

Summit Hill Borough Council
February 4, 2014 7:00 p.m., Borough Hall

A special meeting of the Summit Hill Borough Council was held at the above time and place with President Jesse Walck presiding.

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

Floor

1. Chet Michalik, Iron Street, wants to know what we can do to get the street plowed on Iron Street and if we can get together some sort of plan to keep it clean. William Chapman stated that he has been down there and ever took pictures. The problem is that the cars are parked there and the Borough cannot get down the street. Chet added that it also needs to be salted and cindered. Bill Chapman said that he will make every attempt to make sure that it is done but he cannot be there every time it snows. Bill asked Ronnie Yuricheck, borough worker, to make sure it is done. Ronnie expressed that right now they do not have a truck but they will address the issue.
2. Arthur Betteridge, 343 West Iron Street, asked if they can please plow closer to the curb. When people park on the opposite side of the street cars have to drive over the curb. Oil trucks are driving over his curb. He said that his curb is broke, the sidewalk is broke and he cannot shut the water off to his house because the valve is pushed into the sidewalk all from people driving over the curb. Bill expressed that cars need to be moved so that the borough can plow. Chet explained that the Water Authority truck does not have a salt and cinder spreader. Bill asked Ronnie to make sure to remember this when there is a snow storm. Ronnie said that they cannot go down the street if there is a car there because last time he tried he almost slid into a parked car.
3. Edward Kruczek, Ludlow Street, said he has a problem with the ordinance. He doesn't understand it because it says you can't do this or that and then the snow sits for days. All the mush that is being pushed by the plows is getting pushed under the parked car. He got out of the car the other day and almost fell. If he would have fallen and hurt or broke something, who's fault would it be. After 3 inches they are suppose to clean curb to curb. Edward asked why they can't do curb to curb all the time and forget about the 3 inches. He added that years ago they stated that they would clean Ludlow and White Streets curb to curb for emergencies. He said it hasn't been done since. Jesse Walck explained that curb to curb is not for emergencies; it is done for convenience. Mr. Kruczek said he has seen that plow trucks go by his house 3 or 4 times and the plow is about an inch or two above the snow. He said that Council needs to do away with the ordinance. Mike Alabovitz said that the biggest problem is that cars need to start moving. Edward cut Mike off and stated that he doesn't care about that. He said the younger generation needs to start following what the older generation use to do. He stated that he sees whose place are being plowed and whose place aren't. He told Council that they need to drive around and see what is being done in this town. Mike stated that if we don't follow the ordinance then we do not have a leg to stand on. Mike asked Chief Fittos if we don't have an ordinance we can do whatever we want and then and cars do not have to move and can stay there forever. Chief Fittos agreed with Mike. The discussion continued.
4. Joseph Valitsky, Ludlow Street, stated that his block is a mess. The street is always plowed but the parking areas are not getting plowed. He said that the 3 inch rule is stupid. Edward Kruczek

again stated to do away with the ordinance. Jesse Walck expressed that they are not going to get rid of the ordinance. Chief Fittos explained that if it is the side that is not supposed to be plowed, they are not going to touch it until the next day. What happens is one block might be cleared and the next may not so the people who have the cleaned street don't move their cars and the uncleared block feels that they do not have to move theirs. Mike Alabovitz explained that it is easier for the borough crew to start at one end of town and plow the streets to the other end of town. If a car is parked there, then they have to go around the car, which then gets plowed in and screws up the whole block. Edward asked what is so important about 3 inches just clean the streets because we pay taxes. He stated that there are certain blocks in town that are cleaned to the curb but the rest are left a mess. Mike asked who's street he was referring to. Mr. Kruczek would not specify the street he was referring to. John O'Gurek stated that he is referring to his property on Lehigh Street. He said that he didn't even know if they got 3 inches but they should try to get close to the curb. He mentioned that people are stating that he told them not to plow curb to curb, which is not true. John stated that the way the ordinance is written it has nothing to do with how we plow but when we plow. The ordinance is a guide to tell people where they need to park their cars after a snow storm and when cars do not move it affects how they plow the streets. A discussion took place.

