

## Meeting August 7, 2023

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Ruszkowski 7:00pm in Council Chambers at 1 Etze Avenue, Mount Pleasant, PA 15666. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. President Ruszkowski asked Borough Manager Lesko to take roll call. Councilpersons present included Barnes, Phillabaum, Barrick, Lasko, Stevenson and Wojnar. Mayor Bailey and Solicitor Istik were present. President Ruszkowski stated that a quorum is present.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve the minutes of July 5, 2023 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0.

### Speakers:

- Greg Wilson, President of the Mt. Pleasant Business District Authority, spoke to Council about upcoming events with the BDA; They have a few different grants available for businesses to take advantage of, one is a signage grant, which 2 businesses have taken advantage of in the amount of approximately \$500. Grants are listed on the BDA website. Holding a business network meeting August 16, 2023 8:30am – 10:00am; held a few workshops; famers market held every other Wednesday at the parking lot across from the gazebo, would like to put lighting through the walkway between the 2 buildings on Main Street, maintaining the rotary kiosk near KeyBank, will be holding an open forum meeting for ideas for the businesses on August 29, 2023 at 6:00pm; working on the shop local app, would like to coordinate with the businesses doing a light up night during the Christmas parade doing one big event instead of 3 different events, the upcoming 5K Breast Cancer Run/Walk on October 21, 2023; run a district shop talk which will showcase a business in town on a short video and help promote the business in Mt. Pleasant. Daynelle Sanner has given her 2-week notice and will be taking another job.

### Public Comment:

- Joe Bauer of North Geary Street, Mt. Pleasant PA requested on behalf of the Visitation Church permission to use the alley between Visitation Church and Frick Park Concession Stand so they can demolish the wall that is there. Borough Manager Lesko stated that Father Dan has requested use of Frick Park on either Sunday, August 27, September 10 or September 17, 2023 for their picnic. Mr. Bauer stated that he believes they will just be using the field for the kids' activities such as playing ball. Council agreed that they can use the alley when doing their demolition.
- Zach Gergas spoke to Council regarding Medic 10. Year to date they have answered 1567 calls this year, which is approximately 470 ahead of last year. They receive \$9,087.00 from the Live Casino drop box donation. They should be receiving the new transport ambulance by the end of August. Applied for a grant through 84 Lumber for a piece of equipment for the new stretcher. Working on 2 additional grants for an ATV and trailer due to some of the rural areas that they are requested to respond, such as Greenlick Dam and the bike trail. Awarded the voluntary recognition program through Pennsylvania's Pediatric Care, intermediate level, meaning that everyone was qualified, clearance checks are in line and that they have the proper equipment. They were also awarded the silver level for the American Heart Association Mission Lifeline statement, stating that they are in the above proper care for stroke and cardiac patients.

Councilwoman Stevenson reported that the Medic 10 checking account for last year vs this year. There is \$98,000.00 more this year and that they are doing an awesome job. Borough Manager Lesko stated that Mr. Gergas has also gathered area back for Medic 10. Mr. Gergas was commended for the work that he has put in to Medic 10.

- Patrick Hresko of 725 West Walnut Street spoke on behalf of the Mt. Pleasant Little League and has asked Council to consider the grass cutting at the little league field in next years budget.
- David Coles spoke to Council regarding the African American history of Mount Pleasant. Councilwoman Barnes stated that she has asked Mr. Coles to come and speak regarding the history and that he informed her that there were 90 black families in the 1800's in Mt. Pleasant and the surrounding communities. Mr. Coles said that they worked between the coal mines, glass houses, coke ovens, railroads, etc. He said that he and a friend from New York have been doing research and partnering with a group call Mt. Pleasant Connection since 1987. Mr. Coles said it was his understanding that there was going to be stained glass at the gazebo. He said that we should maintain all of our history.

