

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
December 18, 1995

The regularly scheduled December Council meeting was called to order by President Glass at 7:30 p.m.. After the pledge to the flag, the December 18, 1995 meeting of Council convened.

PRESENT: Mr. Glass, Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Leventry, Mr. Pile, Mr. Kory, Mr. Krupa, Mayor Robert Morgan, Solicitor: Mike Sahlaney (substitute), Engineer: Ron Walker, Secretary: Judith Czyrnik, Zoning Officer: Fred Pullen, West Hills Police: Chief Andy Havas

ABSENT: Solicitor Lovette, Street Commissioner: Jan Bosley, Hilltop Ambulance- Jim Dailey, Fire Chief-Mike Butler.

VISITORS: None

At this time President Glass asked for approval of the November 20, 1995 regular Council meeting minutes. Mr. Leventry asked that some clarifications be made to a section of the Engineers Report, in reference to the Borough Building and some of the projected improvements that will be made in the next year. After discussion, Mr. Rodgers made a motion to approve the November 20, 1995 minutes with the corrections stated, which have been incorporated into the official November minutes. Seconded by Mr. Leventry. All in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Chiodo had been listed as a visitor to the meeting however, he did not attend. President Glass continued with a letter of approval from Mr. Nick Antanozzo, in reference to the proposed sub-division by Mr. Chiodo at the Pine Wood Restaurant. A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to approve the sub-division, motion was seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor.

Mr. Pullen recommended to Council that they look into the possibility of moving the boundary line between Southmont Borough and Westmont Borough. The line crosses Menoher Highway and enters a short distance into the entrance of the Pine Wood Restaurant, (former Bethlehem Management Club) and then returns to Menoher Highway. This boundary has been a subject of concern for quite some time Mayor Morgan added and should be corrected. Council agreed and a motion by Mr. Pile, seconded by Mr. Leventry to proceed with the request to correct this boundary line. Solicitor Lovette will look over the letter we prepare.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Havas's written report records there was a total of 540 calls for service in Southmont, Westmont and Brownstown during the month. Officer Mulkey participated in a Crime Prevention seminar at the Westmont Middle School, with reference to the recent rape in Upper Yoder Twp. Officer Mulkey also conducted 3 home security checks for residents. These residents would be eligible to receive light timers, dead bolts, smoke alarms, and address numbers for their homes thru the Victim's Service and the Cambria County Office for the Aging. Students in the seventh grade Health class participated in a drug and alcohol prevention seminar. Revenues for November were \$744.15. Some discussion was held on hunting in the Cemetery. Chief Havas has given permission to no one to use a bow or rifle on the Cemetery's property. PA State Game Law prohibits any hunting within 150 yards of any residence, and Chief Havas felt the area is not big enough to be used for hunting. Mr. Pile mentioned that he attended a meeting at the Cemetery Association and they discussed allowing hunters to come in to lower the deer population in the cemetery. Mr. Pile feels the Police should inform the Cemetery Association that the Game Law does not allow hunting; they do not have a safety zone. However, Mr. Danyluk asked Chief Havas to talk with the Cemetery Association and to have them check with the PA Game Commission to see if special provisions could be made to cull the herd. Chief Havas feels there should not be any hunting allowed in this area.

Some discussion was held on the recent rape and murder in our area. Chief Havas reported that crime lab reports have not been received as expected, the police are still waiting for this information. On a question, Chief Havas reported that missing persons reports are handled immediately, not 24 hours after the fact.

HILLTOP AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION REPORT

No report.

ZONING OFFICERS REPORT

Mr. Pullen's written report records 2 new building permits issued since the last report, in the amount of \$3060.00. The estimated construction costs to date are \$982,365.00. Mr. Pullen noted that progress is continuing on the two BOCA Code violations. Mr. Klanchar has indicated that he has signed a contract to have the siding installed, however due to the weather conditions he may be unable to start until March 1996. This is not in compliance with their agreement. Mr. Pullen spoke with Mrs. Klanchar before the meeting and the contractor will move his schedule up weather permitting.

