

MINUTES  
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT  
January 16, 1995

The scheduled meeting of Council was called to order by President Glass at 7:30 P.M.

After the pledge to the flag, the January meeting of Council convened.

PRESENT: Mr. Glass, Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Leventry, Mr. Kory, Mr. Krupa, Solicitor: Dan Lovette, Engineer: Ron Walker, Zoning Officer: Fred Pullen (8:40 p.m.), Mayor Robert Morgan, West Hills Police, Criminal Investigator George Musulin, Secretary: Judith Czyrnik, Fire Co: Mike Butler,  
ABSENT: Mr. Pile, Street Commissioner: Jan Bosley, West Hills Police Chief, Andy Havas, Hilltop Ambulance: Jim Dailey

VISITORS:

None

At this time President Glass asked for approval of the December 19, 1994 regular Council meeting minutes. Mr. Rodgers made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 19, 1994 meeting of Council. Motion seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

President Glass then asked for approval of the Special Meeting of Council, December 22, 1994. A motion by Mr. Leventry to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting was seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

In Chief Havas's absence Criminal Investigator Musulin reviewed the written report for the month of December. There were no serious crimes to report for the month. Revenues for November were \$416.11. Detective Musulin reported that the year end report for 1994 will be submitted next month. All the West Hills Regional Police officers will be going into in service training this month.

HILLTOP AMBULANCE REPORT

Mr. Dailey submitted the Treasurer's Report for the month, it is on file in the Secretary's office.

ZONING OFFICERS REPORT: Agenda changed, Mr. Pullen will be late.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Walker reported that he has been in touch with Keith Adams, of Lockwood Mapping Company with reference to the missing streets, alleys, and homes on the project map they are doing for Southmont Borough. There are some problems around Grandview and the section of Franklin Street that belongs to the Borough.

Mr. Walker explained that according to our contract we accepted the aerial photos that was done for Grandview in 1993 as part of our project, however this did not include Millcreek Road area, which the current mapping project should have been done.

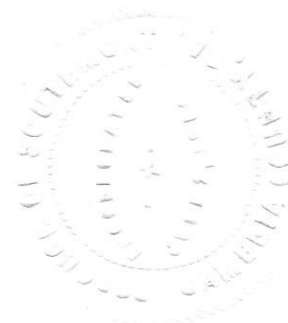
Lockwood Mapping was given a map of the Borough before they started their project and were aware of the Borough limits. One item of the mapping project that was not in the contract was the open channels of Cheney Run and this would be extra. Mr. Adams will review the data sent to him and get back to Mr. Walker later this week.

Mr. Polantz of the Diamond Playground Committee sent a letter to Mr. Walker requesting a meeting at the Playground site to submit some elevation and grading drawings for leveling the area of the playground.

#### FIRE COMPANY REPORT

Chief Butler's written report records total responses for the month at 15 runs. The Chief's yearly report records a total of 181 responses for the year. During the month of December two members attended 34 hours of fire training. Rescue 26-2 had a leaking head gasket replaced at a cost of \$1,677.60. Ringler Motors noticed a problem developing on the cab mounting brackets. A new computer was purchased for \$1,553.00, the old computer was losing stored data. The Yearly Report is on file in the Secretary's office. Chief Butler has submitted to Council a list of the new officers and phone numbers to keep on file at their home, in the event any Fire Co. personnel is needed. The Fire Company addition is still a project and they will be in touch with the Engineers at a later date.

Chief Butler reported on the recent fire on Norton Run Road. It was a total loss partly due to inadequate operations of several fire hydrants. Some would not open because of being frozen shut and an other because there was no water in it. Water pressure was very low. Some Fire Departments lost fire hose equipment. This brings many questions to mind about the hydrant system. Some hydrants have not been pressure checked in a very long time and Fire Departments will be meeting with the Water Authority. Fire Company personnel have volunteered to observe the Water Authority pressure checking or they will do the checking themselves. President Glass ask Chief Butler to let Council know if there are any problems getting the Water Authority to check the hydrants. Chief Butler would like to check any Borough maps for the water lines. He will talk with Mr. Bosley about the lines.



## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### STREET COMMITTEE

In Mr. Bosley's absence the written report was reviewed. The report records the department completed the leaf pick-up and cleaned the inlets. Shingles were installed on the small shed at the softball field. Completed the walkways in the recycling center. The lawn area around the building was cleaned up after the retaining wall excavating work was done. Re-seeding will be done when weather permits. The flat area on Stillray Street was widened by 2 feet, for more clearance when plowing.

Mr. Bosley reported that the plow parts will be shipped from Maine 1-6-95 and the truck should be done by end of January. Also a new gasoline pump was installed for better accuracy. Mr. Bosley will meet with Mayor Morgan to review some alleys that he feels should have No Parking signs installed.

Also, the calcium chloride system was installed this past week and it was tested and the employees were instructed on the use of the material.

### STREET COMMITTEE

No report

### ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Leventry reported that the Committee met several times during the month and recommend to re-appoint members of the various Boards and Commissions, whose terms expire 1-1-95 and to specify salary and wages for 1995. The Salary & Wages have been approved with the 1995 Budget. Mr. Leventry made a motion to approve setting the salaries and wages as follows: the Secretary/Treasurer salary for 1995 will be \$19,100, the hourly rate for the Secretary/Clerk is set at \$5.40 per hour. The Street Commissioner's salary is \$25,227., and the hourly wage for Street Department/Union negotiated rate of \$8.97 per hour. Part time temporary employee \$6.00 per hour and part time seasonal employees \$4.25 per hour. The wage has been set at \$5.00 for part time employees called out to plow snow, with the truck. The Solicitor's retainer for 1995 is \$3,600 and the Engineer's rates are on file in the office. Motion seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Leventry proceeded with a motion nominating the following re-appointments to the Boards & Commissions;

Zoning Hearing Board and BOCA Code Appeal Board, 5 year terms Mr. Howard Volbers terms to expire 1/1/00.

Planning Commission, Mr. Kriak and Mr. Theodore Baranik, 4 year term, to expire 1-1-99.

Alternate Zoning Hearing board, Jeff Hunt, Ron Madison, and John Bearer, one year term, to expire 1-1-96.

Re-appointment to the Vacancy Board Mr. Theodore Baranik for a 4 year term, term to expire 1-1-99.

West Hills Regional Police Commission- Robert Morgan, Kevin Pile, Ed Danyluk. Louis Leventry was named as an alternate, all for 2 year terms, to expire 1-1-97. Mr. Glass and Mr. Rodgers to be removed.

Mr. George Ambroe, appointed to the Greater Johnstown Water Authority for a 5 year term to expire 1-1-00. Mr. Ambroe is the appointee from another Municipality other than Southmont. Southmont has three appointed members to the Authority. Mr. Ambroe will replace Mr. Harry Pyrich.

Westmont Recreation Authority -Mr. Kevin Pile for a 5 year term, to expire 1-1-99. (Appointment should have been made in 1994)

All terms have been corrected and put in line with proper expiration dates.

Motion seconded by Mr. Kory. There being no questions, President Glass ask for a roll call vote: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Leventry, Mr. Glass, all in favor, opposed none. Mr. Pile absent. Motion carried. 6-0, absent 1.

Mr. Leventry noted that the Recreation Commission appointments will be made at the time of expiration 3-31-95.

Mr. Rodgers reviewed with members of Council the meeting held with the County Commissioners on the concern for the decrease in Tax Hearing appeals. Commissioners Holtzman, Baranik and Wissinger and Chief Assessor Grandinetti were there to answer questions. We had submitted in advance to the Commissioners several of our questionable appeals. Two of the appeals the Commissioners had denied a decrease and it went to the Courts and a decrease on the taxation was given. (Hoss's and Burnheimers) Mr. Rodgers stated that in the other cases it appeared to be in line and Council accepted the decreases. One appeal is still of concern to Council, the property of Patti Steffanik on Menoher and Susan Drive. Reason for the decrease was due to size of property, which Mr. Rodgers has checked and there is not that much difference in property size, and the Chief Assessor will be sent a letter making him aware of the actual property size. Another question was on the Conemaugh Hospital Parking area in Grandview Cemetery. The Court decision was to award monies to the City in lieu of taxes, but we have heard nothing on Southmont Borough's outcome on this decision.

It is recommended by Council that we write to the Commissioners individually stating our position on the scheduled hearing. Any member of Council can sit in on these hearings and express Southmont Borough's position on the hearing. It was unanimous that someone from Council attend these hearings.

