

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
January 21, 2002 7:00 p.m.

The scheduled January Council meeting was called to order by Vice-President Rodgers at 7:00 p.m. After the pledge to the flag, the January 21, 2002 meeting of Council convened.

PRESENT: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Graham, Mr. Kory, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Danyluk, Mayor: Gerald Sloat, Secretary/Treasurer: Judith Czyrnik, Jan Bosley-Street Commissioner, Solicitor: Daniel R. Lovette, Engineer: David Duray, Zoning Officer: Dyke Orms, Fire Dept.: John Butler-Michael Leckey, West Hills Police: Chief Andy Havas.

ABSENT: Kevin Pile-Out of Town, Fire Dept.: Chet Borosky, Out of Town

<u>VISITORS:</u>	Elizabeth Brawley	100 King Street	Sue Berkstresser	102 King St.
	Ernest Brawley	100 King Street	Matt Hartnett	511 Jean Av.
	Dennis Brawley	1021 Goucher St.	Joe Kesslak	891 Menoher

Vice-President Rodgers asked for approval of the December 10, 2001 minutes, January 7, 2002 Re-Organization minutes and the January 15, 2002 Committee meeting minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Krupa to accept the Minutes as presented. Seconded by Mr. Graham. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Pile-Out of Town.

At this time Vice-President Rodgers asked for a spokesperson from the visitor's list in reference to the Sewer problems. Mr. Dennis Brawley began with a description of previous (1980) sewer backup problems at his parents property at 100 King Street. Most recently, a sewer back up problem reoccurred on December 17, 2001, and Mr. Ernest Brawley called the Borough, after hours and then called the Fire Company to report the emergency. He was told to call Roto-Rooter and they would determine the problem. After Roto Rooter finally arrived and checked out Mr. Brawley's lines they continued to work throughout the night to determine the problem. The sanitary sewer line runs between Lettuce/Leek Alley and Leon Street. Roots had to be cut out of the line and broken pipe sections were found in the line. Mr. Brawley felt the Borough should have responded sooner. After further discussion, Mr. Bosley reported that the line will be repaired in the Spring and will be monitored. The lines have been televised, to know the extent of the broken pipes.

At this time Vice President Rodgers called upon Mr. Dave Duray to review the submitted Sub-division for the Kesslak/Pueblitz property at 891 Menoher Blvd. Mr. Charles Hartnett of Hartnett & Hartnett Engineers prepared drawings outlining the proposed subdivision on the property at 891 Menoher Blvd.

Cont'd

Mr. Duray referred to a letter received from Paul C. Rizzo and Associates dated January 21, 2002, outlining items for the proposed sewer service to the property and review of an adjoining property for sewer easement. Several issues need to be addressed. However, Mr. Duray felt Council could approve the Subdivision contingent on these items, as listed in the letter dated January 21, 2002. A motion was made by Mr. Krupa to approve the "Planning Exemption" and subdivision, subject to the seven conditions listed in the letter of January 21, 2002, for the Kesslak/Pueblitz property. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried. Opposed none. Mr. Pile-Out of Town.

All permits must be approved by the Borough Zoning Officer.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Havas's written report records the revenues for the month of November & December are \$878.70. Chief Havas reviewed his report for the month of December and submitted his final report for the year 2002. Chief Havas reported that a letter has been received for approval for a "starter kit" for the accreditation enforcement program. All officers have been scheduled for the mandatory annual training. All training should be done by March 2002. Chief Havas asked for Council direction on what to do when the Police Department receives a stray animal call from a Borough resident. Presently the City of Johnstown will not pick up any stray animals. Southmont has never been officially notified. Chief Havas stated that the other Municipalities have the Humane Society pick up stray animals. Chief Havas stated that the Humane Society will not remove strays from Southmont until a motion is passed by Council directing them to remove stray animals. The charge for the Humane Society to send a dog enforcement officer is \$45.00 per animal. The Police have been successful in charging the owners and reimbursing the Municipalities. After further discussion, Mr. Krupa made a motion to approve the Humane Society of Cambria County to provide animal enforcement at \$45.00 per animal and authorize Officers to collect charges from owners or file costs with the Magistrate for any charges in collecting the animals. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried. Opposed none. Mr. Pile-Out of Town. Mrs. Czynnik will talk with Ms. Dee Black of the Humane Society to set the program.

Chief Havas submitted the Yearly Report for 2001.

