

Summit Hill Borough Council
June 23, 2014, 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 President Jesse Walck presiding.

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

Minutes – Motion was made by Bill Chapman and second by John O’Gurek to approve the May 19, 2014 meeting minutes. The motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Floor Session

1. Monroe Mechling, 17 West White Bear Drive, stated that he turned in a written complaint and nothing has been done with it and he would like to have fair treatment like everyone else. He said he would like to see something done with the property across the street from him. The car in the yard that is covered with a tarp is still there and it has been for six years. Grass hasn't been cut, garbage all over the place and the septic hasn't been looked at. Now they are hiding the septic under insulation. The pipes are underneath a building and running into a septic tank. Jesse Walck said that things have been done but it takes time. Mr. Mechling stated that serious matters are to be addressed in three days and it has been two months since he made his complaint. He said the neighbor went out and covered the tarp the day after he made the complaint and it still sits there with no tags or registration. It needs to be removed. He stressed that the harassment from the Fritz's and the Kasprzak's really needs to stop. Mr. Mechling gave Council a copy of a letter to the editor in the Time News that Mr. Kasprzak put in the paper. He lied to the paper and slandered not only himself but also Council saying that there is nothing being done about the sewage issues. Mr. Mechling said that Mr. Kasprzak sat at meetings complaining about his home and listened to council discuss my property and then lies to the newspaper that there is nothing being done when we all know that there is something being done about the sewage issues. He stated that he needed to get a permit to put stone down across the field to get to his property and the agreement was made with Mr. Gryzik. Now Mr. Kasprzak has complained to the state and the permit is on hold. The money is sitting in the bank to get the septic done but now he cannot move forward until the permit is issued. He needs to keep his business within his own four walls. He has complained to the cops about Joanne's, the neighbor, children. This is not their business. They are now calling Children and Youth on me instead of the cops. Three times this month they have showed up at my house saying there is problems with his children. There is always an adult sitting outside with them but he does keep them out of the yard because of the septic. They are saying that his grandson is riding the lawnmower and running over cats in the field. Mr. Mechling stated that he is going to an attorney and all of this is going to stop. He said that he has been told by several people that nothing is being done for the residents in White Bear and that someone has an attitude about the people in White Bear. Jesse Walck asked what is not being done. Monroe said having grass mowed and getting permits put into place. Jesse explained that the permits come as fast as they can. Monroe said that a statement has been made to him by his neighbors that there is a Councilman that said they don't give a shit what happens down in White Bear. If this is the case, there is going to be a major problem. He said all the harassment, the calls to Children and Youth and nonsense calls is being taken to an attorney. For six years he has been told, before he even started the septic and all the time dealing with this, to get an attorney and now he is because it is time to stop this bullshit. If this means that we are going to go to court, then we are all going to court. Last September he showed Council pictures of the neighbors pumping sewer into their yard. Not only are the Fritz's in the pictures, so is Mr. Kasprzak. This week he will be making copies of the pictures and dropping them off to the

secretary. How many times has this been done, we caught them once, so how many times has it actually been done. This should have been thousands and thousands of dollars in fines. He can't help the fact of what has happened to his septic and he can't help the fact that he has been strung along by Carl Wolfe. Several times he tried to get it fixed and he can't do it. In September or October when Council got rid of Carl Wolfe, he started working with Scott Bieber. We came to an agreement and I told you I would get it fixed and the money is in the bank account to get it fixed. He doesn't want the bullshit to go on because he doesn't like having to come here. Jesse asked if he was squared away with things. Monroe said yes except for the permit for the field; the permit hasn't come back yet. Jesse asked if he was talking about the limited highway occupancy permit. Monroe said yes. He said he is squared away with Scott, has the bids in, sent everything off to the proper people, the money is in the bank and he is ready to go except for the permit to go across the field. He stated that all these years he has been trying to do things the right way and continue to get pumped 6-14 times a year just because that is the way it had to be because he couldn't get any support for it. When he came her in September, nobody on Council was aware that he didn't fix the problem; that is when you dismissed Carl. Not sure if it was because of his situation or someone else's situation. He is going to put his septic in like he promised but he wants something done about the pictures that he gave Council. He said it shouldn't be a \$100.00 fine either, it should be a \$10,000.00 fine for doing what they did. If he need to take it to DEP or to Harrisburg, he will. He is tired of it and he is tired of the neighbors screwing with him just because they want to. Bill Chapman asked if he could have copies of the pictures made and give them to Scott Bieber. Mr. Mechling said he will make sure to copy all pictures and get them to Scott.

