

BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
148 WONDER STREET
JOHNSTOWN, PA 15905

MINUTES FOR APRIL 21, 2025

The pledge of allegiance was conducted, and the scheduled April 21, 2025, meeting was called to order by President Doug Beri at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Council Members Doug Beri, Sheree Speicher, Robert Morgan, Richard Burkert, Solicitor Eric Hochfeld; Borough Manager Amanda Layton; Police Detective Jared Arcuri; Street Commissioner Sam McAdams; Mayor Anthony Keiper, Asst. Sec. Debra Riek.

Absent: Council Members Mathew McVicker, Eugene Kupchella and Herb Ewald, Fire Chief Steve Costic, Police Chief William "B.J." Newman, Engineer Todd Banks.

Visitors: John A. Klanchar (104 Dahlia Street), Bob Walker (210 State Street), John Rucosky (209 Thoburn Street).

Public Comment

Mr. Walker asked if the Cambria County prisoners would be working for the borough this year.

Mr. Rucosky stated he was having issues with the rental property next to his property regarding domestic disputes, drug use, and litter.

Mr. Klanchar asked if Mr. McAdams was aware that the curb by the stormwater sewer catch basin on Dahlia Street needed to be repaired.

Bid Openings:

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve opening the paving bids. Motion seconded by Mrs. Speicher. Mr. McVicker, Mr. Kupchella and Mr. Ewald absent. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

The bid from HRI was \$264,332.50 and the bid from Quaker Sales was \$150,554.20. Mrs. Layton stated that about \$136,000.00 has been budgeted. A motion was made by Mrs. Speicher to table the approving of the 2025 paving bids. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. Mr. McVicker, Mr. Kupchella and Mr. Ewald absent. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve the March 17, 2025 council meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Mrs. Speicher. Mr. McVicker, Mr. Kupchella and Mr. Ewald absent. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

A motion was made by Mrs. Speicher to approve the March 26, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes. Motion seconded by Burkert. Mr. McVicker, Mr. Kupchella and Mr. Ewald absent. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

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Police Chief's Report

The March 2025 Police Chief's Report was received.

Fire Company Report

The March 2025 Fire Chief's Report was received.

A motion was made by Mrs. Speicher to approve the placement of signs for the 2025 Fireman Jubilee throughout the borough. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. Mr. McVicker, Mr. Kupchella and Mr. Ewald absent. All in favor, motion carried. (4-0).

A motion was made by Mr. Speicher to approve paying one-half of the police protection for the 2025 Jubilee. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. Mr. McVicker, Mr. Kupchella and Mr. Ewald absent. All in favor, motion carried. (4-0).

Engineer's Report

The March 2025 report was received.

Zoning Officer's Report

The March 2025 report was received.

Solicitor's Report

Nothing to report.

Street Commissioner Report

Mr. McAdams stated that the trees received from the Bare Root Tree grant will be planted by the end of the week.

Borough Manager's Report

Mrs. Speicher questioned why the polling location at the municipal building had been changed to the St. Mathews Church. Mrs. Layton stated the county decided to change locations for this year since the municipal building may be undergoing renovations at the time of the elections and that she will post a signs and maps to try and make it easier for the public to find St. Mathews Church.

Mayor's Report

Nothing to report.

Committees:

Administration:

Nothing to report.

Community Planning & Improvement:

Mr. Burkert stated that the Planning Commission Request for Proposal for the multi-municipal comprehensive plan is expected to be awarded in May.

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Emergency Management

Nothing to report

Finance:

Nothing to report. Mrs. Speicher reported a meeting will be scheduled to review the 2024 audit with the auditing firm.

GJWA:

Nothing to report

MS4/Stormwater

Mrs. Speicher stated that Stiffler McGraw & Associates is working on the stormwater mapping and the Shady Lane Stabilization Project will be started within the next few weeks.

Personnel:

Nothing to report

Police:

Nothing to report.

Property Maintenance, Streets & Sidewalks:

Mr. McVicker was absent. Nothing to report

Shade Tree:

Mr. Burkert stated that a grant application has been submitted to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to complete a shade tree inventory, and a grant application was also submitted to Community Foundation for the Alleghenies to cover the match funds for the DCNR grant.

New Business

A motion was made by Mrs. Speicher to approve Resolution 2025-04, authorizing officials to execute documents and agreements with Commonwealth Financing Authority for a Small Water & Sewer Grant. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. Mr. McVicker, Mr. Kupchella and Mr. Ewald absent. All in favor, motion carried (4 -0). Mr. Beri stated this grant will allow the borough to complete a stormwater replacement on Diamond Blvd. if approved.

A motion was made by Mrs. Speicher to approve application for the Cambria County Municipal Infrastructure Assistance Program. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. Mr. McVicker, Mr. Kupchella, and Mr. Ewald absent. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

Business Items

A motion was made by Mrs. Speicher to approve ratification of payroll from March 18, 2025, through April 17, 2025 in the amount of \$22,181.89. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. Mr. McVicker, Mr. Kupchella and Mr. Ewald absent. Roll call: Mr. Beri, Mrs. Speicher, Mr. Morgan, and Mr. Burkert in favor. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

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A motion was made by Mrs. Speicher to approve payment of bills from March 18, 2025, through April 17, 2025 in the amount of \$167,199.67. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. Mr. McVicker, Mr. Kupchella and Mr. Ewald absent: Roll call: Mr. Beri, Mrs. Speicher, Mr. Morgan, and Mr. Burkert in favor. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

A motion was made by Mrs. Speicher to approve transfers from March 18, 2025, through April 17, 2025 in the amount of \$118,119.00. Motion seconded by Morgan. Mr. McVicker, Mr. Kupchella and Mr. Ewald were absent. Roll call: Mr. Beri, Mrs. Speicher, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Burkert. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve the March 2025 treasurer's report. Motion seconded Mrs. Speicher. Mr. McVicker, Mr. Kupchella and Mr. Ewald absent. Roll call: Mr. Beri, Mrs. Speicher, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Burkert. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

A motion was made by Mrs. Speicher to note the receipt of the March 2025 tax collectors' report. Motion seconded by Mr. Burkert. Mr. McVicker, Mr. Kupchella and Mr. Ewald absent. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mrs. Speicher for adjournment of the March 2025 meeting at 4:30 p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. Burkert. Mr. McVicker, Mr. Kupchella and Mr. Ewald absent. All in favor, motion carried (4- 0).

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Riek
Assistant Secretary