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Summit Hill Borough Council
2012, 7:00 p.m., Borough Hall

Hill Borough Council was held at the above time and place with

Roll Call – President Michael Kokinda, Vice-President John O’Gurek, William Chapman, Francis O’Gorman, William O’Gurek, Jesse Walck, Solicitor Michael Greek and Mayor Paul McArdle were all in attendance. Michael Alabovitz was absent.

Minutes – Motion was made by John O’Gurek and second by Francis O’Gorman to approve the minutes from the January 3, 2012 Summit Hill Borough Reorganization Meeting. The motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Floor –

1. Khalid Chohan, 48 W. Ridge Street, told council that he is looking at starting a non-profit group in Summit Hill and he would like to get permission from Council. He said that group is called Toastmasters; he explained that it is a national organization that meets 1 to 2 times a month for a few hours and it teaches members how to be a leader in a professional atmosphere. Khalid said that he has been attending these meetings in other cities but they are either in Wilkes-Barre or Allentown which is becoming to long of a drive. Mike Kokinda asked if he was going to be doing this out of his home, Mr. Chohan informed Mike that his home is to small to hold the meetings. Mike suggested that he use the council meeting room for the meetings. Khalid said that it would be great to be able to use the room to hold his meetings. Atty. Greek told Council that they cannot give him permission to have the group but Council can give him permission to use the building. Mike Kokinda told Mr. Chohan to submit a written request to the Borough asking permission to use the meeting room.
2. Rita Trucios, 22 W. Holland Street, told Council that she it the director of feed the people and that every Tuesday of the month they go to churches in the area and serve soup and a sandwich between 10 a.m. and 12 p.m. Rita said that their goal is to be able to serve more than 1 day of food per week, and that they have been applying for various grants to meet their goal. She informed council that with the food pantry is having budget cuts and are only able to give 3 days worth of food, which isn’t enough for families to get by, so she is out trying to spread the word to the general public so they will be able to help more people.
3. Marlene Matrazzo, 32 W. White Street, spoke to Council about 38 W. White Street, she stressed that this has been going on now for almost 6 months and she wants to know what Council is doing to get this problem taken care of. She added that there are still bricks falling from the home and now that spring is coming she would like to be able to get her fence fixed and her yard cleaned up. Marlene said that she is very grateful to the Fire Company for putting the barrier up to protect her home, but it is now getting very annoying. Mike Kokinda said that spoke with Susan and Barry Isett has been siteing the property owner. Ms. Matrazzo said that she is extremely concerned that with the bricks still falling and the high winds we have been having that someone is going to get seriously hurt. Atty. Greek said the Borough could use its own funds to demolish the home and then put a lien on the property, but there is a process that needs to be followed before doing so. John O’Gurek said that there is insurance on the home so why hasn’t the insurance company done anything yet. Atty. Greek said that he just received the file on the property today, and he will have to look at more thoroughly before he can advise the borough on what route to take.
4. Bob Jones, 133 E. Walter Street, stated that the football team is ruining the Ginter track and field by driving on it; he said along with that they are moving the bleachers and not returning them at the end of the game. Mr. Jones stressed that the field is part of the history of Summit Hill and it should be taken care of. Monica Marshall said that she would talk to the players on the team. He also asked

the yellow lines, he said that they were put there for a reason the parking. Mr. Jones also added that while he was walking the 80 tires dumped along side the road. He stressed the fact that and ruining our town.

of the Mayor's Report for the month of January 2012. He reported the magistrate income for the month of January 2012 was \$1,042.65. **Motion was made by Bill Chapman and second by Jesse Walck to approve the Mayor's Report for the month of January 2012.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Police Report – Council received copies of Chief Fittos's Police reports for the month of December 2011 and January 2012. Chief Fittos is requesting permission to send Officer Woodward to attend Firearms Instructor training June 25-29, he said that there will be no cost to the Borough for the training and they will be considered as normal shifts so no overtime will be paid to the officer. Chief Fittos is also asking permission for Officer Hannon to attend two trainings Protecting Kids Online on March 12, 2012 and Arrest and Control Techniques on March 21 and 22, he said that there is no cost to the borough for this training either. **Motion was made by Bill Chapman and second by Francis O'Gorman to give Officer Woodward permission to attend the Firearms Instructor training on June 25 through the 29 and also to give permission to Officer Hannon to attend Protecting Kids Online on March 12 and Arrest and Control Techniques on March 21 and 22 with no cost to the Borough.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council. **Motion was made by John O'Gurek and second by William O'Gurek to accept the Police Report for the month of December 2011 and January 2012.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council

