

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
February 20, 1995

The scheduled meeting of Council was called to order by Vice-President Pile at 7:30 P.M.

After the pledge to the flag, the February meeting of Council convened.

PRESENT: Mr. Pile, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Kory, Mr. Krupa, Solicitor: Dan Lovette, Engineer: Ron Walker, Mayor Robert Morgan, West Hills Police Chief, Andy Havas, Hilltop Ambulance: Jim Dailey, Secretary: Judith Czynnik, Zoning Officer: Fred Pullen,(left early) Fire Co: Chet Borosky

ABSENT: Mr. Glass, Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Leventry, Street Commissioner: Jan Bosley,

VISITORS:

Chuck & Sally Getty	Joan Rocco	Mark Parseghian
Margie Rutledge	Jim Rocco	Kathy Parseghian
Julia Lambrinos	Ann Neff	Jane Pfaller
Shirley Cheney	Clara Neff	Theresa Pfaller
Jean Nash	Larry Koval	Iris Marr
Eileen Parker	Tom Prout	Joe Polantz
George Hanzel	Kathy Crisafulli	

At this time Vice-President Pile asked for approval of the January 16, 1995 regular Council meeting minutes. Mr. Kory made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 16, 1995 meeting of Council. Motion seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried.

VISITORS

Mr. Pile reviewed the list of visitors and found the Playground to be the only subject. At this time Vice President Pile asked if the group had a spokesperson, as the Borough's policy is that one person can speak on the subject, for the group. Mr. Getty was the spokesperson for the group and he began with the concerns of the group. Mr. Getty is a resident of Diamond Blvd. and across from the proposed Playground site. Some of the concerns are for the apparent 3 stage playground that would be in "one of the last nature tracks of land in Southmont". Mr. Getty did attend the advertised meeting and learned of the Playground Committees proposal. Mr. Getty thought that the committee felt since Stutzman School had installed a new playground, he felt the Committee thought Southmont should have one as well. He felt that their ambitions misguided their site decision.

Mr. Getty felt that there was no concern from the Committee in reference to the springs in the area. The loss of parking spaces is another concern. Mr. Getty stated that he pays taxes to this Borough, along with all the other residents of this Borough, and he is not happy with having a proposed traffic light or flashing light, dawn to dusk parking in front of his house, speeders, more traffic, plastic cars, plastic ladders, slides, plastic garbage cans, proposed portable toilets, proposed chain link fences, and not to mention non borough residents coming in to use the playground. Mr. Getty is concerned about the loss of ecstastic beauty from the loss of trees and where the grass is to be ripped out.

Mr. Getty remarked that two playgrounds have been removed from this Borough since he has moved in and he feels with the reduction in population another playground might not be necessary. He had some recommendations for the Committee, such as re-looking at Wren Street in the lower section of Southmont.

The Committee and Borough Council should reconsider the proposed site and possibly re-do access to Wren Street, making the existing playground more appealing, spending the money to widen the road, provide parking. He feels this area would be safer and away from the already heavy flow of traffic on Diamond Blvd.

Mr. Danyluk asked for a copy of Mr. Getty's oppositions and recommendations. Mr. Getty will do so. Mr. Pile asked Council if they had any questions. Mr. Pile then asked Mr. Koval if he would address some of the concerns addressed by Mr. Getty. Mr. Koval mentioned that several of the items mentioned by Mr. Getty were fully explained to the meeting on Wednesday, February 15th, Mr. Koval did address several misinformed items such as lights on the field, flashing lights on Diamond Blvd., port-a-johns on the playground (during construction only) and etc. There are no plans for lights or lights on the field. Also he talked about updating Wren Street and the concerns of the Committee that Wren Street is not a central location for a playground according to the maps of the Borough. Mr. Koval had presented slides at the meeting explaining the reasons for not changing that playground site. The Committee is aware of the drainage in the area and they have been assured that rodent control is part of the maintenance program in Southmont. The Firemen's storage shed is not near where the playground is proposed. No proposal has been made to cut or remove trees. No horseshoe courts or lights are proposed. Garbage will be removed every day, by the Recreation Commission.

Mr. Pile asked Mr. Borosky if any plans have been made to do anything with the shed. They do plan to paint the shed, the roof was repaired last year. Mr. Danyluk made a motion to allow residents 2 minutes to make comments on the playground. Seconded by Mr. Kory. Opposed Mr. Pile and Mr. Krupa. Motion failed. Council's decided the residents and the Playground Committee to meet again, to explain the proposals that the Committee are making. This should dispel any further rumors.

Council also asked the residents to put their concerns in writing so each can be reviewed. Mr. Pile told the residents that they could come again to next months meeting. The residents indicated they would like to be on the agenda for next months meeting.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Havas reviewed the submitted written report for the month of January. Revenues for January were \$560.55. Criminal incidents and arrests were reported. There were no serious crimes to report for the month. Two seat belt safety seminars were conducted in the report. The seat belt program ends at the end of February. Chief Havas reported an updated listing of 24 regional police departments in the Commonwealth. Council ask Chief Havas about a change at the Menoher, Luzerne Street traffic light. Penn Dot is proposing to add a left turn signal on to Gardner Street from the outbound lane on Menoher. Chief Havas felt this change would be safer for the turning traffic on to Gardner Street. He also is requesting that the Borough ask Penn Dot to re-do their markings on Menoher, and for the Borough to re-do our walkways at the intersection.

