

BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
148 Wonder Street
Johnstown, PA 15905

Minutes for August 19, 2019

The pledge of allegiance was conducted and the scheduled August 19, 2019 Council meeting was called to order by Vice-President Pile at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Attorney Michael Carbonara; Engineer Todd Banks; Exec. Sec. Amanda Layton; Mayor Mark Yonko; Council Members; Gregory Paolini, Ed Danyluk, Herb Ewald, Kevin Pile, and Bob Morgan; Police Sgt. Det. Ed Fisher; Street Commissioner Harry Lingenfelter

Absent: Fire Chief Michael Butler; Council President Richard Rodgers (Funeral); Council Member Sheree Speicher (Funeral)

Visitors: Pat & Jesse Ditson (Subdivision), Roxanne Hauger (Discuss issues)

Bid Opening

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve opening the 2019 paving bids for Violet Street from Queen Street to Leon Street, Diamond Blvd/Leila Street from Olive Street a distance of 400 feet and Shady Lane 185 feet from Cox Street a distance of 126 feet. Motion seconded by Mr. Paolini. Mr. Rodgers and Mrs. Speicher absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

The bid results were as follows:

Quaker Sales Corporation	\$57,881.40
HRI, Inc.	\$47,475.45

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to accept the bid from HRI, Inc. in the amount of \$47,475.45 contingent upon review and approval by Solicitor Michael Carbonara. Motion seconded by Mr. Danyluk. Roll call: Mr. Paolini, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Pile in favor. Mr. Rodgers and Mrs. Speicher absent. Motion carried (5-0).

Correspondence:

Correspondence was received from the Cambria County Planning Commission advising Council they had conducted a review of the subdivision request submitted by Jesse and Pat Ditson at 174 Floyd Street and confirmed the Borough has satisfied review requirements contained in Section 502 of the Municipalities Planning Code. A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve the subdivision request contingent upon review and approval by Engineer Todd Banks. Motion seconded by Mr. Danyluk. Mr. Rodgers and Mrs. Speicher absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

August 19, 2019 Minutes – Page 2

Correspondence was received from Bishop McCort Catholic High School requesting permission to “Turn Southmont Teal” by tying ribbons to trees and displaying signage along Southmont and Diamond Boulevards and State Street during September for National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month. A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve Bishop McCort Catholic High School’s “Turn Southmont Teal” request. Motion seconded by Mr. Danyluk. Mr. Rodgers and Mrs. Speicher absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

Visitors

Mrs. Hauger read a summary story line from the television show “Vengeance Neighbors” regarding two neighbors that had ongoing disputes with one another. Mrs. Hauger informed council her neighbor has electricity running through dead trees in the rear of their properties and police were recently called over a domestic dispute. Chief Lose informed Mrs. Hauger the domestic dispute is a private family matter and he would not discuss any details. Solicitor Carbonara informed Mrs. Hauger it is a civil issue and council cannot offer relief. Mrs. Hauger stated she is aware it is a civil issue and just wanted to make council aware of what is going on in case anything happens.

Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve the July 15, 2019 council meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Mr. Paolini. Mr. Rodgers and Mrs. Speicher absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

Police Chief’s Report

The August 2019 Police Chief’s Report was received and is on file. Chief Lose had nothing further to report.

Fire Company’s Report

Chief Butler absent. The July 2019 Fire Chief’s Report was received and is on file. The 2017/2018 Fire Company Audit Report was received and is on file.

Solicitor Carbonara stated the borough needs to meet with the Southmont Volunteer Fire Company to discuss the details of the tax break ordinance recently passed.

Engineer’s Report

Mr. Banks reported Stiffler McGraw has compiled specs for repairing Tomato Alley, which would include replacing the two inlet boxes and paving between Queen Street and Harshberger Road. A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve advertising for bids for the Tomato Alley repairs. Motion seconded by Mr. Ewald. Roll call: Mr. Paolini, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Pile in favor. Mr. Rodgers and Mrs. Speicher absent. Motion carried (5-0).

Mr. Banks stated the lateral work at the triangle area between Menoher Blvd. and Luzerne Street should be completed this week.

August 19, 2019 Minutes – Page 3

A motion was made by Mr. Ewald to approve Pay Estimate No. 1 in the amount of \$22,912.10 to Snyder Excavating for the Gardner Street Storm Sewer Project. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. Roll call: Mr. Paolini, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Pile in favor. Mr. Rodgers and Mrs. Speicher absent. Motion carried (5-0).

Mr. Pile asked Mr. Banks what the process is to follow up on complaints. Mr. Banks stated if an inspector is in town they will sign off on the completed complaints. Mr. Pile requested copies of the completed complaints be sent to the borough office.

Mr. Banks reported we are still waiting for a two-year storm event, but a rain event on June 17th and June 18th brought a total of 1.85 inches of rain, which was the largest rain event up to this point. Mr. Banks stated the flow meter data showed results of 619 gallons per day per equivalent dwelling unit. Mr. Banks stated he found data to compare a 0.92 rain event in 2019 with a peak instantaneous flow of 939 gallons per minute to a 0.93 rain event in 2012 before any work on the system was done with a peak instantaneous flow of 4,200 gallons per minute.