Mr. Chiodo's permit #9529 has expired and he has been advised that he will need to obtain a new permit. Mr. Pullen has referred the matter to Pat Kiniry for his opinion and he has confirmed Mr. Pullen's decision. Mr. Pullen feels that the Carpenter/Burns fence problem is no longer a zoning issue, as Mr. Burns has received a building permit. The matter is closed as far as Mr. Pullen is concerned.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Walker had nothing other to report than he has delivered the legal description of Hannah Alley to Solicitor Lovette to prepare the Ordinance to accept Hannah Alley. They will bid this in the spring with the street paving program.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

Chief Butler's written report records the Fire Company responded to many numerous emergency calls during the storm on Nov. 13th, 14th, and 15th. Eight members attended an Engine Company Operation course held at Krings Volunteer Fire Co. Members are attending Advance S.C.B.A. classes at Conemaugh Twp. Volunteer Fire Co. New equipment purchased 5 sets of bunkers coats & pants, 4 pair boots, 4 helmets, 2 headlights and a positive pressure fan. Chet Borosky informed Council that they have met with Pete Chiodo and he will get back to the Fire Company with costs and design of their new building. Mr. Borosky mentioned the fire siren was down on Shady Lane, and they have ordered a new control panel for the new electric service in the main building.

COMMITTEES REPORTS

STREET COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Mr. Bosley's written report records that routine maintenance work was performed on vehicles. They have continued to pick up leaves whenever possible. New tires were installed on the 1994 truck. They air hammered 2 large sections of rough concrete on Daisy Street., reinforced, poured new concrete and finished. Cleaned off catch basins and picked up debris after snow storms. A new manhole lid was replaced on Southmont Blvd. We will need to replace frame when weather permits. Plowed and salted streets numerous times throughout the month. The 1993 truck has developed a transmission problem. The problem is covered by the warranty and will be scheduled for repair. Roofer has worked on roof when possible and they are near completion, however they are not finished.

STREET COMMITTEE

Mr. Leventry reported on the Committee meeting held on December 12, 1995 when the Committee reviewed the proposals of :

Hinks & Locher Engineers	L. R. Kimball Engineers
H. F. Lenz Co.	EADS Group
Killiam Engineers	Ridgeline Engineers

Mr. Leventry reported that all were very qualified and the consensus and recommendation of the Committee was to retain Hinks & Locher Engineers as Borough Engineers. Letters will be sent to all the other Engineers thanking them for the thorough proposals. Mr. Danyluk made a motion to retain Hinks & Locher Engineers for 1996. Motion seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Leventry continued with the recommendation to accept the bid from Grimaldi's for plowing the 2.3 miles of alleys at \$150.00 per plow time. Mr. Grimaldi proposed to have alleys plowed between the hours of 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. when called on. Mr. Danyluk made the motion to accept Grimaldi's proposal of \$150.00 to plow the alleys for one winter at Mr. Bosley's direction, motion seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried. Insurance certificate will be requested.

The Committee also discussed the possibility of purchasing a 3/4 ton, four wheel drive surplus truck for the street department to use as an extra vehicle for hauling tools, employees, picking up, errands and to plow when necessary. The price is between \$3000. and \$4000. Mr. Bosley will follow up on this. The Committee is interested in purchasing an extra truck, if deemed necessary.

ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Leventry reported on the rough drafts of the job descriptions and evaluation forms. Mr. Leventry's recommendations are to make a few minor changes. Otherwise they are completed. The Committee also discussed the Garbage Contract. It has been re-calculated and the fee for 1996 and 1997 will be \$74.00 per household. Mr. Danulyk made a motion to increase the garbage fee by \$2.00. Motion seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor. Council directed Solicitor Lovette to prepare a new Ordinance for the increase and to advertise for passage at the re-organization meeting January 2, 1996.

Mr. Danulyk reported on the Electric contract, three bidders responded and Mr. Danyluk recommended that Tercek Electric do the construction. Approval was given at the November meeting. Mr. Leventry asked that when the new system is installed a new listing should be done identifying all circuit lines.

