

BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
148 Wonder Street
Johnstown, PA 15905

Minutes for July 15, 2019

The pledge of allegiance was conducted and the scheduled July 15, 2019 Council meeting was called to order by President Rodgers at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Attorney Michael Carbonara; Engineer Todd Banks; Borough Manager Richard Wargo; Sec./Treas. Amanda Layton; Mayor Mark Yonko (4:13 p.m.); Council President Richard Rodgers; Council Members; Gregory Paolini, Kevin Pile, Sheree Speicher and Bob Morgan; Police Sgt. Det. Ed Fisher; Street Commissioner Harry Lingenfelter

Absent: Fire Chief Michael Butler; Council Members Ed Danyluk & Herb Ewald

Visitors: Harold Kolonich (Observing), Karlice Makuchan (Garden Club), Sheri Lowry (Garden Club) & Harold Platt (Tomato Alley), Ron Fisher (Tribune Democrat)

Correspondence:

Correspondence was received from the Garden Club of Johnstown requesting to discuss the Menoher/Barnett Street planting site stating the Garden Club has maintained the site for a number of years and have noticed knotweed beginning to grow on the Barnett St. bank. The Garden Club requested assistance from the borough with removal of the knotweed before it takes over the area.

Correspondence was received from Sean Wonderling requesting use of the soccer field to hold a fundraising corn hole tournament.

A complaint form was received from Lisa Downey at 300 Diamond Blvd. stating the Diamond Blvd. Playground needs to be weeded and re-mulched and Okra Alley is rough and needs paved.

Visitors

Mr. Platt requested an update on Tomato Alley. Mr. Banks reported Stiffler McGraw has inspected the area and determined the storm sewer line is filled with debris and due to the line being buried at a shallow depth it would be more cost efficient to have the line jet cleaned and install two new inlets. Mr. Banks suggested including the inlets in the paving bid for Tomato Alley when it is advertised since the inlets and paving need to be done at the same time. A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve Stiffler McGraw to create plans for installation of two new inlets and to have Roto Rooter jet clean the storm sewer line. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. Roll call: Mr. Paolini, Mrs. Speicher, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Rodgers in favor. Mr. Danyluk and Mr. Ewald absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

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Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve the June 17, 2019 council meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Mr. Paolini. Mr. Danyluk and Mr. Ewald absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve the July 9, 2019 special meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Mr. Paolini. Mr. Danyluk and Mr. Ewald absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

Police Chief's Report

Chief Lose absent. The June 2019 West Hills Regional Police Report stated the Department began using the cNET Police Reporting System on June 1st noting all staff is currently in the process of learning the new system and working out minor problems. Also, Officer Todaro attended the PA Game Commission Program to discuss ways to control the deer population in the area.

Fire Company's Report

Chief Butler absent. The June 2019 Fire Chief's Report was received and is on file.

Engineer's Report

Mr. Banks reported Stiffler McGraw reviewed the excess water issue at 112 Mabel Street noting they located an old spring house so the issue is more than likely from an old spring that was disturbed during the sanitary sewer replacement project. Mr. Banks suggested installed a French drain to eliminate the issue and suggested the borough hire a contractor to perform the installation. A motion was made by Mr. Pile to table the issue until the August 19, 2019 monthly meeting. Motion seconded by Mrs. Speicher. Roll call: Mr. Paolini, Mrs. Speicher, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Rodgers in favor. Mr. Danyluk and Mr. Ewald absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

Mr. Banks reported the Gardner Street Storm Sewer Project has begun noting the pipes were installed and curbing was being poured and the sewer replacement work at "the triangle" on Menoher Blvd. will begin July 22nd.

Mr. Banks reported Dennis Regan at 7 Shady Lane requested he be added to the list of properties to have myrtle replanted on the hillside of his property because that was not covered in the restorations from the sanitary sewer replacement project. Mr. Banks noted Mr. Wargo approved replanting myrtle for several other properties at an expense of \$2,100.00. A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve the replanting of myrtle at 7 Shady Lane. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. Mr. Danyluk and Mr. Ewald absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

Zoning Officer's Report

A motion was made by Mr. Pile to opt-in to the PA Uniform Construction Code. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. Mr. Danyluk and Mr. Ewald absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

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Street Commissioner's Report

Mr. Lingenfelter reported he obtained three quotes for a new wood chipper noting only one of the companies, Morbark, was affiliated with COSTARS.

