

**Summit Hill Borough Council**  
**November 11, 2013, 7:00 p.m., Borough Hall**

The regular scheduled meeting of the Summit Hill Borough Council was held at the above time and place with Vice President John O'Gurek presiding.

**Roll Call** – Vice President John O'Gurek, Michael Alabovitz, Greg Kosciolek, Jesse Walck, Bill Chapman, William O'Gurek, Solicitor Michael Greek and Mayor Paul McArdle were all present. President Michael Kokinda was absent.

Vice President John O'Gurek asked for a brief moment of silence for our fallen veterans on Veterans Day. He thanked all the veterans that are still alive.

**Minutes** – No minutes at this time.

**Floor Session** –

1. Mike O'Donnell, 234 East Hazard Street, said he received his zoning permit today and wants to know if he is ok to continue putting his fence up. Council said as long as he has his permit he is good to put up his fence.

**Mayor's Report** – Mayor Paul McArdle reported during the month of September \$799.01 was received and for the month of October \$650.47 was received. **Motion was made by Jesse Walck and second by Bill Chapman to accept the Mayor's report for the months of September and October 2013.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

**Police Report** – Chief Fittos read the police report. Chief Fittos said that at last month's meeting he submitted a Patrol Rifle Policy for review and is recommending that Council adopt the policy. He also mentioned that one of the department pistols need to be replaced and if we trade it in the new one would cost around \$250.00. **Motion was made by Mike Alabovitz and second by Jesse Walck to allow Chief Fittos to trade in the department's pistol with the cost of the new one not to exceed \$250.00.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council. **Motion was made by Jesse Walck and second by William O'Gurek to adopt the Patrol Rifle Policy.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council. **Motion was made by William O'Gurek and second by Greg Kosciolek to accept the police report for the month of October 2013.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

**Planning and Zoning Report** – Zoning Officer William Kirklosky read his report. He said a resident in White Bear area is requesting an extension on being able to run his wood burning stove until the end of May instead of the end of April as it currently states in the ordinance. Mike Alabovitz said that we would need to amend the ordinance to allow this and since it is only one person requesting this, therefore the request is denied. **Motion was made by Michael Alabovitz and second by Jesse Walck to accept the Zoning Report for the month of October 2013.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council. Kira mentioned that Carl did send an update on the Mechling property and everyone has a copy in their packet.

**Work Leader Report** – Bill Chapman asked John O'Gurek where the Borough stands on the repairs on the spreader. John O'Gurek responded that we won't get it back until spring due to the hydraulic motor. Mike Alabovitz asked Chief Fittos about police car 303. He said the last he knew it was using oil and wanted to know if it has been addressed. John O'Gurek said there is stuff they can buy at Advanced Auto to repair the problem. O'Gurek instructed Fittos to make sure to check the oil often to prevent any further problems. **Motion was made by William O'Gurek and second by Jesse Walck to accept the Work Leader Report**

186 for October 2013. The motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

**Tax Collector Report** – Borough Secretary, Kira Steber, read the Tax Collector Report for the month of October 2013. Alice Kane, Tax Collector, submitted a total of \$4,461.81 with a commission of \$223.09. **Motion was made by Bill Chapman and second by William O'Gurek to accept the Tax Collector Report for the month of October 2013.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

**Wage Tax Report** – Borough Secretary, Kira Steber, read the Wage Tax Report for the month of October 2013. Berkheimer submitted a total EIT of \$22,610.01 with a Commission of \$392.16 and Postage Charges of \$8.03. Total LST submitted was \$39.80 with no commission. **Motion was made by Jesse Walck and second by Bill Chapman to accept the Wage Tax Report for the month of October 2013.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

**Receipts** – Borough Secretary, Kira Steber, read the receipts for the month of October 2013. General Fund Receipts were \$45,149.18 and Sanitation Account receipts were \$18,658.67. **Motion was made by Greg Kosciolek second Bill Chapman to accept the receipts for the month of October 2013.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