ZONING OFFICERS REPORT

Mr. Orms reported that Council has received the activity report for 2001. The construction costs for 2001 are \$800,239.00. Only one item for the month was a Business License for NEZCO Plumbing at 888 Franklin Street. Also, Mr. Orms talked with the owners in reference to used plumbing and heating items being piled on the property. The owners assured Mr. Orms that they will be building an enclosure in order to store the items until they are hauled away. Mr. Orms gave them 30 days to build the enclosure. Mr. Orms will watch the property for violations.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

In Chief Borosky's absence Mr. John Butler reviewed the written report. For the month of December there were 13 responses. Two calls were between the hour of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. There was an appliance fire on December 26 at 11:21 a.m. None of Southmont's pagers activated. Only the siren activated. This has happened twice in the past five weeks. The Fire Dept. checked with 911 for an explanation. They explained that another incident was in progress and radio traffic on the same frequency could have caused the problem. The yearly report records 151 responses for the year. At this time Mr. Butler discussed the pager quotes received for Council's approval. Two quotes were received for 30 pagers with programming;

Sound Communications at \$10,260.00

Bob's Radio Service at \$10,470.00.

After discussion, Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to approve the Fire Company to purchase 30 pagers for Sound Communication in the amount of \$10,260.00 and the Borough will pay 1/2 the cost, \$5,130.00. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried. Opposed none. Mr. Pile-Out of Town.

A copy of the Hilltop Ambulance Association minutes are on file.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. David Duray of Paul C. Rizzo Associates reported that no new construction building permits may be issued until the EDU allocations are received from the Department of Environmental Protection. Mr. Duray reported they are continuing to have problems with the flow meters at Wonder Street. There is a foaming problem in that line and the meter is not reading accurately. Mr. Duray has been in touch with the manufacturer and he is recommending a different type of meter called a bubble system. The manufacturer, Sigma, sent an agreement for the Borough to try the new meter for 60 days and return it by March 20, 2002 or pay \$4,129.00. If we should decide to keep the bubble system meter Sigma will give the Borough credit on the inaccurate meter. A motion was made by Mr. Strittmatter to approve the agreement with Sigma. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried. Opposed none. Mr. Pile-Out of Town.

Mr. Duray and Mr. Mark Antonik gave Council a presentation on the GIS, Geographic Information System with a software program. The Borough could update all record keeping for the sewer lines, alleys and street paving, sidewalks, catch basins and etc. The GIS program would be very helpful now and in the future. The program is eligible for grants and Mr. Antonik will work with the Borough on the grants. A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to proceed with the GIS program. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried. Opposed none. Mr. Pile-Out of Town. Vice-President Rodgers appointed a GIS Committee, naming Mr. Duray, Mr. Bosley, Mr. Pile and Mr. Danyluk to the Committee. The Committee will work with Mr. Antonik to prepare a proposal and cost estimates. Mr. Kory suggested perhaps UPJ students can assist in the input of the program. Mr. Rodgers noted that the workshop was excellent.

Mr. Duray continued stating that the 2002 Street Paving program with alternate bids is ready for advertisement. A motion was made by Mr. Kory to advertise the 2002 Street Paving program for bid opening at the February 18th meeting. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried. Opposed none. Mr. Pile-Out of Town.

Mr. Duray was in the process of receiving quotes for slip lining to repair the sanitary sewer between Helen Street and Floyd Street. The broken pipe was found when the line was dye tested by Borough employees. Many joints need resealed or pipe replaced. Slip lining would remedy the problem rather than digging through several residents properties. Mr. Duray stated the cost would be between \$4,000.00 and \$10,000.00. A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk authorizing the Engineers to proceed with getting three quotes for the slip lining. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried. Opposed none. Mr. Pile-Out of Town.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STREET COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Mr. Bosley's written report was reviewed. Routine maintenance was done on the Borough Building and equipment. Leaf machines have been winterized and stored away for the year. The Wonder Street restroom has been winterized and all keys have been returned. Sign poles for the new Borough signs have been completed, several signs have been installed. Checked flows in designated sanitary sewer manholes. This is done three time per week. Some alley signs have been installed. The lower restroom door was damaged by the Fire Company this month. Repairs were made. Salted and plowed the streets when needed. Roto Rooter was in to open the sewer line for the Brawley's at 100 King Street. Mr. Bosley noted that the Borough crew will be digging for the new manhole on the lower side of State Street. Borough maps show 3 houses tied together. Some of the residents have had some problems recently. Mr. Bosley had the lines televised. Some dye testing will be done to determine where the problems might be.

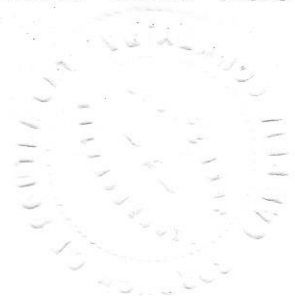
Mr. Danyluk reported that the new alley light program will continue in 2002. A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to proceed with the applications for installation of the alley lights. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried. Opposed none. Mr. Pile-Out of Town.

STREET COMMITTEE

Mr. Danyluk had nothing new to report. There was an accident with the 2001 truck. Mr. Bosley feels the tires are not as aggressive as they should be for ice and snow. He will continue to watch and might possibly need different tires. When we prepare specifications for a new truck we will specify a different type of tire. Mr. Bosley will write the incident out in detail.

