

## Meeting November 10, 2025

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, Czekanski, and Councilwoman Wojnar. Council President Ruszkowski. Mayor Bailey was present. Solicitor Mlakar and Solicitor Leechalk were present. President Ruszkowski stated that a quorum is present. Councilwoman Barnes arrived at 7:11pm.

### Medic 10 Report:

Director Zach Gergas provided a report. A copy of the report is attached.

Director Gergas highlighted the toy drive event happening:

- Holding a toy drive. Event begins with a Jam-a-Van Toy Drive held on November 16, 2026 from noon to 5:00pm at Helltown Tap Room in Mount Pleasant. There are Toy Donation Boxes set up through town located at Medic 10, Central Fire Station, Espey's Meat Market, Crivelli's, Helltown Brewery, and Hillman Cancer Center at Frick. All toys collected will get donated to Mount Pleasant School District to be distributed to families within our community.

### Fire Department Report:

Fire Department Chief Paul Harenchar provided a report. A copy of the report is attached.

Fire Department Chief Paul Harenchar added the following to his report:

Fire Report for the month of October:

Total Calls – 55

10-45's – 8

Entrapment – 3

Other Rescues – 1

Vehicle / PED – 0

Fires – 15

AFA'S – 22

Hazardous Calls – 5

Ambulance Assist – 0

Standby's – 1

Landing Zones – 1

Drills – 1

Public Service Calls – 5

Turnpike Calls – 2

Total Members Answering – 494

Avg. Member Per Call – 9

Total Calls to Date – 472

Chief Harenchar stated the following upcoming events:

- The Toys for Tots Train will be passing through November 15, 2025 at 8:25am. The fire department will be there for traffic control.
- Halloween Parade and Trick or Treat went well this year.
- Fire Department will participate in the light up night for the Nativity Scene at the Gazebo on Sunday, November 30, 2025.
- Received 3 new applicants for the fire department.
- The Blessing Box in front of Central Station is going to stay. The Fire Department will take care of it. Over the last 3 days it has been filled and emptied twice. The do not want

to see it go away. There are two others boxes in town. One at Main and Hitchman at the church and one at the Presbyterian Church. They are being used. Council President Ruszkowski stated that the Borough Parade will be on Wednesday, December 3, 2025 at 6:30pm. Mr. Harenchar stated that they will also take care of the parade as well. Council President Ruskowski thanked him.

Mayor Bailey asked Mr. Harenchar what their membership count will be after the 3 that just joined. Mr. Harenchar stated that there are now approximately 38 members.

**Public Comment:**

Kim Landis of Mount Pleasant Township, President of the Library provided a report. A copy of the report is attached.

Ms. Landis added the following to her report:

- They have held 52 programs this past month and things are going well.
- Next year they will have an additional Board position available.
- They are working with the Borough and are preparing to file for the Keystone Grant, which includes, lighting, roof, new carpeting, ADA compliant restroom.
- There will be an adult art show at the library this month.
- Preparing for Christmas events. One will be for children called Noon Years Eve at noon on December 31, 2025. They will do a balloon drop for the children. There will be an adult event for Christmas on December 6, 2025 at 4:00pm. It will be called an Irish Christmas. There will be a story teller and singer.

**Speakers: None.**

**Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Bailey read the Mount Pleasant Police Dept. Report for the month of October 2025, a copy of the report is attached.

**Solicitor's Report: None**

Solicitor Mlakar asked Ms. Landis, President of the Library Board, if there is a person resigning that created an opening on the Board. Ms. Landis stated no, that it is an at large appointment.

Solicitor Mlakar gave the following report:

- Received a copy of Resolution No. 1 of 2025, adopted at their October meeting, from the Solicitor of the Business District Authority requesting the Borough to accept the termination of the Business District Authority. Solicitor Mlakar has been in contact with the BDA Solicitor and before you can terminate all debts have to be paid, assets must be inventoried, there should be an audit done, and there has to be an assignment of the liens. Solicitor Mlakar looked online and it looks like there are close to 350 – 380 municipal liens that had been filed. Councilwoman Czekanski stated that at the Business District Authority meeting that stated that there were 361. Solicitor Mlakar sent the lien information from the Prothonotary's office to the Business District Authority Solicitor. This will take a while and action will most likely not be taken until after the beginning of the year.

Councilman Barrick asks what happens with the municipal liens that were filed by the Business District Authority once it is dissolved. Solicitor Mlakar stated that the liens will be assigned to the Borough. Councilman Barrick asked if they can be waived once the Borough has them. Solicitor Mlakar stated that the Borough would have to discuss it and decide how they want to handle them. Councilwoman Czekanski said that it was her understanding that the liens can also be negotiated and feels if others have paid and these get waived, it would not be right to do. Councilwoman Stevenson agreed. Solicitor Mlakar stated that is correct, they can be negotiated and it would be up to Council to decide.

Mayor Bailey asked if the audit for the Business District Authority will be paid by the Borough or the Business District Authority. Solicitor Mlakar stated that it would be paid for by the Business District Authority. Councilwoman Czekanski asked if the audit is mandatory. Solicitor Mlakar stated that they should do it and since the Borough is taking it over you want to make sure everything is correct. That way there is no question down the road. Councilwoman Czekanski asked if it will be an outside auditor. Solicitor Mlakar stated yes and he will work with the Business District Authority’s solicitor on it.

