

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
August 19, 1996 7:30 p.m.

The regularly scheduled August Council meeting was called to order by Vice-President Leventry at 7:30 p.m.. After the pledge to the flag, the August 19, 1996 meeting of Council convened.

PRESENT: President Pile (7:50 p.m.), Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Leventry, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Davis, Zoning Officer: Fred Pullen, Mayor Robert Morgan (7:40 p.m.), Engineer: Ron Walker, Solicitor: Daniel R. Lovette, West Hills Police: Chief Andy Havas, Secretary: Judith Czynnik, and Mike Butler, Fire Department

ABSENT: Street Commissioner: Jan Bosley

VISITORS: Joe Gaydos 411 Southmont Blvd.
William Leckey 30 Harding Street (just observing)

At this time Vice-President Leventry asked for approval of the July 15, 1996 regular Council meeting minutes. There being no question or correction, minutes approved as written. All in favor.

Vice-President Leventry began the August meeting with Mr. Joe Gaydos who informed Council that there is a depression in his back yard from the sewer line that was installed about 1974. Mr. Gaydos wants more topsoil and grass seed to fix the sinking area himself. The Street Committee will look into the problem of the sinking area and then make recommendation for a solution.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Havas's written report records revenues for the month of June in the amount of \$467.11. During July there were a total of 545 calls. Chief Havas reported on radar equipment from the Cambria County Highway Safety Program being used for the past two weeks. The idea of using this equipment is to make the driver aware of the speed they are using on the streets in Southmont. No arrests have been made. However, drivers have stopped thinking they would be given a speeding ticket. Warnings only were given.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Pullen's report records 5 new permits were issued this month in the amount of \$56,900.00. The year to date estimated construction cost is \$419,425.00. Mr. Pullen has checked on Mr. Klanchar's project and not much progress has been made this month. Mr. Pullen will give Mr. Klanchar a time frame in which to complete this project, or further action will be taken.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

Chief Butler's report submitted to Council records the Department answered 18 calls this month. Fire Company members attended 36 sessions of structural burn classes with a total of 144 hours.

Chief Butler questioned the reason the Fire Company had to advertise for bids on the proposed building, when they purchased the vehicles they did not have to bid or advertise. Solicitor Lovette informed Chief Butler that the difference is that the Borough owns the Building and the land the proposed building is to be built on. According to Borough Code it must be bid. Since we own the land we are subject to Borough Code.

The Fire Company has no drawings to date, and the Borough is recommending that they have someone prepare drawings and specifications for the proposed addition. On another matter, Chief Butler informed Council that the 9-1-1 system decides who to call for accidents or emergencies within Southmont Borough. There is a conflict on who gets called. The Fire Company will write a letter to the County Commissioners and submit a copy to the Borough.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Walker reported that Hannah Alley paving has been completed as of August 16, 1996. Quaker Sales is in the process of paving Leon Street. The paver broke down and there was a delay in the project, but it will be completed within the next day or so. The trench for the new storm sewer installed on Diamond Blvd. to service Hannah Alley was paved by Quaker Sales. The cost should be minimal. Mr. Walker reviewed the letter from DEP, in reference to the Cheney Run annual maintenance inspection. There are some deficiencies noted that will be looked into and Council will respond to the DEP. Mr. Walker and Mr. Bosley will look into the noted deficiencies.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STREET COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

In Mr. Bosley's absence the written report recorded the storm sewer work along Diamond Blvd. from Milton Street to Hannah Alley was completed. Two catch basins were installed in Hannah Alley. Phase two of the storm work on Leon was started and near completion. Painted crosswalks and yellow lines on various curves and streets. Began filling holes and ruts in Corn Alley (Low) and Wren Street with milled material. Cleaned inlets and catch basins after storms. New curb was poured at State and Leon Streets before paving. Necessary maintenance performed on vehicles and equipment. Collected newspapers on July 27 and took recycling to the center each week. A street paving inspection will be done when all work is completed.

STREET COMMITTEE

Mr. Leventry reported on the Committee meeting August 14, 1996 when the 3rd draft of the junked vehicle ordinance was reviewed. It is still in the draft stage, some minor items still need clarification. The Ordinance on regulating house numbering is completed. A motion by Mr. Leventry for the Solicitor to review, and prepare the house numbering ordinance and advertise. Question. After discussion, motion seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

The sidewalk guidelines are almost completed, one other item will be included. The sidewalk guidelines will be sent with the lower Borough sidewalk deficiencies letters that will be sent within the month. The inspections done last year have been completed with the exception of two residents. Mr. Danyluk will follow thru on these violations.

