

MINUTES
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
June 18, 2001 7:00 p.m.

The scheduled June Council meeting was called to order by President Pile at 7:00 p.m. After the pledge to the flag, the June 18, 2001 meeting of Council convened.

PRESENT: President Pile, Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Rovansek, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Strittmatter, Secretary/Treasurer: Judith Czyrnik, Solicitor: Daniel R. Lovette, Engineer: David Duray, Street Commissioner: Jan Bosley, Fire Dept.: Chet Borosky, West Hills Police: Detective George Muslin, Zoning Officer: Dyke Orms

ABSENT: Mr. Kory, -PSAB Convention

VISITORS: Raymond Hartnett-Wren Street Property

President Pile asked for approval of the May 21, 2001 minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to accept the minutes as presented. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Kory, absent, PSAB Convention.

President Pile called upon Mr. Ray Hartnett, in attendance to hear discussion on the sale of the Wren Street property. President Pile explained that we would be talking about that later in the meeting.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Havas's written report which records the revenues for the month of May at \$271.28. The report records that all Officers have been recertified in CPR for 2001. Det. Sgt. Musulin and Officer West attended a seminar on Criminal Investigations sponsored by the Richland Township Police Department. Det. Sgt. Musulin also attended a seminar on Child Abuse, Domestic Violence, Care Dependent Individuals and Sexual Assault sponsored by the Cambria County District Attorney's Office. In Chief Havas's absence Det. Sgt. Musulin had nothing further to report.

ZONING OFFICERS REPORT

Mr. Orms, Zoning Administrator reported on the May report submitted to Council, records 2 Building Permits issued since the last report, in the amount of \$130,000.00. The year to date construction total is \$173,682.00. Mr. Orms reported that a letter was sent to Mr. Alan Cashaw of 304 Cheney Oak Drive reminding him that he needs another Building Permit for the retaining wall and the required sidewalks. A letter was sent to the owners of an abandoned truck parked by the Water Authority Tank on Stillray Street. The owners are Valley Painting in South Hampton, PA.

Mr. Rodgers had a question on how many employees a business operating out of a residential home are allowed to have. The Code states that one employee and the resident of the property.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

Chief Borosky's written report records 9 activities for the month of May. Chief Borosky reported that a resident had been issued a burning permit and left a fire unattended. The Police warned the resident not to leave the fire unattended. At 11:55 p.m. the fire department was called by the Police to a brush fire at that address. Chief Borosky feels the resident should be given a citation, as he was warned earlier in the day. Council discussed the incident. The Police Commission is having a meeting on June 19, 2001 and Council representatives will ask about this incident. There were some problems with the siren timer, the override button was pushed in and therefore did not allow the siren to operate when it was activated.

There have been some problems with the pagers and the siren. Chief Borosky and the 911 Center are working on the siren, Cover Hill 911 Center verses New Germany towers. There is no difference between the two, only a 5 second delay. Chief Borosky is in touch with manufacture of the pagers to upgrade the units. Nothing confirmed as yet. Mr. Bosley discussed the damage to the field after the Jubilee. The drainage line is open on the field near the gate, Mr. Bosley is suggesting that Fire Department hold off in making the repairs to the field as he will dig out the grass section at the gate and place gravel there for better drainage. The Fire Department restores the field after the Jubilee. A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to correct the entrance roadway to the ballfield. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Kory-PSAB Convention. The Hilltop Ambulance report was received and is on file.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. David Duray of the Hinks and Locher Division of Paul C. Rizzo Associates reported that the paving on Helen Street will be completed when Quaker Sales paves Plainfield Ave. in Ferndale. A signed release has been received from the Sprague's in reference to the Sanitary Sewer Project on Luzerne Street. Mr. Duray discussed the drawings for the Wren Street property. Access to the property and right of way must be determined. Survey's and drawings will be submitted to a developer interested in the property. A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to advertise the Wren Street property for sale, with bid openings on July 16, 2001. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Kory-PSAB Convention. This proposed sale will be further discussed at a Committee meeting. President Pile set a Committee meeting for June 26, 2001 at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Hartnett expressed concerns that a developer will cut all the trees on the property. Mr. Hartnett stated that he was speaking for approximately 15 property owners of property in the Overbrook section who are interested in the possible sale of the Wren Street property. Mr. Hartnett is opposed to the Borough selling the property just for tax base purposes. He feels the area should remain a wooded section. Solicitor Lovette informed Mr. Hartnett that the concerned residents know the property is up for sale and if they are interested they should bid on the property. It will be advertised that any and all bids will be accepted or rejected by Council.

