

MINUTES  
BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT  
October 21, 1996 7:30 p.m.

The regularly scheduled October Council meeting was called to order by President Pile at 7:30 p.m.. After the pledge to the flag, the October 21, 1996 meeting of Council convened.

PRESENT: President Pile, Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Leventry, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Davis, Mayor Robert Morgan, Zoning Officer: Fred Pullen, Engineer: Ron Walker, Solicitor: Daniel R. Lovette, West Hills Police: Chief Andy Havas, Secretary: Judith Czynnik, and Mike Butler, Fire Department

ABSENT: Mr. Danyluk, Street Commissioner: Jan Bosley

VISITORS: Mrs. Hilda Benner 230 Wonder Street Joe Gaydos 414 Smt Blvd.  
Jack Prescott 19 Shady Lane Jeff Griffith 121 Arlington St.  
Michael Walters 20 Shady Lane

At this time President Pile asked for approval of the September 16, 1996 regular Council meeting minutes. There being no question or correction, Mr. Leventry made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Seconded by Mr. Krupa. All in favor.

President Pile called on Mrs. Benner who is questioning the ownership of the small stream that runs near her property, and she was asking for an update on the infiltration of sanitary sewer lines in her area. Mr. Pile informed Mrs. Benner that there is a meeting on October 24, 1996 at 1:00 p.m. with the Street Committee and our Engineers to review our lines and assure us that our lines are in order. Property owners are responsible for the high weeds and grass along the creek, actual ownership of the creek is something we will check on, it is probably Cheney Run.

Mr. Prescott and Mr. Walters wanted to inform Council of the condition of the Storage Sheds on Stillray Street. They are stating that people are in the sheds all hours of the night, living there, damaging the roads, and the amount of garbage around the sheds. Mr. Walters has been asked to move his vehicles on more than one occasion. People using the sheds have literally picked up his motorcycle and move it for access to the sheds. They are recommending that gates be put at the current entrance with posted hours and a second entrance be constructed making one way exit from the sheds. It should be posted for No Loitering.

Council has informed the residents that some of the problems are Police matters. Chief Havas will set up an appointment to review their complaints and concerns and then report to the Mayor, with recommendations

Mr. Joe Gaydos was back to inform Council that he still has not received top soil to fill in the area that is sinking. Mr. Danyluk and Mr. Bosley were down to review the area and Council has not received their report. Council will get back to Mr. Gaydos by the end of the week.

Mr. Jeff Griffith of 121 Arlington Street wants Council to look at a situation of water drainage from the Borough Park, new drainage area that ties into the pipe that runs thru his property and driveway. This problem only happens when it rains. Council is suggesting that the line might need televised from Diamond Blvd. to Arlington Street. A motion by Mr. Davis approving the televising of the line and make recommendations for the November meeting. Seconded by Mr. Rodgers. All in favor, motion carried.

#### POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Havas's written September report records revenues for the month of August in the amount of \$582.37. Chief Havas reviewed with Council a hazardous condition at the curve on Southmont Blvd. and Olive Street. There has been 5 accidents within the past several weeks. According to Chief Havas, the accidents happen when the roadway is wet causing the road to become slippery. The guardrail has been ripped out this past weekend due to another accident. The curve was inspected by the Borough Engineers. Mr. Walker informed Council that the aggregate used when the highway was paved approximately three years ago might have become smooth or polished due to the driving friction in the curve. One solution would be to do textured milling. This has been used in Richland Twp. on Donald Lane. Mr. Walker will check on the results. Tar and Chip would only be a short term solution. No contractors in the Johnstown area do this type of work, the closet contractor is Donegal. The cost would be \$3,500.00. A motion by Mr. Rodgers to texture mill the Blvd., from the roadway grating in Olive Street to the Otis Street intersection with Southmont Blvd., in an amount of up to \$3,500.00. Seconded by Mr. Leventry. All in favor, motion carried.

#### ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Pullen's report records 6 new permits were issued this month in the amount of \$39,050.00. The year to date estimated construction cost is \$466,625. Mr. Pullen has given Mr. Klanchar of Dahlia Street a final deadline of November 30, 1996 to complete his project.

#### FIRE COMPANY REPORT

Chief Butler's report submitted to Council records the Department answered 19 calls this month. Chief Butler reported that the bids and specification for the proposed fire company addition is \$11,000, and the Fire Department has approved purchasing them from Pete Chiodo. Chief Butler will notify the Bldg. Committee when they are received.

Mr. Rodgers recommended that the Fire Co. attend a meeting November 6, 1996 at 7:00 p.m. to review their plans and discuss issues in reference to their storage building. There will be a Budget meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 6, 1996. The Fire Company will have the Annual Banquet on November 16, 1996, Chief Bulter will be in touch with all Council members.

#### ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Walker updated Council on the cost estimates for the Chapin Arch traffic control design and specifications for Penn Dot. This work was requested by Dave Sherman of Penn Dot. The plans and specifications will then be reviewed by Penn Dot for plan check, if all is approved they will use the plans for bidding the project. The estimated cost is \$1,700.00 to \$2,000.00. Mr. Rodgers made a motion to approve the Engineers estimated costs of up to \$2,000.00 for the traffic control plans and design for Chapin Arch. Seconded by Mr. Davis. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Rodgers stated that we have come too far with this project and are at the discretion of Penn Dot until completion. The additional charges are due to the changes and additional plans of Penn Dot.

Mr. Walker wants to meet with the Rec. Committee on the plans and specifications for the restrooms and storage sheds for the Soccer/Ball Field DCNR project. Mr. Pile will set up a meeting to review these ideas. Handicapped spaces and walkways will have to be provided.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### STREET COMMISSIONERS REPORT

No report. Borough employees did the annual Fall Brush clean-up using Westmont's chipper. Crack sealing was done during the last two weeks.

##### STREET COMMITTEE

No further report.

##### ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Leventry reported that we are waiting for Mr. Tim Miller to get back confirming a date to begin negotiations for the AFSCME employees. No other report.

##### RECYCLING COMMITTEE

No report. Newspaper recycling was held on October 12, 1996, collecting 1700 lbs. of newspaper.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Kory made a motion to approve renewal of the Treasurer's Bond. Seconded by Mr. Leventry. All in favor, motion carried. Another dividend was received from FWF for 1995 Insurance Pool, in the amount of \$198.63.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Rodgers reminded Council Members to prepare their budget figures for 1997 and attend the budget meeting November 6, 1996 at 7:30 p.m. Council will meet with the Fire Company at 7:00 p.m. prior to the Budget meeting. The schedule for Budget Committee preparations will be early November for tentative 1997 budget, final adoption is in December.

SHADE TREE

Mr. Krupa reviewed with Council a letter sent to a resident to cut a tree on private property that is potentially a hazard. To date nothing has been done. A certified letter was sent as final notice that we will hire a contractor to cut the tree. The letter was not accepted or picked up. The tree is on private property so it will not need to be advertised. A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to hire a contractor to cut the hazardous trees and lien the property owner. Seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

A Hazardous Tree Workshop was presented free to Southmont Borough on Saturday, October 19, 1996. Mr. Mark Remchek of Penn State presented a film, discussed identifying hazardous trees, and visually looked at 4 trees in the Borough. Trees damaged by storms were also looked at.

RECREATION/PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

Residents of the Westwood area are interested in a Playground in their area. The Rec. Comm. will meet with them. Trick or Treat night is scheduled for October 31, 1996 at 5:30 to & 7:30 p.m. Materials were purchased for Diamond Playground. Borough employees will move the materials to the locations where it is needed the most. Lary Koval will spread the material. The cost of this protective surface material will close out the Diamond Playground bank account. Complete summary will be sent to the Recreation Commission for file.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

No report.

C.O.G. Report

No report. A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to approve Mr. Davis and Mr. Krupa attending the COG Christmas Party if they wish. Seconded by Mr. Leventry. All in favor, motion carried.

