

BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
148 Wonder Street
Johnstown, PA 15905

Minutes for April 21, 2008

The pledge of allegiance was conducted and the scheduled April 21, 2008, Council meeting was called to order by President Rodgers at 7:00 p.m.

Present:

President Richard Rodgers, Solicitor Dan Lovette, Manager Rich Wargo, Sec./Tres. Judith A. Czyrnik, Engineer Dave Duray:7:30 p.m., Council Member Mr. Ed Danyluk, Council Member Mr. Herb Ewald, Council Member Mr. William Kory, Council Member Mr. Kevin Pile, Mayor Gerry Sloat, West Hills Police Chief Andy Havas, Zoning Officer Jerry Hudson, Fire Chief Mike Leckey.

Absent: Council Member Mr. Thomas Strittmatter, Council Member Mr. William Krupa-Vacation, and Street Commissioner Jan Bosley.

Visitors: Mr. Vincent Peluso 219 Palliser St. . ref. his property, Len & Susie Sobecky, ref. step project, Amanda Claycomb, observing, Mr. Matthew McGlynn, 2175 Woodcest Drive, observing , John Lovette, observing, Robert Morgan, 345 Diamond Blvd., observing.

Meeting Agenda

President Rodgers asked for a motion to approve the Council Meeting minutes of March 17, Committee Meeting of March 25, 2008 , the Special Council Meeting, April 15, 2008. Mr. Danyluk had one correction to the April 15, 2008 Minutes, adding two weeks vacation to the hiring of Mr. Richard Wargo. Motion was made by Mr. Pile and seconded by Mr. Ewald. All in favor, motion passed.

At this time Mr. Rodgers asked for approval to open the lawn service bids for the specified Borough owned properties. Two bids were received.

#1. Ethan Blough for mowing 11 properties Total \$660.00 all fuel cost included.

#2. RJ'S Lawn Service 11 properties. Total \$501.00 no mention of fuel costs.

After discussion, Mr. Pile made a motion to accept the lowest total bid of \$501.00 from RJ'S Lawn Service. Seconded by Mr. Ewald. All in favor, motion passed.

At this time Mr. Rodgers called upon visitor Mr. Peluso. Mr. Peluso addressed Council, in two parts, #1 asking for permission to restore and maintain the stone pillar at the side of his property and #2 to clean up and maintain his side of the abutting Princeton Court. (Princeton, Utility and Potato are paper alleys but do have utilities run thru them.) Mr. Peluso wishes in the future to move his existing fence to original property line. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Pile and seconded by Mr. Kory to allow Mr. Peluso to clean-up and maintain the area, releasing the Borough from any liabilities. All in favor, motion passed.. A letter will be sent to Mr. Peluso stating that. Mr. Wargo and Mr. Hudson will be in touch with Mr. Peluso, when he is ready to start the project. Other visitors were observing

Minutes – April 21, 2008

Police Chief's Report

West Hills Police report for March shows revenue in the amount \$298.97. (ordinance violations \$55.47 and vehicle violations \$237.50). Chief Havas reported that a program will be presented April 22, 2008 for the preschoolers at the Geneva House. Officers have been using the speed trailer in several areas in the area. Chief Havas reported that it is working well and seems to be accurate. Council feels this will be a benefit on the lower end of State Street, where there has been numerous complaints. Report submitted. No other business.

Zoning Officers Report

Mr. Hudson reported on Zoning Permits issued. Mr. Hudson also had a complaint of a garage that appears to be in a dangerous condition. A letter has been sent and the resident responded to Mr. Hudson stating that he will begin repair within 30 days. Mr. Hudson is following up on a violation at 104 Dahlia Street, of unlicensed vehicles. Also, a resident of 302 Leila Street was sent a letter with reference to home maintenance. Report submitted. No other report.

Fire Company Report

Fire Chief's written report records 3 responses during the month of March in the Borough. There were two calls between the hours of 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. Southmont had 6 assists two to West Hills, one to Upper Yoder, one to Westwood and one to Menoher Heights. Ten members attended Standard Fire Aid & CPR classes. Four members attended a Firefighter Rehab seminar. The siren will be down beginning April 29, 2008 for three weeks. Firemen will use pagers. Chief Leckey noted that the Fire Co. have applied for grants to help with a new fire engine in the amount of \$280,000 and \$66,000 for new air packs. Report submitted. The annual Hilltop Ambulance Fund Drive has been approved by the Fire Company and does not interfere with any Fire Co. programs. The Hilltop Ambulance Association report was received and is on file.

