

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
March 19, 2001 7:00 p.m.

The scheduled March Council meeting was called to order by President Pile at 7:00 p.m. After the pledge to the flag, the March 19, 2001 meeting of Council convened.

PRESENT: President Pile, Mr. Rovansek (7:05), Mr. Krupa, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Kory, Secretary/Treasurer: Judith Czyrnik, Solicitor: Daniel R. Lovette, Engineer: David Duray, Street Commissioner: Jan Bosley, Fire Dept.: Michael Butler, West Hills Police: Chief Andy Havas, Detective George Muslin, Zoning Officer: Dyke Orms, Assistant Zoning Officer-Fred Pullen.

ABSENT: Mr. Rodgers-Out of Town,

VISITORS: Greater Johnstown Water Authority Representatives- Mr. Charles Glass, Mr. George Ambroe, Mr. William Carstensen

President Pile asked for approval of the February 19, 2001 minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Strittmatter to accept the minutes as presented. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Havas's written report which records the revenues for the month of February at \$1222.42. Chief Havas reported that the Department will participate in the Officer Phil's Child Safety Program. This program has been scheduled for the Westmont Elementary, Ferndale Elementary and at Our Mother of Sorrow Elementary schools. Chief Havas reported that the Department has received a Certificate of Appreciation award from the Ebsburg Center for their assistance at the Westwood Plaza Theater fire on February 1, 2001. Council reviewed the written report submitted by Chief Havas. Chief Havas reported that the S.E.R.T. (Specialized Emergency Response Team) members have been training twice a month. The officers are donating their time for the training and the Department has purchased approximately \$15,000 in equipment from a grant. The S.E.R.T. program should begin in June or July of 2001.

ZONING OFFICERS REPORT

Mr. Orms, Zoning Administrator reported on the February report submitted to Council. Mr. Orms report records 1 Building Permit in the amount of \$1,000.00 was issued, since the last report. The year to date construction total is \$4,685.00. Mr. Orms met with Will Gibson, Field Representative of Insurance Services Office to fill out a survey regarding Southmont's procedures for zoning and building codes. The information is used by Insurance companies to aid them in setting their rates. A resident requested that we remove the Handicapped Only parking sign at 21 Shady Lane. Mr. Orms checked, the residents have not yet moved and before a sign can be removed we must prepare an ordinance to remove the sign. When the residents move from t 21 Shady Lane, Mr. Orms will report to Council.

ZONING OFFICERS REPORT, cont'd

Mr. Duray reviewed with Council the cost estimate for the proposed wall at the Haidar property at 1070 Luzerne Street . Mr. Duray's costs are based on the plans submitted at the time of the Zoning Hearing Board meeting. The cost estimate in the amount of \$34,642. 00 reflects the amount of the bond that must be filed before any construction begins. If any plans change, Mr. Haidar would then have to request another Zoning Hearing Board meeting to make the changes. Mr. Haidar has not applied for a new Building Permit, to date. Nothing will be done until a permit is requested. Assistant Zoning Officer, Charles Glass will send this information to Zoning Solicitor Pat Kiniry for any action, if needed.

Mr. Strittmatter questioned if the sidewalk situation at the new homes on Cheney Oak Drive has been resolved. Letters will be sent to the property owners. Council will discuss this further at the Committee meeting. Mr. Strittmatter also reported that the area across from the new homes on Cheney Oak Drive, in the PineBrooke Development area has become a "dump". Mr. Strittmatter reported that the area have pipe, drainage, tree stumps, etc. dumped on the property. The property needs to be cleaned-up. Mr. Orms and Mr. Danyluk will review the plans with the Cambria County Conservation District. Council discussed the new homes where the back of the home is basically up against the hillside, where an "artificial" slope has been created and the need to have some regulations in place. We have no slope or regulation on areas where excavation is done and the slope has become very steep and dangerous. Council will also review this at the Committee meeting. Mr. Danyluk asked about another situation where paving between the sidewalk and curb, in the grass area. Mr. Orms will check if anything is in our Ordinances or Zoning guidelines. Mr. Danyluk feels something should be written for enforcement.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

Chief Butler's written report records 12 activities for the month. The Fire Department assisted at the Westwood Plaza Theater on the night of Feb. 1, 2001. All occupants were evacuated safely. The Fire Department responded to a vehicle fire at Menoher and Susan Drive. One member of the Department attended training sessions on Hazardous Materiels awareness. Chief Butler is requesting again that the Engineer's will look at the drainage system at the entrance gate. It appears not to be working.