- Will need an executive session to discuss personnel matters and real estate. On the agenda under property, streets/stormwater, you will see a motion to accept the withdraw the bid by Stash Contracting for the Frick Park Hillside Project. Stash Contracting bid on the project. Their bid was substantially lower and the realized they made a mistake. They contacted the engineer as was informed by the engineer that under the PA law you have two (2) business days to send a withdraw request. They did not send the letter. After reviewing the bid tabulation there were several things that they did not include that they should have bid upon. We have a letter from the engineer stating that they were non-compliant. The motion is to reject the bid for non-compliance. Solicitor Mlakar recommended rejecting the bid. There has also been a letter received from Councilman Phillabaum resigning his council seat effective tomorrow, November 11, 2025. Under the Borough Code, Council has thirty (30) days to act upon the resignation and fill the vacancy. Solicitor Mlakar stated that if there is anyone interested in applying for the position, they must be from the same ward, they should send a letter of intent, complete an affidavit of residency and a statement of financial interest. If the vacancy cannot be filled within thirty (30) days, it will go to the vacancy board, which is Council and the vacancy board member. They will have fifteen (15) days to make the appointment.

Treasurer’s Report:

Mt. Pleasant Borough Treasurer's Report		Sep-25			
		Prev Bal	Deposits	Disbursements	Balance 2025
General Fund Checking	Scottdale Bank 19069335	1,177,599.89	109,590.74	109,702.69	1,177,487.94
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 321615	1,221,230.70	3,202.00	0.00	1,224,432.70
**Police	48,591.82				
**Streets	148,604.25				
**Parking Lots	71,396.39				
**Contingency Fund	442,026.35				
**Infrastructure	206,588.62				
**Workers Compensation	50,000.00				
**BOMP Gas Wells	28,318.80				
** Frick Park Gas Well	32,200.11				
**Levins	0.00				
**Fire	43,400.00				
**K-9	13,828.76				
**Parks & Recreation	16,000.00				
**Medic 10	100,000.00				
**Marcellus Impact Fee Act 13	23,477.60				
Police Parking Tickets & Meters	Scottdale Bank 1026616	39,069.06	140.78	0.00	39,209.84
Escrow Account	Scottdale Bank 19069343	65,329.92	235.40	0.00	65,565.32
Liquid Fuels / Scottdale Bank	Scottdale Bank 19123645	294,158.82	739.13	219,157.45	75,740.50
Monument CD	Mid Penn Bank 318039101	7,759.16	0.00	0.00	7,759.16
Payroll Fund	Scottdale Bank 19069350	4,194.21	53,435.02	53,413.89	4,215.34
Veterans Park Fund	Somerset Trust Co 2003058309	16,005.56	1.45	0.00	16,007.01
Veterans Military Banners Fund	Somerset Trust Co 2004522337	2,605.39	0.24	0.00	2,605.63

Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	Scottdale Bank				
	19069368	1,360.09	4.90	0.00	1,364.99
ARPA Covid-19 (American Resuce Plan Act)	Scottdale Bank				
	19123652	276,980.99	998.04	0.00	277,979.03
	Mid Penn Bank				
Scottdale Bank /MidPenn CD	318039102	233,991.26	0.00	0.00	233,991.26
	Scottdale Bank				
Scottdale Bank /MidPenn CD	318012650	54,335.15	0.00	0.00	54,335.15
Scottdale Bank /MidPenn CD(200yr Anniversary)	Scottdale Bank	58,336.58	0.00	0.00	58,336.58
	Standard Bank				
Standard Bank CD (200yr Anniversary)	6677418044	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total General Fund Balance</b>					<b>3,239,030.45</b>
	Scottdale Bank				
Medic 10 Checking	19069533	485,451.79	62,047.54	11,392.98	536,106.35
	Scottdale Bank				
Medic 10 Savings	19069723	64,281.66	231.63	0.00	64,513.29
Medic 10 Pittsburgh Foundation	Standard Bank				
	0000358253	13,682.05	35.87	0.00	13,717.92
	Scottdale Bank				
Medic 10 - 501(c)(3)	19145689	7,081.70	25.52	0.00	7,107.22
	Mid Penn Bank				
Medic 10 CD	318039082	20,518.30	0.00	0.00	20,518.30
	Mid Penn Bank				
Medic 10 CD	318047885	5,823.97	0.00	0.00	5,823.97
<b>Total Medic 10 Fund Balance</b>					<b>647,787.05</b>
	Scottdale Bank				
WWT Capital Reserve Account	- 19123702	958,329.96	3,453.14	0.00	961,783.10
Capital Reserve M. A. Savings Acct	Somerset Trust				
	Co 2004521230	507,584.42	1,621.07	0.00	509,205.49
Scottdale Bank /MidPenn CD WWT Cap. Resv	Scottdale Bank				
	318016303	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scottdale Bank /MidPenn CD WWT Cap. Resv	Scottdale Bank				
	318037592	222,207.13	0.00	0.00	222,207.13
	Scottdale Bank -				
American National (9/5/2023)	MidPenn	3,048,217.31	0.00	0.00	3,048,217.31
	Mid Penn Bank				
American National (9/5/2023)	- Scottdale Bank	518,594.74	0.00	0.00	518,594.74
<b>Total WWT Balance</b>					<b>5,260,007.77</b>
<b>Total Borough funds</b>					<b>9,146,825.27</b>
Councilwoman Cynthia Stevenson / Secretary Sharon Lesko					

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to approve the September 2025 Treasurer’s Report. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Czekanski. Motion carried 7-0

**Tax Collector’s Report:**

Borough Manager Lesko read the following report for the month of October 2025:

Property Taxes	\$	1403.47
Supplemental Taxes	\$	0.00
Per Capita Taxes	\$	440.00
Total Collected	\$	1843.47

**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 Councilwoman Wojnar to approve the Borough Managers Report. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0

**President’s Report:**

Council President Ruszkowski gave the following report:

- There will be free parking in the Borough from November 27, 2025 through January 1, 2026.
- The Christmas Parade will be held on Wednesday, December 3, 2025 at 6:30pm.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Wojnar to authorize Solicitor to prepare Ordinance increase Borough Councilmembers compensation from \$700.00 to \$900.00; to increase Council President compensation from \$1000.00 to \$1200.00 and to increase the Mayor compensation from \$2000.00 to \$2200.00. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Czekanski. Motion carried 5 yes – 2 no.

