

BOROUGH OF SOUTHMONT
148 Wonder Street
Johnstown, PA 15905

Minutes for November 21, 2011

The pledge of allegiance was conducted and the scheduled November 21, 2011 Council meeting was called to order by President Rodgers at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Attorney Michael Carbonara, Manager Richard Wargo, Asst. Sec./Tres. Amanda Claycomb, President Richard Rodgers, Council Members; Ed Danyluk, Herb Ewald, William Kory, Kevin Pile, Tom Strittmatter and Robert Morgan, Mayor Gregory Paolini, West Hills Police Det. Sgt. George Musulin

Absent: West Hills Police Chief Andrew Havas, Fire Chief Mike Leckey, Engineer Scott Rugh (excused)

Visitors: Chet Borosky and Ronald Kautz, Southmont Volunteer Fire Company

Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve the Council Meeting Minutes of October 17, 2011. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. All in favor, motion carried. A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve the Workshop Meeting Minutes of October 18, 2011. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. All in favor, motion carried. A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve the Workshop Meeting Minutes of October 27, 2011. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. All in favor, motion carried. A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve the Workshop Meeting Minutes of November 7, 2011. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. All in favor, motion carried. A motion was made by Mr. Morgan to approve the ratification of payroll from October 20, 2011 through November 21, 2011 in the amount of \$16,079.73. Motion seconded by Mr. Strittmatter. Role call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Pile, Mr. Strittmatter and Mr. Morgan in favor. Motion carried. A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to approve the bills from October 19, 2011 through November 22, 2011 in the amount of \$98,059.65. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. Role call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Pile, Mr. Strittmatter and Mr. Morgan in favor. Motion carried. A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve the October 2011 treasurer's report in the amount of \$613,088.53. Motion seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried. A motion was made by Mr. Pile to note the receipt of the October 2011 tax collector's report. Motion seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

Police Chief's Report

Chief Havas absent. Det. Sgt. Musulin reported Officers handed out Halloween booklets and bags at the Farmers Market at Westmont Presbyterian Church and at the October pack meeting of a number of Boy Scouts of America Cub Scout Troops. Det. Sgt. Musulin reported Officer Mulkey participated in a Drug Awareness Program at Our Mother of Sorrows Elementary School and Officer Stutzman gave a presentation regarding the purpose of a uniform at the weekly meeting of the Boy Scouts of America

November 21, 2011 Minutes – Page 2

Tiger Cub Den #3. Mr. Ewald stated he noticed drivers speeding along Langhorne Avenue and Shady Lane. Det. Sgt. Musulin will have an officer patrol the area. The Police fines for October 2011 were \$270.47 for vehicle fines and \$220.27 for Ordinance violations.

Fire Company's Report

Chief Leckey absent. Mr. Borosky reported a financial committee meeting was held on November 20, 2011. Mr. Borosky updated Council in regards to the upcoming consolidation with Upper Yoder Fire Department. Mr. Borosky stated Southmont Borough Council will need to hold a meeting with Upper Yoder Township to discuss an agreement as to a set amount each municipality will contribute to the consolidated fire department, the Southern Cambria Emergency Services. Mr. Borosky stated Council will need to determine the amount of utilities used by the Southmont Volunteer Fire Company noting after the consolidation the SCES will begin to reimburse the Borough for the utilities. Mr. Borosky stated the SCES will also pay for their own fuel costs. The Hilltop Ambulance Report was received and is on file.

Engineer's Report

Mr. Wargo stated there is no new activity.

Zoning Officer's Report

Mr. Wargo reported two zoning permits issued to 1110 Menoher Boulevard, fence; and 410 Orchard Street, sign permit. Mr. Wargo reported two approved sewer compliance certificates issued to 206 Leila Street and 302 Cheney Oak Drive. Mr. Wargo reported the hearing for the retaining wall issue at 14 Shady Lane and 15 Shady Lane has been continued. Mr. Wargo reported he spoke with Mr. Dixon, owner of 6 Cox Street, noting Mr. Dixon's attorney will be sending a follow up letter informing the tenant he must repair the curb cuts he made. A brief discussion was held regarding the recent decision by the Cambria County Board of Assessment to decrease taxes on 942 Pine Grove Lane. A motion was made by Mr. Pile to allow Solicitor Carbonara to file an appeal for 942 Pine Grove Lane with a cost of up to \$250.00. Motion seconded by Mr. Kory. All in favor, motion carried.

Mayor's Report

Nothing to report.

Manager's Report

Mr. Wargo reported he will be meeting with the EADS Group to discuss bidding 2012 sanitary sewer projects noting he plans to begin bidding in February 2012, awarding the bid in March 2012 and beginning work in April 2012. Mr. Wargo stated he has a call in to State Pipe Services to inquire why construction had not begun on repairs to 95 feet of pipe between 531 Edward Street and 535 Edward Street. Mr. Wargo stated State Pipe Services is currently backed up and will begin work as soon as possible. Mr. Wargo stated leaf pick-up will continue until the end of November 2011. Mr. Wargo reported winter maintenance has begun on the vehicles and 53 letters have been sent out requesting property owners trim back shrubs and tree limbs which prohibit the plow trucks access to alleys and streets.

