

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
December 9 2002 7:00 p.m.

The scheduled December Council meeting was called to order by President Pile at 7:00 p.m. After the pledge to the flag, the December 10, 2002 meeting of Council convened.

PRESENT: President Pile, Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Graham, Mr. Kory, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa, Mayor: Gerry Sloat, Solicitor: Daniel R. Lovette, Street Commissioner, Jan Bosley, Secretary/Treasurer: Judith Czyrnik, Engineer: Dave Duray, Zoning Officer: Dyke Orms, Fire Chief: Chet Borosky, West Hills Police: Chief Andy Havas

ABSENT: None

VISITORS: Brad Kimmell

President Pile asked for approval of the November 18, 2002 minutes and Committee Meeting Notes of November 26, 2002. A motion was made by Mr. Krupa to accept the Minutes and Committee Meeting Notes, as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Havas reviewed the November report. Revenues for the month of November not received to date. Chief Havas reported that the Cambria County Drug Dog has been scheduled to for a presentation to a group of Girl Scouts at the United Methodist Church. Officer West will attend the presentation. Officer Mulkey gave a presentation to a group of Senior Citizens for the prevention of scams and safety in the home. Chief Havas reported on the recent vandalism in the Overbrooke section of the Borough. Several individuals were detained and appear to be responsible for the egg damage and other acts of vandalism. Chief Havas has not been able to tie the previous act of vandalism to these individuals, however he does feel the incidents could be related. Chief Havas reported on a meeting with Upper Yoder on December 18, 2002 to discuss Upper Yoder joining the West Hills Police Commission. Mr. Rodgers asked if there had been any burglaries reported recently. During the Holiday season the area usually has an increase in burglaries. Chief Havas had nothing to report on any burglaries. President Pile asked about people throwing snow into the street. Chief Havas stated that if this is a problem to call the department and residents will be notified. No further report.

ZONING OFFICERS REPORT

Mr. Orms reported that there was no activity this month. Mr. Orms submitted his final report for the year 2002, with a summary of the activities. The year to date total for 2002 construction was \$613,663.00. There was one Zoning Hearing Board meeting for Mr. Bruce Graham and 6 BOCA letters were sent out during the year. Nothing further to report.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

Chief Borosky reviewed the written report recording 11 responses for the month. No calls were received between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. Two in house trainings were scheduled. There was one public service call to remove a tree that fell on wires at Lino's. On November 9, 2002 Chief Borosky reported that trees were down on Menoher above Barnett. The fire company sawed and removed the trees. Chief Borosky is requesting that Council notify PennDot about the large amount of tree branches and trees on the cemetery side of the highway. They are overhanging and becoming very hazardous.

Chief Borosky asked Council to review the budget line items in reference to maintenance repairs made to the engine during the time it was in for repair from the damages received while pulling the truck into the garage. The wheel wells were rusted. A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to approve the payment for repair to the wheel wells, pending review of the Fire Company Agreement, Seconded by Mr. Graham. All in favor, motion carried. Chief Borosky reminded Council that the two air packs have been ordered and will be in before the end of the year, for payment. Mr. Rodgers stated that the air packs were approved by Council along with the one half cost of the 30 new pagers. Mr. Rodgers is suggesting that the former Siren Committee meet with the Fire Company and begin a long range plan of some type for budgeting purposes. Hilltop Ambulance report is on file.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Dave Duray of P.C. Rizzo & Associates has reviewed with Council the flow meter that was returned. It has two bad probes. The repairs would cost \$550.00. (The warranty is up for the equipment.) Mr. Duray feels these probes never worked properly and are not the Borough's responsibility. After discussion Council recommended that Mr. Duray send a letter to the flow meter company with documentation and service dates, along with documentation needed for the Department of Environmental Protection. Mr. Duray continued with a summary of the Phase II NPDES storm water permitting plan. The permit application is due March 10, 2003 along with a notice of intent. The permit filing fee is \$100.00. Public education and participation will be part of the plan. There are 6 minimum control measures that must be followed. An Ordinance will need to be written. Mr. Duray is uncertain if Act 14 has been passed by the Commonwealth.

Mr. Duray reported that a blockage in Upper Yoder from the Lutheran Home has been repaired. Council is recommending that Mr. Bosley and Mr. Duray meet and review some long range planning both for the DEP Corrections and any problems in the Borough. Mr. Danyluk reported that the Ferndale Elementary School has retention pipes underground for the storm water management.

President Pile informed Mr. Duray that Council has reviewed the Engineering quotes for services for 2003. Council has agreed that the Paul C. Rizzo firm will continue in 2003. The Budget Committee will approve the appointment.

