

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
May 20, 2002 7:00 p.m.

The scheduled May Council meeting was called to order by President Pile at 7:00 p.m. After the pledge to the flag, the May 20, 2002 meeting of Council convened.

PRESENT: Mr. Pile, Mr. Graham, Mr. Kory, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa, Mayor: Gerald Sloat, Solicitor: Daniel R. Lovette, Secretary/Treasurer: Judith Czyrnik, Engineer: Dave Duray, Zoning Officer: Dyke Orms, Fire Dept.:Chet Borosky, West Hills Police: Chief Andy Havas

ABSENT: Mr. Rodgers-Death in Family

VISITORS: Ms. Stephanie Milavec, Director West Hills Recreation
Mr. Herb Martin 519 State Street

President Pile asked for approval of the April 15, 2002 minutes and Committee Meeting notes from April 30, 2002. A motion was made by Mr. Strittmatter to accept the Minutes as presented. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Rodgers-Absent.

At this time President Pile called upon Stephanie Milavec who introduced herself to the new members of Council. Ms. Milavec passed out a review of the WHRC Cost Effective Implementation Plan she is proposing for some projections for the year 2002. The plan calls for some changes to the Summer Playground schedule. Instead of being a 7 week program it will be changed to 6 weeks only. This will save the Commission approximately \$8600.00. These changes are due to the poor response during the last week of the program. The hours will also change to 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Some of the other changes are fee increases in the Volleyball, Tennis, and Basketball programs. Rental fees have increased at the Grove and the Ridge. Ms. Milavec aggressively sought a new insurance provider and has saved approximately \$7,500.00 in insurance annual fees. They are now with PIRMA Insurance.

The Recreation Commission has secured a Safe Drinking Water \$23,663.00 grant for dismantlement of the Ridge Sewage Treatment Plan. The Commission is still eligible to receive a \$23,663.00 Growing Greener Grant. Mr. Danyluk complemented Ms. Milavec for the fine proposal of cost effective changes. The Recreation Commission is eligible to purchase a vehicle from the 12th Congressional Region Equipment Center. A motion was made by Mr. Graham to send a letter to the 12th REC confirming that the Westmont Hilltop Recreation Commission is an affiliated entity of the Borough of Southmont with authorization to purchase a vehicle. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Rodgers-absent.

Mr. Herb Martin asked Council to review a problem that he feels occurs on State Street in the 500 block. He has had a vehicle hit 4 times over the years. He has no other access to either an alley or driveway to park his car. His car must be parked in the street.

Mr. Martin is asking Council to provide a parking lane on the parking side of State Street. After discussion, Mr. Danyluk suggested that the Mayor, and Police look at this problem and make recommendations to Council. Possibly a double center line could be painted on this stretch of State Street.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Havas reviewed the written monthly report. Revenues reported for the month of April are \$743.10. Chief Havas reported on the officers who have attended the S.E.R.T. program. Cost for the officers to attend is for gas and turnpike tolls only. Training is held at Fort Indiantown Gap in Annville, PA. The Officer Phil program was presented to the students at the West Side Elementary School, Our Mother of Sorrows School and the Ferndale Elementary School. Officers have participated in several other training classes during the month. Several letters were received in appreciation of the fine work the officers of the West Hills Regional Police are doing. Certificates are on file for the officers completing the many training sessions the officers have attended.

ZONING OFFICERS REPORT

Mr. Orms reported that 5 permits were issued since the last report with total construction cost of \$206,980.00. Year to date total is \$329,915.00. Mr. Orms informed Council that we would need to order new Permit Applications and he asked for input on the wording for the new applications. Council felt it would be better if the Borough just use copies of the current permits until Council decides if Southmont is joining the proposed UCC program through the State of Pennsylvania. Mr. Orms asked Council about a Building Permit application for a fence from Mr. Dave Fisher. The property owner would have to place the fence 15 feet into his property. Council cannot make a decision in reference to the Zoning Ordinance. This must be done through the Zoning Hearing Board. Mr. Orms will refuse the permit and discuss some other possibilities with Mr. Fisher. Council discussed the current Zoning Ordinance at some length. No changes at this time.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

Chief Borosky's written report records 11 assists for the month. Three calls were received between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. Southmont VFC had two in-house training sessions. Cambria County Fire School sponsored classes on several different training sessions. Haz-Mat, Gas Fire Recognition, Apparatus Prevention Maintenance, Structure Burn Sessions, Vehicle Rescue I and II and etc. Several members of the SVFD attended these classes. The Fire Department responded to a flooded basement at 491 Southmont Blvd. Borough crews worked to correct the blocked sewer line. The fire truck was damaged on April 29 while driving out of the garage bay. An upper side compartment door came open and hit the garage door track. The compartment door was torn off and there was damage to the garage door track. Fire Chief Borosky talked with Westwood Fire Department and they have a fire truck that would be available to use while Southmont's is repaired. Westwood would need a letter stating that Southmont will rent the fire truck until the repairs are made to Southmont's truck.

