

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
February 17, 1997 7:00 p.m.

The regularly scheduled February Council meeting was called to order by President Pile at 7:00 p.m.. After the pledge to the flag, the February 17, 1997 meeting of Council convened.

PRESENT: President Pile, Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Davis (8:50 p.m.), Mayor Robert Morgan, Engineer: Ron Walker, Solicitor: Daniel R. Lovette, Zoning Officer-Fred Pullen (7:25 p.m.), West Hills Police: Chief Andy Havas, Street Commissioner: Jan Bosley, and Secretary: Judith Czynnik

ABSENT: Mr. Leventry, Mike Butler, Fire Department

VISITORS: Lary Koval 336 Orchard Street Rich Reed SVFC
Bill Leckey SVFC Chet Borosky SVFC

At this time President Pile asked for approval of the January 20, 1997 regular Council meeting minutes. There being no question or correction, Mr. Krupa made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor. President Pile moved ahead to Chief Havas.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Havas's written report records January revenues at \$702.69. Training has begun for the twelve hour in-service classes for 1997 as mandated by the Municipal Police Officers Training Commission. Officers of the WHRP along with Upper Yoder and Ferndale have participated in the Officer Phil program at Westmont, Ferndale, St. Clement's and Our Mother of Sorrows elementary schools. The Officer Phil Program reviews child safety, drug and alcohol abuse and other topics relevant to the elementary children.

Chief Havas reported that WHRP are also participating in an Infant Seat & Safety Program. After training infant seats will be made available to borrow. A news release will be made after the training is completed. Southmont Borough will add this release to our Newsletter.

The Police Commission will meet the first 4 months of 1997 in Westmont, next 4 months in Southmont and the final 4 months in Brownstown.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

In the absence of Chief Butler, Mr. William Leckey reviewed the submitted Fire Company Report. There was a vehicle fire on January 4th at 340 Gardner Street. Three members attended classes on maintenance of Scott Self Contained Breathing Apparatus.

Mr. Leckey and Mr. Borosky reported on the meeting with the Building Committee when they reviewed the drawing and plans for the proposed addition to the Fire Company. The building will be a self standing building, and they have Labor & Industry approval. This will be a 40' x 48' building with two garage doors and will face Thoburn Street. The only luxury will be a bath and shower. The roof structure will be reinforced for any possible future construction. The Fire Company will double their space. Possible construction would probably start in Spring of 1998. Mr. Borosky reported on the financing of a 2% loan which takes about 6 to 7 months. They will finance for approximately 10 years. They need final figures before they can apply for the financing. They estimate the cost to be about \$150,000. The Fire Company will have a special fund raising drive or events.

Mr. Danyluk stated that the Building Committee reviewed the plans and the space that the Fire Company currently has available. Mr. Danyluk made a motion to approve the Fire Company plans and specifications, pending the Engineers and Solicitor approval. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried. Absent, Mr. Leventry and Mr. Davis. Mr. Leckey left the prints for Councils review. Mr. Pullen will also look at the prints and he has agreed to waive the building permit fee. The Fire Company is asking since there is no tax money involved why do they have to make additional specifications to bid the project. Additional specifications would cost an additional \$1,200. for each set. The Fire Company will seek bids but do not want to have to accept the lowest bids. Solicitor Lovette will check into this request.

ZONING OFFICERS REPORT

Mr. Pullen's written report records one permit for the month. A meeting was held with several concerned citizens on Bliss Street and Diamond Blvd. The residents are concerned with the new office building Mr. Chiodo is proposing to build at the far end of the PineWood Restaurant parking area. Residents are concerned about a buffer zone. Mr. Chiodo has agreed to plant evergreens and to move the building further back exceeding the initial required setback. On a question, Mr. Pullen has informed Council that Attorney Kiniry is still working on the Junked Vehicle Ordinance with BOCA code updates that will provide for a 6' fence at the two gas stations. The BOCA CODE update can be amended to our current Zoning Ordinance.

Solicitor Lovette has reviewed the proposed agreement for the Sub-Division and Land Development as it is written. It appears to be in order. Council has agreed that the Street Committee should continue with the proposed plans for the Sub-Division and Land Development Agreement in Southmont Borough.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Walker had sanitary sewer tapes for Council to review. Council reviewed the tapes on the Arlington Street and Wonder Street sections that were televised. Arlington Street showed a collapsed line. After further review and discussion Council directed Mr. Bosley to video the Wonder Street area with the camcorder. Mr. Walker reported on the Violet Street area where the videos show a sag in the line. The Street Committee will look at all of the tapes.