Code Enforcement and Engineering Report – Council received copies of the Code Enforcement and Engineering report for the month of January 2012. Larry Marek said that he would like to be getting a monthly report from Barry Isett and Associates because he would like to start following up making sure the issues are taken care of promptly. **Motion was made by Francis O'Gorman and second by John O'Gurek to accept the Code Enforcement and Engineering Report for the month of January 2012.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Planning and Zoning Report – Council received copies of Larry Marek's Planning and Zoning report for the month of January 2012. Larry told Council that he got a letter in the mail from a construction company that is soliciting storm damage repair and he wants to know if they need a solicitation permit. Larry stressed the fact that he believes they should need to obtain a permit because they are no different from the construction companies that came to town after the hail storm. Atty. Greek explained to Larry that when solicitors go door to door they need to get a permit to protect the people in town from theft and robberies. Larry also brought up the curbing at the new ambulance garage on E. Ludlow Street; he said that he is almost positive that they need to put curbing in. He said he made a phone call to Rick Harmon and still has not heard anything back yet. Mike Kokinda asked Joseph Kosalko if that part of the property in question belongs to the Borough. Kossie said that he wasn't sure but he believes where the confusion with the curbing is coming from is with the gun club apartments and since there is no curbing there they are not sure where to put it. A lengthy discussion took place on curbing. Mike Kokinda told Larry that he will call Ron Tirpak in the morning to get him an answer. **Motion was made by John O'Gurek and second by Jesse Walck to accept the Planning and Zoning Report for the month of January 2012.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Work Leader Report – Council received copies of the Work Leader Report for the month of January 2012. Bill Chapman asked Kossie if he got the signs put up, Kossie said yes. **Motion was made by Bill Chapman and second by Francis O'Gorman to accept the Work Leader Report for the month of January 2012.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Tax Collector Report – Assistant Borough Secretary, Amber Shemansik read the Tax Collector's Report for the month of December 2011. Alice Kane submitted total taxes as \$20,853.31 with a commission of

Gorman and second by John O’Gurek to accept the Tax Report for 2011. The motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made.

Secretary, Amber Shemansik, read Berkheimer’s Wage Tax Report for the month of January 2012. The total Earned Income Tax of \$12,822.47 with a commission of \$258.64. The total LSI submitted for January 2012 was \$74.80 with no commission. **Motion was made by John O’Gurek and second by Jesse Walck to accept the Wage Tax Report for the month of January 2012.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Receipts – Assistant Borough Secretary, Amber Shemansik, reported the total General Account receipts for the month of January 2012 as \$30,332.34 and the total Sanitation Account receipts for the month of January 2012 as \$75,312.37. **Motion was made by Francis O’Gorman and Second by John O’Gurek to accept the receipts for the month of January 2012.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Committee Reports –

Streets – nothing at this time

Building –

- Monica Marshall said that she contacted Rick Harmon to schedule an inspection; she said that she hasn’t heard back from him yet. Mike Kokinda mentioned that they are waiting for ceiling work to be completed from where they installed the hood.

Fire and Emergency Services- nothing at this time

Recreation –

- Monica submitted contracts to Mike Kokinda to approve for the community room.
- Monica told Council that the Recreation Commission and SHCIO are looking at taking down the bleachers that are located in the Ginter Field and replacing them with a salt/sand shell. She said that they have found someone to take down the bleachers and scrap the metal so it will cut down the cost to SHCIO.
- Monica said that they have purchased the new sign for the Committee Room and they are waiting for it to come in. She said that they are beginning to have some problems with residents parking in the community room lot during events. She asked Council if she could purchase a sign to put in the lot that says event parking only.
- Monica told Council that they have finally got the grant to fix the basket ball courts. She said that their plan is to make 2 courts and 3 smaller ones for children, and as children progress in basketball the hoops will get higher. Monica said that they will be reusing the fence to cut down on some of the costs. She said they are looking to break ground on March 1st.
- Monica told Council that they will be holding the Stay at Home Festival on May 26 and 27. She told Council that they will not be bringing back the food vendor they had in previous years, so if anyone who has an organization and is looking to set up a stand contact Monica, she said that all money made at the festival is put back into the town this year they are looking to set up a volleyball court in the corner of the Ginter Park.
- Monica asked who the Borough’s property insurance is through; she said that she is looking to try and propose a change to the Community Room rental agreement.

second by Bill Chapman to accept all Committee Reports was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion

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Motion was made by John O'Gurek and second by Mike Kokinda to accept communications for the month of January 2012. The motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Bills – Assistant Borough Secretary, Amber Shemansik, reported total expenses for the General Account for the month of August 2011 as \$48,526.49 and the total expenses for the Sanitation Account for the month of August 2011 as \$23,054.37. **Motion was made by Francis O'Gorman and second by John O'Gurek to pay all bills for the month of January 2012.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Unfinished Business –

1. Mike Kokinda reported that he has reviewed the list of residents who have renewed their application for an exemption for the 2012 garbage collection fee. He presented the list to Council and asked that all 59 properties on the list be granted the exemption. **Motion was made by Jesse Walck and second by Bill Chapman to grant the exemption from the 2012 garbage collection fee for the Summit Hill Borough to all 59 properties.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.
2. Mike Kokinda reported that he has received a list of residents who are applying for the first time for an exemption for the 2012 garbage collection fee. He suggested that Council table the new exemptions until the new committee can review them. **Motion was made by Jesse Walck and second by Mike Kokinda to table the 15 new garbage exemption applications for further review.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

New Business –

1. Mike Kokinda said he needs a motion to adopt the tax rate ordinance for 2012. This would be Ordinance #1 of 2011 with a tax rate for general purposes of 14.1 mills, lighting 1.5 mills and fire .5 mills. **Motion was made by Bill Chapman and second by Francis O'Gorman to adopt Ordinance #1 of 2012, the Tax Rate Ordinance.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.
2. Mike Kokinda said that the Borough is looking at a Tax Anticipation loan for 2012. He said we are looking to borrow \$75,000.00 and have received 2 proposals. Mike said that one of them is from Mauch Chunk Trust who is offering 1.25% and the other one is from Jim Thorpe National Bank and they are offering 2.99%. Bill Chapman asked if the Borough needs to have an account with Mauch Chunk Trust to be eligible for the loan. Mike said that there is nothing in the paper work that states that. **Motion was made by Bill Chapman and second by Francis O'Gorman to borrow \$75,000.00 in a Tax Anticipation loan from Mauch Chunk Trust Bank at a rate of 1.25%.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council. Jesse Walck abstained because he works for Mauch Chunk Trust.
3. Mike Kokinda said that they are looking to adopt Resolution #2 of 2012 authorizing the Tax Anticipation note in the amount of \$75,000.00 at a rate of 1.25%. **Motion was made by Bill Chapman and second by Francis O'Gorman to adopt Resolution #2 of 2012 authorizing the Tax**



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amount of \$75,000 at an interest rate of 1.25. The motion
none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council. Jesse
Mauch Chuck Trust.

looking at possibly looking to change its depository bank by April
closing its Summit Hill branch. Mike said that we are either
staying with First Niagara or changing banks and possibly looking for better interest rates. Mike asked
Jesse Walck if he could explain some of the information in the proposal from Mauch Chunk Trust,
Jesse asked Monica to go first being she works for Jim Thorpe National Bank. Monica explained that
she got information from the borough secretary about 12 of their accounts they currently have.
Monica said that she did a comparison on what the borough has and what rates they would like to get,
she explained that she combined all of the balances together so there will be no minimum balance
required; she also added that the borough could get half priced checks. Monica added that as a
member of the community she believes that Jim Thorpe National Bank would be the best option for
the borough because it has a branch in Lansford which isn't far compared to either Nesquehoning or
Jim Thorpe if the borough would switch to Mauch Chunk Trust. Monica briefly explained some of the
interest rates that JTNB has to offer. Jesse Walck then briefly explained that the MCT interest rate is
.35% across the board on all accounts, there is no minimum balance required and no fee to open any
account. Bill Chapman asked if we have heard anything from First Niagara. Monica said that First
Niagara needs to post its doors 90 days before they close.

5. Reappoint an alternate sewage enforcement officer for 2012. Scott Bieber submitted a letter of
interest. **Motion was made by Bill Chapman and second by William O'Gurek to appoint Scott
Bieber as the alternate sewage enforcement officer for the 2012 year.** The motion was opened to
the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Council entered into executive session at 8:37 p.m. to discuss personnel.

Council entered back into regular session at 9:00 p.m.

**Motion was made by William O'Gurek and second by Francis O'Gorman to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. until
the next regular scheduled meeting of the Summit Hill Borough on March 12, 2012.** The motion was
opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Amber Shemansik
Summit Hill Borough
Assistant Secretary

Michael Kokinda
Summit Hill Borough
Council President