COMMITTEES

STREET COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Mr. Bosley reviewed his written report. Cleaned borough building , recycled weekly, monitored designated sanitary sewer lines. Began spreading mulch at the Barnett Street intersection. Salted and/or plowed streets several times during recent snow storms. Picked up leaves between snow storms with the front end loader. Siren should be installed on Friday 12-13-02. Mr. Bosley stated that Penelec wants the Borough to speak to the residents in reference to a right of way to put a line through their yards for the new poles on Lettuce Alley, from Goucher Street.

STREET COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Danyluk had nothing further to report.

ADMINISTRATION/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Strittmatter discussed the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) program. Letters have been sent to accounting firms requesting quotes on installing the GASB program into our system. The Personnel Committee met with AFSCME representative Tim Miller and the Union employees on December 5, 2002. Southmont presented their rewritten contract to the representative. Several changes were made from the previous contract. Council discussed the meeting. Mr. Miller will be in touch with Mr. Strittmatter to schedule another meeting, after the review of the new proposal. Solicitor Lovette discussed the possibility of getting an extension on the contract. Evaluations are done for 2002 for the Committee review. GASB information was received and will be reviewed.

POLICE COMMISSION

There will be a meeting Tuesday December 17, 2002, at 7:00 p.m.. It was decided that the Commission will meet at the Westmont Borough building, for 2003. Solicitor Lovette suggested that the Solicitor representing each entity be aware of the proposed meetings for Police regionalization.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

The recycling report has been submitted. Mr. Graham reported that the volume was down.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory discussed the breakdown on the MEIT Hospitalization plan. Mr. Kory also noted that Nagle Insurance expressed interest in submitting a quote for Liability Insurance to Southmont. The PIRMA group will be notified.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Rodgers reviewed and discussed the 2003 budget. After discussion, Mr. Rodgers made a motion to approve the tentative General Fund budget for 2003 in the amount of \$638, 010.00. Seconded by Mr. Kory. Roll call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Graham, Mr. Kory, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile. All in favor, opposed none. Approve 7-0

BUDGET COMMITTEE cont'd

A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to approve the 22 mills 2003 Tax Rate Ordinance No. 436. Seconded by Mr. Kory. Roll call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Graham, Mr. Kory, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile. All in favor, opposed none. Motion carried. 7-0.

A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to increase the Garbage fee for the year 2003 to \$76.00 annually by Ordinance No. 437. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. Roll call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Graham, Mr. Kory, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile. All in favor, opposed none. Motion carried. 7-0

Mr. Rodgers continued with making a motion naming the Depositories for Southmont Borough, as follows: Portage National Bank for the General Fund account, and the Money Market account, and the Sewer/Garbage Fund Account. The PLIGIT Investment Group for the General Fund and the PLGIT Plus accounts. The Valley National Investment Group for the Capital Improvement Fund. Seconded by Mr. Kory. Roll call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Graham, Mr. Kory, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile. All in favor, opposed none. Motion carried. 7-0

A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to authorize and approve the Secretary to make General Fund line item transfers to balance 2002. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. Roll call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Graham, Mr. Kory, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile. All in favor, opposed none. Motion carried. 7-0

A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to approve the 2003 Council meeting schedule as the third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m., with the exception of December when the meeting is scheduled for December 8, 2003. Every Tuesday of each month is scheduled for Committee meetings, if necessary. All meetings are scheduled for 7:00 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Graham. Roll call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Graham, Mr. Kory, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile. All in favor, opposed none. Motion carried. 7-0

A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to accept and approve the 2003 schedule of engineering fees from Paul C. Rizzo & Associates. Seconded by Mr. Graham. All in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Rodgers made a motion to appoint Solicitor Lovette for 2003 with a set retainer fee of \$3,600.00. Seconded by Mr. Graham. All in favor, opposed none-motion carried. Mr. Rodgers spoke with Mr. Thomas Zurilla in reference to the new Capital Improvement Fund investments. Mr. Zurilla would like to meet with the Committee to review other investment options for this fund. Also, Mr. Zurilla would like to discuss the cost of living increases for the former Southmont Borough police retirees. There are two police retirees in the Principal Annuity plan.

At this time Mr. Rodgers made a motion to go into an Executive Session to discuss salaries and personnel matters. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. (8:15 p.m.) The December meeting reconvened at 8:28 p.m called to order by President Pile. At this time Mr. Rodgers made a motion to set the salary and wage for 2003 as follows: Secretary/Treasurer \$24,650.00. Part-time Clerk -\$7.00 per hour, Street Commissioner-\$30,144.00, Hourly Union rate -set by Negotiations, Hourly Seasonal rate for Skilled Labor \$6.50 per hour and unskilled \$5.85 per hour. Summer Employees-\$5.15 per hour and snow plowing called out-\$6.50 per hour. Motion seconded by Mr. Graham. Roll call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Graham, Mr. Kory, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile. All in favor, opposed none. Motion carried. 7-0.

