

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
March 18, 1996 7:30 p.m.

The regularly scheduled March Council meeting was called to order by President Pile at 7:30 p.m.. After the pledge to the flag, the March 18, 1996 meeting of Council convened.

PRESENT: President Pile, Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Leventry, Mr. Kory, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Davis, Mayor Robert Morgan, Solicitor: Daniel R. Lovette, Engineer: Ron Walker, Zoning Officer: Fred Pullen, Street Commissioner: Jan Bosley
Secretary: Judith Czynnik, West Hills Police: Chief Andy Havas, and Mike Butler, Fire Department

ABSENT: None

VISITORS:

Mr. Ray McDonald	305 Leila Street	Hilda Benner	230 Wonder Street
Mr. Lary Koval	336 Orchard Street	Paul Harnish	307 Thoburn Street

At this time President Pile asked for approval of the February 19, 1996 regular Council meeting minutes. Mr. Krupa made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

President Pile began with visitors, Mr. Lary Koval who was spokesperson for the residents of Mabel Street who have properties abutting Potato Alley. Mr. Koval presented Council with a petition to pave sections of Potato Alley (formerly Plum Alley), from Thoburn Street east approximately 250 feet and from Thoburn Street west approximately 420 feet, then south on Leon Court approximately 150 feet to Leila Street. The intention of the signed property owners is to begin with the approximate project costs for the sections outlined. There are 14 property owners signed on the petition. Residents of Leila Street do not use the alley, only two people bordering Leon Court. After discussion and questions, Mr. Danyluk made a motion to approve the Engineers to do a preliminary cost estimate of the area in a three section breakdown. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, Mr. Davis abstained. Motion carried. Engineers costs are to be divided if the project proceeds and the residents are to be billed, then the fees are shared with the property owners.

Mr. McDonald was in attendance to hear the findings or recommendations of the Committee who was doing the inspection in the recent overflow/backup in the sanitary and storm lines during the January 19th flooding. Mr. Pile stated that the Committee did inspect the area and they will begin monitoring the manhole to chart the flow during wet and dry periods. The Committee feels that possibly spring water is infiltrating the system. Possible TV monitoring will need to be done.

Mrs. Benner returned to Council to hear the Committee findings on her request for a street light in the area of her home at 230 Wonder Street. It is a dead end street and it is very dark. There was also a problem with sewage backup during the January 19, 1996 flooding. President Pile informed Mrs. Benner that the Committee did look at the flooding problem at 230 Wonder Street and at the street light request. President Pile explained to Mrs. Benner that the Committee did review the area of the backup and flooding in the sanitary and storm lines. The Borough has sent letters to Upper Yoder Township and the Department of Environmental Protection referring to the surge of infiltration from Upper Yoder during heavy rains and the wet season. Mayor Morgan gave Mrs. Benner a copy of the letter to Upper Yoder. We are going to wait to hear from them. We need to eliminate the problem and we hope to find out if they made any corrections. We will continue to monitor the manhole. The Committee also looked at the street light request and do agree that it is dark in the area. The street is a dead end but there is a light at the intersection of Helen, Wonder and Pocahontas Streets, Council is not sure an additional light is needed for the benefit of only one resident. Council is recommending that Mrs. Benner install a dusk to dawn light on her property. Mr. Bosley suggested that possibly a barrier with reflectors be installed and/or possibly a large Dead End sign could be installed. Mrs. Benner stated that several times cars have come thru looking for an outlet and have had to turn around causing some lawn or property damage. Mr. Rodgers made a motion to have the Street Committee look at this problem to make this area safer. Mr. Leventry's committee will re-look at the area.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Havas's written report records there was a total of \$510.42 revenues collected in February. A total of 482 calls for service were received this month. Officer Mulkey is conducting programs during March at OMOS on "Problems with Drugs Today" and a "Home Safety and Security" program for the Kiwanis Ladies Club. The West Hills Regional Police minutes have been distributed to Council members, and a copy of a letter informing a resident of a violation for transporting garbage will be filed if the practice continues. Chief Havas discussed the Bicycle inspection program the Department will be offering in cooperation with the Recreation Commission. The Officer Phil program will again be offered to the school districts in the area. West Hills Regional Police were the lead department in the arrest of a recent drug investigation.



