

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
August 18, 2003 7:00 p.m.

The scheduled August Council meeting was called to order by President Pile at 7:00 p.m. After the pledge to the flag, the August 18, 2003 meeting of Council convened.

PRESENT: President Pile, Mr. Graham, Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Kory, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa, Engineer: Dave Duray, Secretary/Treasurer: Judith Czynnik, Street Commissioner: Jan Bosley, Zoning Officer: Dyke Orms, West Hills Police: Chief Andy Havas, and Fire Chief-Chet Borosky.

ABSENT: Solicitor: Daniel R. Lovette, Mayor: Gerry Sloat.

VISITORS: Kim Connors 22 Shady Lane.

President Pile asked for approval of the July 21, 2003 minutes and Committee Meeting Notes of August 5, 2003. A motion was made by Mr. Graham to accept the Minutes and Committee Meeting Notes, as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

President Pile called upon visitor Kim Connors. Mrs. Connor asked if the Borough intended to reinstate the burning permits. Council concurred that burning permit would not be considered as the Borough provides trash hauling that does collect brush if tied in three foot bundles and the Borough provides fall brush clean-up.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Havas's report records revenues at \$897.16. Chief Havas reported on the progress at the newly constructed house at Gardner Street and Diamond Blvd. The yard has been leveled for grass planting, however the roadway is not done and the sidewalks are not finished. A silt fence still has not been installed. The builder will be reminded of that. Chief Havas reported on the letter received from a resident on State Street with reference to the speed coming from Keppler Drive. Chief Havas did have a patrolman stationed at the area to check the speed. It was the decision of Council to contact Upper Yoder with reference to taking the "except right turn" from the Stop sign. Council will also request that Upper Yoder paint a Stop Bar on the roadway. A copy of the letter will be sent to Upper Yoder. A motion was made by Mr. Strittmatter to send a letter to Upper Yoder requesting that they make the changes as recommended by Council and West Hill Police. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried. A letter will be sent to Mr. Jedrzejek informing him of Council's recommendations. Officers sponsored a class on preparation of the new PennDot Crash Reporting forms. Also, officers attended a two day training session on Law Enforcement response for weapons of Mass destruction awareness. Other officers attended a training session for residential entry for serving high risk warrants. The WHRPC is applying for two grants for updated equipment.

ZONING OFFICERS REPORT

Mr. Orms report records that there were 2 permits issued this month. Construction total year to date is \$462,133.00. Also, Mr. Orms had to refuse a permit for a property at 510 State Street because of a 4 foot intrusion in the front yard. Hearing is set for September 4, 2003. President Pile asked Mr. Orms to look into the sign along Menoher Blvd. in the PennDot right of way.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

Chief Borosky's report records that there were 12 assists during the month. There were 4 calls during the hours of 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. Two of the calls activated the siren and two of the calls did not activate the pagers. Testing was done, not conclusive. Firemen responded to the large tree branch that fell across Menoher on July 8, 2003. Borough crews, PennDot and the Fire Company responded. Chief Borosky reported on a new radio purchased by the Fire Department that can activate the siren in cases of emergency situations. The radio costs \$700.00 and also can activate the siren as a loudspeaker. Chief Borosky will talk with Mayor Sloat about the new radio for Emergency situations. Mrs. Connors suggested that it could be used for notifying residents if a child is lost. President Pile asked Mrs. Connors if the new siren was a problem in her neighborhood. She said that the new siren was not a problem and was must better than the old siren. A resident in the Overbrooke section complained to Council about the siren and about it not being on a timer. It is the consensus of Council that the new siren is not offensive and for the safety and welfare of the residents the siren will not be put on a timer. Mr. Borosky reported that the Regional Fire Department Committee is still meeting.

Chief Borosky discussed the soccer field and the work that needs completed filling in some holes. The Fire Company is working on that. The Hilltop Ambulance report is on file.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Dave Duray of P.C. Rizzo & Associates reported that the bill for street paving for 2003 (approved last month) was on the bill sheet this month. The total amount is \$76,918.45. Payment will be made from Liquid Fuels in the amount of \$45,500.00 and the remainder will be from General Fund in the amount of \$31,418.45. Mr. Duray spoke with Dachille Engineers for the paving of Celeste Drive and informed them that he and Mr. Bosley will attend their preconstruction meeting.

