

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
December 12, 2005 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 12, 2005 meeting of Council convened.

PRESENT: President Pile, Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Graham, Mr. Kory, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa, Mayor: Gerry Sloat (arrived at 8:00 P.M.), Solicitor: Daniel R. Lovette, Fire Chief: Chet Borosky, West Hills Police Chief: Andy Havas, Zoning Officer: Dyke Orms, Engineer: Dave Duray, Borough Manager: Loretta Spak, and Street Commissioner: Jan Bosley.

ABSENT:

VISITORS: Mr. Ray Hartnett, 3 Wren Street, leaf pick up and plowing.

President Pile asked for approval of the November 21, 2005 Council Minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Krupa to accept the Minutes as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried.

President Pile called upon Mr. Hartnett. Mr. Hartnett thanked council for allowing him to speak on his concerns of snow plowing and leaf collection. Mr. Hartnett would like to have Wren Street plowed wider. Mr. Bosley will make two passes on Wren Street, which will widen the street, when plowing snow. Mr. Hartnett spoke about leaf collection on Wren Street; Mr. Bosley commented that past practice has been not to run leaf machines in alleys, not enough room for machine; discussion followed. Mr. Danyluk and Mr. Bosley will look into situation on Tuesday, December 13th, and will update Mr. Hartnett and Council on findings.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT:

West Hills Police Chief Andy Havas looked into Mr. Trevorrow's concern on truck parking too close to corner of Orchard Street and Menoher Blvd. impairing school children's visibility. Chief Havas does not see this as presenting a problem; he feels that no additional signage or markings are needed. Chief Havas updated Council on vehicles vandalized on Southmont Blvd., Diamond Blvd. and Thoburn Street which had side windows broken (shot) out on Saturday between midnight and 3:00 AM, no leads at this time.

ZONING OFFICERS REPORT

Mr. Orms report was received, no change from November. Report records activity of twenty two (22) permits at a total construction of \$209,822 as of 11/16/05. Mr. Orms revisited Mr. Knapp, 14 Shady Lane, vast improvement with clean up on property; no further action needed at this time, will be checked periodically. Mr. Strittmatter spoke with the Conservation Group concerning permit for dumping at Grandview by Memorial Hospital. Mr. Rodgers made a motion for Mr. Duray to draft a letter to the Conservation Group outlining Council's complaint concerning the dumping, letter will be proofed by Solicitor Lovette and

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copied to Mr. Ayres and Mr. Walsh. Seconded by Mr. Graham. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Graham made a motion for Mr. Duray to draft a reply to letter dated November 20th by Mr. Ayres referencing Zoning Permit 2005-21 retention pond, Borough does require fencing, Solicitor Lovette to proof. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried. These two letters are being sent by Engineer on Borough's behalf. Applications are being received for the zoning officer position and zoning solicitor; review of the applications will be placed on the January 10, 2006 committee meeting agenda.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

Chief Borosky's written report records eleven (11) responses during the month of November. There were two (2) calls between the hours of 10 PM to 7 AM. Chief Borosky asked Solicitor Lovette if the fire company is allowed on private property uninvited during emergency/public safety situations. Solicitor Lovette answered "yes" he will need to check for legal opinion. Solicitor Lovette discussed his written legal opinion referencing Weir Way dated December 8, 2005; "Weir Way" was conveyed to Dr. and Mrs. King as part of the sale from the Borough of Southmont. Discussion followed concerning keys to the gate and Peden Lane which is a privately owned lane. The Hilltop Ambulance report was received and is on file.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Duray's written Engineer's report for December was received and discussed. Mr. Duray reviewed traffic count data from State Street, the speed radar display did impact the overall traffic speed but not to the extent of the speed humps. This will be discussed further in the spring when the weather breaks. Mr. Rodgers made a motion for 2006 paving bids, the following streets will be alternates: #5 Gardner Street, #9 Harding Street, #10 Harding Street (these streets ranked as 2's) and #4 Helen Street (ranked as 1). Seconded by Mr. Graham. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Duray handed out a long range plan for conveyance or storage of excessive sanitary sewer flows contributing to the State Street bypass (worst case scenario), discussion followed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STREET COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Received Mr. Bosley's written report. The restrooms at soccer field were winterized, will be padlocking doors. The new full time employee (Bill Gentile) and part time employee (Stephen Baxter) are snowplowing and working out well. President Pile stated "good job" on snowplowing during Thanksgiving and this past weekend storm.

STREET COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Danyluk has nothing new to report.

ADMNS. & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Krupa has nothing new to report. Will review the zoning officer and zoning solicitor applications at January 10th committee meeting.

