

BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
148 Wonder Street
Johnstown, PA 15905

Minutes for May 20, 2019

The pledge of allegiance was conducted and the scheduled May 20, 2019 Council meeting was called to order by President Rodgers at 4:00 p.m.

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; Police Sgt. Det. George Musulin; Engineer Todd Banks

Absent: Mayor Mark Yonko; Fire Chief Michael Butler

Visitors: Harold Platt (Tomato Alley paving), Roxanna Hauger (Neighbor complaint), Representative Jim Rigby (Observing), Ron Fisher (Tribune Democrat)

Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve the April 15, 2019 council meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Mr. Paolini. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve the April 23, 2019 special meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Mr. Paolini. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

Visitors

Mr. Platt stated he spoke with Rich Wargo last fall and was promised two different times that Tomato Alley would be paved by this spring. Mr. Banks explained there is some storm water work that needs done before any paving can be completed. Mr. Lingenfelter stated the repairs and paving would need to be done at the same time due to the condition of the storm water drains.

Mrs. Hauger stated she submitted a resident complaint regarding a tree located in the rear of the condos on Cheney Oak Drive that her neighbor at 312 Cheney Oak Drive had drilled into and the tree is now dead. Mrs. Hauger also stated she had placed one of the small green "Slow Children" signs on her property to protect her grandchildren since there are currently no speed limit signs on Cheney Oak Drive noting she has video surveillance of her neighbor driving on her property to knock down the sign. Mr. Rodgers stated in Mrs. Hauger had attended a meeting in October 2018 and was informed she would need to handle the tree issue as a civil matter. Solicitor Carbonara will investigate the process to add a speed limit sign on Cheney Oak Drive and Mr. Lingenfelter will put up a "Watch Children" sign.

Police Chief's Report

The April 2019 Police Report stated Officer Todaro represented the West Hills Regional Police Dept. at the Annual Red, White and Blue Ceremony sponsored by the Hope

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Springs Church in Northern Cambria, PA. The Church honored Emergency Services Personnel by presenting a Certificate of Appreciation to each Department in attendance for their outstanding and professional service to the Community.

Officer West participated in a Round Table Discussion at the Cambria County Courthouse with the PA Commission on Sentencing, which was recently held to discuss sentencing guidelines for crimes involving Domestic Violence.

The West Hills Regional Police Department participated in the DEA National Drug Take Back Day on April 27th. Officer Sunseri represented the Department and collected approximately 30 lbs. of prescription and over-the-counter medications during the three hours the event was held.

Fire Company's Report

Chief Butler absent. The April 2019 Chief's Report was received and is on file.

Engineer's Report

Mr. Banks reported Snyder Environmental Services will begin working in the triangle area off of Menoher Blvd. in mid-June noting they are just waiting for one final easement to be signed so they can gain access to the area.

A motion was made by Mr. Ewald to approve PennVest Requisition No. 15 in the amount of \$68,873.77. Motion seconded by Mr. Pile. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

Mr. Banks reported Snyder Excavating will begin the Gardner Street Storm Water Project the week of June 3rd.

Mr. Banks reported he received a call from Brad Kimmell at 19 Harding Street requesting that Snyder Environmental Services come back to plant grass seed noting Snyder Environmental Services are refusing because the home owner had a contractor come in after Snyder Environmental Services had restored the property to rebuild his garage, which Snyder Environmental Services had reimbursed him for since they had damaged it, and the contractor tore up the yard in the process so they feel the garage contractor should be responsible.

Mr. Banks reported on a ground water issue at 112 Mabel Street noting the property owners are not able to mow or walk because it is constantly a swamp since the sanitary sewer project went through. A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to authorize Stiffler McGraw to dig up the rear of the property to find a solution to the ground water issue. Motion seconded by Mr. Ewald. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

Mr. Pile informed council the payments for the Phase II grant will begin June 1, 2019.

Mr. Banks reported he reviewed the site of the demolished salt storage building and suggested taking out the remaining block wall and building a small addition to the current salt storage building. A motion was made by Mr. Pile to authorize Stiffler McGraw to make concept plans for the addition. Motion seconded by Mr. Ewald. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

Zoning Officer's Report

Council discussed their desire to have the borough office handle simple property maintenance violations such as high grass instead of the Codes Officer, Mark Walker. Solicitor Carbonara and Mrs. Layton will put together a policy for council to review.

