

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
December 16, 1996 7:30 p.m.

The regularly scheduled December Council meeting was called to order by President Pile at 7:30 p.m.. After the pledge to the flag, the December 16,1996 meeting of Council convened.

PRESENT: President Pile, Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Leventry, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Davis, Mayor Robert Morgan, Engineer: Ron Walker, Solicitor: Daniel R. Lovette, West Hills Police: Chief Andy Havas, Street Commissioner: Jan Bosley, Secretary: Judith Czyrnik, and Mike Butler, Fire Department

ABSENT: Zoning Officer: Fred Pullen

VISITORS: None

At this time President Pile asked for approval of the November 18,1996 regular Council meeting minutes. There being no question or correction, Mr. Kory made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Seconded by Mr. Leventry. All in favor.

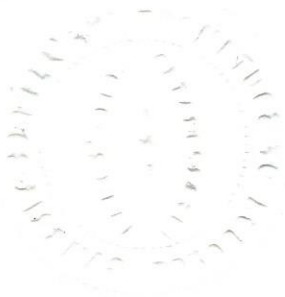
There being no visitors President Pile moved ahead to Chief Havas.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Havas's written report records revenues for the month of October at \$533.65 and November revenues at \$829.59. There was a total of 477 calls for service during the month. Chief Havas reported they do have a suspect they believe to be involved in the burglaries in the area, however, he is in Montana. They are still investigating. Chief Havas thanked Council and the Police Commission for their support of the Police Department through the year. He had no other report.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT

In Mr. Pullen's absence the written report records there have been 57 permits issued to date with an estimated construction cost of \$470,025. Compared to 1995, 42 permits were issued with an estimated construction cost of \$982,365. The plans for the Pinebrooke development by Mr. Pete Chiodo have been submitted to the Southmont Borough Planning Commission for review. No reports have been submitted to Council to date. No other report.



FIRE COMPANY REPORT

Chief Butler's report records the Department answered 17 emergency calls this month. Mike Butler and Chet Borosky have both passed the National Qualification Board testing. Mr. Butler is certified as Fire Instructor Level I and Mr. Borosky has certified for Fire Officers Level I. Deputy Rick Reed has also passed the certification test for the Instructor Level I and is also attending a course on Educational Methodology at the Fire Academy. Additional equipment has been ordered and they expect delivery before the end of the year for payment. Chief Butler is still waiting for blueprints for the proposed addition to the Fire Company. President Pile reminded Chief Butler that we need the activities list for 1997 to submit to the Insurance Company.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Walker reported that the televising of the sanitary sewer lines has not been done to date. He expects they will begin soon. Mr. Bosley asked that an additional 130 feet be televised at 483 Southmont Blvd., (private lane). There is a seeping water problem which has been tested by the DEP at the request of the property owner. The test shows a high fecal-coliform bacterial count. Mr. Danyluk made a motion to add the additional 130' to the televising schedule. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor. Preliminary costs estimates for the Cheney Run Stream enclosure from Wonder Street Ext. to Leon Street have been submitted to Council. The cost for field investigation and preliminary scope of the work is \$159,000. Council agreed the cost was excessive and the Borough will consider an open channel clean up project in the stream. The preliminary study will be kept on file.

Mr. Walker attended the preliminary plan check meeting December 13, with Dave Sherman and PennDot in reference to Chapin Arch traffic control design. PennDot is asking for more information on drawings and property lines. The preliminary drawings and site plans for the recreation Soccer/Ballfield restrooms and shed are near complete. Mr. Walker will meet with Mr. Pile later this week to discuss the plans.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STREET COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Mr. Bosley's written report records recyclable materials have been taken to Boswell weekly. Completed the leaf collection with the front end loader due to the wet leaves. Cleaned catch basins after heavy rains, picked up branches and debris. Installed new surge protectors on office computer equipment. Cleaned building as needed, salted streets and performed winter maintenance on trucks. Two minor accidents on the 1994 truck will require that a door be replaced. It has been turned in to the Insurance carrier. The door will be replaced by Grimaldi's, the low bid at \$500.00. We will receive a check from the Insurance for \$250.00. Our deductible is \$250.00.

STREET COMMITTEE

Mr. Leventry began his report with the inspection on 11-23-96 by the Street Committee, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Danyluk, Mayor Morgan, and Mr. Leventry. Beginning with the Southmont Blvd., Private Lane the Committee looked at a possible location for addressing signs to be posted at each end of the private lane parallel to Southmont Blvd., between Otis and Elim Streets. They are recommending the signs 24" x 36" listing house numbers of the properties fronting on this private lane. The signs will contain a directional arrow, Southmont Blvd., and numerical ascending and descending house numbers. The signs can be located in the utilities right of way along Southmont Blvd. The cost of the signs is approximately \$74.00 each. A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to approve the Street Committees recommendation for the signs. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor.