**Committee Reports** –

**Streets** – John O'Gurek said they are patching what they could and will do more cold patching and clean up the gutters. He mentioned that all the equipment is ready to go for winter. Kira Steber said that the Borough Workers came to see her about purchasing the running gear and shoes for the plows. O'Gurek feels it is not necessary and feels we will be spending money for no reason. Mike Alabovitz suggested that we should purchase one pair and try them out and see how they work. **Motion was made by Bill Chapman and second by Michael Alabovitz to purchase one set of running gear and shoes for the plow.** Motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council

**Building** – Nothing to report at this time

**Fire and Emergency Services** – Ed Nunemacher, President of the Summit Hill Fire Department, asked permission to hold a Car Show fundraiser in the Ginder Field, teaming up with Tamaqua Street Machine, on Sunday, September 21, 2014 from 10:00am to 3:00pm. The show would go on rain or shine. In the case of inclement weather, they would like to request moving it to Ludlow Street by the Fire Company. They are anticipating at least 300 cars and will have food vendors. The food vendors will be located at the south end of the field to keep control of the garbage. **Motion made by Bill Chapman and second by Jesse Walck to approve the Summit Hill Fire Department to hold a Car Show Fundraiser in Ginder Field on September 21, 2014 from 10:00am-3:00pm and also allow them to move the car show to Ludlow Street, closing the block by the fire company, if there is inclement weather.** Motion opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

**Recreation** – Borough Secretary, Kira Steber, told Council that there was a request from Amber Zuber to become a member on the Recreation Commission. **Motion was made by Mike Alabovitz and second by William O'Gurek to accept Amber Zuber's request to join the Recreation Commission.** Jodi McAndrew informed Council that they are in the process of reorganizing and asked that Council be patient and give them guidance over the next few months. In the future they hope to keep the line of communication with Council and the community and ask for guidance on what they can do better or what they may be doing but shouldn't be doing. She stated that they are trying to obtain new members via the paper. She stressed that there is a major issue with vandalism at the Ginder Field and is wondering what they can do to prevent this in the future. The kids have holes through the cinder blocks on the pool shed, doors have been dented in, shingles on the new roof have been ripped off, there is graffiti all over the newly painted pavilion, which had to be painted

over, and the play equipment is being broken and ripped apart. One of the rides has become a safety hazard and is asking that the Borough remove it. The other parks seem to be ok; it is just the Ginder that seems to have the damage. She said that the 2014 schedule has been done and it was submitted to Kira with the minutes. Recreation will still hold Christmas on the Hill and unfortunately they had to cancel the Halloween activities due to lack of volunteers. Christmas on the Hill is scheduled for December 14, 2013. They are researching fundraisers to help the committee to get back on their feet. John O'Gurek said that we need to do something in the field, maybe motion lights. Mike Alabovitz said that motion lights will just allow kids to see what they are breaking; we have to consider cameras. Jesse Walck asked Kira to do a cost study on lights for the park. Mike Alabovitz said he already looked into it and the cheapest he found was \$2,500.00 and that is for one camera. A discussion about the cameras took place. Jodi added that one of the bathrooms at the Ginder has been broken into and is completely destroyed.

**Motion made by William O'Gurek and second by Michael Alabovitz to accept the committee reports for the month of October 2013.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

### Communications –

#### **Communication for the Month of October 2013**

1. Minimum Municipal Obligation Worksheets (MMO) for the Borough and Police Pension Plans.
2. Letter from the Carbon County Commissioners in regards to a meeting on Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss a Regional Council of Government. See attached letter.
3. Letter from Unison in regards to the Cell Tower. See attached letter.
4. Notice from the Carbon County Office of Planning and Development, November 13<sup>th</sup> meeting is cancelled. See attached notice.
5. Notice of 2013-2014 Contract update from PetroChoice for Costars Members. See attached notice.
6. Notice of Assessment from the Board of Assessment & Revision of Taxes
7. Notice from the Board of Assessment and Revision of Taxes – Assessment Appeals Determination
8. Notice from the Board of Assessment and Revision of Taxes – Assessment Appeal Hearings
9. Notice from the Board of Assessment and Revision of Taxes – Rollback taxes plus interest for prior years to be received for a property located in East White Bear.

