

## Meeting April 1, 2024

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 Barrick, Lasko, Stevenson, Davis, Barnes, Czekanski, Wojnar and Phillabaum. Mayor Bailey was present. Solicitor Mlakar and Solicitor Leechalk was present. President Ruszkowski stated that a quorum is present.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve the regular meeting minutes of March 4, 2024 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

### Medic 10 Report:

- Zach Gergas, Director of Medic 10, gave the following report regarding Medic 10:
  - Total calls: 260 calls.
    - Transports 207
    - Refusals / DOA 12
    - Lift Assists – 12
    - Standbys – 11
    - Canceled calls – 18
    - Missed calls – 16
  - Wheelchair Van Trips - 87

**March incident Total: 347**

- Year to date calls – 758 (average 253 runs/month)
- Year to date Wheelchair Van Trips – 225 (average 75 trips/month)
- **Year to Date Incidents: 983** (average 328 incidents/month)

2023 Calls – 643 (115 ahead)

2023 Wheel Chair Van Trips – 71 (154 ahead)

### Grants:

- Office of the State Fire Commissioner – Supplies ordered and received
- CSX Pride in Service – Safety Equipment (helmets, gloves, vests, glasses)
- AFG – still in progress
- Pennsylvania Skill Charitable Giving Grant - \$2,000.00 for medical bags
- Norfolk Southern Grant – Opens 4/11/2024
- Has applied for four (4) additional grants – Harbor Freight, Walmart, 84 Lumber and 1 other.

### Upcoming Events:

- Licensure Inspection scheduled for 04/23/2024 (PA D.O.H.)
- Mock accident on 04/29/2024 at the Mt. Pleasant Jr./Sr. High School

Mr. Gergas provided a report that is attached.

### Fire Department Report:

- Paul Harenchar, Mount Pleasant Fire Chief, gave the following report:
  - Applied for an AFG Grant to be used for new hose. They have not purchased new hose since 1988.
  - Had 40 calls for the month of March.
  - Street Fair tickets are a 3-digit number ticket and are almost gone.
  - They will be holding a big bingo as a fundraiser.

- Reached out to Sutphen regarding an update on the tower truck. The ladder has been put on and it should be very soon that we receive it back.

**Public Comment:**

- Richard Meason of 316 South Fourth Street, Youngwood, PA, President of the Mt. Pleasant Historical Society spoke to Council regarding 2 important anniversaries that are coming up for Mt. Pleasant. The 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for the Mt. Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department and the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Mount Pleasant Doughboy. The fire department have been protecting the citizens and structures of Mount Pleasant since 1899. November 11<sup>th</sup> will mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the town's most iconic symbol, the doughboy. It was dedicated November 11, 1924 to mark the 6<sup>th</sup> anniversary of World War I. The doughboy has stood as a lasting tribute to the 16 members of Mount Pleasant's Company E of the 110<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment who perished during the war. The doughboy has evolved over the years to become a tribute to all of Mount Pleasants soldiers in all of the wars. Mr. Meason stated that Councilman Phillabaum asked him to give a speech at the upcoming Veterans Day activities and it is a task that he gladly and proudly accepts. The Mt. Pleasant Area Historical Society is dedicated to preserving and celebrating our towns history. They are honored to be a part of all activities the Borough deems fit to celebrate these occasions. They look forward to working with the Borough in any capacity that they can.
- James Rega, Sr. of 10 North Church Street, Mt. Pleasant PA stated that he is putting the Borough on notice that he is filing suit against the Borough for discrimination against the handicap. Mr. Rega stated "Council refused to give him a handicap sticker on the curb down there beside his house and at that time the solicitor told Jerry that he was going to have to give it to him because there was no Ordinance, no nothing and everybody refused to do their job. Then, against the police department, they come at 1:30 in the morning pounding on his door. Answered the door, the cop said we are here for a dog complaint. I have 2 10" dogs, 10 months old and how much noise can they make for this officer to come pounding on my door. After that, another officer come over because I took a picture of him. He called 911 for pi\*\*y a\*\* sh\*t". Solicitor Mlakar told Mr. Rega to watch his language. Mr. Rega continued by saying the he uses the police department for what he wants. Mr. Rega said how many 911 calls were made and that he figures maybe 19 – 20 calls that the officer has come over onto his porch harassing his wife, harassing him for ridiculous calls and he is fed up with it. Mr. Rega went on and said that he talked with his attorney today and he is moving forward with it and that is the way it is. Mr. Rega said as far as the Borough solicitor there, that we both have attorneys with the same law firm and he believes that is a little bit of an issue there. Mr. Rega said that he is just informing us and he went on to say that he can give us a list of all of his medication for Veterans Affairs and he has a purple heart and he has numerous doctors that he goes to constantly, so if you want a list of them, he can give them to you. Now he started 36 visits for cardio rehab at Latrobe Hospital. He was in the hospital for a week. Council President Ruszkowski stated that Mr. Rega's 3 minutes were up.
- Chelsey Frock of 1028 Moyer Road, Mount Pleasant spoke to Council regarding the MPIAA Girls Slow Pitch Softball that runs at Frick Park. She has been a part of the league for 20 years and she is now the President. Chelsey stated that as a league that they have put approximately \$6,000.00 in the past to make the park in good shape. They are currently fundraising to replace their backstop which is close to coming down and said that it is a safety issue and a priority at this time. They were previously approved for the bathroom but at this time they are saving the funding for the backstop. Estimates that they have received are roughly \$19,000.00 to replace. Ms. Frock stated that this is a large amount of money for a non-profit organization to hand out but they are working towards their goals to thank their softball families and all of their help fundraising. Another issue they are currently having is that the current scoreboard has not been working for at least 5 years. There was discussion about the wires being accidentally cut by a lawn company. They can't assume because there have been numerous lawn companies in those years. They have inquired about getting it fixed by either replacing a wire and digging a trench for the scoreboard or by going completely wireless. They have received confirmation that the wireless would cost approximately \$3,000.00. They are asking the Borough for some financial assistance since they have put a lot of money in to the field. The league has brought teams in from all over Southwestern PA. They had bleachers removed that were unsafe for \$1,500.00 and replaced some fencing along the side and put secure stuff on the top for \$4,450.00 and they had someone come in a fix the shed due to wind damage for \$800.00.

