

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
February 16, 1998 7:00 p.m.

The regularly scheduled February Council meeting was called to order by President Pile at 7:00 p.m. After the pledge to the flag, the February 16, 1998 meeting of Council convened.

PRESENT: President Pile, Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Rovansek, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Davis, Mayor Lary Koval, Solicitor: Daniel R. Lovette, Engineer: Ron Walker, Street Commissioner: Jan Bosley, Zoning Officer-Fred Pullen, West Hills Police: Chief Andy Havas, Fire Department: Richard Reed and Secretary: Judith Czynnik

ABSENT: Mr. Leventry, (vacation), Fire Chief Butler

VISITORS: Sargent George Musulin, West Hills Regional Police
Timothy Walsh 209 Leon Street

President Pile asked for approval of the January 19,1998 minutes. Mr. Rodgers asked that we delay approval of the minutes. All in favor. At this time a motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to open the bids for the 1998 truck, seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

There were five bids as follows:

	<u>1998 Truck</u>	<u>Trade In</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>	
1. Fiore Pontiac	45,788.00	13,600.00	32, 188.00	
2. Falchini Motors	na	na	34,894.54	
3. Hondru Fleet	47,200.00	(14,800.00)	32,400.00	GMC
Hondru Fleet	46,900.00	(14,800.00)	32,100.00	Ford
4. Day Chevrolet	43,374.77	9,200.00	34,174.77	
5. Somerset GMC	43,876.28	9,000.00	34,876.28	

After discussion, Mr. Rodgers made a motion to approve the bid from Fiore Pontiac of Altoona providing it meets the specifications, and subject to Street Commissioner and Solicitor's review. Seconded by Mr. Davis. All in favor, motion carried.

At this time President Pile called on visitor, Mr. Tim Walsh, who was interested in the vacation of Long Alley. Solicitor Lovette said the Ordinance 414 is in order and has been advertised. A motion was made by Mr. Krupa to approve the vacation of Long Alley. Seconded by Mr. Kory. Roll call, as follows: Rodgers, Rovansek, Davis, Krupa, Kory, and Pile. All in favor, motion carried. Leventry, on vacation.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Havas submitted his report to Council. The report records revenues for the month of January at \$576.71. Chief Havas reported on the Child Safety Program held at Wal-Mart on February 13, 1998. Unusable child car seats were turned in for a certificate towards a new car seat. This is a part of the Seat Belt Program started in 1996 and the Child Safety program was started in 1997.

The Police Commission will meet on February 17, 1998. President Pile recommended that we appoint Mr. Rodgers to fill in as an alternate since Mr. Leventry is away. This month the Commission returned a surplus of money in their 1997 budget to each participating municipality. Southmont received 21% (Borough Share) in the amount of \$7,631.37 of the surplus. Brownstown and Westmont each received the refund as per their percentage.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Pullen submitted to Council his report that records 4 new permits issued since last month in the amount of \$8,521.00. During the month new BOCA code violation notices were sent to Mr. Charles Sprague, Mr. George Haidar and Mr. John Hearn. Mr. Pullen and Chief Andy Havas met with Mr. Knapp to establish a clean-up schedule. Mr. Knapp is cleaning up a considerable amount of scrap on the property however, there is still much to do. Progress is being made.

Mr. Pullen informed Council that a citation will be filed on the property owned by Mr. George Haidar at 1027 Luzerne Street as soon as assistant Zoning Office Mr. Glass, returns from vacation. Mr. Pullen received a call from a resident at 118 Mabel Street, in reference to the property she is renting. There is a pond on the property and she is seeing rats and etc.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

In Chief Butler's absence, Mr. Richard Reed submitted the monthly report. The monthly report records total emergency responses in the Borough and assists at 16 for the month. Mr. Reed reviewed the garage fire loss at Lichtenfels at 106 King Street. Two vehicles were lost in the fire. The fire was ruled accidental, but the origin was undetermined. There were no injuries. Council noted that the Hilltop Ambulance Association run summary was received. The Bids were opened for the proposed truck bay addition to the Municipal Building. They have not reviewed the bids, but will be in touch with the building Committee as to when they will meet. Mr. Reed reviewed with Council a letter written to Council expressing concerns about the fact that no hydrant has been installed at the Assisted Living Center on Cheney Oak Drive.