**Motion made by Jesse Walck and second by Bill Chapman to accept all communications for the month of October 2013.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

**Bills** – Borough Secretary, Kira Steber, reported total expenses for the month of October 2013. The General Fund bills were \$104,359.91 and the Sanitation Account bills were \$22,940.86. **Motion made by Jesse Walck and second by William O'Gurek to approve the bills for the month of October 2013.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

### Old Business

1. UCC Ordinance Amendment - Mike Greek said that when we adopted the Uniform Construction Code through the state, we manage it and appoint someone the way it was done. When talking to the engineers in regards to nonconforming structures, like the Mansion House, if we adopt this ordinance we are taking away from the state to enforce it and allows us the ability to get variances and grant a waiver. It has to go to the state for review and then there is a 45 day review period. If Council is ok

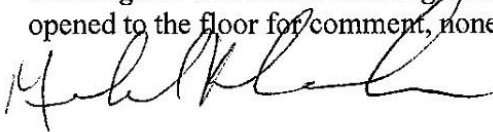
with it, he will send it to the state and have it ready for adoption in January. Council agreed to have Mike send it to the state.

2. Kira asked Council to appoint Joe Collura as auditor for December 31, 2013 audit at a cost not to exceed \$5,000.00. Kira explained that is what we paid in the past for his services. **Motion made by Michael Alabovitz and second by Jesse Walck to appoint Joe Collura as the Borough's Auditor for 2013 audit.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

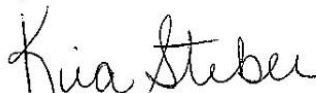
### New Business

1. Kira Steber asked Council's permission to open a new bank account for the Community Center funds. **Motion was made by Jesse Walck and second by Michael Alabovitz to approve opening a bank account for the Community Center.** Motion opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.
2. Resolution #6 - SEO Fees for 2014 - Kira said that Carl Wolfe sent his fee schedule for 2014 and Council would need to adopt the resolution if they agree with the fees. Council asked to wait until next month until they can compare the current fees to the new ones.
3. Garbage Delinquents - Kira stressed that there are a lot of issues with trying to collect delinquent garbage fees. The Borough send letters out, when the resident does not respond it goes to the magistrate, when it goes to the magistrate they set up a payment arrangement and then the Borough is receiving \$5.00 a month. There are people from 3-4 years ago that we are still getting payments from. Every year it is the same people and every year we are another year behind. She said that Solicitor Greek contacted the Borough in regards to his office sending the letters. Mike Greek explained that they send out letters with particular language that seems to be pretty successful. He said the borough code has changed and states that when you are collecting a fee or monetary amount under an ordinance you have to go and file a civil action against the individual. He expressed that a collection agency will send out the letters but they will only go so far and then they send the information back to the borough. He said he would work with the borough office and find out if it is an estate you can file claim against the estate. There are different ways to handle this; you can file a municipal lean so that we can collect it when the property is sold. It is a different approach with each case. Council agreed to allow Mike Greek's office send the letters for the delinquent garbage accounts.
4. Kira said she had a request from Michael Kokinda to move the Council meeting dates due to his current work schedule. Council said to check with Solicitor Greek and Mike Kokinda and see what works for them.
5. **Motion was made by William O'Gurek and second by Greg Kosciolek to hire Mathew Blatt and Bruce Broyles as part-time police officers with the Summit Hill Police department.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

**Motion was made by William O'Gurek and second by Bill Chapman to adjourn at 8:05 p.m. until the next regular scheduled meeting of the Summit Hill Borough on December 9, 2013.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.



Michael Kokinda  
Council President



Kira Steber  
Secretary/Treasurer

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