**Speakers:     None.**

**Mayor’s Report:**

Mayor Bailey gave the following report:

Mayor Bailey read the Mount Pleasant Police Dept. Report for the month of March 2024:

The Department answered the following calls:

Incidents	137
Criminal Arrests	4
DUI Arrests	1
Parking Tickets Issued (Boro)	41
Traffic & Non-Traffic Citations	53
Assist Other Departments (Police Fire EMS)	7
Accidents Investigated	4

Income

Parking Tickets	\$276.00
Parking Meters	\$0.00
Fees for Police Reports	\$0.00
Clerk of Courts	\$119.55
District Court	\$949.47
Parking Permit	\$75.00
DUI Task Force Refund	\$0.00

Total Revenue \$1,420.02

**Solicitor’s Report:**

Solicitor Mlakar gave the following report:

- With respect to Mr. Rega’s request for a handicap sticker, if Council authorizes him, Solicitor Mlakar will research the Motor Vehicle Code to determine how and when a handicap sticker can be issued and if Mr. Rega meets the criteria, Solicitor Mlakar will make a recommendation to Council.
- With respect to the potential conflict of interest that Mr. Rega spoke of, Mr. Skovira of their office represents Mr. Rega in a boundary line dispute case. When they knew there could be an issue, they did not discuss with Mr. Skovira anything about Mr. Rega. Mr. Skovira informed Solicitor Mlakar that the only thing that he represents Mr. Rega in is the boundary line dispute with his neighbor. There is no conflict between us. It is a whole separate action that the Borough has nothing to do with.
- Still waiting to hear from the attorney for the Westmoreland County Chamber of Commerce regarding relinquishing their rights to the two (2) parking lots behind Levins before we can move forward with the dissolution of the Parking Authority. They were originally owned by the Mount Pleasant Chamber of Commerce who merged with the Westmoreland County Chamber of Commerce. Solicitor Mlakar sent their attorney a letter approximately a 1 ½ months ago asking to take formal action so that we can get title to the property into the Borough. Solicitor Mlakar will reach out again to them.
- Sent a letter to the Business District Authority attorney regarding the food trucks. Solicitor Mlakar suggested a committee be formed and meet with the Borough Events Committee to discuss this further. Solicitor Mlakar has not received a response back. That matter is on hold until they respond.
- After reviewing the records, it has been determined that there were no lease agreements for the softball league, baseball league, fire department and Medic 10. Solicitor Mlakar has prepared the leases and they have been sent to the committees for review and changes if necessary. He will set a meeting to discuss any recommendations or necessary changes and then bring them back to Council as a whole.