Council felt that the letter should be forwarded to Life Services Corporation, owners of the building and to Mr. Chiodo. Mr. Ron Walker stated that they are working on the water line now.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Ron Walker reported to Council that the design is not completed for the Southmont Blvd. retaining wall. Mr. Dave DuRay began preparing the application for the grant for the retaining wall project. Mr. Walker reported on the work at the PineBrooke Development area. Sections of the sewer line have been done and inspected. The Contractor is now working on the water line and retention pond. The Engineers have just received a revised drawing of the retention area.

Mr. Walker has been in touch with Solicitor Lovette about the payment of extra work for the project which was not included in the original contract. Mr. Walker has written a letter to C & D Associates informing them that the fund balance has dropped below the required 110% of the remaining cost of the improvements, therefore no authorization for any extra work will be given until additional funds are applied to the financial security account. Contract items are the only items to be approved for payment. Solicitor Lovette instructed the Secretary to call Summit Bank on the other request for payment to reimburse the Borough for Engineer and Attorney fees. Solicitor Lovette will turn this over to the Magistrate if payment is not received within the next week.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STREET COMMISSIONER

Mr. Bosley's report records that employees continued to pick up Christmas trees. Plowed and salted streets when needed. Turned over the leaves at the compost site on Menoher Blvd. Installed cutting edge on both plows. Performed maintenance on vehicles and equipment. Had the Case backhoe hydraulic bucket controls repaired. Installed Watch Children signs on Edward and Dell Streets. Continued to pick up leaves that residents just raked out to the curb.

Mr. Bosley has continued to check on the above ground diesel tanks. There is a distance problem for the installation of a above ground tank. A double walled tank must be 50' from a building and 100' from a property line to pass the fire marshal's inspection. If it is to be any closer it must be in a concrete encasement. Mr. Bosley has not been able to get a confirmed cost difference between the two units. Mr. Rodgers suggested this be turned over to the Street Committee.

Mr. Bosley would like to encourage the owners of the Southmont Park Complex that the downspouts running from the carports should be tied into the new drain being installed, to further eliminate the excess water on the ballfield. A letter will be written to the owners.

Mr. Bosley requested that he attend two different seminars. One on March 24 in Somerset "Dealing with the Angry Public" and on March 26 in Somerset on Road Maintenance. A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Bosley has also been in touch with Mr. Len Dickson, the Building Trades teacher at Johnstown High School teacher about their help in constructing the restrooms at the ballfield. Still pending.

Mr. Bosley has been meeting once a month with street/highway supervisors from surrounding municipalities. Through their discussion he learned that Upper Yoder has been smoke and dye testing sewer lines that infiltrate into our lines. Some corrections have been made and work is still going on.

STREET COMMITTEE

No report other than Council decided to look for a gasoline supply for when the underground tanks are removed. The underground tanks need to be removed before December 1998.

ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Davis reported on the evaluation he had with Mr. Bosley. He submitted to Council a new performance plan chart for Council to review. The Committee reviewed the quotes on a new copier. Mr. Davis made a motion to approve the quote from Advanced Office Systems for a Lanier 7320 copier in the amount of \$4320.00 and the annual maintenance cost of \$312.00. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried. The Committee set a Special Council meeting for February 24, 1998 at 7:00 p.m., to appoint an auditor to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Ronald Chilcot. Mr. Chilcot sent a letter of resignation to Council, due to his work load. Council directed the Secretary to advertise the meeting. Mr. Davis prepared a letter in response to Mr. Chilcot's resignation. Two residents will be approached for their possible interest in the appointment. There was some discussion on a policy for the Street Commissioner to follow relating to meetings, etc.

POLICE COMMISSION

President Pile asked for an alternate appointment to attend the Police Commission meetings until Mr. Leventry returns. Mr. Rodgers was appointed as the alternate, all in favor, motion carried. Mayor Koval reported that West Hills Regional Police will pursue other municipalities for further regionalization of the Department.

Mr. Kory made a motion to appoint Mayor Lary Koval as the Emergency Management Operation coordinator, replacing former Mayor Robert Morgan. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

No report. Credit revenues for the year on volume recycled was \$840.64.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

After discussion and review of the proposal from PIRMA for the Liability Package, Mr. Kory made a motion to accept PIRMA'S Package for the year 1998/99 in the amount of \$7,384.65. Seconded by Mr. Davis. Roll call, as follows: Rodgers, Rovanseck, Davis, Krupa, Kory, and Pile. All in favor, motion carried. Leventry, on vacation. Opposed, none. There were no other bidders for the Insurance Package. FWF, Brett's and BGS & G choose not to bid.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Rodgers made a motion that a new account number be set up for the distribution of receipts such as sales, refunds and/or reimbursements. The new account number is #391.10. Motion seconded by Mr. Davis. All in favor, motion carried. The refund (\$7,631.38) from the West Hills Regional Police Commission has been deposited into this account.