Mr. Bosley has televised the line and there is no blockage. Mr. Duray will look at the problem again. President Pile set up a Committee meeting for April 3, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. The Committee will discuss the fire siren at that time. The Hilltop Ambulance Association reported 57 calls were made during the month of February.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. David Duray of the Hinks and Locher Division of Paul C. Rizzo Associates reported that the 2000 Corrective Action reports to the Department of Environmental Protection have been returned with the Department of Environmental Protection recommendations. Mr. Duray has accepted the recommendations and will respond.

ENGINEER'S REPORT cont'd

Mr. Duray reviewed with Council the updated quotation sheet he submitted on the flow meters. The purchase price received from Sawchuk Sales is \$12,105. 00. The price includes start up, training and calibration. This is the Council of Governments bid prices. A motion was made by Mr. Rovansek to purchase 2 Flow meters at the new quoted price of \$12,105.00 from Sawchuk Sales, through the South Hills Council of Government bid prices. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. Roll Call: Mr. Rovansek, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory and Mr. Pile. All in favor, opposed none. Mr. Rodgers out of town.

At this time, members of the Greater Johnstown Water Authority were present to discuss the Authority and qualifications necessary for replacement of any Authority member. Mr. Charles M. Glass, of Southmont, Mr. George Ambroe from Ferndale and Mr. Bill Carstensen of Southmont. Mr. Carstensen is planning to retire from the Authority, after 38 years of serving the area. Mr. Carstensen stated that he is willing to serve the Authority until a replacement is found. Mr. Carstensen has been an asset to the Authority and the Greater Johnstown Community . Southmont Borough is an "owner" of the Authority and provides three members to the Authority. Mr. Carstensen stated that traditionally Southmont appoints two members from Southmont and has appointed a Ferndale resident to the Authority. The members discussed the Committees that each members serves on and their commitment to the Authority. .

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STREET COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Mr. Bosley's written report records streets and alleys were plowed and salted as needed. Took recyclables to Boswell. Finished picking up Christmas tree (210). Patched potholes on February 6 and 9, turned leaves at the leaf compose pile on Menoher Blvd. Smoked and dye tested sanitary sewer on Weaver Ct. Also took water sample to determine the source of sewage in driveway at 106 Weaver Ct. The problem is the residents, not the Borough's. Had new transmission installed in the 1998 truck. It is under warranty. Began to pick up gravel and debris swept up by residents. Surge protector was installed on the main electric panels. Changed the timer for the siren . Plans to install new catch basin on Helen Street Letters will be sent to property owners abutting the alleys that we will be putting milled materials. Overhanging brush and limbs need trimmed back for the larger trucks placing the materials. Mr. Bosley has called several roofing contractors for prices on the replacement of the out side garage roof. Mr. Bosley reported that a pick-up truck window was damaged while we were plowing. The replacement cost is \$106.00 and on the bill sheet. Mr. Bosley is awaiting a call from Lower Yoder Township to schedule the street sweeper for the Borough and Menoher Highway as agreed in the PennDot Agility program. The crack sealer is schedule for the weeks of April 9, 16 and 23. Mr. Bosley has scheduled the sewer cleaner with the City of Johnstown for April 30, May 1, 2 and 3. Mr. Bosley will schedule Spring Street inspections for 3rd week of April.

A motion by Mr. Danyluk was made to call Brad Kimmell and Steven Keifline back as Seasonal employees at the rate of \$5.50 per hour. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried.

STREET COMMITTEE

Mr. Danyluk requested that he and Mr. Bosley attend the Road Drainage workshop on April 18th in Somerset. Mr. Rovansek made a motion to approve their attendance, seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Danyluk had nothing further to report. Curb cut inspections for handicapped accessibility, will be done soon. Mr. Danyluk spoke with Roto Rooter and we will receive credit of \$150.00 for the work done on State Street at Mr. Graham's Pricing was incorrect on the invoice.

ADMINISTRATION/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Nothing further to report.