CHAPIN ARCH

No report. UPJ Geography students will clean up around Chapin Arch sometime early in the Spring. They will clean up the garbage and Borough employees will haul the garbage to our dumpster.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Morgan reported on the street sign order. The street signs have been ordered and will be installed in the Spring. Mayor Morgan is requesting that revised clean-up lot notices be written and sent out, as per direction of Southmont Borough Council instead of under the Mayor's signature. The Southmont Blvd./Olive Street curve recommendations and possible solution have been discussed previously. Council went into Executive Session. 9:15 p.m., to discuss police negotiations. Council reconvened 9:25 p.m.

SOLICITOR

Some discussion was held on a review of the possibility of public intoxication, tipping houses and liquor sales within the Borough. Under the present Zoning Ordinance such sales are permitted in the commercial district. Deed restrictions could limit the sale of alcoholic beverages in the commercial area.

Some discussion on a property on Christine Court that is currently up for sale and in very bad condition. Also, the property has not been securely locked up and is currently vacant. An inspection will be made by Mr. Pullen and a letter will be sent to the realtor and /or bank that holds the mortgage. The letter will have the realtor secure the property to prevent vandalism. It has become a hazardous condition.

After review and discussion on a mandatory leaf collection ordinance, a motion was made by Mr. Rodgers to have the Solicitor prepare and advertise a leaf collection ordinance, for final adoption at the November meeting. Seconded by Mr. Davis. All in favor, motion carried.

Southmont has been notified that a recycling grant application for a leaf loader collection unit has been approved. The mandatory leaf collection ordinance is necessary for the grant.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mrs. Czyrnik's written report records PennDot contracts have been mailed to PennDot engineers for the Chapin Arch proposed project. The Act 101, Performance Grant request was mailed Sept. 30, 1996. State Aid allocations to the Fire Company, in the amount of \$9,825.08, WHRP in the amount of \$774.70 and Municipal pension for the excess amount of \$41.15 have been made. Westmont School District has offered some discarded classroom furniture, shelves, tables and etc. We have submitted our request to Gregg Sanford for a few of the items.

A motion was made by Mr. Rodgers approving the PA One Call offer for a new fax machine, at no cost to the Borough, seconded by Mr. Davis. All in favor, motion carried. A motion was made by Mr. Davis approving the PA Municipal Retirement excessive allocation award based on an equalized proration to Members accounts, Municipal accounts and Retired members accounts. Seconded by Mr. Leventry. All in favor, motion carried.

A motion by Mr. Rodgers, seconded by Mr. Kory giving the Recreation Commission permission to use the Council Chambers for a meeting October 23, 1996. All in favor, motion carried.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Rodgers made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report with a balance of \$294,947.36 in the General Fund for September 1996. Mr. Krupa seconded. All in favor, opposed none. Motion carried.

#### TAX COLLECTOR

Mr. Quinn's written report records \$1,238.49 collected in Real Estate taxes and \$71.50 in Per Capita collections for the month of September. Total amount of \$1,309.99. 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. Rodgers to approve the bills with the addition of the Shade Tree plaque, for a total of \$71,347.43. Seconded by Mr. Kory. Roll Call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Davis, Mr. Krupa, Mr. Kory, Mr. Leventry and Mr. Pile all in favor, opposed none. Motion carried Mr. Danyluk, absent.

#### OLD BUSINESS

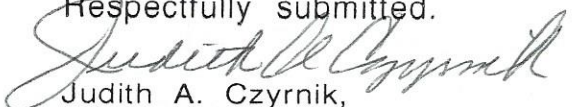
No other business

#### NEW BUSINESS

Cambria Co. Borough's Association Annual Dinner, no one was interested. Review of Priority lists and assignments of each Committee. Mayor Morgan recommended that Mrs. Czyrnik be the contact person for the Bureau of Census reports. All members of Council received a copy of the new fire service policy. No questions.

Council adjourned 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

  
Judith A. Czyrnik,  
Borough Secretary