ADMINISTRATION/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Strittmatter noted there was nothing new to report.



POLICE COMMISSION

Mayor Sloat reported that he attended a Police Commission Reorganization meeting. The next meeting will be January 22, 2002. The oath of office will be administered to all Councilmen, in the event they need to attend any Police Commission meetings, as alternates.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Mr. Graham reviewed the recycling report. Nothing new to report.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory had nothing to report other than Southmont received rates for the Employees Life Insurance. No changes at this time.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Rodgers reviewed the Budget. Mr. Rodgers stated that the 2001 Budget Transfers and Adjustment were made. A motion to approve the Budget Transfers for 2001 was made by Mr. Kory and seconded by Mr. Krupa. Roll call: Mr. Graham, Mr. Kory, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried. Opposed none. Mr. Pile-Out of Town.

SHADE TREE

Mr. Krupa reported on the Shade Tree Commission activity this month. Mr. Krupa would like Council input for Arbor Day scheduled for May 4, 2002. Mr. Krupa will advertise a meeting for the Shade Tree Advisory Board in March to begin preparing a 2002 planting and tree removal schedule.

RECREATION/PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

Solicitor Lovette noted there was nothing new to report. Southmont Borough's 1st and 2nd quarter payments to the Recreation Commission are on the bill sheet.

BUILDINGS and GROUNDS

Mr. Kory had nothing new to report. The new signs for the front of the Building and the yard sign have been ordered. They will be done early in the Spring.

C.O.G REPORT

Mr. Graham and Mr. Krupa will attend the first COG meeting on February 5th. COG has sent Council the new meeting schedule for 2002. Mr. Krupa will bring Mr. Graham up to date on the activities. They will remind COG that Southmont is still interested in the sewer televising camera and the crack sealing machine.

CHAPIN ARCH

Nothing further. It appears the deeds have been transferred. Mr. Kory suggested that Southmont rename the Committee and continue to keep in touch with Grandview Cemetery Association. The new Committee name is Grandview Committee. Mr. Kory will be the Chairman.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Sloat had nothing to report other than he attended the Police Communication reorganization meeting. Mayor Sloat will look at a property at the corner of Helen and State Streets. There is an overhanging rose bush. Southmont has had complaints about vehicles being scratched by the bush. A letter will be sent to the property owner. Also, Vice-President Rodgers asked Mayor Sloat to check on vehicles parked on Edward Street near the intersection of Thoburn Street. Possibly "No Parking" signs should be placed in the area.

SOLICITOR 'S REPORT

Nothing further.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary's report has been submitted and records that the W2's format needed to be changed for 2001 and Mr. Lewis has redesigned the form. Charter Pipeline internet has been installed in the office. There is no charge for this service from Charter Communications. The separate phone line for the internet and the Lenz Link internet service has been discontinued. (Savings about \$400.00 per year.) Charter Communications will be notified that Southmont is a Borough not a Township, as listed on Channel 9

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Mr. Strittmatter to approve the December Treasurer's Report, as presented, in the amount of \$321,105.48. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Pile-Out of Town.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Kory made a motion that Southmont received the December Tax Collector's Report, with Real Estate Collections at \$6,675.57 Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. The January Tax Collector's report was received with no collections for the month. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Pile-Out of Town.

It was noted that the Southmont Borough Tax Collectors books were audited by the County and it was found that everything was in order for collection of Real Estate taxes.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Krupa to approve payment of the bills, for a total amount of \$ 62,192.95. Seconded by Mr. Kory. Roll Call: Mr. ~~Graham~~, Mr. Kory, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Rodgers, All in favor, oppose none. Motion carried. Mr. Pile-Out of Town.

OLD BUSINESS

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

NEW BUSINESS

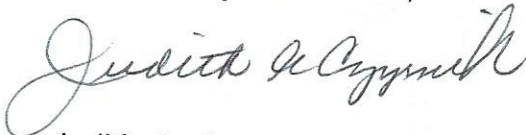
Vice-President Rodgers discussed the Auditor's positions. After discussion, Ms. Susan Berkstresser was asked if she would fill the position of Auditor. She will get back to Council later this week. (Ms. Berkstresser called and stated she would accept the appointment. She will be appointed at the February meeting.) Auditors will be given the oath of Office at the February meeting of Council.

Mr. Strittmatter is setting up a meeting with the siren specialists in reference to meeting to review sounds and specifics of a new siren. They have a simulator sound unit and can test it in the area. Mr. Strittmatter is suggesting that they look at the area near the Water Tank or Picking Treece Mortuary.

Mr. Leckey of the Fire Company mentioned that if any new building is constructed on Menoher, plans should be made for a fire hydrant. There is only one on Menoher Blvd.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to adjourn at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Judith A. Czyrnik,
Borough Secretary