Mr. Leventry made a motion to pass a Resolution to send a representative of Southmont Borough to the scheduled Tax Appeal Hearings, after notification of the hearing. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. Motion approved.

A letter will be sent to Chief Assessor, Mr. Grandinetti requesting notification on all tax appeals.

Mr. Leventry completed the report with a note on Mr. Livingston returning to work January 4, 1995 and Doctor Schroeder reports he must wear his knee brace at all times during work hours. We are expecting a report from the Doctor who examined Mr. Livingston for the second opinion required by the Borough.

### ZONING OFFICERS REPORT

Mr. Pullen's written report records two permits issued this month in the amount of \$251,200. The Zoning Hearing Board approved the permit for K-Y Properties and the 30 day time limit to appeal expired 1-7-95.

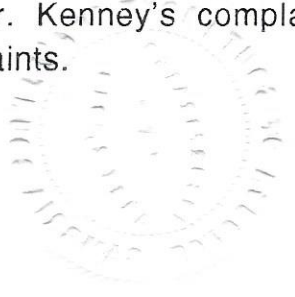
Mr. Pullen mailed a BOCA code violation to Mr. Bilger of 627 Diamond Blvd. with reference to unlicensed, uninspected vehicles on his property. One resident received notice that their permit will expire 1-26-95, as no progress has been noted on the property.

Mr. Pullen sent a letter to Mr. Brian Allison of 114 State Street, in reference to the condition of his property after the scheduled fire burning school class in the spring of 1994. Mr. Allison responded stating he would like to continue to burn again this year and complete cleaning up the property's deteriorating condition. The previous owners had left several piles of wood and he would like to continue to use the foundation as a burning pit. He hopes to have the burning done by spring. The bathroom fixtures, washers, metal wardrobes and etc., have been removed. Mr. Danyluk felt we need to get a date for the completion of this clean-up.

Solicitor Lovette received a letter from Attorney Gary Horner in reference to a complaint from Mr. Karl Kenney about an unopened, unauthorized alley running between State Street and Arlington Street. Mr. Kenney feels he no longer has access to this right of way, since Mr. Peregory has put a drive way across the upper portion of the right of way. Solicitor Lovette spoke with Mr. Pullen and recommended that we have photo's and possibly a drawing to show the position of this driveway. After lengthy discussion Solicitor Lovette suggested doing several things. Number one we should have a survey of the alleyway, to be used in the event of further litigation. Second we can do nothing at all, or offer him a curb cut on State Street to the left of the utility pole (his property), at his cost, or offer him a curb cut on his half of the alley, as stated in Attorney Horner's letter, at his cost to move the utility pole and the catch basin.

According to Solicitor Lovette our position is to have on hand a survey of the alley way. Mr. Walker will check pricing on this survey and report next meeting.

Mr. Pullen stated that Mr. Peregory made the offer to regrade the alley to satisfy Mr. Kenney's complaints thereby eliminating the need for any survey or other complaints.



RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Mr. Danyluk wants to attend a Recycling Workshop, February 2, 1995. There is going to be a workshop at the Penn State Cooperative Extension office near Laurel Crest Manor. Mrs. Czzyrnik will also attend this workshop. A motion for approving Mrs. Czzyrnik and Mr. Danyluk to attend this workshop was made by Mr. Rodgers, seconded by Mr. Leventry. Motion carried. Mr. Danyluk ~~also requested we~~ write a letter to Mr. Eppley complimenting him for his efforts in the Recycling Center and other projects in the Borough.

Mr. Danyluk also requested that a monthly report of recycled pounds be submitted to Council. This figure will be sent to the Koontz Disposal for credit.

POLICE COMMISSION/COMMITTEE

The newly appointed members to the Police Commission will attend the meeting, January 17, 1995 at 7:30 p.m. A letter will be sent introducing the new members.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

No report

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Rodgers reviewed with Council the Budget Transfers with line items changes, indicating the money amounts needed to be transferred. These figures are reflected on the December 1994 Treasurer's Report. After further discussion and explanation Mr. Rodgers made a motion to accept the line item transfers as presented, seconded by Mr. Danyluk. There being no further questions, President Glass ask for a roll call vote: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Leventry, Mr. Glass, all in favor, opposed none. Mr. Pile absent. Motion carried. 6-0, absent 1.

SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Mr. Krupa reported that the tree trimming is completed and Penelec and Mr. Krupa are pleased with the results of the tree trimmers. No complaints were received from residents on the Penelec tree trimming program in 1994. Mostly positive reports were reported. Mr. Rodgers commended Mr. Krupa for his handling of the program this year. Mr. Krupa will look at an area on Court Alley; several tree limbs are lying on the wires and the wire covering is worn away. He will ask Mr. MacNamara to look at these trees.

RECREATION COMMISSION

In Mr. Piles absence, Mr. Rodgers ask for a change in the submission of the estimated cost of the Recreation grant from \$26,500. to \$36,750. These are for in-kind services that the Borough will be donating for the rehabilitation of the Soccer/Ballfield.

RECREATION COMMISSION cont'd

Mr. Rodgers made a motion to accept the changes as presented on the Keystone Recreation Park and Conservation Fund grant application, seconded by Mr. Danyluk. There being no questions, President Glass ask for a roll call vote: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Leventry, Mr. Glass, all in favor, opposed none. Mr. Pile absent. Motion carried. 6-0, absent 1.

CABLE TV COMMITTEE

Mr. Rodgers reported that Cable TV public meetings have started. Two more to be held , January 17th at Garfield and January 19th at Westmont Middle School from 7-9. Mr. Rodgers then asked Mayor Morgan to report on the Steering Committees progress. The Consultant from Washington, DC was in to review the proposal information. The Public Meetings proved that the residents are concerned with the same problems that the Steering Committee are concerned with. These meetings are being filmed for future review. Mayor Morgan felt they would be ready to begin negotiations at the end of the month. They will be concentrated negotiations, perhaps 2 full days.

Questions were asked if different contracts will be signed or would it be one contract with a signature sheet for each Municipality. An Oversight Committee could be named, to watch the tracking of the Cable Company. Possibly an Administrative Committee will need to be named. These are questions Council requested Solicitor Lovette to check.

CHAPIN ARCH COMMITTEE

Mayor Morgan is planning to set up a meeting in the near future.

C.O.G REPORT

No report. Mr. Danyluk questioned the gasoline prices and if they were holding the prices as quoted by COG bidding. Data will be supplied to Mr. Danyluk for reference.

MAYOR'S REPORT

No report other than part time personnel have been hired at West Hill Regional.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No other report

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary's written report noted a NOW checking account was opened for the Diamond Playground and deposits were made. All State forms and the 1995 Annual Budget report was mailed as per the time schedules. The new calcium chloride systems was installed 1-12-95. A new gasoline pump was installed this month.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Czyrnik's written report records a final balance of \$211,525.73 in the General Fund for December, 1994. Motion was made to accept the report by Mr. Rodgers and Mr. Leventry. All in favor. The December totals reflect the transfers for 1994, figures are actual receipts and expenditures.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Quinn's written report records Real Estate collections for December as Real Estate collections at \$1,424.78 and Per Capita \$154.00, for a total of \$1,578.78. A motion by Mr. Rodgers and seconded by Mr. Danyluk to accept the Tax Collector's report. Motion carried.

APPROVAL TO PAY THE BILLS

A motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$68,047.33 was made by Mr. Rodgers, seconded Mr. Krupa. President Glass ask for a roll call vote: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Leventry, Mr. Glass, all in favor, opposed none. Mr. Pile absent. Motion carried. 6-0, absent.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Danyluk will check on the monies spent at the local hardware stores and then approach Cambria, Bantly and Moxham to inquire about a discount for the Borough.

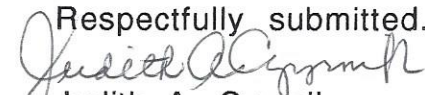
We have recently inquired at Cambria Hardware about a discount for the Municipality.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Rodgers and Mrs. Czyrnik asked for approval to attend an evening Municipal Finance training session sponsored by the DCA. A motion approving the request was made by Mr. Danyluk, seconded by Mr. Leventry. Mr. Rodgers also requested approval to attend the Spring Legislative Conference March 26 thru March 28 1995. Mr. Danyluk made a motion to approve Mr. Rodgers attending the Spring Conference, as requested. Motion seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

There being no further discussion, meeting adjourned 9.50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

  
Judith A. Czyrnik,  
Borough Secretary

