.

F. Shade Tree Report: Mr. Krupa noted Arbor Day was held on May 2, 2009 with approximately fifteen citizens in attendance. Mr. Krupa stated three trees were planted with one dozen left to plant. Mr. Krupa noted Mayor Gerry Sloat was honored at the ceremony. A brief discussion followed regarding residents responsibility for tree removal costs in accordance with the Borough Code and the Shade Tree Ordinance #69.

G. Recreation Committee: Mr. Kory absent. Ms. Czymnik reported the requested \$500.00 contribution for repairs to the State Street soccer field restrooms was received from the Recreation Commission.

H. Properties Committee: Mr. Kory absent. Mr. Wargo reported repairs to the State Street soccer field restrooms are complete and cost \$2,845.00 which exceeds the original estimate of \$1,500.00. Mr. Wargo stated the water to the restrooms had been shut off in October 2008 noting someone had turned the water back on without notification to the Borough causing water to flow freely and increasing water fees. Mr. Wargo stated during the repairs the water was turned back on and numerous broken pipes and broken appliances were found which caused the increased repair bill. Mr. Wargo noted the locks were also changed. Mr. Wargo suggested requesting more money from the school district. A brief discussion followed regarding monitoring the conditions of the restrooms.

I. COG Report: Mr. Krupa reported the next meeting will be held June 2, 2009.

J. Greater Johnstown Water Authority: Mr. Pile reported the new rate increase of twenty-five percent (25%) will go into effect June 1, 2009. Mr. Pile stated Wells-Fargo was chosen as the new bond holder for the Water Authority. Mr. Pile reported there is still preliminary work for the interconnection between Ligonier and Johnstown.

K. Open Records: Mr. Kory absent. No open records requests received.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Sloat reported new rates for Atlantic Broadband have been received for June 1, 2009.

Solicitor's Report

Mr. Rodgers called for an executive meeting regarding legal items at 7:44 p.m. Executive session ended and Council resumed its meeting at 8:01 p.m. A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to approve the engagement letter received from Wessel & Company to perform an audit of Central Tax Bureau and Pennsylvania Municipal Services. Motion seconded by Mr. Pile. Role call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Pile, Mr. Strittmatter and Mr. Krupa in favor. Mr. Kory absent. Motion carried (6-0). A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to allow Solicitor Lovette to begin action against the Westmont School District, PA Municipal Services and Central Tax Bureau if the results of the audit are unfavorable. Motion seconded by Mr. Pile. All in favor, motion carried.

Manager's Report

Mr. Wargo reported an energy assessment has been completed for a grant requesting stimulus money for energy savings of approximately \$1,700.00 per year. A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve the purchase of a new truck chassis at a cost of \$29,399.82 from Tri-Star. Motion seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. Role call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Pile, Mr. Strittmatter and Mr. Krupa in favor. Mr. Kory absent. Motion carried (6-0). Mr. Wargo noted the recycling trailer has been transferred to the County.

Treasurer's Report

A motion was made by Mr. Strittmatter to approve the April Treasurer's report. Motion seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried. Ms. Czynnik reported the State Police fine will be distributed June 1, 2009 in the amount of \$1,059.03. Ms. Czynnik reported the title for the recycling trailer has been transferred to the County. Ms. Czynnik noted a meeting is scheduled for June 24, 2009 in regards to earned income tax issues.

Tax Collector's Report

A motion was made by Mr. Pile to note the receipt of the April tax collector's report in the amount of \$175,110.98. Motion seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried.

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Payment of Bills

A motion was made by Mr. Krupa to approve the bills for April 2009 in the amount of \$79,166.69. Motion seconded by Mr. Pile. Role call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Pile, Mr. Strittmatter and Mr. Krupa in favor. Mr. Kory absent. Motion carried (6-0).

Old Business

A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to approve the advertising of the garbage contract. Motion seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

New Business

Mr. Pile noted a meeting regarding Stoneycreek Act 167 Flow Water Management. Mr. Wargo stated the Borough should have a representative present at the meeting.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Pile for adjournment of the May 18, 2009 meeting at 8:19 P.M. Motion seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda D. Claycomb
Borough Clerk