

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
November 18, 2002 7:00 p.m.

The scheduled November Council meeting was called to order by President Pile at 7:00 p.m. After the pledge to the flag, the November 18, 2002 meeting of Council convened.

PRESENT: President Pile, Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa, Mayor: Gerry Sloat, Solicitor: Daniel R. Lovette, Street Commissioner, Jan Bosley, Secretary/Treasurer: Judith Czynnik, Engineer: Dave Duray, Zoning Officer: Dyke Orms, Fire Chief: Chet Borosky, West Hills Police: Chief Andy Havas
ABSENT: Mr. Kory-Conflicting Appointment, Mr. Graham-absent.

VISITORS: None

President Pile asked for approval of the October 21, 2002 minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Krupa to accept the Minutes as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Kory and Mr. Graham absent

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Havas reviewed the October report. Revenues for the month were \$774.29. Chief Havas reported Officer Mulkey presented a Senior Citizen Group program at the Westmont Church of the Brethren. He spoke about scams against older people. Officers have been invited to join Brownie Troop 149 for a Thanksgiving party November 25, 2002. A representative from the Department will attend. Chief Havas reported that there were no problems during Trick or Treat this year. Officers patrolled the 4 Municipalities and handed out candy to the children. Officer Watts attended class sponsored by PennDot for a position in the department for truck inspector. Chief Havas did look at a potential problem at 147 Helen Street. He has spoken with neighbors about the blocking of the driveway. Chief Havas has left a message at 147 Helen Street to call him, to date he has not received a call.

Chief Havas reviewed a letter received from residents at 529 Diamond Blvd. in reference to the speeding traffic. Officer spoke with Ms. Mayer and informed her that in the Spring the WHRP will begin monitoring the traffic. It is hard to do in the Winter months. Chief Havas spoke on the Certification program. The department is still attending class and should be ready for testing in the Spring.

ZONING OFFICERS REPORT

Mr. Orms reported that 2 permits were issued since the last report with total construction cost of \$785.00. Year to date total is \$613,663.00. Issued two Business permits one for Slater's Lab. and another for Jewelry Haven. Nothing further to report. Council discussed the Unified Construction Codes deadline. This will be discussed further at a Committee meeting.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

Chief Borosky reviewed the written report recording 17 responses for the month. Two calls were received between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. Two work details were scheduled for erecting and tearing down tents. Southmont provided one public service detail for Trick or Treat night. The Fire Department purchased new tires for the Engine. The old tires were balding. The Siren should be installed when the weather permits two full days of decent weather. Chief Borosky explained a request to store Westwood VFD 1960 pumper that has recently been restored. After checking with our Insurance agent proper insurance, liability release and letter of request is on file. A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to approve storing the pumper in the Fire Company's garage, with the proper insurance and release on file. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Kory and Mr. Graham absent.

Chief Borosky spoke briefly on the consolidation of the hilltop fire departments. Talks are still in progress. Hilltop Ambulance report on file.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Dave Duray of P.C. Rizzo & Associates has reviewed with Council a preliminary cost estimate for the 2003 Street Paving program. The estimated amount of paving is \$94,713.00. In addition, Southmont will share the cost of paving Millcreek Rd., Southmont's portion is estimated at \$25,000.00. The (NPDES) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems program needs to be submitted to DEP by March 2003 and Mr. Duray is working on that, at the present time. Mr. Duray is ready to turn the GIS program over to the Borough as soon as the computer is up and running.

Mr. Duray is working on a legal description for the Cheney Oak Drive mileage, for Penn Dot acceptance into the Liquid Fuels road miles.

COMMITTEES

STREET COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Mr. Bosley reviewed his written report. Cleaned borough building, recycled weekly, monitored designated sanitary sewer lines and cut grass weather permitting. Picked up grass and debris after storms and/or heavy rains. Completed dye testing downspouts and driveway drains according to the DEP Corrective Action Plan.

