

BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
148 Wonder Street
Johnstown, PA 15905

Minutes for November 17, 2008

A moment of silence was held for Mr. Lou Leventry. The pledge of allegiance was conducted and the scheduled November 17, 2008 Council meeting was called to order by President Rodgers at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Solicitor Dan Lovette, Manager Richard Wargo, Sec. /Tres. Judith A. Czyrnik, Clerk- Amanda Claycomb, Engineer Dave Duray 7:20 p.m., President Richard Rodgers, Council Members; Mr. Ed Danyluk, Mr. William Kory, Mr. Kevin Pile, Mr. Tom Strittmatter and Mr. William Krupa, Mayor Gerry Sloat, West Hills Police Chief Andy Havas, Fire Chief Mike Leckey

Absent: Council Member Mr. Herb Ewald

Meeting Agenda

Mr. Danyluk made a motion to approve the Council Meeting Minutes of October 20, 2008. Motion seconded by Mr. Pile. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Danyluk made a motion to approve the Committee Meeting Notes of October 28, 2008. Motion seconded by Mr. Pile. All in favor, motion carried.

Police Chief's Report

Chief Andy Havas reported an officer assisted with the Kiwanis Children's Halloween Parade and Party at the Westwood Fire Hall. Chief Havas noted the Halloween Party will be held at a larger venue next year. Chief Havas stated the twenty thousand dollar (\$20,000.00) Equipment Grant through State Representative Edward P. Wojnarowski's office has been received and orders have been placed for body armor and other equipment. Chief Havas noted an additional grant has been submitted through Congressman Murtha's Office to replace outdated radio equipment. Chief Havas reported all West Hills Regional Police Officers have been qualified for both duty and off-duty weapons. The revenues for September 2008 were \$137.45.

Zoning Officers Report

Mr. Wargo reported on sewage compliance activity stating few visual inspections require dye tests. Mr. Wargo stated property located at 4 - 5 Cox Street owned by Mr. Donald Knisely is in violation of the Property Maintenance Code. Mr. Wargo noted Mr. Knisely has agreed to make any necessary changes. Mr. Wargo stated Mrs. Mary Anne Hogue of 220 Wonder Street reported illegal dumping on her property. Mr. Wargo stated steps have been taken with Mrs. Hogue and the West Hills Regional Police to resolve the issue.



Fire Company Report

Chief Leckey stated the Fire Company assisted with the Kiwanis Halloween Parade. Chief Leckey predicted to spend an excess of four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000.00) in 2009 noting the first proposal for a new fire engine came in at approximately three hundred seventy thousand dollars (\$370,000.00.) Chief Leckey stated approximately forty thousand dollars (\$40,000.00) is needed for new air packs.

Engineer's Report

Mr. Duray reported on the Harding Street Steps stating quotes for the railing are anticipated to arrive by December 2008. Mr. Duray reported on 2008 CAP Activities noting sanitary sewer cleaning and televising work has been completed by Hydro Technical Services, Inc. Mr. Wargo stated the information provided by Hydro Technical Services is being reviewed. Mr. Duray noted the change order for Oppy Construction for manhole revisions on Helen Street and Kale Alley. Mr. Duray suggested the contract with Oppy Construction be closed out and pay the change order. A motion to pay the change order in the amount of \$3,057.03 to Oppy Construction was made by Mr. Danyluk. Motion seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried.

1) COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Streets: Mr. Ewald absent. Mr. Wargo reported Grimaldi's Garage has contacted the Borough in regards to trading a plow for the Borough's Dodge truck. Mr. Wargo noted the truck is valued under one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00); therefore, it can legally be traded for the plow without going through a sealed bid or auction process. Mr. Wargo noted Grimaldis has agreed to install the plow onto another Borough truck. A motion to approve the trading of the white Borough Dodge truck for the plow owned by Grimaldi's Garage was made by Mr. Kory. Motion seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Wargo reported a list of streets has been compiled for paving in the spring.

