

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
February 19, 1996 7:30 p.m.

The regularly scheduled February Council meeting was called to order by President Pile at 7:30 p.m.. After the pledge to the flag, the February 19, 1996 meeting of Council convened.

PRESENT: Mr. Pile, Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Kory, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Davis, Mayor Robert Morgan, Solicitor: Daniel R. Lovette, Engineer: Ron Walker, Secretary: Judith Czarnik, West Hills Police: Chief Andy Havas, Chet Borosky, Fire Department, Jim Dailey, Hilltop Ambulance.

ABSENT: Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Leventry, Zoning Officer: Fred Pullen , Street Commissioner: Jan Bosley

VISITORS:

Mr. & Mrs. McDonald	305 Leila Street	Bill Coyle	Beverdale
Michael Kozak	327 Southmont Blvd.	Betty Stein	234 Wonder Street
Martha Stein	234 Wonder Street	Keith Griffith	Richland
Hilda Benner	230 Wonder Street	Cindy Walizer	179 Floyd Street

At this time President Pile asked for approval of the January 15, 1996 regular Council meeting minutes. Mr. Davis made a motion to approve the January 15, 1996 minutes, seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

At this time President Pile began with visitors, Mrs. Hilda Benner who was requesting a street light in the area of her home at 230 Wonder Street. It is a dead end street and it is very dark. There was a problem with sewage backup during the January 19, 1996 flooding. She and Mrs. Stein at 234 had problems. They also have had run off water problems during other storms. Mrs. Benner reported to Council that during weekends she has seen a variety of colored water flowing thru the creek behind her house. President Pile suggested that the Street Committee review and inspect the request for a street light and the water problems, then make recommendation to Council at the March 18, 1996 meeting. Mrs. Benner and Mrs. Stein both commented to Council about the very good job of plowing the Borough has done.

Mr. Keith Griffith presented Sub-Division, Plan No 2 in the Cheney Oak section of the Bonaventure Corporation property. The sub-divided property will front Susan Drive. Mr. Rodgers made a motion to accept the Bonaventure Corporation Sub-Division, Plan No 2 as submitted, seconded by Mr. Davis. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Griffith mentioned that another sub-division will be submitted probably at the March meeting.

Mr. Michael Kozak suggested that Council set burning permits under a flat rate fee for a year. President Pile informed Mr. Kozak that we do allow a permit to be issued for more than one day, if the specific days are on the permit. If we allowed blanket coverage for burning permits there would be no control over the burning, and that was the intent of the permit. The Police are made aware of the burning permits and the Fire Company will be notified also.

Mr. McDonald of 305 Leila Street reported to Council he also had sewage back-up in his basement. He never had any problems before the January 19, 1996 flooding. Mr. Davis who lives on Mabel Street also had water problems and several residents in those areas had water in their basements. The Fire Company had provided the Borough with a list. Council suggested that the Street Committee and Engineers will look at the sanitary sewer lines and storm lines in both the Wonder and Leila Street area. Mr. McDonald suggested we approach the Sewer Authority in Upper Yoder Township to come up with a solution to this continuing problem of excess water that surges our lines.

Mr. Bill Coyle was interested in the additional Bonaventure sub-division that Mr. Griffith will be presenting to Council in March.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Havas's written report records there was a total of 532 "9-1-1" calls for service in Southmont, Westmont and Brownstown during the month. Revenues for December was \$192.33 and in January \$380.48. West Hills Police continued working with the Street Department in removing vehicles from roadways for snow removal. The Department is currently undergoing the mandated In Service Training for 1996. The new PA-LEMIS Computer Program has been installed and appears to be working properly.

The Council commented on the good work done by the WHRP Department, Task Force and others involved in solving the serial rape case. Chief Havas remarked there was very good cooperation from the public and in this case it was very helpful.

A motion by Mr. Krupa to approve the appointment of Richard Rodgers, as an alternate member to the WHRP Commission. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

ZONING OFFICERS REPORT

Mr. Pullen's report records 3 building permits for the month at an estimated cost of \$2,895.00. Very little progress was made on the Klanchar and Hearn properties due to the weather. Mr. Klanchar has agreed that he will be taking out a new permit for the siding. The existing permit is now void.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

The Fire Company's written report records the Fire Company responded to 23 calls in January. The County 9-1-1 had called out the Department during the storm emergency on January 19. During the emergency the department responded to 15 flooded basements, odor investigations, smoke investigations and two structure fires. Council thanked the Fire Company for the good work during the emergency and their assistance to the residents. The fire siren was installed and a new timer control has been put into use. Mr. Borosky reported the new timer is 2 minutes with 10 cycles. It is shorter than the old siren.