Council President Ruszkowski asked Borough Manager to take a roll call vote to authorize Solicitor to prepare Ordinance increase Borough Councilmembers compensation from \$700.00 to \$900.00; to increase Council President compensation from \$1000.00 to \$1200.00 and to increase the Mayor compensation from \$2000.00 to \$2200.00.

Councilman Barrick	Yes	
Councilwoman Lasko		No
Councilwoman Stevenson		No
Councilwoman Barnes	Yes	
Councilwoman Czekanski	Yes	
Councilwoman Wojnar	Yes	
Council President Ruszkowski	Yes	

Vote passed 5 yes, 2 no.

Councilwoman Lasko asked Solicitor Mlakar to explain this motion prior to roll call. Solicitor Mlakar stated that he had previously sent out a memo to council regarding this and that legislature had increased what the Borough compensation limits would be. This is substantially below what the allowable increase is; however, it only applies to newly elected officials. If it is adopted in December, new Council people and the new Mayor will receive the new rates. All others will remain at their current rate until their term is up, then the newly elected will receive the new rates if it is adopted.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson for an Executive session. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0

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

Council President Ruszkowski stated the Executive session was held from 7:20pm to 7:40pm.

Solicitor Mlakar stated the purpose of the Executive session was to discuss personnel matters and real estate.

**Property/Streets - Stormwater Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve the Property/Streets department report as submitted by Council President Ruszkowski. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 7-0

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to reject the bid based upon the recommendation of the Borough engineer due to bids being nonresponsive to the bid documents. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

Council President Ruszkowski asked Borough Manager to take a roll call vote to reject the bid based upon the recommendation of the Borough engineer due to bids being noncompliant to the bid documents.

Councilwoman Lasko	Yes
Councilwoman Stevenson	Yes
Councilwoman Barnes	Yes
Councilwoman Czekanski	Yes
Councilwoman Wojnar	Yes
Councilman Barrick	Yes
Council President Ruszkowski	Yes

Vote passed 7 – 0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to consider award of Frick Park Project contract which will be Base Bid 1 KGD Contracting in the amount \$350,700.00 plus the alternate bid 2 of \$8,000.00 for tree removal making it a total of \$358,700.00. Motion seconded by Council Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

Council President Ruszkowski asked Borough Manager to take a roll call vote to consider award of Frick Park Project contract which will be Base Bid 1 KGD Contracting in the amount \$350,700.00 plus the alternate bid 2 of \$8,000.00 for tree removal making it a total of \$358,700.00.

Councilwoman Stevenson	Yes
Councilwoman Barnes	Yes
Councilwoman Czekanski	Yes
Councilwoman Wojnar	Yes
Councilman Barrick	Yes
Councilwoman Lasko	Yes
Council President Ruszkowski	Yes

Vote passed 7 – 0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to transfer funds from Capital Reserve WWT account to the Borough General Fund account to pay Painter's Plus in the amount of \$8,586.00 for new transoms and columns, wrapping of posts with new aluminum and new L.E.D. lighting at the gazebo. Half \$4,293.00 to be paid prior to start and balance \$4,293.00 paid upon completion. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

Council President Ruszkowski asked Borough Manager to take a roll call vote to transfer funds from Capital Reserve WWT account to the Borough General Fund account to pay Painter's Plus in the amount of \$8,586.00 for new transoms and columns, wrapping of posts with new aluminum and new L.E.D. lighting at the gazebo. Half \$4,293.00 to be paid prior to start of project and balance of \$4,293.00 paid upon completion.

Councilwoman Barnes	Yes
Councilwoman Czekanski	Yes
Councilwoman Wojnar	Yes
Councilman Barrick	Yes
Councilwoman Lasko	Yes
Councilwoman Stevenson	Yes
Council President Ruszkowski	Yes

Vote passed 7 – 0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to transfer funds from Capital Reserve WWT account to the Borough General Fund account to pay Glass City in the amount of \$22,795.00 to

design and create (8) transom window open areas for the stained-glass windows for the gazebo. Half \$11,397.50 to be paid prior to start of project and balance of \$11,397.50 paid upon completion. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Wojnar. Motion carried 7-0.

Council President Ruszkowski asked Borough Manager to take a roll call vote to transfer funds from Capital Reserve WWT account to the Borough General Fund account to pay Glass City in the amount of \$22,795.00 to design and create (8) transom window open areas for the stained-glass windows for the gazebo. Half \$11,397.50 to be paid prior to start of project and balance of \$11,397.50 paid upon completion.