Mayor's Report – Chief Fittos reported the magistrate income for May 2014 is \$558.83. **Motion was made by Bill Chapman and second by Bill O'Gurek to accept the Mayor's report for the month of May 2014.** Motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Police Report – Chief Fittos stated that Officer Carter has submitted a letter of resignation from his position as full-time officer. He said he would like to advertise the position and schedule another Civil Service test. Jesse Walck asked if a date was scheduled yet; Joe Fittos replied not yet. **Motion was made by Michael Alabovitz and second by Bill Chapman to accept the resignation of Officer Carter as a full-time officer for the Summit Hill Police Department.** Motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council. **Motion was made by Mike Kokinda and second by Michael Alabovitz to advertise the Civil Service testing for the position of full-time police office for the Summit Hill Police Department.** Motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council. **Motion was made by Mike Kokinda and second by Bill Chapman to accept the Police Report for the month of May 2014.** Motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Planning and Zoning Report – Zoning Officer, Bill Kirklosky, read his report. He said that one thing worth noting is the property located at 116 West White Bear Drive. There was an occupancy permit for that property given to Mr. Bjorkman and he has received complaints that he is not the occupant and that there are several other people living at the property. He found out that he is involved with the Redco Corporation, like the group home in town. He said that he heard that they want to make the property in White Bear a group home. Chief Fittos stated that it has already been started. Bill said it is zoned R1, which is single family. He is going to get in touch with Rick Bjorkman because he was listed as the occupant and the owner and he may be trying to fly under the radar. Bill stated that he would like to get Solicitor Greek's input on this matter and see what would be the best plan of attack. Mike Alabovitz agreed that it would be best to talk to the solicitor about the issue. Jesse suggested starting with violations. It was mentioned that a resident that is living there is a registered sex offender and should be registered with the Summit Hill Police. Chief Fittos stated that he is registered with the department. Kira informed Council that there is a reverse subdivision for approval for Mr. Barachie. She explained that it has already gone through the County Planning Commission as well as the Borough's Planning Commission and is waiting for Council's approval. Mr. Barachie stated that he has followed all advice given to him on the property. He is doing a reverse subdivision on the property for

mortgage purposes. **Motion was made by William O'Gurek and second by Bill Chapman to approve the reverse subdivision for the properties located at 216/218 South Oak Street.** Motion opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council. **Motion was made by Bill Chapman and second by Mike Kokinda to accept the Planning and Zoning Report for the month of May 2014.** Motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Work Leader Report - Motion was made by John O'Gurek and second by Michael Alabovitz to accept the Work Leader Report for the month of May 2104. The motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Tax Collector Report – Tax Collector, Alice Kane, submitted a total of \$418,686.70 with a commission of \$16,747.47 for the month of May 2014. **Motion was made by Bill Chapman and second by Mike Kokinda to accept the Tax Collector Report for the month of May 2014.** 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 May 2014. Berkheimer submitted a total EIT of \$17,112.56 with a commission of \$297.91 and postage charges of \$31.30. Total LST submitted was \$437.77 with a commission of \$8.97 commission and no postage charges. **Motion was made by Bill Chapman and second by Mike Kokinda to accept the Wage Tax Report for the month of May 2014.** 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 May 2014. General Fund receipts were \$395,320.04, Sanitation Account receipts were \$33,197.25 and there were no receipts for the Community Center Account. **Motion was made by William O'Gurek and second by Bill Chapman to accept the receipts for the month of May 2014.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Committee Reports

Streets – John O'Gurek stated that there is nothing much to report at this time. We will need a roller to do paving. He spoke with Work Leader, Bill Frantz, about the park dedication and informed him that since we have the two helpers from the County we can have them paint to the floor of the Gazebo in Ludlow Park. He also said the borough workers are busy fixing the sewer drains that need repair.