Mrs. Czynnik reported that the Borough received a copy of the final Chapin Arch supplemental reimbursement agreement from PennDot. Some field points still need to be done for PennDot at the Arch, weather permitting.

Mr. Walker requested a short workshop meeting be set up with Mr. Dave Duray on the proposed Sub-Division and Land Development Agreement. There appeared to be some question on the width of the road. Council should be advised of the Liquid Fuels requirements.

Mr. Walker and Brian Johns of Hinks & Locher met with Mr. Pile, Ms. Sythe and Mrs. Czynnik to review the plans for the soccer/ballfield storage shed. The shed will have two handicapped restrooms, a fountain, recessed water hose, and storage space. The building will be about 28' x 12'. Plans will continue.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

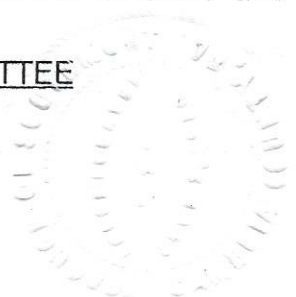
STREET COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Mr. Bosley's written report records necessary maintenance was performed on vehicles and equipment. The Street Department continued to pick up Christmas Trees. Had the recycling trailer inspected. Cut, scraped and painted numerous old street signs to be used again. Hung shelf in Council room for the TV/VCR. Plowed or salted streets as needed. Removed heavy ice on Shady Lane after a water line leak. Mr. Bosley reported that Upper Yoder Township salted our streets on January 28th due to both trucks being down. Both rear wheels fell off the 1993 truck when Mr. Carbaugh was plowing during the night and ruined both wheels. Both trucks had the wheels rotated in the beginning of January and this happened January 28, 1997. Mr. Bosley called the Upper Yoder Township Road Supervisor and thanked him for their help. A new plow frame was installed on the 1993 truck and cracks repaired on the 1994 plow frame.

Mr. Krupa asked that Mr. Bosley check on how long the dumpster will be parked at the corner of Olive and Diamond.

STREET COMMITTEE

No report



ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Rodgers reported on the meeting to review the Police Pension Fund and the findings of the State Auditor General's audit. The Audit findings are suggesting that we set up an annuity for the retired officer and an annuity for the officer who will be eligible to retire in 1998, and to pay back the other officer who has made an investment. The Committee is recommending that we contact 3 or 4 sources who deal with PA Police Pensions and the Auditor General's requirements to coordinate for a withdrawal of the Southmont Borough Police Pension Fund. Dollars left after the set up of these plans would be Borough's money. All costs to coordinate this withdrawal would come from the Police Pension Plan. We must research to be sure the State had not contributed any moneys to this plan. If any is found that money would have to be returned to the State.

Mr. Rodgers has talked with an auditing firm and would like to invite them to a Committee meeting workshop to share what the Borough should be doing and what other Borough's are doing as far as audits. This is an item on the Borough's priority list. There is a meeting with PA Municipal Service on Tuesday, February 18, 1997, changed to 8:00 p.m., to discuss the recent embezzlement of taxation at PAMS. Mr. Pile and Mr. Rodgers will attend a meeting with Superintendent Peggy Farrah at the Westmont Middle School on February 25, 1997 at 7:30 p.m. to discuss the same issue.

Mr. Davis reported that the AFSCME labor contract has been signed and is on file.

Mr. Rodgers is setting a meeting on March 4, 1997 at 7:00 p.m as a Committee meeting for the audit workshop and also to discuss any firms who have responded to the request for costs to withdraw from the Police Pension Fund business.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Mr. Danyluk reported that we received a Act 101, Performance Grant in the amount of \$159.00. This is for recyclable materials taken from the waste stream. No other report.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory reported that two quotes were received for the appraisal of the Borough owned building and contents. Industrial Appraisals will appraise the buildings and materials and contents for \$1,190.00 and Heritage Real Estate will do the building appraisal only for \$800 to \$1,000.00. Mr. Danyluk made a motion to approve the Industrial Appraisals in the amount of \$1,190.00. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. Industrial Appraisals annual up date is \$110.00 and to do just the inventory it is \$400.00. All in favor, motion carried.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

No report.

SHADE TREE

Mr. Krupa reported he will have a Shade Tree Commission meeting on March 11, 1997 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be advertised twice in the Tribune. Items to be discussed will be Arbor Day, April 26, 1997, tree planting on Leila Street, tree replacement in the Borough and updating the inventory.