Councilwoman Czekanski	Yes
Councilwoman Wojnar	Yes
Councilman Barrick	Yes
Councilwoman Lasko	Yes
Councilwoman Stevenson	Yes
Councilwoman Barnes	Yes
Council President Ruszkowski	Yes

Vote passed 7 – 0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to approve the Gibson Thomas cost estimate for the Borough Building ADA and safety upgrades dated November 3 2025 in the amount of \$726,757.50. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilwoman Barnes asked if this is for a grant. Solicitor Mlakar stated that this is just approval to apply for the grant. Councilwoman Wojnar asked if this was for the Borough building. Borough Manager Lesko stated that it was and it would include the HVAC units for the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, the roof of the building, the Police Department and the elevator. They would like to also move the HVAC units from the roof to the ground.

Council President Ruszkowski asked Borough Manager to take a roll call vote to approve the Gibson Thomas cost estimate for the Borough Building ADA and safety upgrades dated November 3 2025 in the amount of \$726,757.50.

Councilwoman Wojnar	Yes
Councilman Barrick	Yes
Councilwoman Lasko	Yes
Councilwoman Stevenson	Yes
Councilwoman Barnes	Yes
Councilwoman Czekanski	Yes
Council President Ruszkowski	Yes

Vote passed 7 – 0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to approve Resolution No. 2025-33 for a Statewide Local Share Assessment (SLSA) Grant from the Commonwealth Financing Authority for the Borough Building ADA and Safety Upgrades which includes the elevator, HVAC, roof and 1<sup>st</sup> floor police station area in the amount of 669,532.50. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0.

Council President Ruszkowski asked Borough Manager to take roll call vote to approve Resolution No. 2025-33 for a Statewide Local Share Assessment (SLSA) Grant from the Commonwealth Financing Authority for the Borough Building ADA and Safety Upgrades which includes the elevator, HVAC, roof and 1<sup>st</sup> floor police station area in the amount of 669,532.50.

Councilman Barrick	Yes
Councilwoman Lasko	Yes
Councilwoman Stevenson	Yes

Councilwoman Barnes	Yes
Councilwoman Czekanski	Yes
Councilwoman Wojnar	Yes
Council President Ruszkowski	Yes

Vote passed 7 – 0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to approve letter to PA Dept of Community and Economic Development regarding the CFA Grant letter contributing a matching fund of \$57,225.00 and authorize President of Council to sign the same. Motion carried 7-0.

Council President Ruszkowski asked Borough Manager to take roll call vote to approve letter to PA Dept of Community and Economic Development regarding the CFA Grant letter contributing a matching fund of \$57,225.00 and authorize President of Council to sign the same.

Councilwoman Lasko	Yes
Councilwoman Stevenson	Yes
Councilwoman Barnes	Yes
Councilwoman Czekanski	Yes
Councilwoman Wojnar	Yes
Councilman Barrick	Yes
Council President Ruszkowski	Yes

Vote passed 7 – 0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to approve Resolution No. 2025-34 approving the Agreement with the Street Department Employees for the term of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2028. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0.

Council President Ruszkowski asked Borough Manager to take roll call vote to approve Resolution No. 2025-34 approving the Agreement with the Street Department Employees for the term of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2028.

Councilwoman Stevenson	Yes
Councilwoman Barnes	Yes
Councilwoman Czekanski	Yes
Councilwoman Wojnar	Yes
Councilman Barrick	Yes
Councilwoman Lasko	Yes
Council President Ruszkowski	Yes

Vote passed 7 – 0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to hire Gary Ciarimboli for the appraisal of the vacant lot located on Main Street Tax Map No. 21-02-03-0-274 (former Morris Barron car lot) in the amount of \$600.00. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

Council President Ruszkowski asked Borough Manager to take roll call vote to hire Gary Ciarimboli for the appraisal of the vacant lot located on Main Street Tax Map No. 21-02-03-0-274 (former Morris Barron car lot) in the amount of \$600.00.

Councilwoman Barnes	Yes
Councilwoman Czekanski	Yes
Councilwoman Wojnar	Yes
Councilman Barrick	Yes
Councilwoman Lasko	Yes
Councilwoman Stevenson	Yes
Council President Ruszkowski	Yes

Vote passed 7 – 0.



A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to advertise for bids for Snow Removal from December 7, 2025 to December 7, 2026. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson.

Council President Ruszkowski asked Borough Manager to take roll call vote to advertise for bids for Snow Removal from December 7, 2025 to December 7, 2026.

Councilwoman Czekanski	Yes
Councilwoman Wojnar	Yes
Councilman Barrick	Yes
Councilwoman Lasko	Yes
Councilwoman Stevenson	Yes
Councilwoman Barnes	Yes
Council President Ruszkowski	Yes

Vote passed 7 – 0.

Solicitor Mlakar stated that we split the contract for snow removal and grass cutting. Costs were going to put us over the threshold for prevailing wage. We can authorize for grass cutting in the beginning of the year in a separate bidding.

**Parks & Recreation / Events**

Councilwoman Lasko gave a heartfelt thank you to Mr. Barrick for all of the work he has provided for the Frick Park Hillside Project.

Councilwoman Wojnar also reminded everyone that this Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, will be the Toys for Tots Train at 8:30am at the railroad tracks by the former American Architectural Salvage. The VFW will be donating their time to do games and treat bags for the kids and Councilwoman Wojnar will have music and snacks.

**Public Safety/Human Resources Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Wojnar to approve the public safety/human resources report that was submitted by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Czekanski to terminate Karen Rattanni effective 11/7/2025. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

Council President Ruszkowski asked Borough Manager to take roll call vote to terminate Karen Rattanni effective 11/7/2025.