Engineer's Report

The written Engineer's report for April was received and reviewed. Mr. Duray had all award documents signed and filed for the 2008 Street Paving. Work began April 21, 2008. The sealing work would be done at a later date. A question on the curve on Southmont Blvd. being done this year. Mr. Duray feels the Southmont Blvd. curve should not be milled anymore and that it can be tar and chipped for traction. The curve has in the past been a problem during rain and winter months. A question on the milled materials being stored on Borough property for use later was asked. This material cannot be stored according to DEP regulations. Quaker Sales will haul away. Mr. Ewald, Mr. Rodgers and Mr. Duray met with Matt McMullen to look over his quote submitted for the Harding Street Steps. Mr. McMullen had a low bid of \$9,850.00 for the steps only. The Committee reviewed what his intentions were for the project. All is in accordance with the specifications. Some questions came up about the Atlantic Broadband line that runs up the hill, the telephone pole these lines are on and a tree and roots that interfere with the project. The tree is on private property and according to Solicitor Lovette that is property owners responsibility. Atlantic Broadband wants Borough to dig 2' trench alongside of steps and they will install underground lines. A motion was made to open talks on the Harding Street Steps, after being tabled at last months meeting, by Mr. Ewald. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion passed. After discussion, of the tree, the hand rail that needs to be on the steps, the trench Atlantic Broadband wants the Borough to dig, a motion was made by Mr. Ewald, seconded by Mr. Kory to table the Harding Street Steps until such time as these issues can be worked out. All in favor, motion passed.

April 21, 2008

Mr. Duray continued, discussing Upper Yoder Township sewer flows. A letter has been sent to Upper Yoder reference to the increased sanitary sewer flow infiltration into Borough lines, during rain events. He spoke with former Upper Yoder Engineer Ken Mesko and was updated on the previous repairs made in Upper Yoder. Mr. Duray discussed the 2007 CAP Report being prepared for submission to PA DEP. Mr. Duray discussed the need for the Borough to televise and clean the line between Leon and Floyd Street as they flow into Wonder Street, and continue to dye test. Mr. Duray and Manager Wargo will look at the area of a wash out of driveways at three properties on State Street (415,417 and 419) and possibly add correction to the paving project. Engineer's report submitted

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Street Commissioners Report:** The written Street Commissioner's report for March was received and reviewed. In Mr. Bosley's absence Manager Wargo reviewed the report. Borough employees met with Engineers to review DEP Corrective Action report for 2007. Continues plowing and salting. Began picking up dirt piles and limbs and branches. Met with Paving Contractors and Engineers in reference to Paving Project. Made a map for Mr. Wargo indicating streets with no sidewalks for possible grant to install sidewalks. Patched a few potholes. Cleaned Borough Building as needed, performed maintenance on vehicles and backhoe. Report submitted
- B. Streets:** Mr. Ewald had nothing new to report, except on the mileage. Manager Wargo at this time asked for approval to renew his Notary application and to approve Amanda Claycomb applying for a Notary License as well. She will have to take a internet course before filing her application. A motion was made to approve this request by Mr. Danyluk and seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried. No further report.
- C. Personnel:** Mr. Danyluk had nothing to report.
- D. Police Committee:** Mayor Sloat had nothing new to report, other than the Police Budget will be reviewed. They are looking into solutions about gas prices.
- E. Recycling Committee:** Mr. Pile had nothing new to report.
- F. Insurance Committee:** Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa, Mrs. Czyrnik and Mr. Rodgers met with Mr. Tim Lutz of H.A. Thompson with reference to the renewal of the 2008-09 insurance. Items were reviewed and several items will be looked for possible cutting back on the insured value of the items. Report submitted.
- G. Budget Committee:** Mr. Pile discussed Profit and Loss Comparison for year to date and Month of March. Mr. Pile is satisfied with the new program and things seem to be working well. If any member of Council wishes to review or look at any particular item, please notify Mr. Pile and he will do that. Mr. Pile is recommending that reserve fund accounts be set up with PLIGIT or banking facility for the truck, backhoe-loader and fire truck. Three separate accounts with a transfer of \$5,000 in each to open these account. This is the best way by designating these funds for future purchases. A motion was made by Mr. Ewald and seconded by Mr. Kory. Roll call: Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Pile and Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, opposed none. Mr. Krupa and Mr. Strittmatter absent.