Solicitor's Report

Solicitor Carbonara stated an Executive Session would be held at the end of the meeting.

Secretary's Report

Ms. Claycomb reported the 2012 MMO, in the amount of \$7,079.00, was submitted to Council by the September 30, 2011 date. Ms. Claycomb reported Kesslak Insurance notified the Borough that UPMC Hospitalization will remain the same for 2012. Ms. Claycomb reported she attended a seminar held by Berkheimer Tax Associates regarding the requirements for filing and collecting earned income taxes and certificates of residency that will need to be filed by each employer and residents. Ms. Claycomb reminded Council the December Council Meeting will be held December 12, 2011 and a Reorganization Meeting will be held January 2, 2012.

1) COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Streets: Nothing to report.

B. Administration: Nothing to report.

C. Personnel: Nothing to report.

D. Police Committee: Nothing to report.

E. Fire Company Committee: Nothing to report.

F. Budget & Tax Collection Committee: Mr. Pile reported the budget is down \$22,800 from 2010. Mr. Pile stated the sewer expenses have decreased. Mr. Wargo noted the excess income will be a carry-over to 2012 for sewer projects. Mr. Pile reported a Cambria County Tax Collection meeting was held on September 22, 2011 noting Wessel & Company was appointed as the auditors for the Cambria County Tax Collection Committee at an annual fee of \$2,250 for the years 2012 through 2016. Mr. Pile stated the CCTCC proposed a \$20,010 allocation to municipalities noting the anticipated share paid by Southmont Borough should be approximately the same as in 2009 which was \$240.00. Mr. Pile stated the next CCTCC meeting will be held December 1, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

G. Shade Tree Committe: Mr. Morgan reported holes have been dug for shade trees. Mr. Morgan noted a gas line in the spot where two trees were to be planted on Diamond Boulevard was discovered to be thirteen inches below ground and the trees cannot be planted there.

H. Recreation Committee: Mr. Pile stated he attended the meeting in place of Mr. Kory. Mr. Pile reported the next Craftin n' Cruisin event will be held the last weekend of August 2012 noting they are looking to get more booths. Mr. Pile reported the Recreation Committee plans to spend approximately \$50,000.00 on repairs to the Ridge noting the multi-purpose room is currently being repainted and air conditioning installed. Mr. Pile stated Ms. Fran Sivi, Recreation Director, is interested in more ideas for community recreation activities. Mr. Pile suggested using the soccer field more and Mr. Ewald

November 21, 2011 Minutes – Page 4

suggested contacting surrounding communities regarding interest in using the field. Mr. Pile stated the roller court needs repaved to increase resident interest in using it.

I. Buildings & Grounds Committee: Nothing to report.

J. Greater Johnstown Water Authority: Mr. Pile reported 40,000 feet of pipe has been laid for the inter-connection project with Ligonier. Mr. Pile reported in 2008, the Water Authority floated a bond issue noting part of the bond may be refinanced. Mr. Pile noted if the bond issue can be refinanced the Water Authority can recoup approximately 2.6 million dollars, but they would have to wait until after February 2012.

K. Open Records: No open records requests received.

New Business

Mr. Rodgers reported he attended the October Cambria County Borough's Association meeting along with Solicitor Carbonara, Mr. Ewald and Mr. Morgan noting the CCBA suggested municipalities stay away from any landlord ordinances and they are currently working on setting the prevailing wage. An Executive Session was called at 7:50 p.m. to discuss legal, personnel and administrative matters. Executive Session ended at 8:22 p.m. and Council resumed its regularly scheduled meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve and advertise the 2012 tentative budget. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. Role call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Pile, Mr. Strittmatter and Mr. Morgan in favor. Motion carried. A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve and advertise the 2012 sanitary sewer tentative budget. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. Role call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Pile, Mr. Strittmatter and Mr. Morgan in favor. Motion carried. A motion was made by Mr. Pile to approve and advertise the 2012 tentative garbage budget. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. Role call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Pile, Mr. Strittmatter and Mr. Morgan in favor. Motion carried. A motion was made by Mr. Kory for Solicitor Carbonara to prepare an ordinance setting the 2012 tax rate at 13 mills. Motion seconded by Mr. Danyluk. Role call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Pile, Mr. Strittmatter and Mr. Morgan in favor. Motion carried. An Executive Session was called at 8:25 p.m. to discuss administrative matters. Executive Session ended at 8:30 p.m. and Council resumed its regularly scheduled meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Danyluk to approve the following wages beginning January 1, 2012: Manager \$36,500; Secretary/Treasurer-Clerk \$12.00/hour; Street Commissioner \$33,675; Street Department \$13.52/hour. Motion seconded by Mr. Kory. Role call: Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Danyluk, Mr. Ewald, Mr. Kory, Mr. Pile, Mr. Strittmatter and Mr. Morgan in favor. Motion carried.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Danyluk for adjournment of the November 21, 2011 meeting at 8:30 P.M. Motion seconded by Mr. Morgan. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda D. Claycomb
Asst. Secretary/Treasurer