

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
December 15, 1997 7:00 p.m.

The regularly scheduled December Council meeting was called to order by President Pile at 7:00 p.m. After the pledge to the flag, the December 15, 1997 meeting of Council convened.

PRESENT: President Pile, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Leventry, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Davis, Mayor Robert Morgan, Solicitor: Daniel R. Lovette, Engineer: Ron Walker, Zoning Officer-Fred Pullen, West Hills Police: Andy Havas, Street Commissioner: Jan Bosley, Fire Department: Michael Butler and Secretary: Judith Czynnik
ABSENT: Mr. Rodgers-out of town, Mr. Davis-sick

VISITORS: Lary Koval, Mayor-elect, Westmont Hilltop Recreation

President Pile asked for approval of the November 17, 1997 minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Krupa to approve the minutes as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Leventry. All in favor, motion carried. There being no visitors President Pile continued.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Havas reported that he had nothing further to report. His report records revenues for the month at \$389.49. A new computer was purchased from the \$5,000 grant from the Johnstown Redevelopment Authority Community Foundation.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Pullen's written report records 59 completed permits were issued in the year 1997, with an estimated construction cost of \$1,483,061.00. Mr. Pullen has mailed 4 BOCA Code violation notices to area residents. All notices have been received. Two properties have started to clean up their residence. Two have done nothing. After the thirty day period, Mr. Pullen will file necessary forms with the District Magistrate. A notice similar to the four resident notices discussed, will be sent to two commercial properties on Southmont Blvd. within the next week.

Mr. Charles Glass, Assistant Zoning Officer will be sending a notice of intent to file a BOCA Code and Zoning Ordinance violation to Mr. George Haidar. Mr. Haidar is dumping cement blocks and other debris in the parking area behind his house. A second building permit issued for repairs at the 1070 Luzerne Street address has expired, as no construction was started within the 90 days. Mr. Glass will address this issue also. Mr. Glass will handle this violation as it is a conflict of interest for Mr. Pullen.



FIRE COMPANY REPORT

Chief Butler's written report submitted by the Fire Company records total emergency responses in the Borough and assists at 19 for the month. Chief Butler reported on an injured fire fighter, Lisa Raneri while responding to a flue fire. The injury required four stitches.

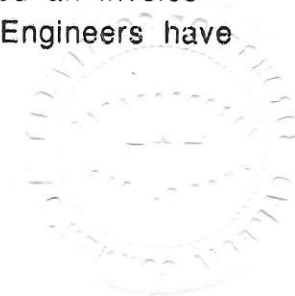
Five members attended five sessions of fire school for a total of ten hours on the procedures for a Rapid Intervention Team.

Chief Butler reported on a meeting with Mr. Chiodo in reference to the proposed building costs for bidding. Mr. Chiodo feels the submitted cost estimates are sufficient for bidding. They will accept bids for the construction. Chief Butler reviewed the 99 year lease and felt it was in order. A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to approve the 99 year lease with the Fire Company for the addition. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, opposed none.

The fire company will begin work on the drainage project at the ball field hopefully next week. They are waiting for the field to freeze or dry up. Chief Butler took this time to thank Council for their support throughout the year. Chief Butler received word that he has been certified with the National Professional Fire Service Board as an Instructor Level II (2). There are only 100 Level II instructors in the State and Southmont VFC now has two. The Borough received a copy of the 1996 Fire Company audit. On file.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Ron Walker reported that he has completed legal descriptions for the vacation of Leek Alley (Long Alley) for Timothy Walsh. Mr. Walker submitted the legal description to Solicitor Lovette for preparation of an Ordinance to vacate the alley, provide for the utilities easement and deposit of snow at the lettuce Alley end of the vacated Leek Alley. Southmont Borough will vacate the alley from Leon St. to Lettuce Alley and then the abutting property owner Mr. Timothy Hogue will convey his portion to Mr. Walsh. Additional costs will be the expense of Mr. Walsh. Mr. Walker reported that the Cheney Oak Drive paving in the PineBrooke development has been completed for this year. The finish coat will be put down in the Spring. The asphalt was not put in under Penn Dot specifications, due to the weather conditions. Mr. Walker has inspected the road and it appeared to be in good condition. A letter was received from Mr. Chiodo requesting snow plowing of this new section of Cheney Oak Drive. Council discussed plowing the section of Cheney Oak Dr. where the condominiums are. While this section is not accepted by the Borough we have plowed it for emergency and safety reasons due to the residents occupying buildings in this area. The remainder of Cheney Oak Dr. is a construction road and therefore will not be plowed. When the road is accepted the Borough will plow it. A letter will be sent to Mr. Chiodo. Mr. Walker has received an invoice from Berti Construction for work completed on the roadway. The Engineers have not reviewed the invoice.