Street Commissioner's Report

The Street Commissioner's report stated the public works department has been working on the following; patching streets, street sweeping, picking up limbs/debris, grass cutting, trimming limbs from the vision of signs and repairing bad storm outlets.

Solicitor's Report

A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve Resolution 2019-07, amending the fee schedule related to the Zoning Ordinance. Motion seconded by Mr. Paolini. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

Solicitor Carbonara presented a proposed agreement with Mark Walker for codes enforcement services. Council agreed they should wait to take action until the policy discussed under the Zoning Officer's Report is approved.

Solicitor Carbonara reported he is working with Mr. Imhoff at the Cambria County Planning Commission office regarding a subdivision application received for 174 Floyd Street.

Solicitor Carbonara reported the following items have been completed; a fence permit has been issued to 210 Leila Street for a front yard fence, which was applied for to help keep the home owner's son safe; liens were filed for several properties for past due garbage and sewer maintenance; and a letter was returned to the borough auditor, Kline Kimlin.

Executive Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Mrs. Speicher to approve closing the 300 block of State Street, provide barricades and have a public works employee on call to move said barricades if necessary during the Centennial celebrations on June 1, 2019. Motion seconded by Mr. Ewald. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve Resolution 2019-08, appointing Amanda Layton as Chief Executive Officer for PA Municipal Retirement Services. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve payment of \$3,872.41 for extra work done by Kukurin Contracting, Inc. at 401 Olive Street, 208 Palliser Street, and 201 Leila Street. Motion seconded by Mr. Paolini. Roll call: Mr. Paolini, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Pile, Mrs. Speicher, Mr. Morgan, and Mr. Rodgers in favor. Motion carried (7-0).

Mayor's Report

Mayor Yonko absent.

New Business

A motion was made by Mrs. Speicher to approve removing Richard Wargo from the check signature list and to add Amanda Layton. Motion seconded by Mr. Pile. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

1) COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Streets: Council agreed the Street Committee will need to put together a grade list on the condition of streets.

B. Administration: Nothing to report.

C. Personnel: A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve hiring Ronald Parks, Jr. for part-time grass cutting at \$8.00 per hour. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

Mr. Pile reported the Personnel Committee will be meeting this week to review the applications received for Assistant Office Secretary.

D. Police Committee: Nothing to report.

E. Budget & Tax Collection Committee: Nothing to report.

F. Shade Tree Committee: Nothing to report.

G. Buildings & Grounds Committee: Mrs. Speicher reported DJR Painting has begun scraping the borough building and will at least have the front of the building painted for the Centennial. Mrs. Speicher noted while DJR Painting was replacing the gutters around the building they noticed the front entrance roof will need to be replaced since there was previously no flashing there and there is now extensive water damage.

Mr. Ewald noted the front “Borough of Southmont” sign needs new posts and general upgrading.

Mrs. Speicher requested Mrs. Layton ask Stuver’s Nursery to add a border around the new landscaping in front of the borough office so the weeds can be controlled a little better.

H. Greater Johnstown Water Authority: Mr. Pile reported GJWA is looking into financing for North Fork Dam.

I. Open Records: Nothing to report.

J. Borough Services: Nothing to report.

K. Fire Company: Council reviewed House Bill 1683 and directed Solicitor Carbonara to get further information.

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L. Audit: Mr. Rodgers reported Kline Kimlin has begun the audit and Council will receive a copy of the report when they are finished.

M. Insurance: Nothing to report.

N. Centennial: Nothing to report.

Business Items

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve ratification of payroll from April 16, 2019 through May 20, 2019 in the amount of \$20,968.19. 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).

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to payment of bills from April 16, 2019 through May 21, 2019 in the amount of \$202,530.27. 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).

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to accept the April 2019 treasurer's report in the amount of \$1,222,428.02. Motion seconded by Mr. Paolini. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to note the receipt of the April 2019 tax collectors report in the amount of \$173,417.31. Motion seconded by Mr. Paolini. Motion carried (7-0).

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Morgan for adjournment of the May 20, 2019 meeting at 5:03 p.m. Motion seconded by Mrs. Speicher. All in favor, motion carried (7-0).

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda D. Layton
Secretary/Treasurer