Chief Havas asked Council to seriously look at the recent rock fall on Menoher Blvd., across from Kesslak Insurance Agency. He recommend that Penn Dot should be put on notice about our concerns. Reports are on file to document the incident. Two falls have happened, one on March 13 and again March 17, 1996. Traffic lanes had to be closed while clean-up was done. Some of the rocks were very large and could not be hauled away. They are buried for now. This is a blind curve and is quite dangerous. Fire Chief Butler reported that the situation is hazardous. Mr. Danyluk made a motion to write a letter to Penn Dot with our reports of the recent rock falls, documentation and our concerns for future safety at both ends of the previously installed fencing and to inform us of their plans to correct this problem. Motion seconded by Mr. Davis. All in favor. A copy will be sent to the County Commissioners.

On a question from Mr. Rodgers Chief Butler does attend the Emergency management meetings and will coordinate with the Police on any emergency plans.

ZONING OFFICERS REPORT

Mr. Pullen's report records 4 building permits for the month at an estimated cost of \$133,600.00. John Klanchar's building permit has been closed out and he has applied for a new permit to complete his project. The Hearn property is looking much better and near completion. Pete Chiodo has received another building permit for the office construction and began construction on the project this week. There was a "wetlands" complaint filed with the DEP last month and the findings are that the Chiodo property area is not in the wetlands.

Mr. Pullen and Mr. Danyluk attended the Westmont Borough Council requested that the boundary line deviation near the Millcreek Road and Menoher Blvd. intersection be moved to the center line on Millcreek Road and Menoher Blvd. to agree with the existing boundary centerline. After lengthy discussion with Westmont, Mr. Pullen left the meeting with the understanding the Westmont Council will discuss this at their Committee meeting at a later time. There is a discrepancy in the way Chiodo maps and Borough maps project the area in question, Mr. Pullen will check on the difference.

Mr. Pullen will also check a site on Susan Drive which is proposed as a new house construction site. The landowner is clearing trees for the proposed building.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

The Fire Company's written report records the Fire Company responded to 15 calls in February. The Fire Department talked with Mr. Chiodo in reference to the proposed new addition to the Fire Company and some changes have been recommended along with ways to lessen the costs at this time. Mr. Butler felt the Fire Company needs to make some decisions before they meet with Council and he suggested holding off on any meeting until that time.

The 9-1-1 Annual Report for 1995 has been received and Southmont VFC ranked 5th in the County for the most fires and rescue calls. Westmont and Upper Yoder were also in the top ten. Mr. Butler reported on the Fire Company's involvement in the most recent two rock slides in March. The Fire Company was called to assist the Police in traffic control and help in the clean up. He agrees with the Police request to notify Penn Dot of the dangerous condition of the hillside due to the loss of supporting rocks in the two slides. The Hilltop Ambulance March minutes have been distributed to Council.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Walker is ready to schedule meetings with the utilities to relocate poles so Hannah Alley can be rebuilt. Necessary easements from the property owners will also be pursued. The Street Committee will meet with them. Mr. Walker reported that Mark Walker has responded to the DEP letter of February 19, 1996. Mr. M. Walker responded to the question of monitoring at Wren Street and the State Street bypass. He also informed them of our notification to Upper Yoder in reference to the extraneous flows into our sanitary sewer system. Mr. Danyluk is suggesting that the Secretary call the residents, who are having the problems from the infiltration from UYT, asking them to either call or write to UYT Supervisors and/or the DEP about their recent damages and complaints.

On the Leon Street flood repairs that will be done by Penn Dot Mr. Wayne Hammond, Penn Dot Engineer, informed Mrs. Czyrnik that they will be doing the repairs under a work order and they will give us enough time to do the construction of the new catch basin and lay the pipe at State and Leon Street, up to Wonder Street. They will do the flood repair work at 100%, rather than reimbursement of 75%. They just need a letter giving them approval to work on the flood repairs in Southmont. A motion by Mr. Rodgers approving the work was seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor. Further discussion was held on installing pipe above Leon Street, possibly before our 1996 Street Paving program begins. The Street Committee will schedule a street inspection date after the meeting with the utilities on Hanna Alley.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STREET COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Mr. Bosley's written report records plowing, and or salting was done most of the month. Maintenance was performed on all equipment. Christmas trees were picked-up, piles of leaves and gravel piles were picked up, inlets were cleaned after all storms, weather permitting. Installed additional lights in the garage area. Patched potholes for two days. Cleared ditches after storms. Inspected sanitary sewer re-connect tap at Clark's Corner Store. Met with Federal and State representatives in reference to flood damage on Leon Street.

