

**BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT**  
**148 Wonder Street**  
**Johnstown, PA 15905**

**Minutes for February 18, 2019**

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The pledge of allegiance was conducted and the scheduled January 21, 2019 Council meeting was called to order by President Rodgers at 4:00 p.m.

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**Present:** Attorney Michael Carbonara; Borough Manager Richard Wargo; Sec./Treas. Amanda Layton; Council President Richard Rodgers; Council Members; Gregory Paolini, Ed Danyluk, Herb Ewald, Kevin Pile, Sheree Speicher and Bob Morgan; Mayor Mark Yonko; Police Chief Michael Lose; Engineer Todd Banks

**Absent:** Fire Chief Michael Butler

**Correspondence**

Council reviewed a letter from Allen Smith requesting to make a presentation regarding Save Laurel Ridge. Council agreed they have already decided against the wind turbine project and feel there is no need for a presentation.

**Meeting Agenda**

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve the council meeting minutes of January 21, 2019. Motion seconded by Mr. Paolini. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

**Police Chief's Report**

Chief Lose reported Officer Watts completed his annual MCSAP update training for the inspection of trucks in Harrisburg on February 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, which enables him to continue motor carrier enforcement and to file citations for truck and driver violations. Chief Lose also reported the Officers are in the process of completing their 2019 MPOETC Continuing Education Training.

**Fire Company's Report**

Chief Butler absent. The Fire Chief's Report stated crews supplied water and foam to West Hills Fire Dept. to help with their ladder truck fire. The report also stated the fire company officers had a meeting and have some plans for training and equipment maintenance.

**Engineer's Report**

Mr. Banks reported the plans for the drainage upgrade at the corner of Diamond Blvd. and Gardner Street are ready to bid. A motion was made by Mr. Pile to advertise bidding the plans for the Diamond Blvd. and Gardner Street drainage system. Motion seconded by Mr. Ewald. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

**Zoning Officer's Report**

Mr. Wargo reported six sewer compliance certificates approved for 137 Dahlia Street, 307 State Street, 96 Helen Street, 141 Dahlia Street, 149 Arlington Street and 21 Shady Lane. Mr. Pile inquired whether the borough receives a fee for completing the inspection for the certificates and Mr. Wargo informed him there is a \$45.00 inspection fee and if a dye test is required the fee depending on the method used to determine where the sump pump discharges.

**Manager's Report**

Mr. Wargo reported Kukurin Contracting will return in the spring to finish the landscaping and paving for the sanitary sewer replacement project.

Mr. Wargo stated Christmas tree pickup and chipping is completed. Mr. Ewald inquired how much it would be for the borough to purchase its own chipper for future use and Mr. Wargo informed him it could be between \$30,000 and \$40,000 for a good chipper.

**Solicitor's Report**

A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve Ordinance No. 516, setting the fee for collection and disposal for garbage and rubbish for 2019. Motion seconded by Mrs. Speicher. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

**Secretary's Report**

Mrs. Layton provided council with a draft of rules of order for meetings, which will set procedures on how motions are made, length of public comments, etc. to be reviewed for future approval.

Mrs. Layton provided council with a proposal from Hometown Press to create 1,000 folders for new residents that would be funded entirely by advertising.

**Mayor's Report**

Nothing to report.

**New Business**

A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve Resolution 2019-02, disposition of tax records. Motion seconded by Mrs. Speicher. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

**1) COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. Streets:** Nothing to report.

**B. Administration:** Nothing to report.

**C. Personnel:** A motion was made by Mr. Pile to accept the letter received from Rich Wargo informing council of his intent to depart as the Borough Manager as of May 1, 2019. Motion seconded by Mr. Ewald. Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Pile, Mrs. Speicher, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Rodgers in favor. Mr. Paolini opposed. Motion carried (6-1).

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Mr. Pile reported the personnel committee met to discuss updating personnel policies, job descriptions and other such items that need updated and/or will be affected by the departure of Roy Livingston and Rich Wargo. Mr. Pile noted Attorney Carbonara may have a conflict of interest since he represents Rich Wargo in personal matters and requested Attorney Robert Brierton be hired to look over any updates and changes. A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve hiring Attorney Brierton to review updates and changes to the personnel policy and job descriptions. Motion seconded by Mr. Ewald. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

**D. Police Committee:** Nothing to report.

**E. Budget & Tax Collection Committee:** Mr. Pile reported the budget committee met to discuss the budget for the sanitary sewer replacement project noting there is currently approximately \$80,000 in the budget assigned to other line items that should have been used toward debt services and will need to be looked at in the future.

**F. Shade Tree Committee:** Nothing to report.

**G. Buildings & Grounds Committee:** Mrs. Speicher reported the painting bids are coming in and will be addressed at the next council meeting.

**H. Greater Johnstown Water Authority:** Nothing to report.

**I. Open Records:** Nothing to report.

**J. Borough Services:** Nothing to report.

**K. Fire Company:** Nothing to report.

**L. Audit:** Nothing to report.

**M. Insurance:** Nothing to report.

**N. Centennial:** Mr. Morgan stated things are going well and the next meeting will be February 19<sup>th</sup>.

### **Business Items**

A motion was made by Mr. Ewald to approve ratification of payroll from January 22, 2019 through February 18, 2019 in the amount of \$15,150.24. Motion seconded by Mrs. Speicher. Roll call: Mr. Paolini, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Pile, Mrs. Speicher, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Rodgers in favor. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to payment of bills from January 23, 2019 through February 19, 2019 in the amount of \$330,561.82. Motion seconded by Mr. Paolini. Roll call: Mr. Paolini, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Pile, Mrs. Speicher, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Rodgers in favor. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

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A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to accept the January 2019 treasurer's report in the amount of \$1,677,349.54. Motion seconded by Mr. Ewald. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to note the receipt of the January 2019 tax collectors report in the amount of \$0.00. Motion seconded by Mr. Ewald. Motion carried (7-0).

A motion was made by Mr. Pile to go into an Executive Session at 4:28 p.m. to discuss personnel matters. Motion seconded by Mrs. Speicher. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve advertising Ordinance No. 517, setting the compensation of the tax collector. Motion seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mrs. Speicher for adjournment of the February 18, 2019 meeting at 5:30 p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. Pile. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

Respectfully submitted,  
*Amanda D. Layton*  
Secretary/Treasurer