B. Personnel: Mr. Danyluk reported a proposal was received from the Union and is being reviewed.

C. Police Committee: Nothing to report.

D. Insurance Committee: Nothing to report.

E. Budget Committee: Mr. Pile reported on the status of budget items. A motion to approve the adoption of the tentative 2009 budget was made by Mr. Pile. Motion seconded by Mr. Danyluk. Roll call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Kory, Mr. Pile, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa in favor. Mr. Ewald absent. Motion carried (6-0). Mr. Rodgers noted millage will remain at thirteen. A motion to advertise the tentative 2009 budget was made by Mr. Pile. Motion seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried.



F. Shade Tree Report: Mr. Krupa reported he and Mr. Wargo met with arborist Mr. Michael McNamara regarding fourteen specific locations needing attention. Mr. McNamara provided information in the “Report on the Condition and Recommendation for the Care of Specific Borough Trees within Southmont Borough.” Mr. Krupa reported several trees will need removed. Mr. Krupa stated the list was compiled from the 2008 inventory noting an inventory list is still needed from Mr. Ewald which could reveal additional trees needing attention. Mr. Krupa stated the cost of resolving these issues is approximately seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500.00). A brief discussion followed on various methods of payment including Penn DOT and residents owning the trees. Mr. Krupa stated the Shade Tree Budget would benefit from an increase.

G. Recreation Committee: Mr. Kory reported the Policy and Procedures Manual has been amended.

H. Properties Committee: Nothing to report.

I. COG Report: Nothing to report.

J. Greater Johnstown Water Authority: Mr. Pile reported the Saltlick Reservoir has been renamed the William Carstensen Dam. Mr. Pile stated Amfire Mining submitted a proposal to perform exploration. Mr. Pile reported the Water Authority is investigating a person of interest regarding approximately twenty-six thousand dollars (\$26,000.00) worth of stolen timber. Mr. Pile noted the William Carstensen Dam has a TTHM violation of too many parts in the water and will need to be monitored.

K. Open Records: Mr. Kory recommended the Borough website be updated noting three months worth of Minutes should be available on the site.

Mayor's Report

Nothing to report.

Solicitor's Report

Solicitor Lovette reported on the issue with the Pennsylvania Municipal Services stating PAMS is offering to provide records for 2003 through 2005 for seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) and any future years for one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) for each year. Solicitor Lovette stated the three year statute of limitations will not be valid if the money has been collected. A motion to pay seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) to PAMS for 2003 through 2005 records was made by Mr. Pile. Motion seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried. A motion to request 2006 records and future years from PAMS for one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) per year was made by Mr. Pile. Motion seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried. A motion to approve the advertisement of the LST Tax Ordinance three times was made by Mr. Danyluk. Motion seconded by Mr. Pile. All in favor, motion carried. A motion to approve an Ordinance increasing sewer maintenance from \$24.00 to \$48.00 for 2009 was made by Mr.

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Danyluk. Motion seconded by Mr. Pile. Roll call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Kory, Mr. Pile, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa in favor. Mr. Ewald absent. Motion carried (6-0).

Manager's Report

Mr. Wargo reported a meeting was held with Mr. Tom Schwab and Mr. Ron Budash of Upper Yoder Sewer Authority regarding the increase in sewer rate to Upper Yoder. Mr. Rodgers reported Southmont Borough must notify Upper Yoder in advance of any increase in sewer rates noting Upper Yoder has been notified in a reasonable time before any increases take place. Mr. Rodgers stated Mr. Schwab would not agree to pay the increase in sewer maintenance.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Czymnik reported the list of property owners for the sewer list is nearly complete and is going well. A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Mr. Strittmatter. Motion seconded by Mr. Pile. All in favor, motion carried.

Tax Collector's Report

A motion was made by Mr. Kory to note the receipt of the tax collector's report in the amount of \$1,370.79. Motion seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried.

Payment of Bills

A motion to approve the payment of the bills for October 2008 in the amount of \$73,426.45 was made by Mr. Pile. Motion seconded by Mr. Kory. Roll call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Kory, Mr. Pile, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa in favor. Mr. Ewald absent. Motion carried (6-0).

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Kory for adjournment of the November 17, 2008 meeting at 8:46 P.M. Seconded by Mr. Krupa, all in favor motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda D. Claycomb Borough Clerk