Also, the Escrow Account held by Southmont Borough is depreciated and Mr. Chiodo will be sent a letter for reimbursement to the account. Mr. Leventry will keep Council abreast of a possible grant for the Southmont Blvd. retaining wall.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STREET COMMISSIONER

Mr. Bosley's written report records that the Borough employees continued picking up leaves. Cleaned and painted the newer salt spreader and welded cracks on older plow. Cleaned catch basin after rain storms. Finished the grass cutting for the year. Performed maintenance on vehicles and equipment. Had the kingpin and front axle pivot bushings replaced on the hi-lift.

Mr. Bosley reported on the diesel tank fuel line. There is a problem in the suction line between the tank and the pump. It cannot be used. Council discussed the problem and it was decided that since the underground tanks must be removed by the end of 1998 it was recommended that Mr. Bosley get at least three bids on a 275 gal. above ground tank with containment rather than repair the line again. A motion was made by Mr. Leventry authorizing Mr. Bosley to get bids and install a 275 gal. diesel tank with containment. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Bosley asked for clarification on the area he is to plow on Cheney Oak Drive. Council stated that he should continue to plow the area of the four occupied condo's. This service is provided for public safety and emergency vehicles. This road area has not yet been accepted by the Borough.

STREET COMMITTEE

Mr. Leventry reported on a meeting that he and Mr. Danyluk had with Mr. Dave Layman of Jen Corp. on the underground tanks. Mr. Leventry is awaiting written cost submittals on the removal of the tanks. He is recommending that when we find a place to purchase bulk gas, after the tanks are removed, we include the police vehicles.

The "Watch Children" signs have been ordered and will be installed weather permitting. A street light with increased wattage has been relocated on Arlington Street near the residence of Mrs. Lynam. Mr. Leventry discussed two property owners who have not paid for the paving of Hannah Alley. They were last notified in June of 1997. Solicitor Lovette will follow up on the two delinquent accounts.

ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

In Mr. Davis's absence a discussion was held on the Borough Audits. The Committee met with three of the firms and have decided to meet again with the three for a final review of their services. This will be held on January 13, 1997 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Room. (note schedule change)

Solicitor Lovette reviewed with Council the Centax Resolution and an Ordinance upgrading our earned income tax collection.

After discussion a motion was made by Mr. Leventry to approve Ordinance 413, upgrading the earned income tax collection. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. Roll call: Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Leventry, Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none. Abstaining, Mr. Kory. Absent Mr. Rodgers and Mr. Davis. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Krupa to approve the Resolution naming Centax as the collector of the Earned Income tax, Mercantile and Business Privilege tax for a three year term beginning January 1, 1998. Motion seconded by Mr. Leventry.

POLICE COMMISSION

Mr. Pile reported that the West Hills Regional Police Commission will meet at Brownstown at 7:00 p.m., December 16, 1997. There is no major agenda this month.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

No report. Year to date volume credits is \$840.64.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

No report

BUDGET COMMITTEE

In Mr. Rodgers absence, Mr. Leventry reported that the Committee met and completed the budget for 1998. Mr. Leventry reported the 1998 budget is ready for adoption in the amount of \$892,510.00, it has been advertised. Subject to some internal revisions and distribution to the Liquid Fuels and Cheney Run accounts, the budget provides for a 1 1/2 property mills decrease, fixing the tax rate at 22 mills for 1998. Mr. Leventry made a motion to approve the 1998 budget in the amount of \$892,510.00. Seconded by Mr. Kory. Roll Call: Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Leventry, and Mr. Pile, all in favor. Opposed, none. Absent Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Davis. Motion carried.