Buildings –Michael Alabovitz stated that the bleachers are down in the Ginder Field and the lights were installed at all the buildings, as per the PPL program. Karen Ruzicka asked about if there are any programs out there to replace the street lights with LED lights. Michael Alabovitz explained that there is nothing out there at this time for street lights. He said that the Green Energy Program is not doing anything at this time unless they are forced to do it.

Fire and Emergency Services – Nothing to report at this time.

Recreation – Amber Zuber said that Recreation met with Lorne Possinger and toured the park with him. Lorne gave a lot of insight on the commission in general, some grants that are available and what needs to be improved in the parks. Jodi contacted Ann Toole in regards to the Comprehensive Plan. Ann was happy to speak with Jodi and also gave a lot of information about organizations, planning for park improvement and grants. Ann will be forwarding an extra copy of the Comprehensive Plan to Kira to give to the commission. The commission is requesting that the Borough purchase the playground grade mulch needed for Bill Black Park. She said Guer's sells the mulch for \$30.00 per square yard and they would also need sand. Some of the commission members have been working with the Firework's Committee to raise funds for the Ginder Fireworks. The commission will be selling glow bracelets and necklaces at the event. They will be selling

pizzas at the Hootenanny on June 29th. As always, the commission invites Council members to attend their regular meeting on Tuesday, July 1st at 7:30 at the community center. At this meeting, they will be discussing the mission and responsibilities of the Recreation Commission based on the ordinance created by the Borough and information received from Lorne Possinger and Ann Toole. The plan for Bill Black Park improvements are fixing the borders around the play equipment and sand diggers, installing mulch that is playground certified, installing sand around the diggers doing something about the missing equipment that poses a hazard due to an exposed pipe and replacing the main piece of play equipment, as it was not designed for municipal use. Also, the playground is currently inaccessible for people with physical disabilities, handicapped parking spots and a ramp leading into the park is being considered. A wheelchair path to the water fountain is needed and a path to the handicap accessible bench is needed. Michael Kokinda asked if she knows how much mulch is needed. Jesse Walck recommended sending Bill Frantz and Ron Yuricheck out to measure it. Amber stressed that the mulch is an immediate necessity. **Motion was made by Bill Chapman and second by William O’Gurek to accept the Committee Reports for the month of May 2014.** Motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Communications –

Communication for the Month of May 2014

5. Information of USAgain Bins – Would like to place in Summit Hill.
6. Notice of Property Assessment from the Board of Assessment and Revision of Taxes.
7. Notice of Police for Swimming Pools from the Summit Hill Water Authority.
8. Letter of Thanks from the Panther Valley School District.
9. 2013 Audit Report for the Summit Hill Water Authority.
10. Information from MapCollect – Robust Reporting and Data Integration.

Kira Steber stated that she had a request from Brian Billig from USAgain Clothes Collection System. They would like to place a few bins around town. There would be no charge to the Borough and if we feel that they are not working out or kids are ruining them, we can have them removed at any time. Brian will come and do a ride along with Kira to see where would be the best place to put the bins, where it would be out of the way but where people would see them. **Motion was made by Bill Chapman and second by John O’Gurek to allow USAgain Clothes Collection System to place bins in the borough at no cost to the Borough.** Motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Kira also made Council aware that the Summit Hill Water Authority sent a letter to the Fire Chief and the Fire Department informing them of the guideline established when filling swimming pools. Kira stated that it states you must contact the Water Authority for permission and then decide if you or the Fire Department will fill the pool. If the Fire Department fills the pool, a rate will be determined on the gallon capacity of the pool.