### Mayor's Report:

Mayor Bailey gave the following report:

- Attended the Veterans Park Advisory Committee Meeting.
- Read a post that was to be put on the Facebook group from What’s Happening in Mt Pleasant from Jane Altman regarding the fire at McCali Manor and how Borough Council handled it. Councilman Barrick stated that Ms. Altman was informed that the garden she wanted to put in place of McCali Manor did not fall within the zoning requirements for where she was located. Ms. Altman was informed of the zoning ordinance, the code officer and building inspector both informed her of the ordinance and violations, the Borough approved a Resolution permitting her to apply for a grant for the demolition of McCali Manor and the recommendation was for her to demo the building; and, it was also recommended by the County. The Borough does not have a decision and we have nothing to do with it because Ms. Altman owns the ground. The Borough can only make her follow the Ordinance(s). Borough Manager Lesko stated that we have been very patient with Ms. Altman. Councilman Barrick agreed and stated that it has been four (4) months now and we could have been issuing citations.
- Laurel Valley Connector Transportation Project has rescheduled the date for Wednesday, August 16, 2023, 1:00pm – 3:00pm at the Greater Latrobe Highschool.
- Parking meters have been certified and are now reinstalled and working. They are now being monitored and ticketed.
- Tomorrow is National Night Out for Mount Pleasant. It is from 5:30pm to 8:00pm at Frick Park. It will host the Police Department, EMS and Fire Department. Rain date will be the following day on Wednesday.

Mayor Bailey read the Mount Pleasant Police Dept. Report for the month of July 2023:

The Department answered the following calls:

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Incidents                                  | 159 |
| Criminal Arrests                           | 2   |
| DUI Arrests                                | 0   |
| Parking Tickets Issued (Boro)              | 17  |
| Traffic & Non-Traffic Citations            | 58  |
| Assist Other Departments (Police Fire EMS) | 12  |
| Accidents Investigated                     | 6   |
| Special Details                            | 1   |

Income

|                         |            |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Parking Tickets         | \$115.00   |
| Parking Meters          | \$158.12   |
| Fees for Police Reports | \$15.00    |
| Clerk of Courts         | \$152.01   |
| District Court          | \$601.10   |
| Parking Permit          | \$0.00     |
| DUI Task Force Refund   | \$0.00     |
| Total Revenue           | \$1,041.23 |

**Solicitor’s Report:**

Solicitor Istik gave the following report:

- Everyone should have received the updated Bridgeport Property Subdivision via email. If nothing needs changed, plans will be dropped off at the Borough office to be given to the Planning Commission for review. Councilman Barrick said that there were previous discussions about setting up a right-of-way onto Bridgeport Street from South Depot Street and it is not showing on the plans currently. There should also be stormwater and gas line easements shown.
- Asked if the by-laws for Medic 10 have been reviewed so they can be implemented. They are currently working without any by-laws.
- Received an email regarding Gary’s Garage in 2019 when there was some flooding. Solicitor Istik said that the email states a metal pipe was removed and a sump pump installed. Gary’s

Garage has sent her the bill from 2019 and has asked to be reimbursed. Solicitor Istik stated she will forward the bill to Borough Manager Lesko and research the minutes. She will then be able to respond to let him know what was decided at that time. Solicitor Istik stated that the labor was \$4800.00 and he is requesting one-half of the amount. Council stated that they do not remember anything for this. Council President Ruszkowski asked why is this being sent in 2023 from 2019. Solicitor Istik was not sure and she did not know if it was agreed upon and was overlooked. Councilman Barrick asked why are we paying for a sump pump on private property for a stormwater pipe. Solicitor Istik stated that it may not have been agreed on, she does not know what was decided at the time.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Councilwoman Stevenson read the following Treasurer’s Report for the month of June 2023:

| <b>Mt. Pleasant Borough Treasurer's Report</b> |                      | <b>Jun-23</b>   |                 |                      | <b>Balance</b> |
|--|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------|
|  |                      | <b>Prev Bal</b> | <b>Deposits</b> | <b>Disbursements</b> | <b>2023</b>    |
|  | Scottdale Bank       |                 |                 |                      |                |
| General Fund Checking                          | 19069335             | 1,138,637.28    | 82,383.20       | 156,224.02           | 1,064,796.46   |
| General Fund Budgetary Reserve                 | Standard Bank 321615 | 1,006,516.95    | 3,156.69        | 0.95                 | 1,009,672.69   |
| **Police                                       | 48,591.82            |                 |                 |                      |                |
| **Streets                                      | 157,131.00           |                 |                 |                      |                |
| **Contingency Fund                             | 352,299.30           |                 |                 |                      |                |
| **Infrastructure                               | 206,588.62           |                 |                 |                      |                |
| **Workers Compensation                         | 50,000.00            |                 |                 |                      |                |
| **BOMP Gas Wells                               | 26,389.77            |                 |                 |                      |                |
| ** Frick Park Gas Well                         | 27,965.82            |                 |                 |                      |                |
| **Levins                                       | 0.00                 |                 |                 |                      |                |
| **Fire   | 3,400.00             |                 |                 |                      |                |
| **K-9  | 13,828.76            |                 |                 |                      |                |
| **Medic 10                                     | 100,000.00           |                 |                 |                      |                |
| **Marcellus Impact Fee Act                     |                      |                 |                 |                      |                |
| 13   | 23,477.60            |                 |                 |                      |                |
|  | Scottdale Bank       |                 |                 |                      |                |
| Police Parking Tickets & Meters                | 1026616              | 30,251.70       | 110.90          | 0.00                 | 30,362.60      |
|  | Scottdale Bank       |                 |                 |                      |                |
| Escrow Account                                 | 19069343             | 4,445.08        | 16.29           | 0.00                 | 4,461.37       |
|  | Scottdale Bank       |                 |                 |                      |                |
| Liquid Fuels / Scottdale Bank                  | 19123645             | 244,468.78      | 696.89          | 181,203.41           | 63,962.26      |
|  | Standard Bank 446635 | 7,382.80        | 0.00            | 0.00                 | 7,382.80       |
|  | Scottdale Bank       |                 |                 |                      |                |
| Payroll Fund                                   | 19069350             | 2,093.00        | 69,073.43       | 47,956.13            | 23,210.30      |
|  | Somerset Trust Co    |                 |                 |                      |                |
| Veterans Park Fund                             | 2003058309           | 25,394.88       | 2.30            | 0.00                 | 25,397.18      |
|  | Somerset Trust Co    |                 |                 |                      |                |
| Veterans Military Banners Fund                 | 2004522337           | 2,776.25        | 0.20            | 1,225.00             | 1,551.45       |
|  | Scottdale Bank       |                 |                 |                      |                |
| Storm Water Retrofit Phase II                  | 19069368             | 1,233.43        | 4.52            | 0.00                 | 1,237.95       |
|  | Scottdale Bank       |                 |                 |                      |                |
| ARPA Covid-19 (American Resuce Plan Act)       | 19123652             | 447,640.49      | 1,640.94        | 0.00                 | 449,281.43     |
|  | Standard Bank 432243 | 215,254.60      | 0.00            | 0.00                 | 215,254.60     |
|  | Scottdale Bank       |                 |                 |                      |                |
| Scottdale Bank /MidPenn CD                     | 318012650            | 53,527.71       | 0.00            | 0.00                 | 53,527.71      |