The discussion of the Chapin Arch repair was again on the agenda. Mr. Danyluk received a bid for \$4,000.00 from Marisa to restore the arch to the original design and fix the base section close to the road. Mr. Marisa will use stone that we have stored to complete the repairs. Mr. Danyluk made a motion to accept the bid for \$4,000.00 from Marisa Builders. Mr. Krupa seconded the motion. Mr. Kory called for a question on the motion. Mr. Antonazzo had received a bid from Rosa Construction in 1993 to re-point the Arch for \$4,895.00. Mr. Kory suggested that we have Mr. Antonazzo get an update bid and another bid if possible. Attorney Sahlaney reminded Council that 3 documentations are needed if the bids are \$4,000 or over. President Glass called for a roll call vote: Mr. Danyluk and Mr. Krupa in favor of accepting the \$4,000. bid from Marisa builders. Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Kory, Mr. Leventry, Mr. Pile and Mr. Glass opposed.

After a lengthy discussion Mr. Rodgers made a motion to re-instate the Chapin Arch Committee, to seek 3 telephone bids, prior to the re-organization meeting, to repair the arch and named Robert Morgan, William Kory and Ed Danyluk and Mr. Antonazzo. Mr. Leventry seconded. All in favor.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Mr. Danyluk reported that we have received the final receipt for the recycling grant. The final total received is \$18,665.80. Mr. Danyluk also reported that he expects to begin a voluntary newspaper recycling sometime in March, weather permitting. It was decided to begin a program on our own and see how it works. All involvement will be through the Borough. Collection and taking it to the vendor will be done by the Borough. All revenues will be the Borough's.

POLICE COMMISSION/COMMITTEE

Mr. Pile reported that the 1996 Police Budget was passed at the November 22, 1995 meeting. Mr. Lewis is preparing an accounting package for West Hill Regional Police. The Commission has requested the Kessler Agency to draw up quotes for insurance on police.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory reported that the Treasurer's bond and Public Officials Liability are both on the bill sheet. FWF Insurance was low at \$113.00 and FWF Insurance for \$1,651.00 for Public officials Liability. No change on the Treasurer's Bond and an increase of \$168.00 on the Liability. Mr. Kory asked that the Insurance Committee meet sometime in February to review the insurance package that will be due to renew later in the year.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Rodgers reviewed with Council the projected expenses and receipts for December and the proposed carry over into 1996. After review Mr. Rodgers made a motion to approve and accept the 1996 Budget, as advertised. Mr. Danyluk seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Leventry, Mr. Pile and Mr. Glass. All in favor, opposed none. Motion carried.

Mr. Rodgers continued with a motion to adopt the tax structure for Southmont, taxes to remain the same except in Real Estate tax where a one and a half mill (1 1/2) decrease will be made. Mr. Rodgers continued that Council direct the Solicitor to prepare and advertise the Ordinance to decrease the taxes for adoption at the re-organization meeting January 2, 1996. Motion seconded by Mr. Kory. Roll call vote, as follows: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Leventry, Mr. Pile and Mr. Glass. All in favor, opposed none. Motion carried. Mr. Rodgers bases his reduction on the carry over that should reflect a 3 month carry over. Mr. Pile noted that some wanted a 2 mill decrease and others 1 1/2 mill decrease.

Mr. Rodgers made a motion giving permission to the Treasurer to transfer funds as necessary, to balance budget accounts for 1995. Seconded by Mr. Kory. Roll call vote as follows: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Leventry, Mr. Pile and Mr. Glass. All in favor, opposed none. Motion carried.

SHADE TREE

Mr. Krupa has re-applied for Tree City-USA program. The Shade Tree Newsletter will be sent out within the week.

RECREATION/PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

Mr. Pile reported that the Recreation Commission held their November and December meeting on December 13, 1995. The 1996 budget has been approved. Winter brochures have been mailed out and the Recreation Commission will be re-applying for the Keystone Grant Money.

Representative John Wozniak sent a letter to the Commission for development of sprinkler system at the playgrounds. The Commission will discuss this at a later date.