At the request of several residents Council has decided to remove the "no right turn on red" sign from Gardner Street to Menoher. The borough has the right to remove the sign however the new traffic light construction project has not been turned over to the Borough. The Secretary will check if this can be done before the project is turned over. A motion by Mr. Danyluk to remove the "no right turn on red" sign at Gardner and Menoher, pending Penn Dot approval. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

HILLTOP AMBULANCE REPORT

Mr. Dailey reported that the Association has interviewed and hired a new manager. The new manager is Chris Crouse. The previous manager Mr. McNamara took a job with Conemaugh Hospital. Mr. Dailey reported that the Associations in the black and everything is going good.

ZONING OFFICERS REPORT:

Mr. Pullen's written report records 2 permits issued for a year to date total of \$251,200. No permits have been issued since the last report. A BOCA violation was filed against Mr. Bilger of Diamond Blvd. for more than one unlicensed, uninspected vehicle on his property. The violation has been cleared up. Permit No. 9456 has expired for 307 Langhorne Street. Before any work can be done a new permit must be issued. No report on the Peregoy/Kenney dispute.

Mr. Pullen was not feeling well, he left early.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Walker only had two items. The yearly application for County Aid has been prepared. Mr. Walker and Mr. Leventry met in January to review the streets for the 1995 Paving Program. The cost estimates for the 1995 Liquid Fuels Application is \$51,000. A motion by Mr. Krupa to accept the estimated cost, as prepared, motion seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Walker also spoke with Lockwood Mapping in reference to the mapping project. The Company is continuing to clean up the missed areas. Attorney Lovette suggested that since Mr. Walker had reviewed the Penn Dot proposal to change the Menoher/Gardner light, we should approve the changes. A motion by Mr. Danyluk to approved the proposed left turn change to the traffic light, motion seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

Mr. Chet Borosky reviewed the written report. During the month of January 10 Motorola Monitor pagers were purchased at a cost of \$349. each. The Fire Department is in the process of revising the fire department operating procedure manual. Mr. Borosky reported that the Department has been reimbursed for \$1,280 from the Cambria County EMA for an oil spill cleanup on Menoher in June of 1994. Mr. Borosky reported on the Greater Johnstown Water Authority in reference to the fire hydrants and the fire companies requests to open hydrants to make sure they are operable. The Water Authority will provide each Municipality with maps of hydrants.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STREET COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

No report

STREET COMMITTEE

No report

ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

No report

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Mr. Danyluk reported on the credit for the 2.01ton recycled materials for January, from Koontz Disposal. The credit amount was \$67.02. Mr. Danyluk reported on the Recycling workshop that he and Mrs. Czyrnik attended on Feb. 2, 1995. The workshop was on the Recycling Performance Grant applications. We would receive less than \$100.00 for 1994. (they do not process less than \$100.00 reimbursement). Guidelines for the DER/Reimbursement Grant applications were explained.

Mr. Dave Lester met with Mrs. Czyrnik to plan and discuss the possibilities of having newspaper collection bins distributed at the Borough Recycling Center and at other locations throughout the Greater Johnstown area. The object would be to provide plastic bag type containment that would be bar coded with Southmont Borough. These bags would be available at different locations and residents would drop off the filled bag at specially designed bins also at different locations. Costs have not been discussed and Mr. Lester will be in touch with further details. He would pick up the newspapers and provide documentation for the Performance Grant applications. This in turn would provide Southmont with further funding and possibly another credit from the garbage collector.

POLICE COMMISSION/COMMITTEE

Mr. Pile reported there would be a Re-Organization meeting February 21, 1995 and the new representatives will be present. The Police Commission is in the process of purchasing a new 4 wheel drive vehicle. The Commission is also looking into a new computer system.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory spoke with Mr. Fisher in reference to our liability package that expires 4-1-95. Currently the package is \$9175.00 and Mr. Fisher does not look for much change for the renewal. A letter from PIRMA (Workers Comp.) is requesting that the Fire Department submit an activities list to the Borough for approval and to verify these approved activities in the Compensation package.

Council directed the Fire Department to supply the Council with a specified activities list for the next meeting. Council also requested that the Fire Company submit any other activity change that might occur at a later time.

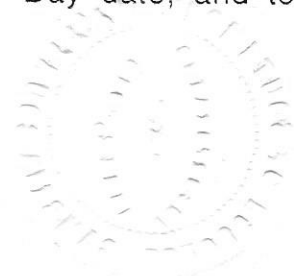
Mr. Danyluk advised Mr. Borosky to instruct their members to descend the stairs safely rather than run and jump down the stairs when they answer the alarm.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

No report

SHADE TREE

Mr. Krupa reported that the Shade Tree Commission and Advisory Board will meet February 21, 1995 to review 1994, decide on an Arbor Day date, and to prepare an agenda for 1995.