Patched potholes on October 19, 2002. Chipped brush and limbs week of October 21 through 25 and October 28 and 29. Hauled away all other debris that could not be chipped. The water has been shut off at the Diamond Playground and at the Soccer/Ballfield. Everything has been winterized. Mr. Bosley has received four quotes for a new leaf machine. These prices will be good into the Spring. Mr. Bosley ordered a metal detector for locating manholes in the amount of \$580.00, per Councils instructions.

Two new street lights and poles will be installed this month. This will leave only 2 new poles and lights to do to complete the street light project.

STREET COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Danyluk had nothing further to report. Mr. Danyluk reported that Council has decided to wait until Spring before ordering a new leaf machine.

ADMINISTRATION/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Strittmatter discussed the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) program. It was the consensus of Council that we send out letters to accounting firms requesting quotes on installing the GASB program into our system. The State is mandating that this be done by December 2003. Financial statements will be a part of this accounting program. Our current reporting does not provide computer ready financial statements. Mrs. Czyrnik will check with PSAB. Mr. Strittmatter reported that there will be a negotiation meeting on November 19, 2002 at 4:00 p.m.

POLICE COMMISSION

There will be a meeting Tuesday November 19, 2002, at 7:00 p.m. in Brownstown.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

In Mr. Graham's absence the recycling report was reviewed.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

In Mr. Kory's absence Mrs. Czyrnik reported that a renewal application for the 2003 liability has been made with PIRMA. And an Insurance agent from Davidsville called with interest in sending a quote on our liability insurance. Southmont would have to notify PIRMA 60 days in advance of any other quotes. I did inform the agent.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Rodgers reported that the Auditor General's office was in to audit the Municipal Pension plan and informed Southmont that the former Police Pension plan has been satisfied and no longer in the states audit plan. Mr. Rodgers is suggesting that the name be changed to Capital Improvements Funds. Council agreed.

Mr. Rodgers reported that the tentative Budget for 2003 is ready for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to approve the tentative 2003 General Fund Budget in the amount of \$638,010.00 and advertise for Public inspection. Seconded by Mr. Krupa Roll call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa, and Mr. Pile All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Kory and Mr. Graham absent.

The 2002 Budget provided for the tax millage to remain at 22 mills and it provided for a \$6.00 increase to the garbage fee due to the Title 27 Environmental Resources increase adding a \$4.00 surcharge to each ton of solid waste disposed at the landfill. This fee is deposited into Environmental Stewardship Fund, they are not kept by Waste Management. Mr. Rodgers made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to prepare and advertise the tax rate for 2003 at 22 mills and the Garbage Fees increased to \$76.00 annually. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Kory and Mr. Graham absent.

BUDGET COMMITTEE cont'd

Mr. Rodgers spoke briefly about the new law (to increase the Police Pension cost of living to the two police retirees. Mr. Rodgers asked the Solicitor and the Committee to review this and if it is the consensus of Council to allow the cost of living increase it would possibly come from the former police pension fund. Mr. Rodgers stated that this would be done through Principal Investment Group, who is currently handling the two retirees pension.

SHADE TREE

Mr. Krupa reviewed with Council that he attended a Hazardous Tree Removal & Diagnosis workshop this past month. The program was excellent and confirms that we are on the right track by doing an inventory of our shade trees and following up with removal of hazardous trees. Mr. Krupa sent letters to 4 Tree Service businesses for quotes on 2003 tree trimming and removal in the Spring. Only one responded and it is the service that we presently use. Lichtenfels will plant the balance of the 2002 trees before year end. The Tree City USA application for 2002 will be prepared and sent to the Bureau of Forestry the first week of December.

RECREATION/PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

Mr. Pile reported that Stephanie Milavac has resigned as Director of the Westmont Hilltop Recreation Commission. The Commission is searching for a replacement.

BUILDINGS and GROUNDS

In Mr. Kory's absence there was no report. Mr. Bosley stated that the roof and paint is holding very well.