Councilman Barrick	Yes
Councilwoman Lasko	Yes
Councilwoman Stevenson	Yes
Councilwoman Barnes	Yes
Councilwoman Czekanski	Yes
Councilwoman Wojnar	Yes
Council President Ruszkowski	Yes

Vote passed 7 – 0.

Motion to authorize Medic 10 to sell the 2006 Ambulance and authorize Borough Manager to sign the title if necessary. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

Solicitor Mlakar stated that the reason for this was that years ago for some reason titles to various vehicles and equipment were titled in the Borough and not just in Medic 10’s name, that is the reason that the Borough has to sign off on the titles.

Council President Ruszkowski asked Borough Manager to take roll call vote to sell the 2006 Ambulance and authorize Borough Manager to sign the title if necessary.

Councilwoman Lasko	Yes
Councilwoman Stevenson	Yes
Councilwoman Barnes	Yes
Councilwoman Czekanski	Yes
Councilwoman Wojnar	Yes
Councilman Barrick	Yes
Council President Ruszkowski	Yes

Vote passed 7 – 0.

### **Veterans Park:**

Councilwoman Barnes gave the following report:

- They are still working on selling the t-shirts. They would like to try and get the online.
- Councilwoman Wojnar asked when the next meeting was. Councilwoman Barnes stated that the next meeting will be held November 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> due to Thanksgiving. They will not be meeting again until February or March depending on how the banner project is coming along.
- Councilwoman Barnes stated that she wanted to address Mr. Phillabaum's notes from his report and went on to say that Mr. Phillabaum is saying to Council that he would like to proceed with the banner project if Council would like to move forward. Council has given permission to the Veterans Park Advisory Committee to be in charge of this. Councilwoman Barnes went on to say, now what he is asking Council to do is override the Veterans Park Advisory Committee. Councilwoman Barnes asked for feedback from Council as to their thoughts on this. Mayor Bailey stated that the only thing that she can say is that Mr. Phillabaum, as Councilwoman Barnes has reported to Council, been given every opportunity to meet with an ad hoc committee of Veterans Park Committee and had three months to do it and did not do that and the people on that committee now are ready to move forward. Councilwoman Barnes stated that the advisory committee feel that Mr. Phillabaum overlooked them by not meeting with the committee. Councilwoman Barnes stated that Mr. Phillabaum said last week he could meet with them and she informed him that committee is defunct. It was a temporary committee, he was to meet with them and report back to the advisory committee as to what they had come up with. Councilwoman Barnes stated that the committee had come to a meeting at the Borough building to talk with him because he did not meet with them. Councilwoman Barnes stated that her concern is that the Veterans Park Advisory Committee is in charge of the banners and Council is ultimately in charge of them but they are trying to do their best to be safekeepers of the banners and make sure that they are not damaged in any kind of way and she had spoken with Mr. Phillabaum about that. Councilwoman Barnes stated that they were concerned about putting them at Frick Park because they are afraid that someone could damage them due to not having enough people overseeing the event and also, they are not sure about the fencing and possibly catching and tearing them. Councilwoman Barnes stated that she spoke with Mr. Phillabaum last week and informed him that the committee agreed that they did not want to have it at Frick Park. They want to have it at Veterans Park. Councilwoman Barnes stated that they would like to meeting Councilwoman Wojnar of the events committee and she has some ideas as well to bring to their next committee meeting. Councilwoman Barnes stated that is where they are at with this project and if Council would like them to proceed, they will do that. Councilwoman Barnes asked if Council wanted to proceed with Mr. Phillabaum's request. Council President Ruszkowski asked if there are enough people on the committee to make the project move forward. Councilwoman Barnes said yes, absolutely and they are anxious to do it. Councilwoman Barnes asked Council to keep in mind that she has stated to Mr. Phillabaum that the committee likes your idea. It is really good idea and when they said they wanted him to move forward with the committee to do this, but

he has seemed fit not to want to do that. Councilwoman Barnes stated that she basically wants to object to the fact that he wants all of Council to give him permission to move forward over their heads. Councilwoman Barnes asked again what is Councils desire for them, to move forward or what? Council President Ruszkowski stated that she feels the Veterans Park Committee should continue to handle it. Councilwoman Lasko and Councilwoman Czekanski agreed. Councilwoman Stevenson also agreed and said it is their decision and do as you wish. Councilwoman Lasko stated that she understands that these belong to the Borough but the Veterans Park Committee has done all of this. Councilwoman Barnes stated that we are talking about \$15,000.00 worth of banners and we have to safeguard the banners so they last as long as possible. Councilwoman Czekanski stated that these are all a group of intelligent people on the committee. Mr. Phillabaum was given every opportunity to meet with the committee and they waited and it never came to be. Councilwoman Czekanski stated that she did not think it is not fair, although Council does have the final say, she would not vote in favor of overriding that. Councilwoman Lasko agreed. Councilwoman Stevenson stated do your thing, do what you want to do. It is the right thing to do. Councilwoman Barnes thanked Council.

**Finance/Ordinances:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve Resolution No. 2025-35 appointing Borough Manager as a liaison with Berkheimer, appointed tax collector of local taxes. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0.

Solicitor Mlakar stated that when Berkheimer was appointed as the collector for the Borough, Jeff Landy was named specifically as the contact person. When Borough Manager Lesko tried to get her information added they would not do it without a Resolution appointing someone else. Solicitor Mlakar filled in the Resolution that they provided; however, it does not name someone specific. It states Borough Manager.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to advertise the 2026 Budgets for General Fund, Liquid Fuels and Medic 10. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0.