The Fire Department would like to set up a meeting with Council some evening to discuss plans on the proposed addition. Council will discuss a time and notify the Fire Department.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Walker reported that some utility poles will need moved before Hannah Alley paving preparation begins. Mr. Walker will work on preparations for the necessary easements from the property owners. Mr. Walker prepared a cost estimate of damages from the flooding on Leon Street for Penn Dot, PEMA and FEMA. All of the agencies have inspected Leon Street and we will be eligible for reimbursement of approximately \$3,500.00.

Council has asked Mr. Walker to respond to the DEP on the comments they addressed in their February 14, 1996 letter. This will be discussed further when the Street Committee meets February 28, 1996. Solicitor Lovette suggested that we tell DEP what we have done, and the DEP should be contacting Upper Yoder about the infiltration into Southmont Borough. Further results will be sent to DEP. Mr. Rodgers referred to a letter from Cambria County EMS in reference to mitigation funds being available for reducing risks for future disasters. We should look to see if there are any projects we could be doing that would fall under this funding.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STREET COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Mr. Bosley's written report records plowing, and or salting was done most of the month. Used front end loader to widen many streets and intersections. Arranged snow hauling and removal with Zucco Construction on several streets, for safety. Maintenance was preformed on all equipment. The plow was repaired on the 1993 truck. Christmas trees were picked-up and piles of leaves were picked up, inlets were cleaned after all storms. Ditches were cleared after storms. Electricians completed the new service installation Jan 24, 1996. Took recycling trailer to Recycling Center in Boswell weekly. Mr. Carbaugh twisted his back January 15, 1996 while doing recycling. Had trailer inspected.

STREET COMMITTEE

No report other than the Street Committee will meet at 4:00 p.m., February 28, 1996 to inspect the Wonder Street area for run-off and the sewer back-up. They will look at the street light request during the evening hours.

ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Rodgers reported that the Committee has completed updating the Job Descriptions and Evaluation forms. The Committee will meet on February 28, 1996 at 7:00 p.m. to review the evaluations and determine evaluation of wages for 1996.

Members of Council meet with Richard Lear of PAMS with reference to the finding of the misappropriation of tax dollar funds by a supervisor of PAMS. Auditing procedures were questioned and future thought will be given to who will be collecting the EIT tax. We have requested a copy of their procedures for auditing the loss and the future auditing procedures.

The Police Committee would like to ask Attorney Brierton to meet with them before negotiations begin with the Police. A motion by Mr. Rodgers for the Committee to consult with Attorney Brierton for a limit of up to 3 hours. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

There was a total of 52,846 pounds collected during 1995. This volume will be used for the Act 101, Performance Grant.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory has schedules of the Insurance policies expiration dates. The Secretary will request bids from at least three Insurance Companies for the Insurance Committee to review.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Rodgers briefly looked at the snow and ice removal and materials and labor costs on the 1996 budget. These expenses might possibly be reimbursable thru the PEMA and FEMA for the storms between January 5th. thru the 19th. Mr. Rodgers has reviewed the Fire Company Audit and will set up a meeting to discuss the audit with them.

SHADE TREE

Mr. Krupa reviewed with the Council the meeting that will be held February 21, 1996 has been advertised twice. They will discuss tree planting, and tree removals at 138-204 Palliser Street and at 619-620 Diamond Blvd. Tree planting in the 100 block of Palliser will be done this spring, thru an America the Beautiful grant. Arbor Day will be April 20, 1996.

RECREATION/PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

Mr. Pile reported that plans are being made for the 30th Anniversary. A calendar of events have been put together for the week long celebration. The tenant lease at the Ridge has been terminated as of February 29, 1996.

CABLE TV COMMITTEE

Mayor Morgan reported briefly on the "329 Complaint Form" that has been sent in to the FCC asking for a review of the rate increases. Mrs. Carol Morgan filed the complaint and it is on file in the Borough Office. Nothing new on the franchise agreement, the Attorney is still reviewing the agreement.