RECREATION/PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

Mr. Pile met with Ron Walker on the Soccer/Ballfield shed and restrooms, as reported earlier. The Westmont AYSO will contribute \$1,000 to the Soccer/Ballfield project. Ms. Sythe has applied for a matching grant thru DCNR to replace playground equipment, install other recreational equipment, repair some fireplace roofs, and to make the Ridge more handicapped accessible

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Report reviewed under the Fire Company. No other report.

C.O.G. Report

Mr. Davis had no report.

CHAPIN ARCH

No other report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Morgan had no report other than some information on a Cable bulletin about GTE updates and TCI franchise updates. Mayor Morgan has a copy of the civil service information from PSAB. This will be discussed at the Police Commission meeting on Tuesday, February 18, 1997. After discussion on the hiring of Police Officer, Solicitor Lovette suggested that the Police Commission's Solicitor contact the PA Solicitor's Association to confirm his prior ruling on the hiring of officers in the WHRPC, for Southmont Borough's protection.

SOLICITOR

Solicitor Lovette reported that he is still working on the anti-pornography ordinance. He is working with Zoning Solicitor Kiniry and will make the necessary changes. Solicitor Lovette is recommending that there be a meeting with the Street Committee, Engineer's and Zoning Officer to review the Sub-Division and Land Development Agreement, then meet with Mr. Chiodo. Mr. Davis agreed. Meeting set for March 4, 1997 at 4:00 p.m. Solicitor Lovette will check on the question of the Fire Company not bidding the new addition, if they do not use Borough funds.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mrs. Czyrnik's report records the occupation privilege letters were sent to businesses in Southmont. Mary Martinovich our Senior Community Employment Service employee fell at work and fractured her leg. She is doing fine and will probably return to work about mid March. The Borough truck was involved in an accident on January 29, 1997. It has been turned over to the insurance company. Mrs. Czyrnik was hospitalized for a week and has returned back to work. Two accounts were opened at the Portage National Bank for the Soccer/Ballfield money. One for Labor cost only and one for Materials only.

Mrs. Czyrnik reminded the Councilmen and Mayor, whose term expires this year, that they should get their petitions at the County Election office in Ebensburg.

TREASURER'S REPORT

There was no Treasurer's report for the month as the Secretary was in the hospital. Report will be made at the March meeting.

TAX COLLECTOR

Mr. Quinn's written report records \$1,441.18 collected in Real Estate taxes and \$209.00 in Per Capita collections for the month of January. Total amount of \$1,650.18. A motion by Mr. Rodgers to accept the Tax Collector's report, seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried.

APPROVAL TO PAY THE BILLS

After discussion and review, a motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to approve the bills for a total of \$51,661.18. Seconded by Mr. Davis Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Davis, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none. Mr. Leventry was absent. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Council reviewed items on the "Tickler List" that have been taken care of. Some items have been partially completed and will remain. New items will be added. Borough Audits will be removed from the list, as there is a meeting set for March 4, 1997 at 7:00 p.m.

There was a meeting with Mr. Gordon Smith owner of the Storage Sheds. Mr. Smith was receptive to the suggestions of the Street Committee for the second entrance to the sheds. He approved the new one-way signs at the entrance/exit to the sheds. Mr. Smith suggested to make the road two way at the proposed new entrance only. No decision has been made

The Borough agreed to giving Mr. Smith milled material to fill the new entrance road if he should finally decide to do that. The excavating costs would be his expense. He will get back to Council.

NEW BUSINESS

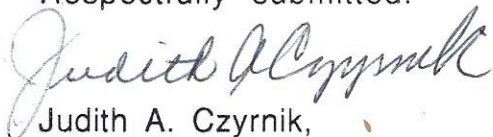
If any member of Council is interested in attending the Spring Conference in Grantsville March 23 - 25 1997, please contact the Borough Secretary as soon as possible.

Mr. Danyluk prepared a proposed Ordinance restricting outdoor fire burning in the Borough. He supports his reasons with a list of Borough services provided, such as brush chipping, Christmas tree collections, newspaper collections, Spring cleanup and others. The proposed Ordinance will be further discussed at the Administration & Personnel meeting March 4th at 7:00 p.m.

At this time Council called for an Executive Session to discuss Police Personnel matters and the possible sale of Borough Properties. Executive session 9:25 p.m.

Council reconvened at 9:50 and a motion was called to adjourn at 9:55 p.m.
All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted.



Judith A. Czyrnik,
Borough Secretary