5. Anita Dietrich, White Street, stated that she had a complaint about tickets. She has pictures showing 10 vehicles that were parked in the same area she was parked in. The pictures show 2 cars that the plow went around and no tickets were issued. However, her 3 vehicles got tickets. She gave the pictures to Council and explained that she always moves her vehicles. Her husband got stuck at work and she was trying to move the vehicles herself. She was able to get one moved but the other 3 got tickets before she could move them. One car is parked on the sidewalk and in front of a driveway, which is illegal, and it did not get a ticket. John O'Gurek asked why they weren't all ticketed. Chief Fittos stated that he will look into it further and follow up with the officer who wrote the tickets. He has a hard time believing that one of his officers would only ticket her 3 vehicles and no one else on the block. Anita explained that they did not give proper warning to the residents to move their cars. She gave Chief Fittos and Council copies of the pictures to have on file. John O'Gurek asked if she noticed if tickets were placed in the door because sometimes they do that if they can't get it on the windshield. She said no they were not and you can see it in the pictures.
6. Dave Williams, Iron Street, stated that the plow only came down their block once and there are disabled people who live on the block. He said his wife is disabled and it was so icy that she almost fell. He asked how it works if you get 1 inch of snow and 2 more of ice, how does this work. Mike Alabovitz explained that the signs state that it is an accumulation of 3 inches of snow or ice. Mike also explained that once the temperature goes below a certain degree, the salt will not work. Dave asked if there is one person that does not move their car can it be towed. John explained they can only tow cars during a state of emergency. However, the price of the ticket does increase with each violation. Chet Michalik said that the problem is that cars will move and then once the plow goes down one time, everyone moves back and does not allow the plow to come back and do another swipe.

New Business

1. Council received a request from the Panther Valley Running and Fitness Club to hold a 5K run/walk on July 26, 2014 beginning at 8:30am. **Motion was made by Bill Chapman and second by Greg Kosciolek to approve the request from the Panther Valley Running and Fitness Club to hold a 5K run/walk on July 26, 2014 at 8:30am, with the assistance of the**

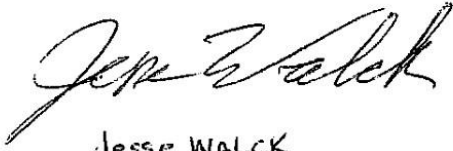
Summit Hill Police and Fire Police. The motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

2. Council received a request from Sara Ruch, Summit Hill Hootenanny Chair, to hold the Hootenanny on June 29, 2014 from 11:00-8:00pm with the use of the community center for the entire weekend to place displays and hold talks about the history of the town. **Motion was made by Bill Chapman and second by Greg Kosciolek to approve the request for the Summit Hill Hootenanny to be held on June 29, 2014 from 11:00-8:00pm, with use of the community center for the entire weekend.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.
3. Jesse Walck asked for a motion to approve the repairs to the F550 Ford Dump Truck with the estimate of repairs between \$1,500 and \$2,000. **Motion was made by Bill Chapman and second by Greg Kosciolek to approve the repairs to the F550 Ford Dump Truck with the cost estimate between \$1,500 and \$2,000.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council. Mike Alabovitz said that Council needs to consider replacing the vehicle in the near future.
4. Snow Plowing Ordinance - Jesse Walck explained that Ordinance #1 of 2014 is an amendment to the Snow Ordinance. Jesse explained that it is to prevent people from privately plowing streets or shoveling snow into the streets and this way we will not run into problems or cause the workers extra time to clear the problems that other people have created. John O'Gurek feels that it needs to be worded properly to allow people to understand it more clearly. He said that it does not specifically explain what you mean by equipment. What about 4-wheelers and trucks with plows. Jesse stated that it comes down to the fact that you cannot put snow into the street. Jesse read the ordinance. A brief discussion took place. **Motion was made by Mike Alabovitz and second by Bill Chapman to advertise Ordinance #1 of 2014 amending Ordinance #1 of 1998, Winter Parking Regulations.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council. John O'Gurek opposed. John O'Gurek said that we should remove the section that states with the exception of the 200 block of West Holland Street because the borough should be clearing this street. Another discussion took place. **Motion was made by Mike Alabovitz and second by Bill Chapman to remove the section in Article V, subsection B that states with the exception of the 200 block of West Holland Street.** Motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council. John O'Gurek opposed.
5. Chief Fittos asked Council for permission to have Officer Woodward recertified in the Glock pistols at a cost of \$195.00 for the recertification. **Motion was made by Mike Alabovitz and second by Bill Chapman to allow Officer Woodward to be recertified in Glock pistols at a cost of \$195.00.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.
6. SHWA Agreement - Council received a letter from Lou Alexander in regards to the snow plowing agreement with the Borough asking that changes be made to the current agreement. John O'Gurek read the letter. He stated that a certain individual said that the agreement is only good for one year. Edward Kruczek said that years ago when the agreement was drawn up, it was only suppose to last a year or two and then the borough was to take over. Kira Steber explained to Edward that in the agreement it specifically states that is shall continue on an annual basis unless otherwise terminated by either party. Jesse Walck added that it was never terminated. John O'Gurek feels that it should be tabled. **Motion was made by Mike Alabovitz and second by Bill Chapman to**

table any changes to the agreement. The motion was opened to the floor for comment, none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Motion was made by Michael Alabovitz and second by William Chapman to adjourn at 7:54 p.m. until the next regular scheduled meeting of the Summit Hill Borough on January 24, 2014. The motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

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Jesse Walck
Council President



Kira Steber
Secretary/Treasurer

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