Mr. Danyluk has been personally talking with residents about making their house address numbers visible to all emergency personnel.

ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Pile reported on the naming of the negotiation committee for the AFSCME negotiations. The Committee will be Mr. Lou Leventry, Mr. Curt Davis and Mr. Danyluk, along with Mr. Jan Bosley. Mr. Bosley will ask the Union members (Jim and Roy) for their input, then a meeting will be scheduled with Mr. Tim Milier, Representative of AFSCME, Council #13.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Mr. Danyluk discussed the recycling of newspaper. The July collection of newspapers totaled 1300 #'s, one other collection will be held this year on October 12, 1996. Mrs. Czynnik will check to see if our collector and recycler will accept newspapers again next year. A schedule will then be set up for the 1997 collection of newspapers.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory reviewed with Council a dividend of \$744.81 for a Worker's Comp. pool from 1994 we received from FWF Ins. Blue Shield has notified us of a increase in the individual coverage of \$9.45 and a decrease of \$13.79 per family. for 1997.

Solicitor Lovette reviewed with Council the reinstatement of Anthony Wilt to the Worker's Comp. claim from his accident on October 18, 1986, while employed by Southmont Borough. The findings are to reinstate Mr. Wilt, and all compensation will be paid thru our previous insurance carrier. Hearing was held July 25, 1996

BUDGET COMMITTEE

No report

SHADE TREE

Mr. Krupa reported on the meeting July 17th, that was advertised and discussed 5 locations for possible tree removal. Mr. Krupa will ask Mark Maser to come in and look at the trees and make possible suggestions or recommendations for trimming and tree removal. Several trees need to be replaced by residents and Mr. Krupa will check on the progress of the replacement by the residents. Mr. Krupa is monitoring several trees on a resident's property on Cox Street. The resident has been notified to trim the trees.

A resident of Palliser Street was upset because without notification Westmont Borough trimmed an Elm tree on his property in the Alley behind his house, which is Westmont's right-of-way. While this is not the policy of Southmont Borough, Solicitor Lovette recommends we remain neutral on this issue.

RECREATION/PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

Mr. Pile reported that since Southmont Borough has received the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Keystone Small Community and Parks grant in the amount of \$20,000.00, a committee will be appointed to plan and supervise the proposed construction of a storage shed, restrooms and new backstops at the Southmont ballfield.

The summer playground programs are near completion and went well. A fence has been donated to Westmont Recreation by Mr. Pete Chiodo from the old tennis courts at the Pinewood Restaurant, former Ye Olde County Club. The fence will be installed at the roller blade court when time permits. Mr. Pile reported that the Stutzman Playground needs new fibar mulch spread due to the usage at the playground.

Mr. Rodgers is suggesting that a new five year long range plan be established by the Recreation Commission, for some of the projects proposed and restoration of properties.

CABLE TV COMMITTEE

No new report. Solicitor Lovette did review the Franchise Agreement with the changes and everything appears to be in order.

C.O.G. Report

No report, other than Mr. Davis will discuss the possibility of COG purchasing a camera for sewer line inspections.

CHAPIN ARCH

Mr. Kory reported the trees have been trimmed by Grandview at the Arch. He commented they look very nice. The Arch is complete and looks very good, he is pleased with the work.

Mr. Kory has spoken with Southern Alleghenies Conservation group about the letter of commitment for the Arch and everything will be done thru Solicitor Lovette. He also spoke with Penn Dot and they also will work with Solicitor Lovette. No other work will be done until next year at the Arch.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Morgan reported on doing a street sign inventory of the signs that need replaced and to make them all uniform in color and size. The program could be done over a period of time. The sidewalk inspections are completed for the second half of the Borough. Mayor Morgan reminded the Budget Committee to allow for the sign replacements. Some thought will be given to replacing the ceramic signs indicating entrance into the Borough of Southmont

SOLICITOR

Solicitor Lovette has written Caram Abood a letter in reference to the Hartnett claim for damages from storms. Solicitor Lovette informed Mr. Abood that Southmont never owned Corn Alley and we only plow the alley and put milled material in potholes. A copy is on file.

The agreement between Peregoy, Kenney and Southmont Borough has been completed. The agreement is intended to settle claims between the three parties and releasing the parties from any further liabilities arising from the claim. Southmont will provide access to Kenney's property thru an unopened alley (Pear Alley) by addressing the storm inlet and sanitary manhole. The manhole top was lowered and a new storm inlet installed at grade to accommodate the new curb cut and gutter. Payment of \$475.00 to be made each from Kenney and Peregoy, with the Borough performing the work described as payment. The Borough will invoice after completion.