Zoning Officer's Report

The June and July 2019 Zoning Reports were received and are on file.

Street Commissioner's Report

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve purchasing treated lumber to replace the border around Diamond Blvd. Playground. Motion seconded by Mr. Paolini. Mr. Rodgers and Mrs. Speicher absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

Solicitor's Report

Solicitor Carbonara stated he submitted a certified letter to the Department of Labor and Industry regarding Southmont Borough opting-in to the PA Uniform Construction Code noting the 180 day timeline begins from July 26, 2019.

Solicitor Carbonara stated the Birch issue is finalized noting final payment was made for repayment of demolition costs and other additional liens.

Solicitor Carbonara reported he provided council with a shut-off agreement with Greater Johnstown Water Authority, which would assist the borough in collecting garbage and sewer maintenance fees by allowing the borough to shut off water to a property with high past due balances. A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve the water shut-off agreement with Greater Johnstown Water Authority. Motion seconded by Mr. Ewald. Mr. Rodgers and Mrs. Speicher absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0). A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve advertising an ordinance to pass the agreement with Greater Johnstown Water Authority. Motion seconded by Mr. Ewald. Mr. Rodgers and Mrs. Speicher absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

Executive Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to change the name of the sewer fund to sewer depreciation fund to comply with audit notes. Motion seconded by Mr. Paolini. Mr. Rodgers and Mrs. Speicher absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

Mayor's Report

Mayor Yonko requested Mr. Lingenfelter call the Westmont Hilltop School Superintendent to update the snow plowing contact list for the upcoming winter season.

1) COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Streets: Mr. Ewald suggested making the north side of Logan Street a no parking area due to emergency vehicles not being able to access the entire street with cars on both sides and to make Langhorne Avenue a one-way street going from Harding Street to Southmont Blvd. Council agreed to send letters regarding the proposal to residents along both streets to give them a chance to voice their opinions and concerns.

B. Administration: Mr. Rodgers absent. Nothing to report.

C. Personnel: A motion was made by Mr. Paolini to approve hiring Debra Riek as Part-time Office Secretary at \$10.00 per hour for 20 hours per week. Motion seconded by Mr. Ewald. Mr. Rodgers and Mrs. Speicher absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

D. Police Committee: Nothing to report.

E. Budget & Tax Collection Committee: Mr. Pile reported work on the 2020 budget will begin shortly.

F. Shade Tree Committee: Nothing to report.

G. Buildings & Grounds Committee: Mrs. Speicher absent. Mr. Lingenfelter reported Stiffler McGraw submitted plans for replacement of the old salt storage building noting the cost was approximately one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) with most of the cost coming from pouring concrete walls. Mr. Lingenfelter suggested knocking down the old firemen's shed next to Diamond Blvd. Playground and building a new salt storage building that wouldn't require poured concrete noting the area already has power and heat could be added. The Building & Grounds Committee will review.

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve purchasing a new spring rider to replace the broken snail at Diamond Blvd. Playground. Motion seconded by Mr. Ewald. Mr. Rodgers and Mrs. Speicher absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

H. Greater Johnstown Water Authority: Mr. Pile reported GJWA is continuing on the North Fork Dam Project noting they will be submitted a PennVest request for \$15 million.

I. Open Records: Nothing to report.

J. Borough Services: Mrs. Speicher absent. A proposed cablevision agreement was received from Atlantic Broadband. Solicitor Carbonara stated other municipalities have come together to split the cost of an attorney to review the agreements. Council agreed to have Solicitor Carbonara contact other areas to see if they are interested.

K. Fire Company: Nothing to report.

L. Audit: Mr. Rodgers absent. The 2018 audit went well and the auditors noted the borough has a high receivables balance in the sewer fund due to unpaid sewer maintenance and garbage bills and suggested looking into a solution to help with collections.

M. Insurance: Nothing to report.

N. Centennial: Mr. Morgan reported an escrow fund is being held to pay any future invoices such as removal of centennial banners.

Business Items

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve ratification of payroll from July 16, 2019 through August 19, 2019 in the amount of \$14,274.73. Motion seconded by Mr. Paolini. Roll call: Mr. Paolini, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Pile in favor. Mr. Rodgers and Mrs. Speicher absent. Motion carried (5-0).

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to payment of bills from July 16, 2019 through August 20, 2019 in the amount of \$97,744.79. Motion seconded by Mr. Ewald. Roll call: Mr. Paolini, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Pile in favor. Mr. Rodgers and Mrs. Speicher absent. Motion carried (5-0). Mr. Morgan noted the fees for Walker Consulting services are high at a total of \$1,657.50 for June and July 2019.

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to accept the July 2019 treasurer's report in the amount of \$1,740,593.86. Motion seconded by Mr. Paolini. Mr. Rodgers and Mrs. Speicher absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to note the receipt of the July 2019 tax collectors report in the amount of \$27,658.15. Motion seconded by Mr. Paolini. Mr. Rodgers and Mrs. Speicher absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Morgan for adjournment of the August 19, 2019 meeting at 5:16 p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. Danyluk. Mr. Rodgers and Mrs. Speicher absent. All in favor, motion carried (5-0).

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda D. Layton
Secretary/Treasurer