Mr. Rodgers attended a meeting of the C.O.G CABLE TV group. It was learned that there will be a 24 hour Government channel available for all municipalities. Mr. Rodgers recommended that Mr. Davis be the council representative to work with the COG Cable Committee. Council agreed.

SHADE TREE

Mr. Krupa reported to Council that there will be a meeting on March 17, 1998 and it will be advertised. Arbor Day will be April 25,1998. Mr. Krupa asked Council to look for some areas to plant trees and make suggestions at the next meeting. Mr. Kory informed Mr. Krupa of a project, The Kiski Conemaugh River Basin Alliance that has funds available to plant trees, signs or plaques, etc. He recommended that Mr. Krupa call Mr. Rob McCombie who can fill him in on the details.

RECREATION/PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

President Pile reported that Westmont Borough is concerned about the selective tree cutting proposed by the Recreation Commission. They would like for their arborist, Mr. Ted Gilbert to review the trees marked for cutting. The Mound Committee has raised over \$35,000.00 towards their playground. Mayor Koval reported that nothing new has developed on the possibility of a batter board system being installed at the roller hockey courts.

President Pile reported that Ms. Sythe has resigned her position of director and has accepted a position in Arizona. The Commission has advertised for a director. A meeting has been set for February 19, 1998 at 5:30 p.m. at Southmont. Members of the Commission will be handling the work load until a director is named.

BUILDING /GROUNDS COMMITTEE

No report.

C.O.G. Report

No report. The next meeting will be in Nanty-Glo. Mr. Rovansek and Mr. Krupa will attend if their schedule allows.

CHAPIN ARCH

No report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Koval received a call from the US Army Corp. of Engineers. They will be draining flood beds in the area. Mayor Koval acted on a complaint of shrubs and brush overhanging onto the alley way and blocking the view from residents exiting Court Alley. The resident will trim back the shrubs and trees in the Spring.

SOLICITOR

Solicitor Lovette will address a concern of the President of Westmont Borough Council, Susan Holmes who is a representative on the West Hill Regional Police Commission. Southmont appointed and gave the oath of office to each Council person from Southmont to serve as an alternate, in the event a permanent voting member cannot attend a Commission meeting. Solicitor Lovette will be in touch with Attorney Timothy Ayers who represents the Commission to explain the purpose of our actions. We would not be sending all alternate members to attend the WHRPC meetings. Only one alternate member can replace a permanent member at a time.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mrs. Czyrnik's report records that Spring Clean-up will be April 29 and April 30, on the regular collection days. A motion made by Mr. Krupa to approve the date, seconded by Mr. Kory. Approved; Davis, Krupa, Kory, Pile. Rovansek, abstained and Rodgers, no. Motion carried 4-1-1.

Mrs. Czyrnik requested a new printer for the sewer billing and writing checks. The current printer was purchased in 1991. Mr. Davis made a motion to purchase a new dot-matrix printer, motion seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried.

Mrs. Czyrnik feels we need a resolution to charge for copies or fax messages unrelated to Borough. Council agreed that we need to prepare a resolution.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to approve the Treasurer's report for the month of January in the amount of \$324,581.95 in the General Fund balance. Motion seconded by Mr. Davis. All in favor, motion carried.

TAX COLLECTOR

Mr. Quinn's written report for January records \$ 523.74 in Real Estate collections and \$126.50 collected in Per Capita. Total collections \$650.24. A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers that we received the Tax Collector's report, seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

APPROVAL TO PAY THE BILLS

After questions, a motion was made by Mr. Rodgers and seconded by Mr. Davis to approve the payment of the bills in the amount of \$26,310.11.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

After discussion, Mr. Rodgers made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

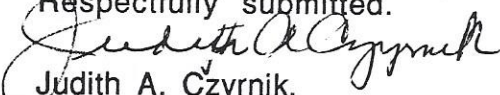
OLD BUSINESS

Items on the "Tickler List" were discussed. Items were reviewed, removed and relisted. Appointment to EMA and Recreation batter boards were removed and checking on a gasoline supply and a resolution for fees was added.

NEW BUSINESS

President Pile made some recommendations to up date the priority list chart. The Spring Conference in Hershey is March 29,30 and 31, 1998. If anyone is interested they will notify the Secretary. Motion to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted.


Judith A. Czyrnik,
Borough Secretary