A motion by Mr. Rodgers for Southmont Borough to re-apply for the Keystone Community Grant Program, seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried. Last year we applied for the softball fields. This is for municipalities of less than 5000.

CABLE TV COMMITTEE

Mayor Morgan reported briefly on the FCC and TW Cable commitment to provide services to the schools and allow residents to basically wire your home service any way you want. The franchise agreement is still in the hands of the Attorney. Everyone has received a letter from TW in reference to the changes in services and fees, as allowed by FCC. Borough can only regulate the Basic service.

C.O.G REPORT

Mr. Danyluk recommended that since the budget for 1996 has been passed it is time to send the 1996 request for the sewer cleaning machine.

MAYOR'S REPORT

No report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Sahlaney reported on the Kenney/Southmont-Peregoy complaint. The Court ruled that Kenney (Plaintiffs) objections are sustained and is to reinstate the complaint within twenty days and re-file. (12-4-95 is the date of the order)

On the second matter a letter received from Attorney Glock representing the Citizen's Cemetery Association requesting that the Borough of Southmont accept an amount equal to 30% of the assessed value of the cemetery land leased to CVMH (Conemaugh Hospital), in lieu of taxes. This is in line with the offer made to the City relative to the taxation. A motion by Mr. Rodgers to accept the 30 % tax liability for the assessed property. Motion seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mrs. Czyrnik's written report records Council needs to set the re-organization meeting. A motion by Mr. Pile to set the meeting at 1-2-96 at 7:30 p.m. and to advertise. Seconded by Mr. Leventry. All in favor, motion carried. There will be a meeting with AFSCME representative Tim Miller at 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday. Mr. Rodgers mentioned that the new program prepared by Mr. Lewis of the Lewis Group is excellent and thorough.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Czyrnik's written report records a balance of \$232,687.39 in the General Fund for November 1995. Mr. Leventry made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, motion seconded by Mr. Pile. All in favor, motion carried.

TAX COLLECTOR

Mr. Quinn's written report records \$1,085.71 collections for November Real Estate, and \$27.50 collections for Per Capita. Total collections of \$1,113.21. Mr. Rodgers made a motion to accept the Tax Collector's report, seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

APPROVAL TO PAY THE BILLS

A motion was made by Mr. Pile to pay the bills in the amount of \$36,731.18. Seconded by Mr. Leventry. Roll Call vote: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Leventry, Mr. Pile and Mr. Glass, all in favor, opposed none. Motion carried 7-0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Danyluk reported that Tercek Electric has been given the go ahead to install the new electric system. He hoped to begin as soon as possible.

NEW BUSINESS

The subject of the Engineering decision maker to attend meetings was addressed and it was decided that this will be discussed later at a Committee meeting. Mr. Glass recommend that sometime in January we call Hinks & Locher and advised them who Council wants to attend the meetings.

Another issue was that Mr. Danyluk asked if the Community Keystone Grant would apply to the repair work at the Chapin Arch, as a conservation project.

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President Glass asked for time to make a comment. Mr. Glass took this time and opportunity to thank this Council for the amount of work they do and the intelligent thought put into getting the job done for the good of Southmont Borough. He thanked them for their ability and knowledge. Mr. Glass liked the fact that this Council took the time and effort to approve the decrease in taxes for the 1996 budget. Mr. Glass felt that Mr. Davis would be an asset to the Borough Council and the future of Southmont Borough. "God Bless all of you and it has been his pleasure to serve on Council with all."

At this time Mr. Pile asked Mr. Glass to have a seat as his fellow members of Council had a few words to say. Mr. Pile stated that while this was Mr. Glass' last official meeting of Council, as Councilman and Council President, residents and members of Council want to thank him for the past 16 years of service to Southmont Borough, with appreciation, admiration and gratitude. "We hope that from time to time you would allow us to call on you for history, experience and knowledge. We wish you good health and prosperity and accept this certificate of appreciation from your Council friends."

Mr. Glass first took the oath of office in January 1980.

Plans are being made for a dinner on March 8, 1996 at the Pine Wood Restaurant

Council adjourned 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Judith A. Czyrnik,
Borough Secretary