POLICE COMMITTEE

Mayor Sloat has nothing new to report.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory and Mr. Bosley will get together when recycling trailer is full.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Rodgers has nothing new to report.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to approve the 2006 General Fund Budget as proposed, in the amount of \$748,000. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Graham, Mr. Kory, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none. Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to approve ordinance 461 to keep real estate tax at 11.0 mills for 2006. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to approve the liquid fuels budget and the Cheney Run budget and adjust figures as needed. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Graham, Mr. Kory, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none. Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to keep the same depositories for 2006; General Funds-Portage National Bank & PLIGIT, Cheney Run-PLIGIT, Motor License Fund-PLIGIT, Garbage and Sewer Fund-Portage National Bank and Capital Improvement CD-Portage National Bank (CD mature date May 1, 2006). Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to accept the Cheney Run Fund in the amount of \$10,000 and the Liquid Fuel Highway Aid Fund in the amount of \$50,217.84 (plus December's interest). Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried. Other items will be discussed at the January 3, 2006 reorganization meeting.

SHADE TREE REPORT

Mr. Krupa is working on the Tree City USA application for recertification which is due by the end of the year. Mr. Krupa is waiting for final bill from Lichtenfels Nursery. The tree at 324 Langhorne Avenue (Mrs. Rosenbaum) will be removed as soon as weather permits, did receive a lower estimate of eight hundred fifty dollars (\$850). The Cheney Run fence repair cost will be discussed later, after tree removal.

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Pile could not attend, Mr. Kory attended meeting. The committee discussed evaluations on three (3) full time personnel, blood drive for Mr. John Khuri who is home now and doing well, and no painting inside of building (Grove) was budgeted for 2006.

BUILDING/GROUNDS REPORT

Mr. Kory has nothing new to report.

COG REPORT

Mr. Pile contacted COG concerning TV franchise committee and funding. There is approximately \$6,800 in account for franchise committee; Mr. Rodgers suggested an audit should be done. Mr. Pile will contact Mr. Bob Morgan to see if he would be interested in being a committee member.

GRANDVIEW COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory has nothing new to report.

GREATER JOHNSTOWN WATER AUTHORITY

Mr. Graham discussed new contract Greater Johnstown Water Authority has for additional water to Conemaugh Township along with other contracts in Somerset County. Mr. Danyluk made a motion approving Mr. Follansbee for at-large appointee from Upper Yoder Township for term that expired 2003 (Theodore Gaynor) to the Greater Johnstown Water Authority. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried. Ms. Spak will notify Westmont Borough and Johnstown of Southmont's approval, takes three (3) municipalities to pass. Mr. Graham stated he wished to stay on the water authority; he is on committees and making a good contribution to the authority. President Pile feels Mr. Graham was appointed to the authority as an elected official from Southmont. Mr. Graham's water authority vacancy will be addressed at reorganization meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Sloat stated cost of a digital video camera would range from three hundred fifty dollars (\$350) to four hundred dollars (\$400). Mayor Sloat commented that the truck decals look very nice.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

President Pile stated he cannot find any ordinances (other than what was previously found) on internet concerning abandoned properties; will try looking for absentee owners. Solicitor Lovette will see what he can find. Mr. Rodgers mentioned checking with who holds the mortgage on the Long property. Mr. Danyluk made a motion to approve Ordinance #460 animal control laws and prohibiting the harboring of an animal nuisance amends ordinance #'s 419 and 448. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Spak's written report was submitted. Mr. Kory made a motion, based on Ms. Spak's recommendation, to stay with MCI for our long distance service but change plan to the business value standard plan. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Danyluk made a motion to reimburse Mr. Ringler, 157 Violet Street, on Torchia's Sewer and Drain Cleaning invoice in the amount of \$250 serviced September 16th,

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then invoice Upper Yoder Township for both sewer service invoices dated September 16th and November 7th (Roto Rooter in the amount of \$302), no grease traps at the Lutheran Home and will copy Lutheran Home on letter. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried. Ms. Spak will check with Joe Sernell on FileMaker 8.0 upgrade, we are presently using FileMaker 6.0. Mr. Kory made a motion to accept the Manager's Report. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to approve the November Treasurer Report which shows the balance of \$304,692.35. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to note the November tax collector's report was received. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$26,212.68 as presented. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Graham, Mr. Kory, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none.

OLD BUSINESS

President Pile discussed the "Tickler List". Mr. Graham passed around examples of some different raffle tickets. Mr. Strittmatter suggested Fire Chief Borosky send an invoice for material/equipment to home owner of fire in Upper Yoder referencing Ordinance #457. Ms. Spak will forward the above two items to Fire Chief Chet Borosky. Ms. Spak will contact individuals on the "To-Do Lists" to see what has been completed or can be dropped. President Pile asked to add abandoned properties to the "Tickler List". The Street Light Repair list was discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Rodgers made a motion thanking Mr. Graham for his four (4) years of service to Southmont Borough Council. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried. Council appreciates all Mr. Graham's knowledge and help with Borough matters "thank you"!

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Graham for adjournment of the December 12, 2005 meeting at 9:30 P.M. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Loretta Spak, Borough Manager

12/15/2005 11:49 AM