- Solicitor Mlakar is recommending an executive session scheduled to discuss the police contract. Once a time and date are set, we will give notice to all of Council and at the next meeting announce the purpose of the executive session, when it was conducted and when it was finished.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Councilwoman Stevenson gave the following Treasurer’s Report for the month of February 2024:

<b>Mt. Pleasant Borough Treasurer's Report</b>		<b>Feb-24</b>			<b>Balance</b>
		<b>Prev Bal</b>	<b>Deposits</b>	<b>Disbursements</b>	<b>2024</b>
General Fund Checking	Scottdale Bank 19069335	1,042,892.69	112,484.21	161,803.37	993,573.53
General Fund	Standard Bank				
Budgetary Reserve	321615	1,046,690.31	3,320.38	0.00	1,050,010.69
**Police	48,591.82				
**Streets	148,604.25				
**Contingency Fund	379,639.84				
**Infrastructure	206,588.62				
**Workers					
Compensation	50,000.00				
**BOMP Gas Wells	26,773.10				
** Frick Park Gas					
Well	29,106.70				
**Levins	0.00				
**Fire	23,400.00				
**K-9	13,828.76				
**Medic 10	100,000.00				
**Marcellus Impact					
Fee Act 13	23,477.60				
Police Parking Tickets & Meters	Scottdale Bank 1026616	32,947.56	855.98	0.00	33,803.54
Escrow Account	Scottdale Bank 19069343	4,579.90	16.23	0.00	4,596.13
Liquid Fuels / Scottdale Bank	Scottdale Bank 19123645	61,885.66	201.11	8,269.98	53,816.79
Monument CD	Standard Bank 446635	7,382.80	0.00	0.00	7,382.80
Payroll Fund	Scottdale Bank 19069350	3,229.61	43,290.76	43,276.84	3,243.53
Veterans Park Fund	Somerset Trust Co 2003058309	25,913.69	2.26	0.00	25,915.95
Veterans Military	Somerset Trust Co				
Banners Fund	2004522337	2,476.01	0.22	0.00	2,476.23
Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	Scottdale Bank 19069368	1,270.84	4.50	0.00	1,275.34
ARPA Covid-19 (American Resuce Plan Act)	Scottdale Bank 19123652	258,806.35	917.10	0.00	259,723.45
Standard Bank CD	Standard Bank 432243	215,254.60	0.00	0.00	215,254.60
Scottdale Bank /MidPenn CD	Scottdale Bank 318012650	53,527.71	0.00	0.00	53,527.71
Standard Bank CD (200yr Anniversary)	Standard Bank 6677418044	54,243.17	0.00	0.00	54,243.17
<b>Total General Fund Balance</b>					<b>2,758,843.46</b>
Medic 10 Checking	Scottdale Bank 19069533	299,706.18	74,926.88	11,665.26	362,967.80
Medic 10 Savings	Scottdale Bank 19069723	59,118.00	209.49	0.00	59,327.49
Medic 10 Pittsburgh Foundation	Standard Bank 0000358253	10,999.19	1,089.57	0.00	12,088.76
Medic 10 - 501(c)(3)	Scottdale Bank 19145689	253.22	0.90	0.00	254.12
Medic 10 CD	Standard Bank 371917	19,458.71	0.00	0.00	19,458.71
Medic 10 CD	Mid Penn Bank 318023688	5,325.42	0.00	0.00	5,325.42

<b>Total Medic 10 Fund Balance</b>						459,422.30
WWT Capital Reserve Account	Scottdale Bank - 19123702	895,447.25	3,173.07	0.00		898,620.32
Capital Reserve M. A. Savings Acct	Somerset Trust Co 2004521230	479,059.91	1,400.66	0.00		480,460.57
Oceanview Annuity CD	Scottdale Bank - MidPenn	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Scottdale Bank /MidPenn CD	Scottdale Bank 318015215	201,508.38	0.00	0.00		201,508.38
WWT Cap. Resv American National (9/5/2023)	Scottdale Bank - MidPenn	3,048,217.31	0.00	0.00		3,048,217.31
American National (9/5/2023)	Mid Penn Bank - Scottdale Bank	518594.74	0.00	0.00		518594.74
<b>Total WWT Balance</b>						<b>4,628,806.58</b>
<b>Total Borough funds</b>						<b>7,847,072.34</b>
Councilwoman Cynthia Stevenson / Secretary Sharon Lesko						

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to accept the February 2024 Treasurer’s Report. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

**Tax Collector’s Report:**

Borough Manager Lesko read the following report for the month of March 2024:

Property Taxes	\$103,936.74
Supplemental Taxes	\$ 0.00
Per Capita Taxes	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Total Collected	\$103,936.74

**Borough Manager’s Report:**

Borough Manager Lesko stated that everyone has received a copy of her report and asked if anyone has any questions or comments. There were no questions or comments. A copy of the report is attached.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to accept the Borough Managers Report. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

**President’s Report:**

Council President Ruszkowski asked that Council members please respond to emails that come from the Borough Manager in a timely manner. Please respond so additional emails do not need to go out or unnecessary phone calls needing to be made.