Mayor Bailey asked if there will be a tax increase. Council President Ruszkowski stated no. Solicitor Mlakar stated that we are moving things from the capital reserve fund into the general fund to pay for things that are in the budget. Before you adopt the budget next month, and there is no tax increase, there will be a Resolution transferring money from capital reserve fund to various line items in the general fund. Once that Resolution is passed, you can then adopt the budget.

Council President Ruszkowski asked Borough Manager to take roll call vote to advertise the 2026 Budgets for General Fund, Liquid Fuels and Medic 10.

Councilwoman Barnes	Yes
Councilwoman Czekanski	Yes
Councilwoman Wojnar	Yes
Councilman Barrick	Yes
Councilwoman Lasko	Yes
Councilwoman Stevenson	Yes
Council President Ruszkowski	Yes

Vote passed 7 – 0.

**New Business:**

Council President Ruszkowski read the following resignation from Councilman Phillabaum effective November 11, 2025:

Kenneth L. Phillabaum  
Mount Pleasant Borough Councilman

Dear Mount Pleasant Borough Council,

Please accept this letter as a formal notice that I am resigning from my Council Seat representing Third Ward of Mount Pleasant Borough. The last seven and a half years have been an honor that I am grateful for that will help carry me through what is ahead of me. Working towards preserving and moving our Borough forward with the rest of Council has been a privilege. This resignation from my Third Ward Council Seat is effective as of November 11, 2025 as I prepare to take the position of Mayor for Mount Pleasant Borough starting in January of 2026, that I was elected to on November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

Thank You,

Kenneth L. Phillabaum

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to accept the resignation of Councilman Ken Phillabaum effective November 11, 2025. Motion seconded by Councilman Barrick. Motion carried 7-0.

Council President Ruszkowski asked Borough Manager to take roll call vote to accept the resignation of Councilman Ken Phillabaum effective November 11, 2025.

Councilwoman Czekanski	Yes
Councilwoman Wojnar	Yes
Councilman Barrick	Yes
Councilwoman Lasko	Yes
Councilwoman Stevenson	Yes
Councilwoman Barnes	Yes
Council President Ruszkowski	Yes

Vote passed 7 – 0.

Borough Manager Lesko stated that they will be accepting letters of interest for the vacant Council seat from any interested resident that resides in the 3<sup>rd</sup> ward so they can fill the seat at the next Council meeting on December 8 2025. We will accept letters through December 1<sup>st</sup> at the Borough office. They must also provide with their letter of interest, an affidavit of residency and a statement of financial interest.

**Reading of Communications:**

Borough Manager Lesko gave the following report:

- The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of 822 West Main Street, Mount Pleasant will be hosting a Community Thanksgiving Day Meal on Thursday, November 27, 2025 from 11:00am to 3:00pm. It is free to everyone and is dine-in only. All are welcome.
- The Braddock Trail Chapter, NSDAR will be holding a Gala Opening of the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival of Lights on Friday, November 28, 2025 at the Braddock Trail Chapter House, Mount Pleasant PA. Open House is from 7:00pm – 9:00pm and the cost is \$10.00 per person.

**Discussion and Payment of Bills:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Wojnar to pay all authorized and approved bills. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 7-0.

**Mayor / Council Comments: None**

**Miscellaneous and Adjournment:**

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

**Meeting Adjourned 8:17 pm.**

Respectfully Submitted,

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Sharon Lesko  
Borough Secretary

BOROUGH OF MOUNT PLEASANT

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Susan Ruszkowski, Council President

## **Motions from Meeting of November 10, 2025**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to approve the September 2025 Treasurer's Report. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Czekanski. Motion carried 7-0

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Wojnar to approve the Borough Managers Report. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Wojnar to authorize Solicitor to prepare Ordinance increase Borough Councilmembers compensation from \$700.00 to \$900.00; to increase Council President compensation from \$1000.00 to \$1200.00 and to increase the Mayor compensation from \$2000.00 to \$2200.00. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Czekanski. Motion carried 5 yes – 2 no.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson for an Executive session. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0

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

Council President Ruszkowski stated the Executive session was held from 7:20pm to 7:40pm.

Solicitor Mlakar stated the purpose of the Executive session was to discuss personnel matters and real estate.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve the Property/Streets department report as submitted by Council President Ruszkowski. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 7-0