The Street Committee investigated a request for a handicapped parking space on Stillray Street for a qualified resident at 21 Shady Lane. Mr. James Schirk who is a disabled veteran with multiple physical disabilities is requesting a parking space for one car. The Street Committee is recommending the Borough provide the requested parking space on Stillray Street directly behind his house at 21 Shady Lane. The space shall be outlined with yellow paint and a handicapped parking sign shall be installed next to the space. Providing this parking space does not indicate that any other such request will be honored without investigating all physical conditions at that site. This recommendation will not interfere with the storage sheds exit or entrance. A motion by Mr. Rodgers to approve the recommendation for the handicapped parking space, adding that each case for such a request be investigated and judged on individual merit. Motion seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor. Solicitor Lovette agreed with Council's action.

After investigation of the Storage Sheds on Stillray Street, the Street Committee is recommending that one way arrow signs on each side of the exit/entrance be installed. The Street Committee is recommending that the owners of the storage sheds consider building a new entrance to the sheds across the bottom of the Water Co. property. The Borough can provide milled asphalt material for the new entrance. The present exit/entrance can be retained and used for exit only. Some of the embankment can be cut back to provide more turning space for exiting vehicles on to the one way Stillray Street and to consider some of the recommendation made by Mr. Pullen in his memo of 10-22-96. A motion was made by Mr. Kory to send the owners of the storage sheds a letter with the mentioned recommendation for a new entrance and ask to meet with them to further explain the recommendations and their plans. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor.

A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to install one way arrows on each side of the exit/entrance driveway. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor.

Mr. Leventry concluded with the investigation of the Borough owned properties that should be appraised for possible sale. There are only 4 properties plus the Wren Street playground that will be appraised. There is a parcel at the triangle on Langhorne Ave. and Southmont Blvd., one each on Leon Street, Dahlia Street and lower State Street. These parcels will be offered to the adjacent property owners for sale after appraisals. The appraisals will be \$50.00 per parcel. If less than \$1,500 the lots can be sold without advertisement. If any interest, the remaining lots on State Street will be appraised. Council had previously approved the appraisal. Some of the other properties are now alley ways, borough parks or playgrounds. The others (8) along State Street are probably usable only as a parking pull off with only about 15' usable area, the rest of the property drops off down a steep hill.

ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Davis began with information that he has received word from Tim Miller, AFSCME representative that Borough employees have accepted the \$.30 per hour increase. Mr. Davis made a motion to approve the tentative 3 year contract with the AFSCME union members. Seconded by Mr. Leventry. All in favor.

Mr. Rodgers continued, job evaluations have been completed with the Secretary evaluating the office staff and the Street Commissioner evaluating the street department. The Personnel Committee and members of Council evaluate the Secretary and Street Commissioner. It is the recommendations of the Personnel Committee that Mr. Bosley's annual salary for 1997 be \$26,600, Street Workers increase \$.30 per hour pending AFSCME contract final approval, Secretary's annual salary to be \$20,450, Part Time Temporary, Dave Weir's increase to \$7.00 per hour, Clerk/Secretary, Nancy Kush is increased \$.25 per hour to \$5.90 and the Part Time Seasonal employees at minimum wage currently at \$4.75 with an increase on September 1, 1997 to \$5.15, as per the Federal law, all pending final adoption of the 1997 Budget. A motion by Mr. Danyluk and seconded by Mr. Kory to approve the recommendation as written. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Rodgers reviewed the report of the codifications quotes and the Administration Committee is recommending that, while the other bids were adequate, we accept the lowest bid of \$8,900.00 submitted by Penn Valley Publishing. A motion by Mr. Danyluk to accept the lowest bid of \$8,900.00 from Penn Valley Publishing for codification. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. A payment schedule was included.

The possibility of purchasing a TV-VCR and camcorder for the use of the Council was discussed. The Committee felt there is a need for the use of these items to further explain situations or problems for Council's information or decisions. A motion by Mr. Danyluk to spend up to \$1,000.00 to purchase the mentioned items. Seconded by Mr. Leventry.

Mr. Rodgers is recommending that a set of guidelines be written for controlled use of the camcorder. It should be used only with authorization of Council President or delegate. The Administration Committee will write the policy guidelines.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Mr. Danyluk reported that the year to date total volume is 53,422 lbs. with a credit of \$897.56. No other report.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory's only report was the Fire Company's 1997 activities list, Mr. Butler did state that he would prepare the list and submit to Council.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Rodgers reviewed the advertised tentative budget for 1997. The salaries have been set. There will be no changes in the tax rate, it will remain at 23.5. All other taxes remain the same. There being no further question a motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to adopt the 1997 Budget as prepared. Seconded by Mr. Davis. Roll call vote: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Davis, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Leventry, and Mr. Pile, all in favor, opposed none. Motion carried.