Arrangements have been made with Westmont Borough to use the wood chipper the week of March 25 thru the 29th for Christmas tree and storm damage chipping.

Mr. Bosley reported to Council that the 1982 Case front end loader needs a rebuilt engine due to piston ring wear. Fuel is getting into the oil. Estimated repair is \$4,000. A new engine cost is \$10,000 to \$12,000 . Mr. Danyluk made a motion to have the engine rebuilt, was seconded by Mr. Davis. Motion carried. A new machine is approximately \$45,000 with a government discount, otherwise the cost would be \$70,000. Mr. Rodgers suggested that we begin budgeting for a new machine at \$15,000 per year. The Street Committee will meet and make suggestion to Council.

STREET COMMITTEE

A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk , seconded by Mr. Leventry authorizing the Street Commissioner to get costs and to schedule the rented street sweeper. No further report. The Liquid Fuels check for 1996 has been received in the amount of \$38,714.39.

ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Rodgers reported that the Committee has met twice during the past month in reference to several items. Mr. Rodgers and Mr. Pile met with Greg Sanford, Westmont High School Finance Director and they agreed to work cooperatively and to make safeguards for the future on the recent PMS embezzlement findings and discussed the recent letter (2-29-96) from auditors of the PMS account. The School District does an audit each year. This will be an ongoing report. Mr. Rodgers reviewed the 93/94 Auditor Generals audit on the Fire Company. Two corrections were needed and have been made by the Fire Company. Mr. Rodgers made a motion to approve the corrections. All in favor. Motion carried. Correction will be attached to the audit.

The Committee had an Executive Session meeting on Thursday March 14, 1996 with Labor Attorney Robert Brierton. Attorney Brierton reviewed the Borough Employees AFSCME contract, job descriptions, evaluations, Police agreement and many other items. The Committee will pursue the suggestions made by Attorney Brierton. The Personnel & Administration Committee will meet again on March 20, 1996 at 7:00 p.m., all of Council is invited. Salary and Wages will be on the agenda. The Committee discussed a Borough Audit by an outside firm possibly every two or three years.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Mr. Danyluk discussed the volume of the collections, this month we received credit of \$80.96. We will check again on the newspaper recycling program that is scheduled to begin in the Spring.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory is in receipt of several Insurance quotes, his Committee will review the quotes at the March 20, 1996 meeting.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

No report.

SHADE TREE

Mr. Krupa reported on the meeting they had and they have decided to remove three trees, 2 on Diamond Blvd. one on Palliser Street, weather permitting. They will be working with Lichtenfels to do some fertilizing work on Leila Street. In memory of Mrs. Alkire \$515.00 has been donated to the Shade Tree Commission to date. The Committee will plant a red maple on Wonder Street and replace trees in the grass section of the Menoher & Millcreek triangle in her memory. Mr. Krupa asked for Borough employees to help in digging and planting trees for the Arbor Day celebration, April 20, 1996. A motion by Mr. Danyluk to approve Borough employees help in the Arbor Day celebration, seconded by Mr. Kory.

RECREATION/PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

Mr. Pile reported that the Recreation Commission has reimbursed the Borough and Upper Yoder the first installment of the \$10,000 loan from last year to do the Playground. Mr. David Rhoades has been re-appointed to a four year term on the Authority Dr. George Salem has been reappointment to the Recreation Authority and Sandra Nycum has been appointed for a two year term as a member at large. Mr. James Craft and Mr. William Good have been re-appointed to a three year term from Yoder Yoder. Mr. Pile has been reappointed to the Recreation Commission for a three year term. Mr. Wm. Kory was appointed as an alternate.

CABLE TV COMMITTEE

Mayor Morgan had nothing to report other than copies of the ordinance and franchise have been returned from the Cable Committee's Attorney. They appear to be in order and the Committee will be scheduling Municipalities and Solicitor's to meet and review the franchise and ordinance.