C.O.G REPORT

Mr. Davis reported that he and Mr. Krupa attended the C.O.G meeting. They were to have a demonstration on the sewer cleaning equipment. Southmont has sent in their schedule for the requested time to use the equipment. They discussed sharing the delivery load with another municipality, to get the best price. They should be within a 2 mile radius. Mr. Davis will check on the Equipment Center membership for the use of extra plows, equipment and etc.

CHAPIN ARCH

Mr. Kory reported on the nice article in the Tribune recently. A purchase order has been sent to Marisa. We have received his Worker's Comp. paper. He has not picked up any stone to date, due to the weather.

MAYOR'S REPORT

No report. Other than the vehicles were moved during the snow storms for plowing.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Lovette reported the Conemaugh Hospital and the Cemetery Association have entered into a proposed settlement for payment in lieu of taxation from the year 1993 to 2000, for the Conemaugh Hospital parking area. After discussion and some explanation Solicitor Lovette is recommending that Council modify their previous action and also recommending that he prepare a settlement agreement for 30% payment of the assessed value, in lieu of taxation, for the Hospital parking area on the Cemetery property along Menoher Blvd., and with an escape clause that if the law changes the agreement will be terminated. The School District and the County have also approved the settlement agreement proposal. The tax for 1993, 1994 and 1995 have been paid under protest and is in the Tax Office waiting to be paid .

A motion by Mr. Rodgers to approve "in form", the 30% payment in lieu of taxation for the period of time of the year 1993 to the year 2000, and to authorize the Solicitor to prepare the agreement. Motion seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mrs. Czyrnik's written report records estimates made to the County EMS in reference to the recent snow storm in the amount of \$13,407.00 for the period of January 5 thru January 19, 1996. Federal and State inspectors have been in to assess the damage to Leon Street for Federal help. They have agreed to \$3,500.00 for repairs to Leon Street. There have been many changes in the guidelines of the reimbursements for snow and flood damages, we will be advised when to attend a meeting to make actual application for the funds.

Administration & Personnel Committee meet with a job analyst in preparation of a return to work for Mr. Jim Carbaugh. Audit information was submitted to Borough Auditor's on February 5, 1996. A motion to accept a Westmont Hilltop School District proposal to put Southmont Government "on line" in the internet at no cost to the Borough, by Mr. Rodgers and seconded by Mr. Kory. Students of the School District will research and create the information. No information will be placed for public access until approved.

A motion to approve Spring Clean-up April 30 and Thursday May 2, 1996 and to advertise was made by Mr. Rodgers. Seconded by Mr. Kory.

A motion by Mr. Davis approving the request of the Water Authority to hold meetings in Southmont Borough for the months of September, October, November and December on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried. A letter will be sent to the Fire Company

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Rodgers made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report with a balance of \$187,659.75 in the General Fund for January 1996. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor.

TAX COLLECTOR

Mr. Quinn's written report records \$1,230.08 collections for January Real Estate, and \$71.50 collections for Per Capita. Total collections of \$1,301.58 Mr. Krupa made a motion to accept the Tax Collector's report, seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, opposed none.

APPROVAL TO PAY THE BILLS

A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to pay the bills in the amount of \$32,917.16. Seconded by Mr. Davis. Roll Call vote: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Davis, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, and Mr. Pile. Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Leventry absent. All in favor, opposed none. Motion carried.

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OLD BUSINESS

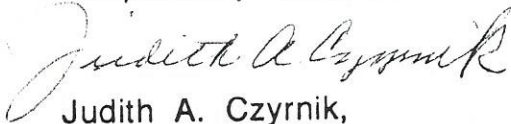
Mr. Pullen and Mr. Pile will reschedule to attend the Westmont Council meeting in reference to a boundary change along Menoher Blvd. Tercek has completed the new electric installation and the roof completion project is delayed due to the large excess of snow.

NEW BUSINESS

The annual PSAB convention will be held June 23 thru June 26 in Pittsburgh. The reservation for dinner has been arranged for Mr. Glass at the Pinewood Restaurant on March 8, 1996. Two names have been submitted to Council for appointment to the Planning Commission. Mrs. Barbara Regula and Mr. Jeff Griffith. The recommendations will be made at the next meeting.

Council adjourned 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.



Judith A. Czynnik,
Borough Secretary