

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
December 11, 2006 7:00 p.m.

The scheduled December Council meeting was called to order by President Pile at 7:00 p.m. After the pledge to the flag the December 11, 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, Engineer: Ryan Farabaugh, Fire Chief: Chet Borosky, Zoning Officer: Ryan Adams, Street Commissioner: Jan Bosley and Borough Manager: Loretta Spak.

ABSENT: West Hills Police Chief: Andy Havas

VISITORS: Attorney John Lovette, 305 Leon Street, is observing.

Solicitor Dan Lovette introduced Attorney John Lovette to Council. He will be attending council meetings to learn the process.

President Pile asked for approval of November 20, 2006 Council Minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Krupa to accept the Minutes as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT:

West Hills Police was absent, no report.

ZONING OFFICERS REPORT

Mr. Adams report shows activity as of 11/29/06 twenty-eight (28) permits and a total construction of \$629,859. President Pile discussed Lamar billboards request to the City to move two advertising signs from Barnett Street to Menoher Boulevard. The next City Council meeting is Wednesday, December 13, 2006. Ms. Spak will contact Judy Kelly and make her aware that an advertising sign will be placed near the Barnett Street garden (maintained by Garden Club).

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

Chief Borosky's written report records eleven (11) responses during the month of November. There were two calls between the hours of 10 PM to 7 AM. Southmont had five (5) assists in November; two (2) to Upper Yoder, and three (3) to Westmont. The new rescue was received November 18, 2006 from 4Guys. Chief Borosky thanked Ms. Spak and Mr. Mulhollen for their quick response to Homeland Security for a digital GIS layer showing the primary response zone of Southmont Volunteer Fire Company. Discussion followed concerning reply dated November 16, 2006 from West Hills Fire Department to the Volunteer Firemen's Association of Cambria County in regards to Hilltop Ambulance Association solicitation for donations in Southmont. Southmont Borough council never acted on an agreement dated June of 2000 between Southmont and the Hilltop Ambulance. Solicitor Lovette stated in his opinion there is not a valid agreement but the ambulance association does provide a service.

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Tonight's meeting is Chet Borosky last meeting as Fire Chief; he did not seek the Fire Chief position for 2007. Mike Butler will be the acting 2007 Fire Chief. Mr. Butler had surgery and Mr. Borosky will be attending meetings until Chief Butler can attend. The Hilltop Ambulance report was received and is on file.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

The written Engineer's report for December was received and reviewed by Mr. Farabaugh. Council will inform P.C. Rizzo & Associates of streets for 2007 paving in February. Mr. Ewald made a motion approving deadline of May 31, 2007 for completion of fence at Grandview (ZP2005-21); if no fence by deadline, turn over to district magistrate. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried. Ms. Spak will draft a letter to Grandview concerning above motion and a letter to the Cambria County Conservation in regards to erosion and seeding along Menoher Boulevard (cc Grandview).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STREET COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Mr. Bosley's written report was received and reviewed. Mr. Rodgers mentioned Mr. Bruce of 429 State Street greatly appreciated Mr. Danyluk and Mr. Bosley stopping and giving him suggestions on his basement sewer backing up during heavy rains, "Thank you". Mr. Ewald and President Pile stated good job to Mr. Bosley and road crew for leaf collection, only heard good comments from residents.

STREET COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Danyluk had nothing new to report.

SAFETY, ADMNS. & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Krupa mentioned there is more to the workplace safety committee program than first thought. Will look over and investigate if feasible for the 5% discount on Workers' Compensation Policy premiums. Mr. Krupa updated council on Ms. Spak's and Mr. Bosley's evaluations that were held on December 6, 2006. Mr. Krupa stated we are fortunate to have two good people looking over Southmont. They are doing a good job and they have their updated goals for 2007. The webpage was discussed. If you haven't looked at it, please do, quite impressive. We are updating council bio's. If you don't have one completed, please do so as soon as possible and get it into Ms. Spak. Mr. Krupa updated council on the picture board for council room, discussion followed. Mr. Krupa reinforced that Ms. Spak and Mr. Bosley have equal say at table, when they have something to offer council will listen to their views.