|  |                                 |              |           |           |                     |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|
| Standard Bank CD (200yr Anniversary)     | Standard Bank<br>6677418044     | 54,243.17    | 0.00      | 0.00      | 54,243.17           |
| <b>Total General Fund Balance</b>        |                                 |              |           |           | <b>3,004,341.97</b> |
| Medic 10 Checking                        | Scottdale Bank<br>19069533      | 198,107.92   | 68,710.87 | 57,290.71 | 209,528.08          |
| Medic 10 Savings                         | Scottdale Bank<br>19069723      | 57,377.62    | 210.33    | 0.00      | 57,587.95           |
| Medic 10 Money Market                    | Scottdale Bank<br>19069376      | 0.00         | 0.00      | 0.00      | 0.00                |
| Medic 10 Pittsburgh Foundation           | Standard Bank<br>0000358253     | 10,711.91    | 33.60     | 0.00      | 10,745.51           |
| Medic 10 - 501(c)(3)                     | Scottdale Bank<br>19145689      | 250.97       | 0.00      | 0.00      | 250.97              |
| Medic 10 CD                              | Standard Bank<br>371917         | 19,458.71    | 0.00      | 0.00      | 19,458.71           |
| Medic 10 CD                              | Standard Bank<br>410053         | 5,269.88     | 0.00      | 0.00      | 5,269.88            |
| <b>Total Medic 10 Fund Balance</b>       |                                 |              |           |           | <b>302,841.10</b>   |
| WWT Capital Reserve Account              | Scottdale Bank -<br>19123702    | 889,105.95   | 3,259.23  | 26.94     | 892,338.24          |
| Capital Reserve M. A. Savings Acct       | Somerset Trust Co<br>2004521230 | 467,361.93   | 1,417.45  | 0.00      | 468,779.38          |
| Oceanview Annuity CD                     | Scottdale Bank -<br>MidPenn     | 3,088,600.02 | 0.00      | 0.00      | 3,088,600.02        |
| Standard Bank CD WWT Cap.Resv            | Standard Bank<br>464569         | 0.00         | 0.00      | 0.00      | 0.00                |
| Scottdale Bank /MidPenn CD WWT Cap. Resv | Scottdale Bank<br>318015215     | 201,508.38   | 0.00      | 0.00      | 201,508.38          |
| Athene Annuity CD (created Jan. 2021)    | Somerset Trust                  | 514,605.11   | 0.00      | 0.00      | 514,605.11          |
| <b>Total WWT Balance</b>                 |                                 |              |           |           | <b>5,165,831.13</b> |
| <b>Total Borough funds</b>               |                                 |              |           |           | <b>8,473,014.20</b> |

Councilwoman Cynthia Stevenson / Secretary  
Sharon Lesko

Councilwoman Stevenson gave the following report:

- Medic 10 is doing a great job and that their money compared to last year has increased by \$98,000.00.
- The interest rate on the ARPA Covid-19 account has more than doubled as opposed to last month.

Councilwoman Stevenson stated that the significant interest rate increase was due to our new Borough Manager who is being as fiscally responsible as our departed Borough Manager. She worked with the bank and has gotten us a better interest rate. The rates went from 1.25% to 4.45% for all of the Borough accounts affiliated with Mid Penn Bank.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to accept the June 2023 Treasurer's Report. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Wojnar. Motion carried 7-0.

#### Tax Collector's Report:

Assistant Borough Manager Lesko read the following report for the month of July 2023:

|                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Property Taxes     | \$ 2,490.94    |
| Supplemental Taxes | \$ 0.00        |
| Per Capita Taxes   | <u>\$ 0.00</u> |
| Total Collected    | \$ 2,490.94    |

## **Borough Manager's Report:**

Borough Manager Lesko gave the following report:

- Met with Rocky Anderson of the Street Department and Eric Smith of E and H Landscaping regarding the poor grass cutting that is being done and not being done and what is required of them pursuant to the contract. We have had several discussions with Eric and it is never really rectified.
- AmTrust has come and taken pictures of the borough building and medic 10 which they do annually for different buildings that we own. Last year they did the street department and the fire department buildings
- Met with Jeff McGinnis and Pastor Bob Sanner of Calumet regarding picnic tables for Willows Park and possibly Satcho Park. He has come to the Borough building offering to build picnic tables or benches at no cost. We have had a few picnic tables damaged at Willows Park and he has offered to do those for us.
- Sat in on a few interviews with Councilwoman Czekanskii and Council President Ruszkowski for the secretary position. Council President Ruszkowski stated that we will be re-advertising the position.
- Met with Police Chief Grippo and Ron Frinfrock of Bridgeport Technology regarding the security cameras and the quote for those come in at \$20,000. We are meeting with two additional companies one is PA connect and the other will be Premier Audio.
- Held the safety meeting it was regarding heat exhaustion and heat stroke
- Attended the National Night Out meeting on Tuesday July 18th. National Night Out will be held tomorrow night from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with a rain date on the following day.
- Met with Councilman Phillabaum and Councilwoman Lasko with Dan Schmidt from Gibson Thomas Engineering regarding the Frick Park Hillside and the dog park and to begin preparing for the grants for both of these projects. They have some preliminary plans for the dog park. They want us to review them and submit any suggestions before making final plans to submit for the grant. Gibson Thomas will be applying for those grants on our behalf. The dog park grant will be applied through the Local Share Assessment Grant (LSA) and the Frick Park Hillside grant will be applied for through the Statewide Local Share Assessment Grant (SLSA).
- Met with councilwoman Stevenson and Corey Miller of Miller woodworking regarding the desks that are being refinished and building the front desk where the council president and mayor sets.
- Met with Latrobe glass and Fox Glass regarding the glass for the top of the refinished desks.
- We have received our grant money for the Statewide local share assessment Grant from 2022 in the amount of \$503,616 for the equipment that we applied for. We will be receiving the new 2023 Ford F550 tomorrow for the street department. We are hoping the police car will be here within the next few weeks. The grant also included two pieces of equipment from Bobcat one is an excavator, one is a skid steer and it also included a new box ambulance with stretcher, power load and monitor. We expect the Bobcat equipment to come in around November. The ambulance will most likely not be here until next year.
- Ms Altman has filed the application for the demolition of McCali Manor. There has been an asbestos inspection completed and the whole building has been submitted to be demolished. It will need to be approved by the commissioners at their next meeting before moving forward.
- Received a letter from Valerie Tressler and Denise DeSabato dated August 7th 2023 requesting permission to use and decorate the Gazebo for the month of October for breast cancer awareness month. The letter stated that last year they were able to set up their first fund through a glimmer of hope of \$5,000 at the Excelsa Breast Center to directly serve those in our community while the remainder of the funds raised go towards research patient care and screening this has grown each year and gained attention and support as people from out of the area now come to see our "pink gazebo tribute" to the survivors and those that have lost their battle. Council agreed unanimously that they may decorate the gazebo as they have in the past.

### **President's Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to authorize Borough Manager Sharon Lesko to authorize employees to do work for any events, including nonprofit organization events, held within the Borough while not affecting the priority of Borough operations. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 6-1. Councilwoman Barnes voted no.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to hold an executive session regarding personnel. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to reconvene. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0.

Council President Ruszkowski stated that the executive session was held from 8:14 pm to 8:51pm to discuss personnel issues.

### **Property Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to advertise for bids to install electric for the lighting at the waterway project. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilman Barrick gave the following report:

- We will be advertising for the electrical bids for Veterans Park at the wall, the fountain, and the electrical work at the rock. We have made the motion to advertise. We need the bid package put together before we can advertise.
- Everyone has received a copy of the subdivision plan of the Levin property on Bridgeport Street. Councilman Barrick has requested a 50 ft right-of-way that would connect Depot Street to Bridgeport Street. Once that is corrected, he would be satisfied with the plan as long as Council is satisfied. Depot Street would "t" into the property and then we would also have another right away for in case we wanted to build a second street and chase some money from PennDOT to develop it so that anyone wanting to buy this property would develop it and would have street access. Right now, you don't have good street access. You would have to bring in a bunch of fill. By the borough developing this it would be a Borough street. We cannot make somebody do this if they purchase the property unless there was something in the developing and zoning ordinance.

Solicitor Istik stated that Terry McMillan has responded to her email and that he will place a 60-ft right of way on the plan and will have it to us tomorrow. The Planning Commission will have to approve it once we receive the original plans.

Councilwoman Stevenson gave the following report:

Met with Corey Miller of Miller woodworking regarding the refurbishment of the desks. More desks have been taken out to be refurbished.

We had two different glass companies come in and give a quote on glass for the top of the desks.

We are planning to eliminate the riser in the front so that the front desk will be the same level as the other desks. This will allow us to expand the front desk out to the corners of the desk on each side. We need to decide if we want four or five spaces at that front desk. The desk will be constructed of Oak. The desks and the front desk could all be done by the end of the year. Councilwoman Stevenson would like to use the wooden chairs for the front and have the seats reupholstered and casters put on the legs. We will be getting new chairs for the side desks. We will want to use chairs with no arms so they do not scratch the desks. There will be new window trim with rosettes and painting done. We will also be looking at new carpeting, which will be the carpet squares. They would have liked to have a wooden floor look; however, with the room being so large it will echo and there are no sound deadeners. Carpeting will help to take that echoing away.