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to reject the bid based upon the recommendation of the Borough engineer due to bids being nonresponsive to the bid documents. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to consider award of Frick Park Project contract which will be Base Bid 1 KGD Contracting in the amount \$350,700.00 plus the alternate bid 2 of \$8,000.00 for tree removal making it a total of \$358,700.00. Motion seconded by Council Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to transfer funds from Capital Reserve WWT account to the Borough General Fund account to pay Painter's Plus in the amount of \$8,586.00 for new transoms and columns, wrapping of posts with new aluminum and new L.E.D. lighting at the gazebo. Half \$4,293.00 to be paid prior to start and balance \$4,293.00 paid upon completion. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to transfer funds from Capital Reserve WWT account to the Borough General Fund account to pay Glass City in the amount of \$22,795.00 to design and create (8) transom window open areas for the stained-glass windows for the gazebo. Half \$11,397.50 to be paid prior to start of project and balance of \$11,397.50 paid upon completion. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Wojnar. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to approve the Gibson Thomas cost estimate for the Borough Building ADA and safety upgrades dated November 3 2025 in the amount of \$726,757.50. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to approve Resolution No. 2025-33 for a Statewide Local Share Assessment (SLSA) Grant from the Commonwealth Financing Authority for the Borough Building ADA and Safety Upgrades which includes the elevator, HVAC, roof and 1<sup>st</sup> floor police station area in the amount of 669,532.50. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to approve letter to PA Dept of Community and Economic Development regarding the CFA Grant letter contributing a matching fund of \$57,225.00 and authorize President of Council to sign the same. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to approve Resolution No. 2025-34 approving the Agreement with the Street Department Employees for the term of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2028. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to hire Gary Ciarimboli for the appraisal of the vacant lot located on Main Street Tax Map No. 21-02-03-0-274 (former Morris Barron car lot) in the amount of \$600.00. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to advertise for bids for Snow Removal from December 7, 2025 to December 7, 2026. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Wojnar to approve the public safety/human resources report that was submitted by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Czekanski to terminate Karen Rattanni effective 11/7/2025. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion to authorize Medic 10 to sell the 2006 Ambulance and authorize Borough Manager to sign the title if necessary. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve Resolution No. 2025-35 appointing Borough Manager as a liaison with Berkheimer, appointed tax collector of local taxes. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to advertise the 2026 Budgets for General Fund, Liquid Fuels and Medic 10. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to accept the resignation of Councilman Ken Phillabaum effective November 11, 2025. Motion seconded by Councilman Barrick. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Wojnar to pay all authorized and approved bills. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 7-0.

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

**November 10, 2025**  
**Committee Reports**

**Borough Manager Report:**

Attended PSAB Conference October 3 – 5, 2025

P/C w/Shawn Stewart of Revize Re: Website

Met w/Solicitor Mlakar and Susan Ruszkowski

RE: Grass Cutting / Snow Removal / Code Enforcement Issues / Tax Appeals

Met w/Robert Parrick

Re: Food Truck Applications / Festival

Met w/Janet Jackson

RE: Office Rental

Met w/Rocky Anderson

Re: Revisions / Updates to Snow & Grass Removal Contract

Met w/Councilman Barrick

Re: Topics from October meeting

Met w/Susan Ruszkowski

Re: Street Department Contract

Met w/Dan Hewitt, Esq and Susan Ruszkowski

Re: Street Department Contract

Zoom Conference with Shawn Stewart of Revize

Re: Website

Met w/Zachary Gergas, Solicitor Mlakar and Susan Ruszkowski

Re: Medic 10 Bylaws

Met w/Solicitor Mlakar and Susan Ruszkowski

Re: Capital Reserve Funds

Met w/Amy Jablonsky of 32 Cherry Ave.

Re: Property Taxes

Held Safety Meeting – Topic: General Safety Cuts & Burns

Attend Westmoreland County Boroughs Association Meeting

Meeting w/Sarah Buzzard

Re: Library Keystone Grant

Meeting w/Josh Andrykovitch, Code Officer

Re: Home Run Graphics Consolidating Lots

Submitted by Sharon Lesko, Borough Manager

**Street Department Report:**

We changed a green light on the traffic lights at the intersection of Braddock Road Ave and Main Street

We cut grass in the parks and properties for the last time

We got the leaf truck ready to pick up leaves and also started picking up leaves

We put brackets up for the wreathes that we are putting up for Christmas

We shut down the fountain for the winter



We swept Main Street, North and South Church, and North and South Diamond Street twice in the month of October

We covered the camper for the winter

We cleaned out the drain behind the back stop at the softball field and also the drain below it

We picked up brush every Monday and Friday of the month

We picked up garbage every Monday and Friday of the month

We fixed a toilet in the women's bathroom at Frick Park that just kept on running

We put up new signs in the levins parking lot and the grill 31 parking lot

Submitted by Jeff McGuinness, Street Department Crew Leader

### **Public Safety/Human Resources Report:**

Attended Medic 10 Meeting 10/8/25. Upcoming events and day to day operations were discussed. Zack Gergas is doing a fantastic job of moving Medic 10 forward along with his staff, the rest of the board, and assistance from time to time from Borough Manager Sharon Lesko.

From all accounts and conversations held with each public safety department, both Trick or Treating and the Halloween Parade were a success this year. Thank You Medic 10, Mount Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department, as well as our Police Department & all that participated in both events as well as the Trunk or Treat events that were held here in the Borough.

Assisted with the Comedy Night Fundraiser for the Coke and Coal Trail on 11/1/25. This fundraiser was very successful, as is the case every year. It will likely be held the first Saturday in November at the same location. Will keep everyone posted.

Attended Somerset County PSAB in Winder on 10/16/25. Robert Regola of Regola Consulting was our featured speaker at my request. Mr. Regola gave a great presentation. This meeting was recorded by me with assistance from Debbie Thomas of Windber. Anyone interested in viewing it, reach out to me and I will gladly share the link.

While at the Somerset County PSAB I spoke with another Borough that has had success running the Banner Day event that I previously brought to Council and the Veteran's Wall Committee attention. This event I am confident will be more successful than the previous suggestion I first made about having the banners hung outside the borough going into the township. This event can be the next step in paying our respects to our local heroes. Also, a great fundraiser for preserving and repairing the banners. At one point last year I had several volunteers lined up, interest from a business that wanted to sponsor, as well as participation from the Mount Pleasant Girls Softball that plays at Frick Park. After my conversation with the Councilman from the PSAB event, I am confident we can pull this off at Frick Park. If Council would like me to move forward with this, I will line the volunteers back up and get to work on this asap. The gentleman I spoke with has run this event the last few years with just himself and 2 volunteers. They currently have more banners than we do.