POLICE COMMITTEE

Mayor Sloat had nothing new to report, no new activity.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory had nothing new to report.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Rodgers had nothing new to report.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to approve the 2007 General Fund Budget as proposed, in the amount of \$766,820. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none. Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to approve ordinance 466 changing tax collector compensation from two dollars (\$2) to three dollars (\$3) per bill. Seconded by Mr. Kory. Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none. Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to approve ordinance 464 to keep real estate tax at 11.0 mills for 2007. Seconded by Mr. Ewald. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to approve ordinance 465 to increase annual garbage fee from ninety dollars (\$90) to one hundred twenty dollars (\$120) per household per year for 2007, 2008, and 2009; no change in sewer maintenance fee of twenty-four dollars (\$24) per household per year. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to accept the Cheney Run Fund in the amount of \$10,000 and the Liquid Fuel Highway Aid Fund in the amount of \$1095.16 (plus December's interest). Seconded by Mr. Krupa. Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none. Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to keep the same depositories for 2007; General Funds-Portage National Bank & PLIGIT, Cheney Run-PLIGIT, Motor License Fund-PLIGIT, Garbage and Sewer Fund-Portage National Bank and Capital Improvement CD-Portage National Bank (CD mature date February 1, 2007). Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to approve Ms. Spak to do the appropriate 2006 account transfers. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Krupa made a motion to have the regular Council meetings held on the third Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. except the meeting in December which will be held on the second Monday (December 10, 2007). The Committee meetings will be held on Tuesday, as needed, at 7:00 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. prior to regular council meeting. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried. Ms. Spak will advertise the meeting schedule. President Pile is keeping appointments for 2007 as they are. Mr. Krupa made a motion to approve the following salary and pay rates for 2007 as presented: a.) Borough Manager \$25,250 effective January 1, 2007; \$500 bonus effective Sept. 1, 2007 if goals are reached. b.) Hourly rate for part time Secretary of \$7.50 effective January 1, 2007. c.) Street Commissioner \$31,500 no change in base pay; \$500 bonus effective April 1, 2007 if goals are reached; \$500 bonus effective October 1, 2007 if goals are reached. d.) Hourly Union Rate/Street Department follow union contract; Mr. Livingston \$11.87 per hour and Mr. Gentile \$10.09 per hour. e.) Hourly Rate/Seasonal Street Department, Temporary Part-Time \$6.65 effective July 1, 2007, snow removal \$8.00. f.) Solicitor \$3,600 retainer. g.) Engineers rates on file. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none.

SHADE TREE REPORT

Mr. Krupa is working on the Tree City USA application which is due by December 31, 2006. Mr. Krupa updated council regarding Lucetta Street sidewalk repairs. The repair at 107 Lucetta Street is completed and a lien will be placed against property; if council gets a chance please drive by and look at it. Repair has been started on 106 Lucetta Street sidewalk and a certified letter was sent to 109 Lucetta Street requiring repair to be started by December 19, 2006 or we will complete the work and lien the property.

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Pile updated council on subcontracting accounting duties to a Certified Public Accountant with a savings of approximately ten thousand dollars (\$10,000). Mr. Pile mentioned Mr. Ewald is taking an active interest on the recreation committee offering a new view point and many ideas. Mr. Pile stated he will be removing himself from the recreation committee and appointing Mr. Kory.

BUILDING/GROUNDS REPORT

Mr. Kory had nothing new to report.

COG REPORT

Mr. Ewald had nothing new to report, no movement.

GRANDVIEW COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory had nothing new to report.

GREATER JOHNSTOWN WATER AUTHORITY

The November minutes were received. Mr. Pile informed council that Southwest Water Authority is serviced by Highland Sewer and Water. Their Solicitor is stating Greater Johnstown Water Authority infringed on their contract. Mr. Pile stated Southwest came to the Greater Johnstown Water Authority asking for a quote; no contract, contract is expired. Other general happenings i.e. Salt Lick buying some property, RDM contract, possible rate increase (timber sales has been helping funds), and windmills.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Ms. Susan Holmes of Westmont asked Mayor Sloat about a municipal group health insurance plan; Ms. Spak will forward our broker information to Mayor Sloat.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Lovette a filed tax exemption appeal on Professional Family Care and Services, Westmont Hilltop School Solicitor will participate in appeal. Mr. Strittmatter is questioning why tax assessment decreased; Mrs. Magistro will contact the County for details.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Spak's written report was submitted. Mr. Forquer's verbal request concerning guard rail along turn at Cheney Street was discussed; Mayor Sloat and Mr. Bosley will investigate and report back to Council in January. Mr. Bosley will investigate the parking lot lighting issue which caused an alleged worker compensation incident. Mr. Kory moved to accept the Manager's report. Seconded by Mr. Ewald. All in favor, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to approve November's Treasurer Report in the amount of \$235,253.98 with understanding twenty thousand dollar transfer will be taken out of construction cost (#439.61) on December's report. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Rodgers noted we received the November Tax Collector's report with Real Estate revenues at \$1,220.41 for the month. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$58,432.54. Seconded by Mr. Kory. Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none.

OLD BUSINESS

President Pile discussed the "Tickler List" add the approved deadline date of May 31, 2007 to cemetery pond fence. Street light repair list was updated. President Pile thanked Mrs. Magistro and Ms. Spak on the phone log; very informative.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Kory stated the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs Spring Legislative Conference has many good topics. Mr. Kory made a motion to approve anyone who wants to attend the spring conference on March 18th - 20th, 2007 in Hershey. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried. A "thank you" letter was received from Mom's House for the printer Southmont donated. President Pile wished all a Merry Christmas.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Rodgers for adjournment of the December 11, 2006 meeting at 8:20 P.M. Seconded by Mr. Kory.

Respectfully submitted,

Loretta Spak, Borough Manager
12/15/2006 8:45 AM