

BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
148 Wonder Street
Johnstown, PA 15905

Minutes for December 10, 2007

The pledge of allegiance was conducted and the scheduled December 10, 2007, Council meeting was called to order by Vice President Rodgers at 7:00 p.m.

Present:

President Pile arrived at 7:35 P.M., Borough Manager Loretta Spak, Solicitor Dan Lovette, Vice President Rodgers, Council Member Mr. Herb Ewald, Council Member Mr. William Kory, Council Member Mr. William Krupa, Council Member Mr. Thomas Strittmatter, Council Member Mr. Ed Danyluk, Mayor Gerry Sloat, Deputy Chief Mike Leckey, and Zoning Officer Jerry Hudson.

Absent: West Hills Police Chief Andy Havas, Engineer Dave Duray and Street Commissioner Jan Bosley.

Visitors: Mr. Matthew McGlynn, 2175 Woodcest Drive, observing.

Meeting Agenda:

Vice President Rodgers asked for approval of the council meeting minutes of November 19, 2007. Mr. Krupa made a motion to approve the council meeting minutes of November 19, 2007 as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter, all in favor motion carried.

Police Chief's Report

West Hills Police Chief Andy Havas absent, no report.

Zoning Officers Report

Mr. Hudson's report was received and reviewed. Report shows no new activity. The total for 2007 is thirty six (36) permits at a total construction cost of \$203,571.29. Mr. Hudson updated council on findings at 321 Orchard Street. He will check BOCA code for time limitations on construction items (windows, doors, etc.).

Fire Company Report

Fire Chief's written report records eleven (11) responses during the month of November. There were two calls between the hours of 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. Southmont had five (5) assists three to Upper Yoder, one to Westwood, and one to Riverside. Deputy Chief Mike Leckey mentioned the fire company helped PennDot with the rockslide on Menoher. They were there for approximately three and a half (3 ½) hours. Mr. Strittmatter asked the fire company to forward hours, manpower, etc. to Ms. Spak; we will look into adding to PennDot agility agreement. The 2007 Holiday cash raffle was reviewed; numbers of returns are down. The lower siren on Menoher Boulevard is broke, may have another bad driver (replaced a driver last month). After meeting on new radio's Deputy Chief Leckey will inform Ms. Spak if repair is to be made. Michael Butler is stepping down as Fire Chief into the Deputy Chief position. Mike Leckey will be Fire Chief. Zoning Officer Jerry Hudson will monitor clean up of debris from structure burn training at Mr. Moskals property on Pedan Lane. The fire company along with Mr. Moskal will pitch in for gravel to fill ruts on Pedan Lane. Mr. Ewald mentioned he has heard nothing but good feedback concerning the live structure burn training. The Hilltop Ambulance Association report was received and is on file.

Engineer's Report

The written Engineer's report for December was received and reviewed. Ms. Spak will inform Mr. Duray to remove Helen Street and Elim Street from 2008 paving program.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Street Commissioners Report:** Mr. Bosley absent. Ms. Spak updated council that crack sealing is scheduled for weeks of April 7th, 14th, and 21st and leaf pickup will be concluded by December 14th. No part-timers other than snow plowers will be working. Mr. Strittmatter mentioned bags of leaves on Daisy need picked up.
- B. Streets:** Mr. Danyluk made a motion to apply for a grant to replace the Ray Alley steps. Seconded by Mr. Ewald, six yes and one no, motion carried. Discussion followed concerning repair of steps under contract by White Hat Construction, letter will be sent. Mr. Danyluk made a motion to go out for bids to replace steps and hand rail pending approval of specs by Borough Engineer and Solicitor. Seconded by Mr. Ewald, six yes and one no, motion carried.
- C. Personnel:** Mr. Krupa requested an Executive Session be held prior to new business.
- D. Police Committee:** Mayor Sloat had nothing new to report.
- E. Recycling Committee:** Mr. Kory had nothing new to report. Mr. Kory would like to accompany the recycling trailer to Pandya on next trip.
- F. Insurance Committee:** Mr. Rodgers had nothing new to report.
- G. Budget Committee:** Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to approve the 2008 General Fund Budget as proposed, in the amount of \$810,170. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers; Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none. Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to approve ordinance 468 fixing the tax rate for year 2008 to thirteen (13) mills. Seconded by Mr. Ewald; Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none. Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to approve ordinance 469 for year 2008 to reinstitute per capita tax of ten dollars (\$10). Seconded by Mr. Rodgers; Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none. Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to approve ordinance 470 establishing Central Tax Bureau to collect all 511 taxes. Seconded by Mr. Ewald; Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none. Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to approve resolution to increase the charter communications franchise fee for cable television from 2% to 5%. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk; Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none. Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to accept the Cheney Run Fund in the amount of \$10,000 and the Liquid Fuel Highway Aid Fund in the amount of \$12,018.49 (plus December's interest). Seconded by Mr. Rodgers; Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none. Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to keep the same depositories for 2008; General Funds-Portage National Bank & PLIGIT, Cheney Run-PLIGIT, Motor License Fund-PLIGIT, Garbage and Sewer Fund-Portage National Bank and Capital Improvement CD-Portage National Bank. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk; Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none. Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to approve Ms. Spak to do the appropriate 2007 account transfers. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk; Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none. Mr. Krupa made a motion to hold committee meetings on Tuesday, if needed, at 4:00 p.m. or at 6:30 p.m. prior to regular Council meetings. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter, all in favor motion