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve purchasing a 2019 Eeger Beaver 1215 wood chipper from Morbark in the amount of \$30,182.35. Motion seconded by Mr. Pile. Roll call: Mr. Paolini, Mr. Pile, Mrs. Speicher, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Rodgers in favor. Mr. Danyluk and Mr. Ewald absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

Council reviewed the PA Department of Environmental Protections Cheney Run Flood Protection Project inspection report. Mr. Lingenfelter stated the Public Works Department could handle the majority of items to be addressed, but suggested having a contractor perform repairs on the grate located on Olive Street above the Southmont Blvd. curve. A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve having contractors come in to review the PA DEP report and provide estimates for approval. Motion seconded by Mr. Pile. Mr. Danyluk and Mr. Ewald absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

Council reviewed the Diamond Blvd. Playground inspection report performed by Greg Cunningham at H.A. Thomson. Mr. Lingenfelter stated he will begin making the suggested repairs. A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve getting estimates for mulch and if pricing is under the bidding threshold to purchase the mulch. Motion seconded by Mr. Pile. Mr. Danyluk and Mr. Ewald absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

Solicitor's Report

Council and Solicitor Carbonara reviewed House Bill 1683, which would allow for a tax credit for active volunteer fire fighters. A motion was made by Mrs. Speicher to allow Solicitor Carbonara to prepare an ordinance to approve a ten (10%) percent tax credit for Southmont Borough residents actively serving in the Southmont Volunteer Fire Company. Motion seconded by Mr. Pile. Mr. Danyluk and Mr. Ewald absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

President Rodgers called for an Executive Session at 4:35 p.m. to review legal matters. Executive Session ended at 4:43 p.m. and council resumed its regularly scheduled meeting.

Solicitor Carbonara and Mr. Pile left the meeting due to prior engagements.

Executive Secretary's Report

Council reviewed four quotes received for replacement of the air conditioning system at the municipal building.

A motion was made by Mrs. Speicher to approve the quote from Link Service in the amount of \$10,470.00. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald and

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Mr. Pile absent. Roll call: Mr. Paolini, Mrs. Speicher, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Rodgers in favor, motion carried (4-0).

Mayor's Report

Mayor Yonko absent.

New Business

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve advertising for paving bids for Violet Street, Diamond Blvd./Leila Street and Shady Lane. Motion seconded by Mr. Paolini. Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald and Mr. Pile absent. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve the request from the Westwood Kiwanis to use the soccer field on Wonder Street to hold a Fundraising Corn Hole Tournament on September 8, 2019. Motion seconded by Mr. Paolini. Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald and Mr. Pile absent. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve purchasing cold patch from Hei-Way. Motion seconded by Mrs. Speicher. Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald and Mr. Pile absent. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

Council discussed the request from the Garden Club regarding the Barnett Street and Menoher Blvd. triangle. Council agreed to have Mrs. Layton obtain pricing for weed control for several areas in the borough and to notify the Garden Club if they would like to continue maintaining the area they can, but council feels the area should not be maintained due to the danger of high traffic in that area while performing maintenance.

1) COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Streets: Mr. Ewald absent.

B. Administration: Nothing to report.

C. Personnel: Mr. Pile absent.

D. Police Committee: Mr. Morgan reported the borough will be meeting with the Police Commission at 4:30 on July 16th before the Commission meeting to discuss the contract.

E. Budget & Tax Collection Committee: Mr. Pile absent.

F. Shade Tree Committee: Nothing to report.

G. Buildings & Grounds Committee: Nothing to report.

H. Greater Johnstown Water Authority: Mr. Danyluk absent.

I. Open Records: Mr. Danyluk absent.

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J. Borough Services: The committee will review the police contract and ambulance contract.

K. Fire Company: Nothing to report.

L. Audit: Nothing to report.

M. Insurance: Nothing to report.

N. Centennial: Nothing to report.

Business Items

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve ratification of payroll from June 18, 2019 through July 15, 2019 in the amount of \$9,374.90. Motion seconded by Mrs. Speicher. Roll call: Mr. Paolini, Mrs. Speicher, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Rodgers in favor. Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald and Mr. Pile absent. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to payment of bills from June 18, 2019 through July 15, 2019 in the amount of \$65,568.94. Motion seconded by Mrs. Speicher. Roll call: Mr. Paolini, Mrs. Speicher, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Rodgers in favor. Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald and Mr. Pile absent. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to accept the June 2019 treasurer's report in the amount of \$1,708,864.66. Motion seconded by Mrs. Speicher. Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald and Mr. Pile absent. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to note the receipt of the June 2019 tax collectors report in the amount of \$24,846.77. Motion seconded by Mrs. Speicher. Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald and Mr. Pile absent. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Morgan for adjournment of the July 15, 2019 meeting at 5:05 p.m. Motion seconded by Mrs. Speicher. Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald and Mr. Pile absent. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda D. Layton

Secretary/Treasurer