Council President Ruszkowski stated that Borough Manager Lesko's Office will be repainted. They will be taking the wallpaper trim down and painting the office to get rid of the dark green wall.

### **Streets / Stormwater Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to authorize the First United Church of Christ in Mt. Pleasant to close North Hitchman Street from West Main Street up to, but not including, the alley that

runs directly behind the church for their Church Harvest Festival on Saturday, August 12, 2023 from 8:00am to 6:00pm. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilman Phillabaum gave the following report:

- There is an alley off of South Diamond Street onto Goo's Way where we have received a complaint that the alley is falling into his property. The owner has railroad ties along the alley on his property that have been there for a very long time which are deteriorated and causing the alley to fall into his yard. The homeowner is responsible for the railroad ties. The street department can build a curb to keep the alley from falling into his property. If the property owner is going to replace his railroad ties, the street department will wait until this is complete to repair the alley. If the homeowner is not replacing the railroad ties, the street department will move forward and build the curb up. Councilman Phillabaum gave a timeline of September 15th for the homeowner to have his project done.

### **Parks & Recreation:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to authorize the girls' softball team to use Frick Park on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Ballfield for the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Women's Softball Tournament. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to permit Frock Day Care the use of Frick Park Ballfield on August 10, 2023 from 10:00am – 2:00pm for their bubble party back-to-school kick-off. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Wojnar. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to permit St. Pius/Visitation the use of Frick Park for their parish picnic, which includes the use of the field for games and activities and putting up tents, on Sunday, date to be determined August 27, September 10 or September 17, 2023 from noon – 5:00pm. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Wojnar. Motion carried 7-0.

Council President Ruszkowski stated that the letter received from Father Dan stated that they will be putting tents up in the park. Joe Bauer stated that he believes that the tents will be put up in the Visitation parking lot.

Councilwoman Lasko gave the following report:

- Met with Gibson Thomas Engineering we do have some estimates on the dog park at a cost of approximately 95,000. Councilman Phillabaum stated that his committee for the dog park is willing to do some fundraising to help offset costs at the dog park. Councilman Phillabaum would like to hold a dog park committee meeting on Wednesday, August 16, 2023 at 5:30pm. Discussed some ideas and preliminary plans for the Frick Park Hillside, which will be submitted in the later grant. Discussed possibly having Spence Way a one-way street entering at Eagle Street going east to South Church Street.

Councilman Phillabaum also mentioned ideas for the concession stand at the dog park, which included a possible bike rental since the bike trail is right there.

### **Public Safety Report:**

Councilman Phillabaum read the following Fire Report for the month of June 2023:

Total Calls – 50  
In Town – 10  
Out of Town - 40  
10-45's - 18  
Entrapments - 1  
Fires - 12  
AFA's - 15  
Hazardous Calls – 3  
Public Service Calls – 3  
Ambulance Assistance –2  
Aircraft Down-0  
Standby's – 0  
Turnpike Calls – 7

Landing Zones – 1  
Drills – 0  
Total Members Answering – 547  
Avg. Member Per Call – 11

Borough Manager Lesko reported that they have advertised for a full time police officer.

**Veterans Park:**

Councilwoman Barnes gave the following report:

- One of the Veterans banners, Emerson Mates, was ripped down. Believe a truck caught it and the banner went with it. Councilwoman Barnes reported that she contacted Mr. Mates family to let them know that it will be replaced. StukUp Grafix ordered the replacement banner immediately.
- We have ordered 12 more banners. The replacement banner for Mr. Mates should be able to come in at the same time the Borough receives the 12 banners.
- Councilwoman Barnes thanked Borough Manager Lesko and Jeff McGuinness of the Street Department. Councilwoman Barnes said she was asked by a resident why the banners cannot remain up until after Veterans Day. Councilwoman Barnes said that the banners needed to come down in order for the glass Festival banners to go up. Borough Manager Lesko and Jeff McGuinness had previously discussed that there was a way to leave the banners up until after Veterans Day. Councilwoman Barnes said that they had come up with a brilliant idea and that the banners for the Glass Festival are on the inside of the pole over the sidewalk and the banners for the veterans are facing to the outside towards the street. The banners will then come down after Veterans Day and Christmas banners will go up.
- Councilwoman Barnes went to West Penn Power in Greensburg to see about removing the tree at the bottom end of town in front of the former Arevalo property since there are electrical wires in it. You can no longer get into the West Penn Power building in Greensburg. Security gave her a phone number and she can call to report the issue.
- Spoke with the artist that is going to paint the scene on the back of the Veterans wall. She will be attending the next meeting and talking about what can be done as far as scenes for the back of the wall. She will also let them know if her husband can do the railing. Mayor Bailey stated that she also spoke with someone about the railing and they are to meet with her within the next week or so.

Borough Manager Lesko asked who is responsible for paying for the brackets that have been ordered and if it will come from the Veterans Banner fund. Councilwoman Barnes stated that the cost of the brackets is to be split with the Borough. That's a woman Barnes also said that the Veterans Banner account is for the banners and replacing any banners. It is not for the brackets. The brackets share should come out of the Veteran's Park account.

- Councilwoman Barnes reported that borrow manager Lesko has been working with Spectrio on the design of the digital wall. Borough Manager Lesko reported that Spectrio has been working on the design of the digital wall and are very close to finishing it up. Spectrio has been informed that we Would like to have the wall up and running for the Glass Festival that is being held in September.
- Councilman Barrick suggested asking Spectrio if they have an app available where someone could scan a QR code and a listing would be available on their phone. It would also help in the event that the digital wall was down they would still be able to find the information on their phone.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to hire Jim's Backflow to purchase and install a booster pump at Veterans Park for the sprinkler system at a cost of \$1,700.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilwoman Barnes thanked Joes Pools for donating chlorine tablets for the fountain at Veterans Park.

**Ordinances: None.**

**Human Resources:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to amend the agenda to approve and employee bonus. Motion seconded by Councilman Barrick. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko approve a one-time bonus for Borough Manager Sharon Lesko in the amount of \$5,000.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Barrack. Motion carried 7-0.

Council thanked Borough Manager Lesko for everything that she is doing. Borough Manager Lesko thanked everyone and stated that it is truly appreciated and that she will continue doing what she can, including taking work home, to be she everything is being done.

Councilwoman Wojnar discussed a program that she is aware of that offers internships and asked Borough Manager Lesko if she would be willing to have an intern come in to help for a while. She believes it is through the Private Industry Council (PIC). Borough Manager Lesko said that it would be great and that even if we had someone part time, it would help take some of the load off. Councilwoman Wojnar will reach out to them and then forward the information to Borough Manager Lesko tomorrow. Borough Manager Lesko thanked everyone again.

**Finance / Grants Report:       None.**

### **New Business:**

Councilwoman Stevenson reported that a citizen that lives on her Street along with others are not happy about the location where the fireworks are being put off. Councilman Phillabaum stated that the resident had also reached out to him. Borough Manager Lesko said that the resident had also stopped at the Borough office regarding this issue. There is a lot of debris that comes down from the fireworks and his neighbor has to get on the rooftop to clear it off. Councilwoman Stevenson stated that she is on the opposite side of the street and she also receives a lot of debris in her yard from the fireworks. The main concern is a spark coming from some of that debris and landing on a home or rooftop and causing a fire.

Borough Manager Lesko stated that they were going to speak with the fire department along with the gentleman that sets the fireworks off and see if the fireworks can be moved further back and down away from the homes.

Councilman Phillabaum reported that he has a speaker, possibly two, for the 9/11 event.

Councilwoman Barnes asked about the status of the fence for Mr. Porterfield. Councilman Phillabaum stated that they have received the minutes from Solicitor Istik and if he read the minutes correctly, Council had agreed to put everything back as best as it was previously.