SHADE TREE REPORT

Mr. Krupa reported that he has completed the 2002 Tree City USA application and has submitted it to the Department of Forestry. The few trees that were left to plant from the 2002 Arbor Day program will not be planted this year. The Fall/Winter Newsletter was mailed earlier this month.

RECREATION COMMISSION

Mr. Pile reported that Stephanie Milavac has resigned as Director of the Recreation Commission for personal reasons. The Commission is accepting applications for a new director. The 2001 Audit of the Commission is being done at this time. This months meeting will be December 18, 2002.

BUILDING/GROUNDS REPORT

Mr. Kory stated that everything appears to be in good order at this time.

COG REPORT

Mr. Graham reviewed and explained the agreement for the sewer camera. Council also discussed a request from East Conemaugh who wishes to join the initial group and become one of the joint owners of the camera. East Conemaugh has expressed interest in the past but had changed their decision. COG is asking for a vote from the 8 joint owners. A motion was made by Mr. Strittmatter to allow East Conemaugh to become a joint owner of the camera. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Graham will pass this information on to the COG. A motion was made by Mr. Graham to approve the joint agreement for the sewer line video inspection camera and allow the use of the Diamond Blvd. shed to store the camera, pending insurance certificates for the camera. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

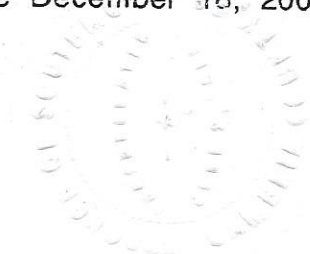
Mr. Graham made a motion to supply the names of Jan Bosley and David Weir as operators for the camera, trained by COG. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

GRANDVIEW COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory reported that he will plan to attend a Cemetery Association meeting and advise them of the up coming paving and inform them of the hazardous tree and limb conditions along Menoher Highway.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Sloat informed Council of a hazardous Gas Company repair situation on Diamond Blvd. Barricades placed did not have lighted signals. The Gas Company was notified twice of the problem and nothing or little was done. Mayor Sloat notified the police the third time. The Police Commission meeting will be December 18, 2002 at the Brownstown Borough Building.



SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Council asked Solicitor Lovette to prepare a letter to Mr. Alex Goodman's attorney to explain an overflow problem from Wren Street onto his property. Solicitor Lovette will confer with Mr. Bosley for background information and prepare a letter. The deed for the Rocco Truscello property abutting the Ray Alley steps has been returned by the Truscello's Attorney, Mr. Green Jr. After discussion, Solicitor Lovette will prepare a reply to the Truscello's.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mrs. Czyrnik's written report records that letters were sent to CPA/Accounting firms requesting a proposal to install the GASB, Act 34 plan in Southmont. One new computer was delivered on November 27, 2002. Mr. Tom Lewis will work during the week of December 23rd. to install the current programs. Roy Livingston has been issued a return to work slip from his Doctor. Past practice is that the Borough get a second opinion before a return to work. An doctor's appointment will be made as soon as possible. No word on the grant application from Representative Wojnaroski's office. We should hear something in the early part of January. Sent a letter to Upper Yoder Twp. notifying them that there would not be an increase in the sewer rate fee for 2003.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to accept the Treasurer's Report for November in the amount of \$342,728.33. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

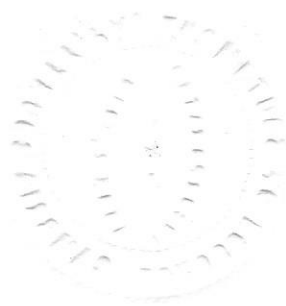
A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers noting that the borough received the Tax Collector's Real Estate report for November in the amount of \$1,057.30. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

After questions and discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$19,749.02. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. Roll call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Graham, Mr. Kory, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile. All in favor, opposed none. Motion carried. 7-0

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Pile asked for review of the items on the "Tickler List". Items were reviewed and removed or relisted.



NEW BUSINESS

A Committee meeting was set for January 14, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the Capital Improvement Fund, Police Cost of Living Fund and to meet with Fire Company members.

A motion was made by Mr. Graham to purchase the ARC-View software for the GIS program, for an amount not to exceed \$2,000. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried.

The invitation from Upper Yoder Township Visioning Committee inviting Southmont to attend a meeting on December 5, 2002 was canceled and will be rescheduled for early next year. The meeting was to discuss Intergovernmental Cooperation, between neighboring Municipalities.

There being no further items to discuss Council adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Judith A. Czyrnik,
Borough Secretary