**Property Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to approve the installation of 2 stainless-steel doors with panic bars by Armory Locksmiths at the police department in the amount of \$7,480.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Davis. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to approve a new keypad/digital access system by Armory Locksmiths at the police department in the amount of \$2,860.00. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilman Barrick stated that everyone has received a copy of her report and asked if anyone has any questions or comments. There were no questions or comments. A copy of the report is attached.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to approve the report submitted by Councilman Barrick. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

**Streets / Stormwater Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to authorize Council President Ruszkowski and Borough Manager Lesko to execute the Release of Liability with Zachary Ramer. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

Solicitor Mlakar stated that during the snowplowing season, there was a portion of a wall that was damaged. Mr. Ramer asked that the Borough remove a portion of the wall and taper the wall. Solicitor Mlakar prepared a release and the work will be done by the Street Department.

Council President Ruszkowski stated that everyone has received a copy of her report and asked if anyone has any questions or comments. There were no questions or comments. A copy of the report is attached.

A Motion was made by Council President Ruszkowski to approve the report submitted by Council President Ruszkowski. Motion seconded by Councilman Barrick. Motion carried 9-0.

**Parks & Recreation:**

Councilwoman Lasko stated that everyone has received a copy of her report and asked if anyone has any questions or comments. A copy of the report is attached.

Councilwoman Wojnar asked if we heard anything additional about the playset that was damaged. Borough Manager Lesko stated that we have received the insurance money and that Councilwoman Lasko will be choosing a replacement for there.

Councilwoman Barnes asked why the softball league is paying for the backstop at the park. Councilwoman Lasko stated that it is a good question and she did not know that was happening. Solicitor Mlakar stated that those are things that we should discuss as part of the lease agreement which will set forth the responsibilities of the league and of the Borough. Solicitor Mlakar stated that when replying to emails such as the lease agreements, do not hit reply all, because you could possibly be violating the open meeting law. You should only respond to the solicitor and then he will circulate to whom he believes is appropriate to circulate it to.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to approve the report submitted by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to approve purchase of security cameras, phase 4 at a cost of \$8,100.00. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Czekanski. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilwoman Lasko stated that if she recalls correctly the scoreboard was donated by Kriebel Resources as they installed the gas well at Frick Park. The money from the gas well was to be earmarked for Frick Park. The money from the gas well would be appropriately used for the scoreboard. Solicitor Mlakar stated as long as that money is set aside for Frick Park it can be used. The Borough will need three quotes for the work to be done and then a motion will need to be made at the next meeting.

**Public Safety Report:**

Councilman Phillabaum stated that everyone has received a copy of his report and asked if anyone has any questions or comments. There were no questions or comments. A copy of the report is attached.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to approve the report that he submitted. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilman Phillabaum asked how often are fire hydrant inspections done. Mayor Bailey stated that they are inspected by the water company and they do so many every year. Councilman Davis asked if you can find out when the last time they were done. Mayor Bailey said to contact the water company. Solicitor Mlakar stated that a few of the municipalities that he represents have their fire chief check the hydrants to be sure they are okay. If there is a problem then they would contact the water company immediately. Solicitor Mlakar stated that it is good practice for the Chief to do it every 6 months or annually.

Councilman Phillabaum read the following Fire Report for the month of March 2024:

Total Calls – 40  
In Town – 11  
Out of Town – 29  
10-45's - 17  
Entrapments – 2  
Extrication - 0  
Fires - 14  
AFA's - 4  
Hazardous Calls – 2  
Public Service Calls – 0  
Ambulance Assistance – 1  
Standby's – 1  
Turnpike Calls – 7  
Landing Zones – 0  
Drills – 0  
Total Members Answering – 405  
Avg. Member Per Call – 10

A copy of the fire report is attached.

**Veterans Park:**

Councilwoman Barnes stated that everyone has received a copy of her report, which was the minutes from their last meeting on February 29, 2024 and asked if anyone has any questions or comments.