A motion was made by Mr. Strittmatter to send a letter and an agreement for the rental of the Westwood fire truck. Seconded by Mr. Graham. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Rodgers-absent.

Mr. Strittmatter discussed with Council some names that he suggests for the organization of the possible Regionalized Fire Department between several entities. This was the suggestion of the Local Government representative Mr. Dean Fernsler who attend the meeting on April 29.

Mr. Bosley reported on the installation of the siren. Mr. Bosley, Mr. Ron Godava and two contractors will meet on May 22, 2002 at 2:00 p.m. to discuss the materials needed for the installation of the new sirens. The two contractors will need to submit quotes on the installation.

The Hilltop Ambulance minutes are on file for the month.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Dave Duray of P.C. Rizzo & Associates reviewed with Council the 2002 paving program. Quaker Sales should be completed this week. Weather had delayed the work for a few days. A change order was prepared at Council's request for a sealant to be put on the alleys that have been milled this year and last year. A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to accept the Change Order No 1, in the amount of \$4,350.00 for the sealant in the milled alleys. Seconded by Mr. Graham. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Rodgers-absent.

Mr. Duray continued with the response sent to the Department of Environmental Protection in reference to the Corrective Action Plan. Council discussed the flow meter readings. Mr. Duray feels we are getting proper readings and the rental meter has been returned for an exchange on a new machine. A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to authorize the exchange through the manufacturer. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. There may be some additional costs. Because of the flow meter readings, Mr. Duray feels it is time to address a letter to Upper Yoder township in reference to the infiltration of storm water in our sanitary sewer lines. A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to authorize Mr. Duray to send a letter to Upper Yoder Township Supervisors in reference to the infiltration, seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Rodgers-absent. Mr. Duray discussed some of the problems that the Borough still has with infiltration, he will discuss this with Committee at some later date.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STREET COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Mr. Bosley reviewed his written report and "TO-DO-LIST".
Cleaned Borough building, recycled weekly, monitored designated sanitary sewer lines and cut grass weather permitting. Picked up grass and debris after storms and heavy rains. Crack sealed streets April 8 through April 26, 2002. Worked with Roto-Rooter on the sanitary sewer line along Southmont Blvd. The line has roots in it and has multiple turns and they will have to dig an access area for the roots to be cut out. Removed the piers at the sides of the front steps at the Municipal Building. Worked with Quaker Sales and Engineers on the Paving Program. Received information on siren installation and called contractors for estimates to install pole and equipment required for the sirens.

STREET COMMISSIONERS REPORT cont'd

Inspected Lettuce Alley and Harshberger Street for wash out from the heavy rain storms. PennDot is currently paving the berm on Harshberger and the Borough will blacktop the side that is low. Mr. Bosley will be using Upper Yoders roller to redo the area at Gary Horner's on State Street, since the new manhole was installed. Mr. Bosley will look at a low spot at Orchard Street and Menoher Blvd. If the Borough can correct the problem it will. It may be PennDot's responsibility. Mr. Bosley reported that May 29, 2002 C.O.G. will demonstrate a video camera in several sanitary sewer lines in the Borough. (Leek Alley-Brawley and Helen Street to locate sewer line/Carney) Mr. Bosley also reported that DEP inspected Cheney Run and found no problems and the Department of Army Corp. of Engineers will be in to inspect the Cheney Run in early June.

A motion was made by Mr. Strittmatter to hire up to three summer employees at \$5.50 per hr. for 40 hours a week. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Rodgers, absent. Mrs. Czyrnik will make appointments for medical and drug exams. A thank you note was received from Mr. Ray Hartnett in reference to the alley work the Borough has done. Mr. Bosley called the line painters and they are scheduled to begin mid June.

STREET COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Danyluk had nothing further to report.

ADMINISTRATION/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Strittmatter had nothing new to report. AFSCME contracts were distributed to all Council members.

POLICE COMMISSION

Mayor Sloat reported that there will be a meeting Tuesday, May 23, 2002, at 7:00 p.m. in Westmont.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Mr. Graham had nothing new to report. The new signs have not been installed to date. Will be done as soon as possible.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory reviewed with Council the Liability insurance and the current Industrial Appraisal data. Council suggests that Mrs. Czyrnik call PIRMA insurance to be sure the insurance is sufficient for replacement costs, according to the Appraisal report.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Nothing to report.