ENGINEER'S REPORT, cont'd

Mr. Duray reported on the flow meters on storm sewer lines at State Street bypass and Wonder Street. The meters appear to be working properly now and Mr. Duray will download them this week. There were some problems with some of the parts for the meters and the manufacturer shipped other units until the meters worked properly.

~~Extra meters and parts will be returned to the manufacturer.~~

Mr. Duray asked Council about the Wren Street property and the (right of way), Weir Way. Council informed Mr. Duray that the right of way is not part of the sale. An easement will be needed for the Sanitary Sewer on the Wren Street property.

The Gas Company is making a request to waive the street opening fees for new gas lines that need to be installed in the area of Diamond Blvd., Orchard Street and Milton Street. The gas line is in an undesignated alley between Diamond and Orchard. Garages, sheds and trees are built over the gas lines. The Gas Company plans to replace the service on Diamond, Orchard and Milton in the street rather than in the alley. After a lengthy discussion, Council will request that a representative from the Gas Company attend our Committee meeting on June 26, 2001. Council has a question on how far down Court Alley does the old gas line go. Mr. Duray suggested that when the new line is installed the Borough must have access to the curb. Mr. Duray had nothing further.

President Pile changed the agenda, as Solicitor Lovette must leave early.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Lovette prepared and advertised Ordinance No 429 setting the sidewalk requirements for depth, width, and materials. A motion to approve Ordinance No.429 was made by Mr. Rodgers and seconded by Mr. Danyluk. Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Rovanseck, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa and Mr. Pile, all in favor. Opposed none. Mr. Kory, PSAB Convention. Motion carried.

Solicitor Lovette submitted a check in the amount of \$8,000.00 from the sale of property by Pete Chiodo to the Mid Atlantic Financial Co. Solicitor Lovette had filed three liens against Mr. Chiodo for outstanding lien's owed to the Borough of Southmont, from prior Zoning Hearing Board meetings, the escrow account for the PineBrooke Development Area and front footage on a property at 300-302 Cheney Oak Drive. The \$8,000.00 payment will be made against the outstanding liens. There still is an outstanding balance on the 3 lien's of \$7,061.90 against any future properties sold by Mr. Chiodo.

Solicitor Lovette is to meet with Upper Yoder Township Sewer Authority, Solicitor Robert Shahade, before the end of the month, to discuss the latest agreement for sewer rental.

Solicitor Lovette feels that the Chapin Arch deed is finally finalized. He will be recording the deed with the County this week. The Chapin Arch and Right of Way were deeded from PennDot to Citizens Cemetery and then to Southmont. Solicitor Lovette will convey to Southern Alleghenies Conservancy as soon as possible.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT cont'd

A resident of Southmont has been approved by the Pennsylvania Veteran's Commission for real estate tax exemption for up to a two year period from 2001 to 2002. The County has approved the tax exemption and Southmont has received a tax exempt certification notice from the County. After discussion, Mr. Rodgers made a motion to to grant the Borough Real Estate exemption for up to a two year period, for the property at 4 Cheney Street. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Kory-PSAB Convention. Solicitor Lovette left the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STREET COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Mr. Bosley's written report records that employees picked up branches and debris after storms. Cleaned catch basins. Put milled material in alleys. Dug holes for two trees on Diamond Blvd. and planted two during Arbor Day celebration. Had the City of Johnstown's sewer vacuum cleaning machine in to clean the catch basins in the Borough. Installed two flow meters in the storm line manholes. Rebuilt catch basins on Daisy and Dell Streets. Have several others to do throughout the summer. Transplanted trees to the Wonder Street Restroom area. The dusk to dawn light was installed on the backstop at restrooms. Roof vents have been repaired from last year's vandalism. The repairs to the restroom have been completed. New keys have been made. These keys cannot be duplicated. It was the consensus of Council to have a release written for the key. Solicitor Lovette will prepare the release. Nine of the 11 alley lights have been installed. Mr. Danyluk asked Council, after receiving two complaints, if we should continue with the installation of the alley lights. It was the consensus of Council to continue with the alley light installations. Mr. Krupa had installed a light in the alley, at his own expense, several years ago and is being invoiced for this alley light. A motion was made by Mr. Rovansek to transfer individual ownership of any standard alley lights to the Borough. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Kory-PSAB Convention

Fixed the blacktop at two locations of Bliss Street. Patched potholes with hot asphalt. Borrowed the Upper Yoder roller. Spread the mulch at the Diamond Playground. Mr. Bosley hired Jordan Patton for grass cutting at \$5.15 per hour. Mr. Bosley trimmed trees at Diamond and Menoher Blvd. around the shed and on Thoburn Street. Mr. Bosley checked the catch basin at Peden Lane. Dye testing was done and they could not find where it came out. He will smoke test this catch basin when he does Mr. Gaydos's property on Southmont Blvd.