Mr. Leventry made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 411 setting the tax rate of 22 mills, a decrease of 1 1/2 mills. Seconded by Mr. Kory. Roll Call: Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Leventry, and Mr. Pile, all in favor. Opposed, none. Absent Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Davis. Mr. Leventry made a motion to approve Ordinance #418, setting the garbage fees at \$68.00 for the years 1998, 1998 and 2000. Seconded by Mr. Kory. Roll Call: Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Leventry, and Mr. Pile, all in favor. Opposed, none. Absent Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Davis.

SHADE TREE

Mr. Krupa reported the hazardous trees on a property owned by M & T Associates on Shady Lane have been trimmed. The hazardous trees on Wonder Street, owned by John Kriak have not been trimmed to date. Mr. Krupa asked Solicitor Lovette what would be the next step in having the trees removed. Solicitor Lovette will get back to Mr. Krupa. The Newsletter is ready for printing, this should be done within the next week. Mr. Krupa reported he has completed the application for Tree City USA, for 1997.

RECREATION/PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

President Pile reported that Roto Rooter did televise the sanitary line at the

Ridge. There is a break in the line however the inspection has not been completed. The Recreation Finance Committee will look into purchasing a new maintenance vehicle.

BUILDING /GROUNDS COMMITTEE

No report.

C.O.G. Report

No report.

CHAPIN ARCH

No report. Mr. Kory reported on Southmont voting down the bid for construction at the Arch. He spoke with Dave Sherman and was told that Penn Dot will rebid the project along with other spring projects, and he feels it should be a better bid price. Mr. Kory is looking into any possibility of receiving a grant. Mr. Kory spoke with the Cemetery Association in reference to the Arch still being the Cemetery's responsibility and thanked the Association for keeping their maintenance at the Arch. Mr. Kory will keep them posted if there are any new developments.

President Pile took this time to review a request for the return of \$9,993.05 to the Principal Financial Group due to an error made by Principal in the final calculation of the Police Pension fund. After discussion and review, a motion was made by Mr. Leventry to return the \$9,993.05 to Principal Financial Group. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT

No report.

SOLICITOR

No report. Solicitor Lovette discussed the notification from The Department of Labor and Industry, in reference to Anthony Wilt claim for fees paid by him. These fees are being handled by the insurance carrier and are not the responsibility of the Borough.



SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mrs. Czyrnik's report records that Council will need to approve and advertise the re-organization meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Leventry to advertise January 5, 1998 for the reorganization meeting. Seconded by Mr. Krupa.

Motion carried.

We received reimbursement for the leaf loader grant in the amount of \$24,295.50. The State will release the balance, \$2,699.50 when they have completed the paper work.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Mr. Kory to accept the Treasurer's report for the month of December in the amount of \$344,407.73 in the General Fund balance. Motion seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried.

TAX COLLECTOR

Mr. Quinn's written report for November records \$ 783.52 in Real Estate collections and \$27.50 collected in Per Capita. A motion was made by Mr. Kory that we received the Tax Collector's report, seconded by Mr. Leventry. All in favor, motion carried.

APPROVAL TO PAY THE BILLS

A motion by Mr. Leventry and seconded by Mr. Kory to approve the payment of the bills in the amount of \$34,588.63. Roll Call: Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Leventry, and Mr. Pile, all in favor. Opposed, none. Absent Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Davis.

OLD BUSINESS

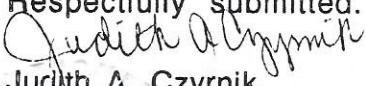
Items on the "Tickler List" were discussed. Items were reviewed, removed and relisted. President Pile reviewed the Priority list and asked that Council review this list for 1998.

NEW BUSINESS

President Pile wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a special thanks to Mayor Morgan for his 20 some years with the Borough and to Ed Danyluk who has worked well for the Borough. Mr. Danyluk thanked Council for their work in making the Borough a better place to live.

Motion to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted.


Judith A. Czyrnik,
Borough Secretary