Councilwoman Barnes also reported:

- One of the artists that they had for the wall had backed out. They only have one now. He submitted his proposal for the painting for the back of the wall.
- The Veterans banners will go in reverse order on Main Street. Last year they went in order received this year they will go with the last order received will be first at the top of town starting near the Valero gas station.
- Mount Pleasant Township has agreed to permit the banners to be hung in the Township as far as Jack Caruso's garage / bait shop.
- Borough Manager Lesko has been in contact with Spectrio on a daily basis and they are watching if the wallpaper comes up on the screen. They believe it is an internal issue. If anyone notices it, please let Borough Manager Lesko know as soon as possible.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to approve proposal from Meleik Lunsford for the painting of the backside of Veterans Wall, not to exceed \$12,000.00, to be paid from Veterans Park fund. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to approve the report that she submitted. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Czekanski. Motion carried 9-0.

**Ordinances:**

Council President Ruszkowski asked Councilman Davis to look into Ordinances regarding fire pits and the bicycles and skateboards at Veterans Park.

Councilman Davis suggested a small sign at Veterans Park with no bicycles and skateboards. Solicitor Mlakar stated that you adopt a formal policy regarding rules and regulations for the parks. Solicitor Mlakar stated that you need more than just a sign. You do need an ordinance.

Councilman Barrick stated that we had adopted an Ordinance after an incident at Veterans Park. Borough Manager Lesko will look back to see if one was done.

### **Human Resources:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Czekanski to terminate Lori Spangler. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Czekanski to hire Kenzie Whipkey as part-time secretary at a rate of \$15.00/hour plus workers compensation and unemployment compensation benefits and with no other benefits with a starting date of March 27, 2024. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilwoman Czekanski asked how many hours would Kenzi be working. Borough Manager Lesko stated that it is not to exceed 24 hours.

### **Events Report:**

Councilwoman Wojnar stated that everyone has received a copy of her report, and asked if anyone has any questions or comments. There were no questions or comments.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Wojnar to approve the events report that was submitted. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Czekanski. Motion carried 9-0.

### **Finance / Grants Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve sending Councilman Phillabaum and Councilwoman Barnes to the 112<sup>th</sup> Annual PSAB Conference & Exhibition in Hershey, PA, June 2, 2024 to June 5, 2024 at a cost not to exceed \$2,500.00, which includes registration (\$250.00 per person x2), lodging (\$234.00 + 11% occupancy tax per night (3nights = \$779.22 per person x 2 = \$1,558.44), Fuel and turnpike tolls. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Wojnar. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to appoint Ken Phillabaum to serve as the Voting Delegate at the annual PSAB Conference in June 2024.

### **New Business:**

Councilwoman Wojnar asked about the library, review our Ordinance and what our commitment is to the library. They are working on their budget for this year. Solicitor Mlakar stated he previously sent out a letter that was distributed to Council for their review.

Councilman Barrick stated that Borough Manager Lesko would like to apply for a new grant that is available. Borough Manager Lesko stated that it is a new ARPA Capital Improvement Grant. Councilman Barrick stated that it would include updates to our municipal building, which would include 1<sup>st</sup> floor rehab, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor updates, LED lighting, carpeting, painting, the furnaces on the roof and the roof itself, elevator, windows. This is something that we cannot do and it is possible we will need to hire an architect. We will check with Gibson-Thomas Engineering. Borough Manager Lesko stated that there is no match required with this grant and the minimum amount you can submit is \$250,000.00.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to authorize Borough Manager Lesko to file the COVID ARPA PA Capital Projects Fund Multi-Purpose Community Facilities Program grant application for the Borough building updates. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilwoman asked if we could look further into the scoreboard issue. Solicitor Mlakar stated that the Borough should investigate the monies that are in the account and see what work needs to be done and report back at the next meeting because you will be expending funds.



**Reading of Communications:**

Borough Manager Lesko read the following communications:

- Southmoreland School District will be providing the free lunch program at Frick Park beginning June 17, 2024 through August 9, 2024. July 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> will be excluded.
- Braddock Trail DAR is hosting its annual basket bazaar at the Kecksburg VFD Firehall at 5128 Water Street, Kecksburg, PA on Saturday, June 1 2024. They are asking for “theme” basket donations. Donations must be delivered to the Samuel Warden Museum at 200 S. Church Street, Mt. Pleasant by May 15, 2024.
- The Mount Pleasant Library is requesting to use Frick Park for their Story Walk.
- The Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall will be held at Frick Park on August 28<sup>th</sup> to September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Lights are to remain on during the event and there will be around the clock guards. This is sponsored by Gallagher’s Pub & Grille.