Mr. Rodgers made a motion to authorize the Secretary/Treasurer to make final account transfers within the Budget to balance the 1996 budget. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. Roll call vote: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Davis, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Leventry, and Mr. Pile, all in favor, opposed none. Motion carried.

SHADE TREE

Mr. Krupa has completed the application for the Tree City USA award. The tree was removed on the Zucco property on Shady Lane and Cox Street and an invoice in the amount of \$250.00 for the tree removal was mailed to Mr. Zucco. The year end report records 12 trees were removed in the Borough and 12 new trees were planted, plus work done around the recycling shed.

RECREATION/PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

Mr. Pile reported that the Winter Program schedule and brochure was mailed. The High School Playground relocation program has been presented and the Recreation Commission discussed the project range of \$15,000.to \$18,000. Mr. Pile has written a letter to Portage Bank in reference to their contribution to the Southmont Soccer/Ballfield project. He will meet with Larry Gianonne, CEO of Portage Bank.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

No report.

C.O.G. Report

Mr. Davis reported on the December meeting of COG. Election of Officers was held and Mr. Charles Moyer was elected President, with Cecil Leverknight as Vice President. COG has increased their membership by 3 new municipalities this month and possibly 5 new members by next month. A committee has been formed to discuss the Greater Johnstown Water Authority policy on Fire Hydrants service. Mr. William Gehlmann is acting chairman. A letter has been sent to the GJWA asking questions on the COG concerns.

CHAPIN ARCH

No other report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Morgan has no other report except on the handicapped parking space at 21 Shady Lane. Signs will be ordered.

SOLICITOR

Solicitor Lovette has prepared the 1997 tax rate at 23.5 mills and it has been advertised. A motion by Mr. Rodgers and seconded by Mr. Danyluk to approve Ordinance No 406 setting the tax rate. Roll call vote: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Davis, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Leventry, and Mr. Pile, all in favor, opposed none. Motion carried. Solicitor Lovette has read a complaint from Mr. Ray Hartnett for damages against Southmont Borough because of water runoff. He advised the Secretary to turn the complaint into the Insurance carrier and he will work with them on the case. Solicitor Lovette has spoken with Attorney Abood who is handling the complaint in court for Mr. Hartnett. Solicitor Lovette asked if we would video tape the alley in question for future use in the case.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mrs. Czyrnik's written report records Resolution 9604 had to be re-written, naming Mr. Pile as the sole signature on the Penn Dot agreement for construction of Chapin Arch traffic control. A motion to approve Resolution 9606 by Mr. Danyluk, was seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor. Mrs. Kush has asked to purchase two old telephones from the office. Council asked for an offer. We have received the written agreement, regarding the leaf loader grant. After signatures the fully executed copies will be returned to the Borough. We have also received the fully executed copies of the DCNR grant for the soccer/ballfield project. We have received word from Richard Lear of PAMS that they have completed their audit and have a check plus interest for embezzled Borough monies. Council suggested that a list of questions concerning PAMS be prepared for answering by Mr. Lear at an agreed meeting. Solicitor Lovette would like to see the letter. Southmont Borough's share is \$12,240. approximately.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Davis made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report with a balance of \$254,447.23 in the General Fund for November 1996. Mr. Rodgers seconded. All in favor, opposed none. Motion carried.

TAX COLLECTOR

Mr. Quinn's written report records \$0.00 collected in Real Estate taxes and \$71.50 in Per Capita collections for the month of November. Total amount of \$71.50. A motion by Mr. Rodgers accepting the Tax Collector's report, seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

APPROVAL TO PAY THE BILLS

After questions and review, a motion was made by Mr. Davis to approve the bills for a total of \$27,580.22. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Davis, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Leventry and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Council reviewed items on the "Tickler List" that have been taken care off. Elwalds complaints, handicapped space, storage shed signs cost estimate of upper Cheney Run enclosure, job evaluations, and codification of ordinances was removed form the list. Council members and Engineers are to meet with Richland Twp. on information on how they handle new development, for future reference. Congressman Murtha has given Southmont Borough a new flag to fly over the Borough building. On a question, Attorney Kiniry is working on the wording on the Junked Vehicle Ordinance. A correction letter will be sent to Mr. Antonazzo regarding the proposed subdivision plans submitted by Pete Chiodo. There was an error in the letter mailed December 4, 1996

NEW BUSINESS

A motion by Mr. Rodgers was made to advertise the 1997 meeting schedule as follows; third Monday of each month for the regular Council meeting night at 7:00 p.m. and every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. and third Monday at 6:30 p.m. for any Special Committee meetings, if needed. Motion seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor.

A motion by Mr. Kory to approve Mr. Bosley's attendance to the Hazmat training session in Indiana in January. Seconded by Mr. Davis. Council members looked at brochures on other training sessions available. Mayor Morgan offered his engraving machine to engrave our name on new equipment. Committee and Board appointments will be made next month. Council adjourned 9:15 p.m. Merry Christmas
Respectfully submitted.