A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to approve and sign the Peregoy/Kenney/Borough agreement as described. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

Solicitor Lovette reviewed the finalization of the Grandview/Conemaugh parking lot on Menoher Highway agreement for payment in lieu of taxes. Grandview is to make a 30% payment of the assessed property value to the Tax Claim Bureau for 1993, 1994, and 1995. The payment for 1996 taxes are to be paid directly to Mr. Quinn and thereafter they will be paid to Southmont, at the 30% payment agreement. (Mr. Quinn received the 1996 payment from Grandview today).

Also, Solicitor Lovette talked with Attorney Shahade in reference to setting up a meeting with Upper Yoder Township, Engineers and representatives from both Municipalities to discuss and work on a plan to correct a storm water and sanitary overflow problem, in the upper Wonder Street area and other areas in the Borough. After a lengthy discussion the Street Committee will pull the information together and schedule the meeting. A letter has not been sent to the DEP as yet, we will respond after this meeting. Weeds and brush in the section of Cheney Run in the Leon Street area will be cleaned-up by borough forces.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mrs. Czyrnik's report records that our underground storage tanks need inspected. Two quotes were received, Earthtech in the amount of \$350.00 and Kimball Associates for \$150.00. Mr. Leventry made a motion to approve Kimball Associates for \$150.00 to inspect the underground fuel tanks, seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor.

Mr. Rodgers made a motion to approve the Secretary attending the Central PA-Audit Seminar on September 5, 1996. Seconded by Mr. Leventry. All in favor. We have received word that we have been approved for the County Liquid Fuels Aid in the amount of \$10,500.00. A letter was received from The Cheney Oak Condominium Association in reference to debris accumulated on the property from the construction of the condo's. Mr. Pullen has inspected and recommends that the Borough send a letter to Bonnaventure Associates to have the materials clean-up and removed. Mr. Danyluk made a motion that the Borough send the owners a letter telling them to clean-up the area, seconded by Mr. Davis. Mr. Rodgers approved a request from the Community Arts Center to place a sign at the triangle for the Log House Festival. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

A letter was received from a resident along Langhorne Ave. and Southmont Blvd. requesting the Borough consider his ownership of the triangular piece of land owned by the Borough and abutting his property. Borough real estate can be sold only after appraisal. Mr. Danyluk made a motion to have the parcel appraised and then we can discuss the sale with the resident. Seconded by Mr. Davis. Motion approved. There are other properties in the Borough that we should have appraised, and then look at the possibility of selling.

On another letter from a resident on Arlington Street, the Borough will apply milled material in holes at the unpaved end of the street. However, the portion has never been accepted by the Borough.

There will be a executive conference with Ron Pulliun, Auditor for the Attorney General's Office on Monday August 26, 1996 at 10:00 a.m., for review of the Police Pension Fund.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Rodgers made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report with a balance of \$305,538.81 in the General Fund for July 1996. Mr. Kory seconded. All in favor, opposed none. Motion carried.

TAX COLLECTOR

Mr. Quinn's written report records \$25,631.94 collected in Real Estate taxes and \$1005.00 in Per Capita collections for the month of July. Total amount of \$26,636.94. A motion by Mr. Davis approving the Tax Collector's report. All in favor, motion carried.

APPROVAL TO PAY THE BILLS

After questions and review, a motion was made by Mr. Davis to pay the bills in the amount of \$30,106.42. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Davis, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Leventry and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

No report

NEW BUSINESS

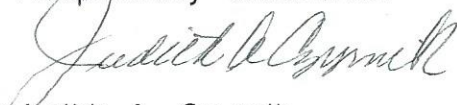
Mr. Kory suggested that we send Grandview a letter in appreciation for their cooperation with the monetary contribution of \$2,500.00 and maintenance of the Arch. Mr. Kory is pleased with the area.

Mr. Davis made a motion to approve Mr. Bosley's attendance at the LTAP seminar in New Kingston. Seconded by Mr. Kory. Motion carried.

Mr. Davis reported to Council that he had discussed with the two garages their responsibility to fence in areas of auto accessories or parts. The question of the cost of the building permit came up and Mr. Davis told Mr. Grimaldi that he would talk with Council. Mr. Davis recommends we abide by the Solicitor's decision. Council set September 11, 1996 at 7:00 p.m. for the Committee meeting to discuss junked vehicle ordinance, audit, burning permits, signs and land parcels. All Council is ask to attend. Mr. Rodgers mentioned that Committees should begin preparing their budget figures for 1997.

Council adjourned 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.


Judith A. Czynnik,
Borough Secretary