SHADE TREE

Mr. Krupa reported that the Arbor Day 2002 ceremony on May 4th went well. One Norway Maple was planted on Gardner Street bringing or total 2002 Arbor Day planting to 18 new trees. Nine trees were removed this Spring. For the 12th year Southmont Borough was recognized as a Tree City USA Community. Mr. Krupa thanked all involved with Arbor Day, especially the Street Department.

Mr. Krupa reported on the award received from the Cambria County Conservation District and the dinner he attended. Mr. Krupa was honored for the work he is doing in Southmont Borough. The Cambria County Conservation District submitted Southmont Borough for a State award, which will be presented in July in Harrisburg. A motion was made by Mr. Graham and seconded by Mr. Strittmatter to attend this awards ceremony. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Rodgers-absent.

Mr. Krupa submitted an invoice for tree cutting and trimming in the amount of \$1,725.00 to be added to the bill sheet.

RECREATION/PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

President Pile reported on the Recreation Commission and the work that will be done at the Ridge this fall on the holding tank. This will benefit all entities for cost saving, as outlined in Ms. Milavec's presentation.

BUILDINGS and GROUNDS

Mr. Kory reported that the building painting began early in May. Due to weather the completion is a little delayed. Mr. Kory reported on compliments received on the new sign installed in the front lawn area.

C.O.G REPORT

Mr. Graham reported that there is a meeting June 4th. COG is sponsoring a golf outing on Wednesday June 26 at the Ebensburg Country Club. Members of Council are invited to attend.

GRANDVIEW COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory reported that he was asked by the Cemetery Association to submit a letter in writing stating what Mr. Kory and Southmont wishes to discuss when he suggested that he attend the Cemetery Associations monthly meetings. Mr. Kory explained that Southmont Borough is only interested in cooperative measures to benefit the Cemetery and the Borough. Nothing further to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Sloat checked on several complaints of high grass and weeds at various properties in the Borough. Mayor Sloat had a call about a stop sign at the Helen and Leila Street intersection. Mayor Sloat informed the resident that a formal complaint must be received before action can be taken. Nothing has been received to date.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Lovette reviewed the Resolution to discard any old equipment with a value of less than \$200.00. Mr. Danyluk made a motion to approve Resolution 2002-02 to discard any old equipment with a value of less than \$200. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Rodgers-absent.

Mr. Danyluk stated that information would be sent to Solicitor Lovette for preparation of an ordinance prohibiting sleeping in RV's, trailers, campers, any vehicles, etc. in the Borough. President Pile reported on an appeal filed by Mr. Chiodo on property Tax. The appeal is scheduled in June 2002. Mr. Pile will attend.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary's report records that during the winter the restroom at Wonder Street had some damage. Mr. Bosley is checking if the toilet is cracked and usable or if it will need replacement. Sent letters to all 17 residents who have not corrected the DEP/CAP violations. A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to approve the Borough Secretary enroll in the PSAB Borough Management Caucus. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Rodgers-Out of Town. Mr. Danyluk recommended that Southmont support Waste Management's request to send letters to Legislators in reference to the proposed tax increases in tipping fees. Mr. Graham seconded the recommendation. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Rodgers-Out of Town. A motion was made by Mr. Kory for members of Southmont to attend the course on Geographic Information Systems at the Altoona location on June 13, 2002. Seconded by Mr. Graham. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Rodgers-Out of Town.

Council discussed the notification we received on the City of Johnstown Bureau of Sewer rate increases. Council is recommending that Paul C. Rizzo & Associates review the proposed rate increases of the City of Johnstown Bureau of Sewage.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Mr. Krupa to accept the April Treasurers Report in the amount of \$282,008.27. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Rodgers-Absent.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

A motion was made by Mr. Krupa that we received the Tax Collector's Report for the month in the amount of \$52,041.94. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Rodgers-absent.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

After questions and discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Graham to approve payment of the bills, and include \$1,725.00 for Tree Cutting, for a total amount of \$ 30,345.51. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. Roll Call: Mr. Graham, Mr. Kory, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile. All in favor, opposed none. Motion carried. Mr. Rodgers-Absent.

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.

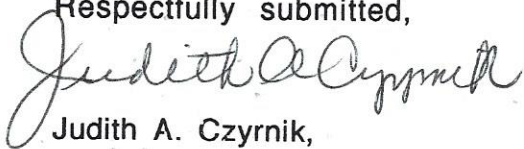
NEW BUSINESS

President Pile reported on the monthly interest received from Valley National Investment.

PSAB Fall Conference is Oct 25-27 at Station Square in Pittsburgh. The Greater Johnstown Water Authority will have a meeting on May 21, 2002 at the City of Johnstown Council Chambers. All of Council is invited. Mr. Graham, Mr. Danyluk and Mr. Strittmatter are planning to attend.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to adjourn at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Judith A. Czyrnik,
Borough Secretary