RECREATION COMMISSION

Mr. Pile reported on the minutes of January 25, 1995. Mr. Krupa and other members of Council suggested that the Playground Committee meet with the visitors who attended the meeting tonight and the February 15, 1995 meeting to inform the residents and to answer any other questions the residents might have. Mr. Koval will discuss a meeting with the other Committee members and get in touch with those residents. Solicitor Lovette felt the Committee might be able to work out some of the details with the residents but the playground and playground site has been approved by Council.

CABLE TV COMMITTEE

Mayor Morgan reported that the Cable TV Committee have compiled their public hearing data and prepared their first round negotiations. They are in the hands of Time Warner. Mr. Rick Elrod, a consultant from Washington, DC has reviewed the agreement. He will be available to help the Committee when they finally set down to negotiate. Mayor Morgan felt that KBL might possibly be back on Time Warner's system in the near future. Items of concern to negotiate are franchise fees and gross receipts, upgrading the system, and fiber optics, to name a few.

CHAPIN ARCH COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory reviewed with Council a letter offering to sell the Chapin Arch to Southmont Borough. We would have to write a letter of intent. Mr. Antonazzo, Mr. Kory, Mr. Morgan met before Council and their recommendations are to write to Penn Dot for specifics on a possible purchase. Another recommendation is to meet with the Cemetery Association for the comments and to check the allocations of the budget for the Chapin Arch. We also have received the agreement for the State for reimbursement of monies from the State for the Arch. Ron Walker suggested to the Committee that they could request Penn Dot vacate that property and it would revert back to Grandview. Solicitor Lovette recommended that the Committee should meet and have a plan of action, and that if that happened the Borough could enter into a "hold harmless agreement" with the Cemetery and Southmont Borough could refurbish the Arch, but it would be the Cemetery's liability.

C.O.G REPORT

Mr. Danyluk reported that COG has prepared a Resolution requesting that each Municipality to approve for the intermunicipal cooperation to gather more information, seek out grant applications and share the use of a combination sewer cleaner. They are asking how many days per year we would need the machine and approximately how many catch basins are in Southmont Borough. A motion was made by Mr. Kory to approve the Resolution, seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried. A suggestion by Mr. Danyluk was to have use of the machine in the amount of no more than \$6,000. per year for sewer cleaning.

Mr. Danyluk also spoke to COG about the gas comparison prices under the COG bidding prices. Mr. Danyluk feels COG should try for better bidding on gasoline prices.

MAYOR'S REPORT

No report. Mayor Morgan commented on the streets being well cared for during the snow and ice storms so far this year.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Lovette talked with Attorney Gary Horner and informed him of the alternatives Council recommend for the Kenney/Peregoy conflict. He has not had any further correspondence to date. Also a letter has been sent to Attorney Kalinyak in reference to the Borough forces and vehicles to be used to haul materials for the paving of Hales Road. He has also requested that they inform Mr. Bosley of the work schedule as soon as possible.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mrs. Czynnik's written report was submitted to Council and asks for an additional \$50.00 to maintain a \$100.00 in Petty Cash, to pay the Workfare people's travel expense. We presently have 4 workfare employees and once a month we pay the travel expense. It usually exceeds our petty cash allowance. When the workfare employees stop we will return to the \$50.00 balance. A motion by Mr. Kory to increase the Petty cash to \$100.00 for this time, seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried. Opposed none.

Mr. Krupa made a motion for Mr. Bosley to attend the Managing Time and Stress workshop, seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

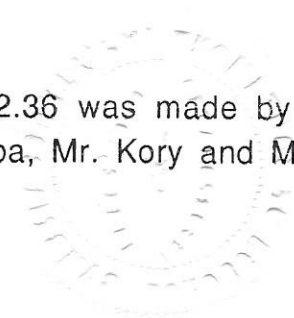
Mrs. Czynnik's written report records a final balance of \$178,162.45 in the General Fund for January, 1995.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Quinn's written report records Real Estate collections for January at \$947.39 and Per Capita \$66.00, for a total of \$1,013.39.

APPROVAL TO PAY THE BILLS

A motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$22,312.36 was made by Mr. Krupa, seconded Mr. Kory. Roll call vote: Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none. Motion carried.



UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The PSAB Annual Conference June 25, 26, 27 and 28. Please notify Secretary if interested.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Czyrnik ask Council to consider the notice from ALERT in reference to contacting our senators and representatives urging them to support the repeal of Prevailing Wage Law making it optional for local governments. A motion by Mr. Danyluk to write our senators and representatives to support the repeal of the prevailing wage to local governments. Mr. Krupa seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

No action on the Transit Authority request for support in their service routes.

There being no further business, Mr. Kory made a motion to adjourn the February meeting of Council at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.


Judith A. Czyrnik,
Borough Secretary