C.O.G REPORT

Mr. Davis reported that the C.O.G. sewer cleaning machine is scheduled for week of May 20, 1996 thru May 29, 1996. A motion by Mr. Danyluk to approve the April 2, 1996 meeting of C.O.G and purchase refreshments, seconded by Mr. Davis.



CHAPIN ARCH

Mr. Kory reported that the stone has not been picked up to date for the work on the Arch. No other report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

No report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Lovette reported the Conemaugh Hospital and the Cemetery Association settlement agreement for 30% payment of the assessed value, is being written and will be brought to Council as soon as it is prepared.

On a question by the Secretary, Solicitor Lovette recommended that a letter be written to the employers who are refusing to pay their Occupation Privilege tax. They are liable and inform them that delinquent accounts will be turned over to the District Magistrate for non-payment

A letter was received from the Attorneys who are representing Raymond Hartnett of 3 Wren Street, reference to trees falling during recent storms, causing damage to his property. Solicitor Lovette has seen the letter and is waiting for any further correspondence.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mrs. Czyrnik's written report records that she attended a Snow Blizzard/Flood Damage meeting on March 6, 1996 in reference to applications for blizzard reimbursement and applications for a Mitigation Grant. The meeting informed municipalities on how to get reimbursement and mitigation grant monies available since the entire State was declared a disaster for the January 19, 1996 flooding. The PEMA blizzard forms were returned for reimbursement of approximately 75% of \$10,500. Snow emergency labor costs are only for called out, overtime, or temporary help for reimbursable. Regularly schedule employees hours were not covered.

A motion made by Mr. Danyluk authorizing the Secretary to make arrangements to rent a safe deposit box from Portage Bank to file computer back-up tapes and records. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor.

Mr. Carbaugh has been re-examined and returned to work on 3-13-96 with no work restrictions. Mr. Rodgers made a motion to designate the Secretary, Mrs. Czyrnik as contact and signature for the Blizzard 96/PEMA reports. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk.

All in favor. Opposed none.

Mr. Rodgers commended Mrs. Czyrnik, Mr. Pile, Mayor Morgan and Mr. Pullen for the fine dinner on March 8, 1996 for Mr. Glass.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Rodgers made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report with a balance of \$176,899.41 in the General Fund for February 1996. Seconded by Mr. Leventry. All in favor. Opposed none

TAX COLLECTOR

Mr. Quinn's written report records \$7,905.78 collections for February Real Estate, and \$269.50 collections for Per Capita. Total collections of \$8,175.28. Mr. Rodgers made a motion to accept the Tax Collector's report, seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, opposed none. Resolution Number 9602 was submitted to Council for approval of the Tax Collector to exempt one property owner at 20% of his 1996 Borough real estate tax. This is the last LERTA exemption, Ordinance #343 was repealed by Ordinance 371 on February 20, 1991. Mr. Rodgers made a motion to approve the final exemption of tax Resolution 9602, seconded by Mr. Danyluk. Motion carried, opposed none.

APPROVAL TO PAY THE BILLS

A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to pay the bills in the amount of \$26,654.01. Seconded by Mr. Leventry. Roll Call vote: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Davis, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Leventry and Mr. Pile. All in favor, opposed none. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

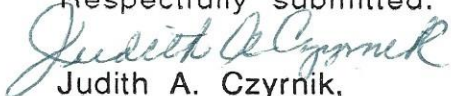
The annual PSAB convention will be held June 23 thru June 26 in Pittsburgh. Council Members wishing to attend should inform the Secretary ASAP. Mrs. Barbara Regula, Mr. Lary Koval, and Mr. Jeff Griffith have been recommended for the Planning Commission Board. Discussion followed. The recommendations will be made at the next meeting.

Mr. Wm. Krupa and Mrs. Czyrnik have been appointed as delegates to the United Way annual meeting May 30, 1996. Mr. Davis made a motion to approve a resolution to move forward on construction Rt. 219, seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Pile updated Council on the preparation of a Borough Guide book with information on regular questions asked by Council.

Council approved a letter to Penn Dot authorizing the work on Leon Street for flood repair. All in favor, opposed none.

Council adjourned 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Judith A. Czyrnik,
Borough Secretary