**Discussion and Payment of Bills:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to pay all authorized and approved bills. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

**Mayor/Council Comment:**

Councilwoman Stevenson reported that the Mt. Pleasant Historical Society is working on a series of dinners and a discussion. Tickets will be sold for the events. The first will be held by Mr. Meason on Saturday, April 27, 2024 at 5:15pm the Mt. Pleasant Room at Haydens Pharmacy, cost is \$20.00.

**Miscellaneous and Adjournment:**

Solicitor Mlakar had one miscellaneous comment. Based upon Mr. Rega notifying the Board that he is going to be suing the Borough, it is Solicitor Mlakar’s advice to the Board that you have no contact with Mr. Rega at all. He can come to the meetings, have his 3 minutes to make his comments, with no comments. He should not be coming to any of your homes. If he does, ask him to leave, if he doesn’t take the appropriate action.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Wojnar. Motion carried 9-0.

**Meeting Adjourned 7:52pm.**

Respectfully Submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sharon Lesko  
Borough Manager

BOROUGH OF MOUNT PLEASANT

\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Ruskowski, Council President

**April 1, 2024**  
**Committee Reports**

**Mayors Report**

--attended the BDA meeting on 03/06/2024; they are moving along with plans and projects for the upcoming months such as 30 second commercials, training sessions, grants for marketing/facades/signs, main street murals--just to name a few

--attended our safety meeting on 03/19/2024 with the topic of discussion being "Workplace Fire Prevention Tips"

--attended the Emergency Management Coordination Meeting for Council and Employees on 03/19/2024

--attended the Mount Pleasant Rotary's 100th Year Anniversary celebration held at Nino's Restaurant on Saturday, March 23rd, 2024 along with Council President Ruszkowski, Councilwoman Stevenson and Borough Manager Lesko

--attended the Veterans Park Advisory Committee meeting on 03/28/2024

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Bailey, Mayor

**Borough Managers Report**

Opst & Associates, our Borough auditor have been back and have in and just completed the Borough audit. They will be sending a copy of the audit along with a report.

Met with Solicitor Mlakar regarding executing the deed for the property located at 107 West Main Street to the Westmoreland County Land Bank.

Intern Kenzie Whipkey has completed her internship with the Borough. Will look into another intern from Laurel Business Institute.

Discussion with Nicole Remesik Raymond James Financial and Carver Financial Regarding Doris Ellestad bequest

Several discussions throughout the month with Solicitor Mlakar Re: Parking Authority, BDA, Lease Agreement Re: Little League Field, Frick Park Field, Medic 10 and Fire Department, Conveyance of Property to Landbank, Bequest of Dorris Ellestad

Held safety meeting with staff and Mayor Bailey. Topic was "Workplace Fire Prevention Tips"

Held a managers' meeting with Police Chief Grippo and Jeff McGuinness.

Held a meeting with Police Chief Grippo, Jeff McGuinness and Zach Gergas regarding Emergency Management Coordination.

Attended the grand opening ceremony for Armstrong Cable with Council President Ruszkowski.

Met with Dan Busatto of Century Insurance regarding the Borough liability insurance that is to renew on June 1, 2024.

Attended the Westmoreland County 911 Hazard Mitigation Meeting at the Borough Building. Council and Employees were also in attendance.

Attended the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for the Mt. Pleasant Rotary at Nino's Restaurant on Saturday, March 23, 2024.

Received the new police vehicle, 2023 Dodge Durango. It was purchased from the grant received from DCED and Kim Ward last year. It will be sent out for upfitting.

Sharon Lesko, Borough Manager

**Property**

We need to begin planning several items for April. We need to have a meeting to discuss several items at the Municipal Building. I would like to hire an Architect to look at the Municipal building. The task for the architect would assist with costs to help the borough with a grant application.

Items include:

1st floor rehab including entrance at police station,  
2nd floor, updates, new lighting, maybe bathroom updates  
New windows on all floors  
Elevator updated  
Roof work and furnace replacement.

Mike Barrick, Chair

### **Streets/Storm Water**

Took Handicap signs down that were not being used anymore.

Put 2 Handicap signs up in front of the VFW and painted the curbs.

Cut the rest of the tree down at the Boro Building and look into getting the stump grounded.