Mr. Duray reported on a letter he received from Attorney Markovitz who is representing Mrs. Makuchan of 227 Mabel Street with some problems from a storm drain and /or property sinking. Mr. Duray spoke with Mr. Bosley on prior work done on the storm line. After discussion, Council suggested that Mr. Duray find out which problem Mrs. Makuchan is addressing. There is a stream bed in that area and was filled in when the houses were built.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STREET COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Mr. Bosley's report records that employees cleaned the Borough building, recycled weekly, and monitored designated sanitary sewer lines and continued to do maintenance on vehicles and equipment. Picked up branches after storms in the area. Finished the annual cleaning of Cheney Run Stream project (trimming, cutting, repairing channel and tunnel) Filled in area around Borough Shed. Filled the berm along Stillray with milled material to eliminate drop-off and erosion. Excavated and installed new storm sewer line on Otis and Bluff Street to replace collapsed pipe causing a manhole upstream to come off during heavy rains. Paved area using Upper Yoder's roller. Picked up debris left by the fence contractors at the hockey/basketball court. Painted turning lanes, SLOW and Stop at several areas and intersections in the Borough. Hourly sheets for the week of 8-4 and 8-11 submitted to Council. Mr. Bosley had a question on the recent advertisement for Manager. Council will have an Executive Session to discuss Personnel Issues at the end of the meeting and Mr. Bosley is invited to attend.

STREET COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Danyluk reported that he and Mr. Rodgers checked on a complaint that the Borough crews damaged their driveway on Floyd Street while correcting a sewer problem. They could find no damage and felt no further action should be taken.

ADMNS. & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The Committee will go into Executive Session at the end of the Regular meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Graham to accept Mr. Richard Treece's resignation as Auditor for the Borough as of September 1, 2003. Mr. Treece is now working in Pittsburgh. Motion seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried. Council will begin looking for replacements. A Committee meeting was set for September 9, 2003.

POLICE COMMITTEE

There will be a meeting August 19, 2003, at 7:00 p.m. at the Westmont Borough building. No other report.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Report on file.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory reported that the Worker's Compensation Insurance expired 8-1-03. The quoted rate is \$14,711.00. Payment is to be made every two months. Nothing further to report.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Rodgers stated that the 2004 Budget preparation will begin in September.

SHADE TREE REPORT

Mr. Krupa reported that several letters have been written to residents about trees and replanting. He is having a good response to the letters. Lichtenfels will be in next week to replant and replace several trees in the area.

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Pile reported that the playgrounds were all inspected and various violations have been corrected. Some discussion was held on the Ridge and the expenses. Mr. Pile will ask the Commission to prepare a report on the cost and revenues received for the Ridge. Bids were received and repairs will be made to the Grove roof.

BUILDING/GROUNDS REPORT

Mr. Kory had nothing further to report.

COG REPORT

Mr. Graham had nothing to report.

GRANDVIEW COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory had nothing to report.

Gr. JOHNSTOWN WATER AUTHORITY

Mr. Graham reported on the prior month meetings. There was discussion on the proposed new building being built. It will be in Kernville. The new management Group has been attending the meetings. There will be another meeting August 28, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. at the Southmont Municipal Building.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Sloat was out of town.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Lovette was absent.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mrs. Czynnik's written report records letters were written to several residents in response to items such as high grass, stop sign, alley speed limit signs and etc. A letter was written to Trademark Homes in reference to the unpaved section of Gardner Street from the construction of Carpenter's new home. The Borough requested that the sidewalks and landscaping be completed. The work is in progress. A letter was written to Grandview Cemetery requesting 1/3 of the paving costs for Millcreek Rd. Advertised the Borough Manager position for Council. Council discussed the request to sign the Resolution from the Intergovernmental Discussion Group. Council will discuss this further at the Committee meeting September 9, 2003.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Rodgers made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report in the amount of \$385661.61. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried. All in favor, motion carried.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Kory noted that there was no Tax Collector's report received this month.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

After questions and discussion, Mr. Graham made a motion to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$60,349.58. Motion seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Graham, Mr. Kory, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none. All in favor, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Pile asked for review of the items on the "Tickler List". Items were reviewed and removed or re-listed.

NEW BUSINESS

PSAB Fall Leadership Conference will be held in Mars, PA on October 24-26, 2003. Anyone interested in attending must do so by October 2, 2003. Council should submit names to fill the Auditor's position by September meeting. Council will also look into replacements for the Greater Johnstown Water Authority.

At this time, President Pile called for an Executive Session at 8:40 p.m. to discuss Personnel issues. The regular meeting reconvened at 9:15 p.m. A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to not accept any provision in the Union Contract where the Union must approve any outside contracting work done by the Borough. Motion seconded by Mr. Graham. All in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to increase Mr. Bosley's salary by \$600.00 retroactive to January 2003. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried.

There being no further business, Mr. Pile adjourned the August 18, 2003 meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Czyrnik

Judith A. Czyrnik,
Borough Secretary