April 21, 2008

- H. Shade Tree Report:** In Mr. Krupa's absence the written report was submitted. Arbor Day will be May 3rd at 206 Diamond Blvd.. Four Linden little leaf trees will be planted in honor of SFC Raymond (Ritchie) Buchan, a former Southmont Borough resident killed in Iraq. His family and Representative Wojnaroski will be present for the ceremony. Mr. Krupa needs Council approval to dig 14-19 holes for tree planting over the next 4 weeks. Approval was given. All in favor. Shade Tree Commission met 3-25-08 and discussed Arbor Day plans and work on annual shade tree inventory. Mr. Krupa spoke with Mr. Kriak, regarding the Wonder St. side of his property.
- I. Recreation Committee:** March report submitted.
- J. Building and Grounds Report:** Mr. Kory reported that the streets look nice; he had several calls from residents commenting on the street clean-up. Mr. Kory noted on an article in the Tribune with reference to the Overbrook Church being used for volunteer workers and being housed there when they work in the Johnstown area, for other Churches. Mr. Rodgers didn't feel that was the case, but it will be checked on.
- K. COG Report:** Mr. Krupa reported that we are to get in touch with Jeff Evans in Ebsenburg, for use of the sewer camera. Some discussion was held on the getting our Zoning Officer involved with the "Code" portion of the COG. Report submitted.
- L. Grandview Committee:** Mr. Kory has nothing new to report.
- M. Greater Johnstown Water Authority:** Mr. Pile stated the Water Authority was awarded a citation for the Conemaugh Township project. Attorney William Barbin requested copies of the Borough minutes with reference to the stipends of Water Authority members. January and February minutes were submitted. March minutes were not sent, as they were not approved at that time. Minutes submitted.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Sloat stated that he looked at the Kriak hillside and it is not acceptable. This problem is being taken care by the Zoning Officer, Mr. Hudson. He will follow thru on the problem.

Solicitor's Report

Solicitor Lovette updated council on the Debra & Barry Gresh property being removed from 2008 taxation. Solicitor Lovette wrote the County informing them that the property is adjacent to the historical site and will be joined to the Chapin Arch property. A motion was made by Mr. Pile to remove the property from taxation, seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Wargo will check with the Southern Alleghenies Conservancy in reference to deeding the Gresh property over to them. Solicitor Lovette will keep in touch with the School District in reference to Act 80 School/State list for Centax. Solicitor Lovette also informed Council that the Family Professional Service hearing was held and the tax will be retroactive. On another issue the trees along Southmont Blvd. are in the Borough's right-of-way.

Manager's Report/Secretary's Report

A motion by Mr. Danyluk was made to allow Council Members, Staff and others to attend the County Borough's Association dinner on April 29, 2008 at the New Germany Grove at a cost of \$15.00 per person. Motion seconded by Mr. Pile. All in favor, motion passed. Please let Secretary know if you plan to attend. A motion was made by Mr. Kory for Amanda Claycomb to attend the PSAB workshop on Managing Municipal Records on May 1, 2008 in Greensburg at a cost of \$50.00 registration and mileage. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion passed. Mr. Danyluk requested that when messages or complaints are given to the Committee, Council member, employee or any others, if possible give Council some information as to when the

April 21, 2008

message or complaint was resolved. Motion was made to accept the Secretary's report by Mr. Kory, seconded by Mr. Pile. All in favor, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Pile made a motion to approve the March Balance Sheet in the amount of \$468, 038.04. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk, all in favor motion carried.

Tax Collectors Report

A motion was received to accept the Tax Collector's Report for March in the amount of \$52,187.60 by Mr. Pile. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion passed.

Payment of Bills

Mr. Pile made a motion to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$61,196.57. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk; roll call: Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Pile, and Mr. Rodgers all in favor, opposed none. Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa absent.

Old Business

Reviewed "Tickler List". Centax

New Business

Council thanked Ms. Claycomb for attending and getting familiar with Council procedures. Mr. Wargo will schedule to meet with Engineers reference to the CAP report, driveways on State St. and other items. Mr. Wargo will schedule street sweeper, line painting, and other items that need immediate attention. A motion was made by Mr. Kory to advertise Spring Clean-up and the street sweeping schedule when it is scheduled. Seconded by Mr. Ewald. All in favor, motion carried.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Danyluk for adjournment of the April 21, 2008 meeting at 9:05 P.M. Seconded by Mr. Kory, all in favor motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Czyrnik, Borough Secretary

4/28/2008 4:08 PM