Took the spreaders off of 2 of the trucks and still have 1 of the trucks still equipped with a spreader.

Cutting grass at the parks which include Satchos park, Jack Bobbs park, Medic 10 park, Penn park, Third Ward fire station, Medic 10 Ambulance station.

Fixed Park Ave sign.

Susan Ruszkowski Street/Storm Water Chair

### **Parks and Recreation**

Solicitor has prepared leases for the use of our ballfields by Girls Softball at Frick Park and the Little League field at Willows. There is a \$1 fee annually. The Committee have reviewed the leases.

COI has been received from girls' softball and little league.

Diana Lasko, Chair

### **Public Safety**

Just going to talk about the presentation for Spencer and Medic 10.

The rest will be covered by Paul Harenchar, Fire Chief and Zack Gergas, Medic 10 Director

Ken Phillabaum, Chair

### **Veterans Park**

See attached minutes

Patience Barnes, Chair

### **Ordinances**

Nothing to report at this time

Andy Davis, Chair

### **Human Resources**

Motions on agenda

Linda Czekanski, Chair

### **Events Committee**

It has come to our attention that the Doughboy is celebrating 100 years. The events committee recommends that the borough work with community organizations to include the anniversary in the Veterans Day celebration. Which will include extending the closure of Diamond Street on Veterans Day, November 11<sup>th</sup> 2024.

Cindy Wojnar, Chair

### Finance Committee

Treasurer's Report for April 1, 2024  
Total Borough funds = \$ 7,847,072.34

Cynthia Stevenson, Chair

## Veterans Park Advisory Committee Meeting February 29, 2024

### Agenda:

1. Old Business
2. Lights
3. Digital Wall
4. Memorial Day
5. Teen Council

### Meeting:

#### 1. Old Business:

##### A. Railing:

Mr. Bremner did come December 4<sup>th</sup> but Patience has not heard from him since. She will call him again. He did say he will do it or find someone who can do the job.

Andy did check with God Iron Railing and found out they are out of business.

Joe said he will check Butch Gallagher to get an estimate for railing.

##### B. Artists:

Patience will contact the artists and discuss the time they can come to our March meeting. She will follow up with a letter to each one.

##### C. Banners:

We expect the banners to go up in April. Patience will ask the media to put the banner availability in the newspaper.

**Mount Pleasant EMS Medic 10**

Mount Pleasant Borough Council Meeting  
Monday, April 1, 2024

Total Calls : 260

Transports - 207  
Refusals & DOA - 12  
Lift Assists - 12  
Standby - 11  
Canceled Calls - 18  
Missed Calls - 16

Wheel Chair Van Trips : 87

**March Incident Total : 347**

Year to Date Calls : 758 (Average 253 runs/month)  
Year to Date Wheel Chair Van Trips : 225 (Average 75 trips/month)  
**Year to Date Incidents : 983** (Average 328 Incident/month)

2023 Calls - 643 (115 Ahead)  
2023 Wheel Chair Van Trips - 71 (154 Ahead)

**Grants**

Office of the State Fire Commissioner - Supplies Ordered / Received  
CSX Pride in Service - Safety Equipment (helmets, gloves, vests, glasses)  
AFG - In Progress  
Pennsylvania Skill Charitable Giving Grant - \$2,000 for medical bags  
(Mailed In)  
Norfolk Southern Grant - Opens 4/11

**Upcoming Events**

Licensure Inspection Scheduled for 4/23/2024 (PA DOH)  
Mock Accident 4/29/2024 (Mt. Pleasant Jr. / Sr. High School)

**No New Issues to Report On**  
**Staff and Trucks are good**

Zachary Gergas,  
Director of Operations



FIRE REPORT	
TOTAL CALLS-- MARCH	40
IN TOWN	11
OUT OF TOWN	29
10-45'S	17
ENTRAPMENT	2
EXTRICATION	
FIRES	14
AFA'S	4
HAZARDOUS CALLS	2
STANDBY'S	1
AMB. ASSISTS	1
LANDING ZONES	
PUBLIC SERVICE	
DRILLS	
OTHER CALLS	
TURNPIKE CALLS	7
TOTAL MEMBERS ANSWERING	405
AVG. MEMBER PER CALL	10

George  
Grippio

Chief of Police

# Mount Pleasant Police Department

1 Etze Avenue Mount Pleasant, PA 15666  
Phone (724) 547-7210 Fax (724) 547-8216

Diane Bailey

Mayor

## Police Department Report for March 2024

Incidents	137
Criminal Arrests	4
DUI Arrests	1
Parking Tickets Issued (BORO)	41
Special Details	0
Traffic and Non-Traffic Citations Issued	53
Assist other departments (Police, Fire, EMS)	7
Accidents Investigated	4