carried. Mr. Rodgers made a motion to have regular Council meetings held on the third Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. except meeting in December which will be held on the second Monday (December 8, 2007), and the reorganization meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 7, 2008. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk, all in favor motion carried. Ms. Spak will advertise the meeting schedule. Ms. Spak will contact Centax to follow up on getting the state EIT list from school board.

- G. Shade Tree Report:** Mr. Krupa updated council on pine trees at 175 State Street, he spoke with property owner and a follow up letter dated December 5th was mailed to Mrs. Orletsky. Mr. Krupa is in process of filling out the annual Tree City USA report for State Forestry. Mr. Krupa spoke with Mr. Kriak concerning limbs/brush on Wonder Street hillside; council is satisfied as long as progress is being made.
- H. Recreation Committee:** The November minutes were received and on file. Mr. Kory stated the recreation center went out for bids for website development. The Sernell Group Consulting and Id Creative made presentations and answered questions. Mr. Kory is leaning toward the Sernell Group Consulting (no additional charges for pages, pictures, maintenance, etc.) and he urges Mr. Pile and Mr. Ewald to attend next meeting for vote.
- I. Building and Grounds Report:** Mr. Kory mentioned road crew needs to remove the rolled up fence from front of shed as soon as possible, dangerous because there are sharp edges sticking up. Ms. Spak will remind West Hills Police to open recycling shed on weekends and holidays.
- J. COG Report:** Mr. Ewald has nothing to report.
- K. Grandview Committee:** Mr. Kory has nothing to report.
- L. Greater Johnstown Water Authority:** Mr. Pile was at a meeting tonight, why he was late; the water authority has a lot of meetings.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Sloat mentioned in the October issue of American City & County were two articles concerning GPS vehicle tracking in municipalities. He researched on internet and forwarded findings to council. There are simple devices at an average cost of \$400 to \$500 and there are online real time tracking at a higher cost along with a monthly fee. Council might want to consider a type of GPS tracking; this would eliminate the human factor, discussion followed.

Solicitor's Report

Solicitor Lovette informed council the municipal lien the county missed for #16 Harding Street will not be getting paid.

Manager's Report

Ms. Spak's written report was submitted and reviewed. Mr. Rodgers made a motion to have Kline Kimlin perform the tax collector and Borough audit for 2007. Seconded by Mr. Kory, all in favor motion carried. Ms. Spak reviewed with council her plans for running of office minus part time help; requesting putting completion dates on all "to do" lists. Mr. Rodgers moved to accept the manager's report. Seconded by Mr. Krupa, all in favor motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to approve November's Treasurer Report in the amount of \$216,709.66. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers, all in favor, motion carried.

Tax Collectors Report

Mr. Rodgers noted we received the November Tax Collector's report with Real Estate revenues received at \$957.59. Seconded by Mr. Kory, all in favor motion carried.

Payment of Bills

Mr. Strittmatter made a motion to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$42,132.84 void check #9331 CJL Engineering Borough doesn't pay mileage. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers; roll call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa, and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none.

Old Business

President Pile reviewed "Tickler List" nothing to be removed or added at this time. Discussed purchase order's Ms. Spak will create requisitions and work on policy. A committee meeting will be scheduled for after the reorganization meeting. Discussion followed concerning downspouts/gutters going into sewer lateral, Ms. Spak will contact Conemaugh Township for copy of ordinance they just passed.

New Business

Mr. Danyluk made a motion for West Hills Police not to participate in the DUI task force; council feels our local police are very capable in patrolling Southmont Borough. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers, all in favor motion carried. Ms. Spak will draft letter to District Attorney Kiniry and forward to Solicitor Lovette for review concerning above motion. A "thank you" for donation note from Cambria County Library System was received and is on file. Mr. Rodgers made a motion to accept Mrs. Magistro's resignation with thanks for service. Seconded by Mr. Krupa, all in favor motion carried.

At 9:15 p.m. President Pile called for an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues.
At 9:52 p.m. Council reconvened.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Rodgers for adjournment of the December 17, 2007 meeting at 9:52 P.M. Seconded by Mr. Krupa, all in favor motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Loretta Spak, Borough Manager
12/17/2007 9:56 AM