STREET COMMITTEE

There was nothing further to report.

ADMINISTRATION/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Nothing at this time.

POLICE COMMISSION

Mayor Koval reported that a meeting will be held June 21, 2001 and Mr. Krupa will attend as the alternate member.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Report submitted. Council discussed the cost of recycling.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

In Mr. Kory's absence Mrs. Czyrnik reported the Worker's Compensation policy will expire August 1, 2001 and will need to be renewed. Southmont Borough has Worker's Comp. coverage with PIRMA.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Rodgers reviewed the Budget; there is nothing new to report.

SHADE TREE

Mr. Krupa reported that the trees were removed on Diamond Blvd., Southmont Blvd. and Violet Street. Several trees were diseased, others were leaning and were about to fall. Trees will be replaced. The stumps are to be removed this week. Some of the trees had just the dead wood removed.

RECREATION/PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

President Pile reported that the gym floor resurfacing is in progress. All summer staff positions have been filled. Some checks have been received for the Reserve Fund and will be deposited. Mayor Koval received the reimbursement funds for the soda machines at the restroom facility on the soccer field. He is recommending that one soda machine be taken out as the receipts are too low, in respect to the amount of electricity used to keep the machine running. (electricity \$35.00 to \$40.00 per month, reimbursement \$45.00 to \$50.00 per two months.) A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to remove one machine. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Kory-PSAB Convention

BUILDINGS and GROUNDS

Mr. Kory, Mayor Koval and Mr. Bosley will inspect the Borough building and grounds this week. While they are inspecting they will look at the approximately 12 entry signs in the Borough; many need to be replaced or updated.

C.O.G REPORT

Mr. Rovansek reported that COG members discussed the new Uniformed

Construction Codes program (building codes regulations being enforced by PA. State). The training and certification portion of the regulations have been published and submitted to members for review. Mr. Rovansek suggested that Mr. Orms look at the information.

CHAPIN ARCH

Solicitor Lovette reported earlier that the deeds for the Chapin Arch will be recorded this month.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Koval reviewed the Emergency Operation Update plane and it is ready for final adoption. A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to approve the Emergency operations Plan for 2001. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Kory-PSAB Convention

SOLICITOR 'S REPORT

Agenda changed. Reported earlier.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary's report records that the original Liquid Fuels check received from PennDot still has not been received at PLGIT. PennDot did issue a new check and the funds were wired to PLGIT thru the Portage National Bank. Residents are still reviewing the sanitary sewer violations. Some have corrected their violations and these have been inspected. An invoice has been sent to PennLand Insurance for a damaged tree on Mabel Street. The tree will have to be removed. A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers and seconded by Mr. Strittmatter to accept the Secretary's report. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Kory-PSAB Convention.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to accept the May Treasurer's Report, as presented, in the amount of \$356,791.97. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Kory-PSAB Convention.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Rodgers made a motion to note that Southmont received the May Tax Collector's Report, with Real Estate Collections at \$106,296.25. Seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Kory-PSAB Convention,

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Mr. Strittmatter to approve payment of the bills, in the amount of \$ 60,465.10. Seconded by Mr. Danyluk.. Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Rovansek, Mr. Strittmatter, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Danyluk and Mr. Pile. All in favor, opposed none. Mr. Kory-PSAB Convention.

OLD BUSINESS

President Pile asked for review of items on the "Tickler List". Items were reviewed, removed or relisted. Some new items will be added.

NEW BUSINESS

Council discussed the contract with PPL Energy Plus for the generation costs of our electricity. Our contract has expired and PPL is no longer a supplier of the generation costs.

Mr. Kory is attending the PSAB Annual Convention in Hershey, PA. Mr. Krupa asked Mr. Bosley to check on a tree that is overhanging onto Menoher Blvd. near the lower part of Lino's. Mr. Bosley will look at the tree.

A thank you was received for the added alley light on the end of Wonder Street.

Cable TV franchise tax fees were received for the 1st quarter. As Council members are walking within the Borough they will note the addresses of the property where tree limbs interfere with the sidewalk pedestrian. Mr. Krupa will develop a standard letter to send to the property owners who are violating the Tree & Limb Ordinance No.420.

At this time 8:55 p.m., Mr. Strittmatter called an Executive Session. Council reconvened at 9:04 p.m. Mr. Strittmatter reviewed with Council the June 7 evaluation meeting that the Committee had with Mr. Bosley. A motion was made by Mr. Strittmatter to increase Mr. Bosley annual salary with a 3.587% increase, retroactive to January 2001. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, opposed none. Mr. Kory-PSAB Convention.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Czyrnik,
Borough Secretary