## Revenue

Parking Meters	
Parking Tickets	\$276.00
Donations	
Clerk of Courts	\$119.55
Restitution to Police Department	
Fees for police reports	
District Court	\$949.47
Parking Permits	\$75.00

Total Revenue for March 2024 \$1,420.02

## **2024 STREET SWEEPING SCHEDULE**

### **WEEK OF APRIL 8<sup>TH</sup>**

**1<sup>ST</sup> WARD- S. SIDE OF MAIN ST. FROM FIRST STREET (BORO LINE) TO S. CHURCH ST.**

### **WEEK OF APRIL 15<sup>TH</sup>**

**1<sup>ST</sup> WARD- N. SIDE OF MAIN ST. FROM BRADDOCK RD. (BORO LINE) TO N. CHURCH ST.**

### **WEEK OF APRIL 22<sup>ND</sup>**

**2<sup>ND</sup> WARD- N. SIDE OF MAIN ST. FROM N. CHURCH ST. TO N. HITCHMAN ST.**

### **WEEK OF APRIL 29<sup>TH</sup>**

**2<sup>ND</sup> WARD- S. SIDE OF MAIN ST. FROM S. CHURCH ST. TO S. HITCHMAN ST.**

### **WEEK OF MAY 6<sup>TH</sup>**

**3<sup>RD</sup> WARD- S. SIDE OF MAIN ST. FROM S. HITCHMAN ST. TO ORCHARD HILL (BORO LINE)**

### **WEEK OF MAY 13<sup>TH</sup>**

**3<sup>RD</sup> WARD- N. SIDE OF MAIN ST. FROM N. HITCHMAN ST. TO N. DEPOT ST. (BORO LINE)**

**AS ALWAYS SWEEPING WILL OCCUR WEATHER PERMITTING FOR AREAS TO BE SWEPT. SIGNS WILL BE PLACED IN THE AREAS THE DAY BEFORE SWEEPING. ALL SWEEPING WILL BEGIN AT APPROXIMATELY 8:00 AM AND CONTINUE UNTIL THE DESIGNATED AREA IS COMPLETED. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.**



### **Motions from Meeting of April 1, 2024**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve the regular meeting minutes of March 4, 2024 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to accept the February 2024 Treasurer's Report. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to accept the Borough Managers Report. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to approve the installation of 2 stainless-steel doors with panic bars by Armory Locksmiths at the police department in the amount of \$7,480.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Davis. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to approve a new keypad/digital access system by Armory Locksmiths at the police department in the amount of \$2,860.00. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to approve the report submitted by Councilman Barrick. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to authorize Council President Ruszkowski and Borough Manager Lesko to execute the Release of Liability with Zachary Ramer. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Council President Ruszkowski to approve the report submitted by Council President Ruszkowski. Motion seconded by Councilman Barrick. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to approve the report submitted by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to approve purchase of security cameras, phase 4 at a cost of \$8,100.00. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Czekanski. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to approve the report that he submitted. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to approve proposal from Meleik Lunsford for the painting of the backside of Veterans Wall, not to exceed \$12,000.00, to be paid from Veterans Park fund. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to approve the report that she submitted. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Czekanski. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Czekanski to terminate Lori Spangler. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Czekanski to hire Kenzie Whipkey as part-time secretary at a rate of \$15.00/hour plus workers compensation and unemployment compensation benefits and with no other benefits with a starting date of March 27, 2024. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Wojnar to approve the events report that was submitted. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Czekanski. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve sending Councilman Phillabaum and Councilwoman Barnes to the 112<sup>th</sup> Annual PSAB Conference & Exhibition in Hershey, PA, June 2, 2024 to June 5, 2024 at a cost not to exceed \$2,500.00, which includes registration (\$250.00 per person x2), lodging (\$234.00 + 11% occupancy tax per night (3nights = \$779.22

per person x 2 = \$1,558.44), Fuel and turnpike tolls. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Wojnar. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to appoint Ken Phillabaum to serve as the Voting Delegate at the annual PSAB Conference in June 2024.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to authorize Borough Manager Lesko to file the COVID ARPA PA Capital Projects Fund Multi-Purpose Community Facilities Program grant application for the Borough building updates. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to pay all authorized and approved bills. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Wojnar. Motion carried 9-0.