Motion was made by William O’Gurek and second by Bill Chapman to accept all communications for the month of May 2014. 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 June 2014. General Fund bills were \$106,699.18, Sanitation Account bills were \$24,145.67, Community Center Account bills were \$233.95 and Street Account bills were \$1,530.50 **Motion was made by Bill Chapman and second by William O’Gurek to approve the bills for the month of June 2014.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Old Business –

1. Ordinance No. 5 of 2014 - Sewer Transmission Fee - **Motion was made by William O'Gurek and second by Bill Chapman to table Ordinance No. 5 - Sewer Transmission Fee.** The motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

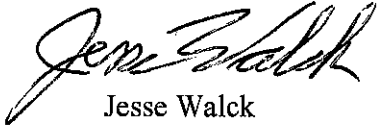
New Business –

1. Electronic Pick-up - Kira stated that Tamaqua Transfer contacted her about the electronics pick-up. She said they wanted to know if Council wants a curbside pick-up or to pick a location and have a one location drop off. She asked Tamaqua Transfer if we do a drop off location, how will they control it so that only Summit Hill Residents are dropping items off. It was explained that they put someone there the check IDs. Council said that it was understood in the contract that they were to do a curbside pick-up so that is what they want. Karen Ruzicka asked when this is going to take place; Kira did not have a date yet. Once a date is set, she will make sure to announce it at a Council meeting, put it in the paper and on the website.
2. Ginder Field Bleachers - Kira said that a motion to ratify the action taken to demolish the Ginder Field bleachers needs to be made. **Motion was made by Bill Chapman and second by John O'Gurek to ratify the action taken to demolish the Ginder Field Bleachers.** Motion opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.
3. Salt Shed Bids - Michael Alabovitz explained the proposed proposal for the salt shed. There is a project manual explaining everything as far as materials to be used. There is going to be one enclosed bay, which will have a 12ft x 12ft garage door. There will be three bays with a 45ft clearance and the bays will be facing the Borough garage. We will need to add a project manager and prevailing wages. Stoney Lonesome will prepare the area and pouring a pad at a cost of \$4,700.00. **Motion made by Mike Kokinda and second by John O'Gurek to advertise for sealed bids for the salt shed.** Motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.
4. DCED Grant - Kira explained that she also spoke with Ann Toole and she is willing to assist the Borough by writing the grant. There is a grant coming up that is due by July 16th and it is a 15% match. There is another grant coming up early next year which we can also apply for and if approved for both grants, it would pay for everything. We would have to pay for something up front, but with both grants, it would end up being a wash. The grant with the 15% match is through the Greenways and Trails. Kira said that Ann was involved with the Comprehensive Plan project so she knows what we are looking for with our parks. She is offering her services if Council will allow her but we will need to commit now so that we have the grant submitted on time. Kira said she can ask Ann to come to the Recreation Commission's next meeting, which is on Tuesday, so that they can discuss their ideas with her for grant.
5. Roller Quote - Mike Alabovitz said that he received a quote for a 1999 Ingersoll Rand roller at a cost of \$9,500.00. John O'Gurek said he doesn't have a problem with the quote but would like to know where we are getting the money for buy it. Jesse Walck stated that the money is there to buy it. O'Gurek feels we should get a demo first, have it delivered and use it and then talk about buying one. Mike Alabovitz said we already have the quote, why go through all of that. **Motion was made by John O'Gurek and second by Bill Chapman to purchase the 1999 Ingersoll Rand roller at a cost of \$9,500.00.** Motion was opened to the floor for comment. Mike Alabovitz said we should add the stipulation that we have the Borough workers look over the roller first before making the final decision. **The motion was made and seconded adding the stipulation to have the Borough workers look over the roller before making a final decision to purchases.** Motion was again

opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

6. Vehicles for Bid - John O'Gurek said we should put the Borough's roller and the one truck out on bid. Jesse Walck suggested finding out what scrap prices are too. **Motion was made by John O'Gurek and second by Mike Alabovitz to place the Borough's roller and the one 9,000 truck out for bid and also check the scrap prices.** Motion was opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.

Motion was made by Bill Chapman and second by William O'Gurek to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. until the next regular scheduled meeting on July 28, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. Motion opened to the floor for comment; none made. Motion carried unanimously by Council.



Jesse Walck
Council President



Kira Steber
Secretary/Treasurer