Meet with the Library Board on 10/30/25 to vote on the Keystone Grant. The information should have been emailed to Sharon afterwards from the board.

Attended Westmoreland County PSAB on 10/30/25 with Borough Council President Susan, Borough Manager Sharon, and Councilwoman Patience Barnes. Hank Braddish gave a presentation on Grant Funding for Stormwater. Grants are announced in January, deadline is June. Insurance will be the topic of the next meeting held in March. We will be filming that meeting similar to what we did in Somerset. Date and location to be determined early next year.

Business District Authority Meeting 11/5/25

The board meet to pay bills, discuss all assets, and physical properties that will be turned over to the Borough as we move forward with dissolving. The landlord over the current space the BDA is renting has a renter lined up that would like to be in by December. The present board agreed we would like to

accommodate the landlord. Greg Hirak from the BDA has offered to assist me in relocating all physical property that the BDA is in possession of from the current location to an empty space on the second floor of the Borough Building. Greg and I will start as soon as the space is clear. Vice President Pam Depalma prepared a list that was presented to the board that I delivered to Borough Manager Sharon Lesko the next day. All liens and a break down of what is in our office were included in the list that was prepared.

Some of the property included that will be turned over to the BDA are flower pots currently stored at with the Street Department. After the BDA meeting, I meet with a few members of the Mount Pleasant Garden Club. The Garden Club would like to continue to plant flowers. With the BDA dissolving, I meet with Sharon and Susan about finding a permanent location for the flowerpots going forward to accommodate all parties involved. This information will be relayed to the Garden Club at their next meeting.

Meet with Borough Manager Sharon Lesko, Linda Czekanski, and Susan Ruszkowski on 11/6/25 about Personnel.

As I close up my report, I would like to clear up any potential confusion. My resignation from my council seat is part of the process I need to take to step in to the position of Mayor of Mount Pleasant Borough that I was elected to on November 4th, 2025. As I wrap this up, want to say Thank You everyone that has helped me get here, as well to all I have worked with & learned from over the last 7 1/2 years.

Representing Third Ward as a member of Council has been a pleasure and an honor that I take very serious and wear proudly. Can assure everyone reading this, that pride and honor will carry over with me as I take on the role of Mayor. In the meantime, I am very confident our current Council will do a fine job of finishing out the year and continue to do what is best for our Residents and Borough. Looking forward to being back in the Chambers this upcoming January and working with everyone again.

Submitted by: Vice President Phillabaum, Chairman of Public Safety

Medic 10 Report – November 2025

MEDIC 10

100 EAST MAIN STREET

(724) 547-4620

MOUNT PLEASANT, PA 15666



Mount Pleasant Borough Council (11/10/2025)  
Medic 10 October Report

Call Volume Statistics

Total Calls - 241  
Transports - 194  
Cancelled - 20  
Standby - 10  
Lift Assist - 8  
Refusals - 7  
DOA - 2  
Wheelchair Van Trips - 38  
Missed Calls - 23  
Total Incidents - 279

Events

Jam a Van Toy Drive - 11/16 Noon - 5PM at Helltown Tap Room in Mount Pleasant  
Toy Donation Boxes Set Up, collecting through the second week of December;  
Medic 10, Central Fire Station, Espey's Meat Market, Crivelli's, Helltown,  
Hillman Cancer Center.

Staffing

Brian Price - Casual EMT  
Kristin Vital - Casual Paramedic

Ambulances / Equipment

Medic 10 Board of Directors approved the purchase of the following;  
Remount of Medic 424 and Stryker Power Load System - Chasis ordered and  
delivered, going to Specclin next week. (Loan)  
Stryker Power Pro2 Cot (Grants)

Fall Sports

Medic 10 provided EMS coverage for a total of 54 regular season games, 1 soccer  
tournament and 4 playoff soccer games.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Zach Gergas  
Director of Operations

Fire Report – November 2025

November 2025

FIRE REPORT	
TOTAL CALLS-- OCTOBER	55
10-45'S	8
ENTRAPMENT	3
OTHER RESCUES	1
VEHICLE / PED	
FIRES	15
AFA'S	22
HAZARDOUS CALLS	5
AMBULANCE ASSIST	
STANDBY'S	1
LANDING ZONES	1
DRILLS	1
PUBLIC SERVICE CALLS	5
TURNPIKE CALLS	2
TOTAL MEMBERS ANSWERING	494
AVG. MEMBER PER CALL	9
TOTAL CALLS TO DATE	472

**Library Report – November 2025**

Mount Pleasant Free Public Library  
Borough Council Meetings

October 2025 - reported November 10, 2025

Area	Month	YTD
Circulation	2,310	21,590
Door Counter	2,067	23,701
New Library Cards	28	323
Total Registered Patrons	2,720	-
Programs Held	52	438
Program Attendance	310	3,164
Computer Usage	156 sessions for 89.04 hrs	1,490 sessions for 902.15 hrs
WiFi Usage	53 sessions for 638.12 hrs	566 sessions for 6,769.28 hrs
Chat with a Librarian Service	4	176

## October 2025 Mt. Pleasant Borough Police Report

Incidents: 146

Assists: 12

Arrest: 0

DUI: 0

Citations: 25

Parking Tickets: 11

### October 2025 Monthly Income

District Court 10-2-01: \$69.76

District Court 10-3-11: \$304.95

Clerk of Courts: \$32.64

Parking Tickets: \$110.00

Accident Reports: \$195.00

Incident Report: \$15.00

Total Income: \$ 727.35