Councilman Barrick stated we paid a contractor to tear the fence down and fix a pipe and put the fence back up and the fence was not put back up properly. Councilman Barrick said put the fence back up and leave it alone. Councilman Phillabaum stated that this is a one and done agreement and that is it.

Borough Manager Lesko asked if they were going to vote or do a consensus on fixing the fence. Councilwoman Lasko stated that we do have a consensus that we are fixing the fence for Mr. Porterfield.

Councilwoman Stevenson asked if there is a consensus on how much money we are spending on repairing the fence. Councilman Barrick stated it would be a half day of Jeff McGuinness' time and the cost of the concrete. Councilman Barrick stated if Jeff McGuinness runs into an unforeseen issue he gets out. Councilman Phillabaum stated that is why the agreement states If there is an issue due to the age of the fence the Borough will not be held responsible and that this is a one and done agreement. Mr. Porterfield has been made aware of the agreement and stipulations and is willing to sign the agreement. Council agreed that the fence will be fixed and it is a done issue.

### **Reading of Communications:**

Borough Manager Lesko read the following communications:

- Received a letter from Representative Davanzo's office stating that they will be terminating their lease effective August 31, 2023.
- Received an invitation from the Mt. Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival for their annual parade. It will be held on September 23, 2023 at 2:00pm. Line up will begin at 1:00pm on Eagle Street and Main Street.

- The YMCA of Laurel Highlands will be holding its 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual YMCA of Laurel Highlands Golf Classic on Friday, September 22, 2023 at Pleasant Valley Golf Club, Connellsville, PA.

**Discussion and Payment of Bills:**

Borough Manager Lesko asked Council to permit ACH withdrawals on all insurances. The UTICA Insurance for the fire department is addressed to the Borough building; however, it gets delivered to the fire station and does not come to the Borough office and we continually get cancellation notices. By having the ACH withdrawals on all of the insurances, we do not have to worry about missing an invoice and getting cancelled.

Council agreed that all insurances could be set up for payments via ACH withdrawal.

A Motion was made by Councilman Stevenson to pay all authorized and approved bills. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 7-0.

**Public Comment:      None.**

**Miscellaneous and Adjournment:**

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0.

**Meeting Adjourned 9:52pm.**

Respectfully Submitted,

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Sharon Lesko  
Borough Manager

BOROUGH OF MOUNT PLEASANT

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Susan Ruskowski, Council President

### **Motions from Meeting of August 7, 2023**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve the minutes of July 5, 2023 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to accept the June 2023 Treasurer's Report. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Wojnar. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to authorize Borough Manager Sharon Lesko to authorize employees to do work for any events, including nonprofit organization events, held within the Borough while not affecting the priority of Borough operations. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 6-1. Councilwoman Barnes voted no.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to hold an executive session regarding personnel. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to reconvene. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to advertise for bids to install electric for the lighting at the waterway project. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to authorize the First United Church of Christ in Mt. Pleasant to close North Hitchman Street from West Main Street up to, but not including, the alley that runs directly behind the church for their Church Harvest Festival on Saturday, August 12, 2023 from 8:00am to 6:00pm. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to authorize the girls' softball team to use Frick Park on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Ballfield for the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Women's Softball Tournament. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to permit Frock Day Care the use of Frick Park Ballfield on August 10, 2023 from 10:00am – 2:00pm for their bubble party back-to-school kick-off. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Wojnar. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to permit St. Pius/Visitation the use of Frick Park for their parish picnic, which includes the use of the field for games and activities and putting up tents, on Sunday, date to be determined August 27, September 10 or September 17, 2023 from noon – 5:00pm. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Wojnar. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to hire Jim's Backflow to purchase and install a booster pump at Veterans Park for the sprinkler system at a cost of \$1,700.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to amend the agenda to approve and employee bonus. Motion seconded by Councilman Barrick. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko approve a one-time bonus for Borough Manager Sharon Lesko in the amount of \$5,000.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Barrack. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Stevenson to pay all authorized and approved bills. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0.