C.O.G REPORT

In Mr. Graham's absence Mr. Rodgers made a motion to rejoin COG. Mr. Danyluk seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Kory and Mr. Graham absent. Membership will paid by the County again this year. A letter of thanks will be sent to the Commissioners. The final payment for the sewer camera is \$1,232.00 (#436.60) and has been forwarded to the Budget Committee.

GRANDVIEW COMMITTEE

In Mr. Kory's absence it was the consensus of Council that the Cemetery Associations should be made aware of the paving project for Millcreek Rd. Construction shared by Westmont and Southmont.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Nothing to report other than the Police Commission will be in Brownstown this month at 7:00 p.m. November 19, 2002. Mayor Sloat had one call from a resident this month in reference to placing garbage out prior to the collection day.

SOLICITOR'S Report

Solicitor Lovette reported that deeds to Ray Alley abutting the property of Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Sobacky and Mr. & Mrs. Rocco Truscello have been forwarded to them. They must file the deeds in the County. Solicitor Lovette is waiting for a legal description for Cheney Oak Drive from the Engineers to prepare the Ordinance to accept the roadway.

Solicitor Lovette reported that he has finally received the deed back from PennDot in reference to the area of the Chapin Arch. The property and deed has been signed and forwarded to the Southern Alleghenies Conservancy.

Nothing new on the Sprague suit. Mr. Hartnett's letter has been answered in reference to the siren removal. Mr. Hartnett's attorney asked for specific minutes relating to the siren. She was informed that "Minutes" were public information and therefore she was welcome to come in and review them.

Mr. Goodman's attorney sent photos in reference to flooding during the Spring. This has been turned over to the Committee for review and will be discussed for a solution as soon as possible. This is a sanitary sewer overflow during the heavy rains. Mr. Bosley did talk with Mr. Goodman explaining that the infiltration from Upper Yoder is some of the problem. There was a bypass in there before the new Cheney Run Channel was installed. The DEP took the bypass out at that time. The Committee will look at this background.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary's report records that Resolution 2002-06 written to comply with the provisions of Act 15, Article II for the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System. This was recommended by the Auditor General's Auditor. A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to approve Resolution 2002-06. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Kory and Mr. Graham absent.

Mr. Danyluk made a motion to approve Resolution 2002-07 approving participation and enrollment in the Borough Elected Officials Program for life insurance. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Kory and Mr. Graham absent. A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to accept the Secretary's report. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Kory and Mr. Graham absent. The Newsletter is completed and will be sent to the printer this week.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to accept the October Treasurer's Report in the amount of \$346,487.84. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Kory and Mr. Graham absent.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to note that we received the Tax Collector's report for October in the amount of \$847.00. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Kory and Mr. Graham absent.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

After questions and discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to approve payment of the bills, for a total amount of \$31,333.81. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Strittmatter and Mr. Pile. All in favor, opposed none. Motion carried. Mr. Kory and Mr. Graham absent.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Pile asked for review of items on the "Tickler List". Items were reviewed, removed or relisted. Some new items will be added.

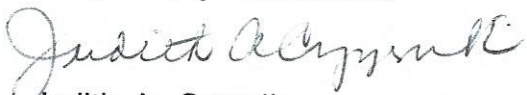
NEW BUSINESS

Copies of the Engineer's rates and services were submitted to Council. Council members have been asked to review the submittals and discuss at the Committee meeting scheduled for November 26, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. Council will also discuss negotiations, computer and letter to accounts for GSAB accounting procedures.

An invitation was received from Upper Yoder Township Visioning Committee inviting Council to a meeting on December 5, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building at 302 Elim Street. The meeting is to discuss Intergovernmental Cooperation. Mr. Dean Fernsler, from the Governor's Center for Local Governmental Services will speak. Westmont, Ferndale, Southmont and Lower Yoder township have been invited to attend. Someone from Council will attend.

There being no further items to discuss Council adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Judith A. Czynnik,
Borough Secretary