POLICE COMMISSION

Mayor Koval reported that the Police Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 20, 2001 at Lower Yoder Township.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Report submitted. Nothing further to report.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory reported that the 2001-02 PIRMA Insurance will be renewed. Also a letter was received from our insurance representative Mr. Tim Lutz, who states that when any employees are engaged in mutual aid for emergency services, and providing they are paid and acting on behalf of the Borough they will be covered by the liability and workers compensation. This question was brought up because of the Mutual Aid Agreement for Emergency Services. A copy of the letter has been forwarded to Mr. Fisher of East Conemaugh.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Nothing to report.

SHADE TREE

Mr. Krupa reported that the Shade Tree Commission held a meeting on March 15, 2001, to discuss the 2001 Arbor Day celebration. It was advertised. Arbor Day will be May 5, 2001 at 10:00 a.m. on Diamond Blvd. near the Playground area and up towards Susan Drive. Ten trees will be planted. This year a tree will be dedicated to Mr. Fred Pullen who retired in December after 20 years as Zoning Officer. Mr. Rovansek questioned if there were some guidelines on the distance trees should be planted away from the curb. Mr. Krupa did not know of any. Mr. Krupa received \$222.00 from the sale of several trees that had been removed because they were leaning or in the right of way around the alley along the Playground. The Shade Tree Commission will hire an arborist to survey and inspect the street trees.

The evergreen buffer area that was planted along Diamond Blvd. near the shed will be continued this year. A motion by Mr. Danyluk was made to accept and act on Mr. Krupa's recommendations. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried.

RECREATION/PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

President Pile reported that the Recreation Commission is solvent. Three Municipalities have agreed to the reserve fund change to \$1.00 per resident. Nothing further to report.

BUILDINGS and GROUNDS

Mr. Kory reported that we are accepting bids for the outside garage roof replacement. Mr. Marisa is scheduled to repaint the Borough Building this Spring.

COG REPORT

Mr. Rovanssek reported that COG sent an agreement for the shared purchase of a 360 degree rotating camera with accessories for sewer line inspection. The cost is \$3,696.00 over a three year period. First payment is \$1,232.00. A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to approve the agreement for the sewer line inspection camera. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

CHAPIN ARCH

Nothing to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Koval recommended that the Chief Havas be doing evaluations on his Officers. Council discussed this recommendation and the Secretary will call PSAB for information on Police Evaluations. Nothing further to report.

SOLICITOR

Solicitor Lovette reviewed for Council his discussions with Upper Yoder Township Sewer Authority solicitor, Robert Shahade, in reference to the sewer rental fees. The Sewer Authority has our proposal and they will meet to review. Solicitor Lovette expects some word before our April meeting.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary's report records that the deeds were received for the Holding Pond on Cheney Oak Drive and for the roadway. Council approved the Secretary's report.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made to accept the February Treasurers Report, as presented, in the amount of \$276,515.86. All in favor, motion carried.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

No Real Estate Collections or Per Capita Collections for February



PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Mr. Krupa to approve payment of the bills, in the amount of \$33,629.67. Seconded by Mr. Rovanseĳ. Roll Call: Mr. Rovanseĳ, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory and Mr. Pile. All in favor, opposed none. Mr. Rodgers, out of town.

OLD BUSINESS

President Pile asked for review of items on the "Tickler List". Items were reviewed, removed or relisted. Some new items will be added.

NEW BUSINESS

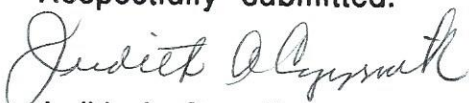
Mr. Bosley and Mr. Livingston will attend the Department of Environmental Protection Workshop on Stream Improvements. The DEP is holding the workshop in Johnstown this year. The Cheney Run Stream Improvement will be showcased for maintenance and improvements. Southmont will again receive an award for maintenance of the stream.

Mr. Orms will look thru the Ordinances to see if there is any specifics on sidewalk installation guidelines, such as width and how far they should be from property lines and etc. If there is no guidelines in our codes or ordinances, Mr. Orms should prepare a specifications for Solicitor review.

A motion was made by Mr. Krupa for any member of Council to attend scheduled workshops. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.



Judith A. Czyrnik,
Borough Secretary