

April 5, 2021

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Caruso 7:00pm in Council Chambers at 1 Etze Avenue, Mount Pleasant, PA 15666. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and President Caruso asked for a moment of silence for the anniversary of Pearl Harbor Day and our deployed troops. President Caruso asked Borough Manager Landy to take roll call. Councilpersons present included Barnes, Bailey, Phillabaum, Lasko, and Ruszkowski. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Istik were present. President Caruso stated that a quorum is present.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the minutes of March 1, 2021 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 6-0.

Public Comment: None.

Speakers: None.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia read the Mount Pleasant Police Dept. Report for the month of March 2021:

The Department answered the following calls:

Incidents	146
Criminal Arrests	6
DUI Arrests	2
Parking Tickets Issued Boro	11
Traffic & Non-Traffic Citations	58
Assist Other Departments	12
Accidents Investigated	3

Income

Parking Meters	\$0.00
Parking Tickets	\$80.00
Parking Permits	\$0.00
Clerk of Courts	\$853.61
Restitution to Police Department	\$0.00
Fees for Police Reports	\$160.00
District Court	\$770.25
Task Force Refund	\$0.00

Total Revenue	\$1,863.86
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Mayor Lucia gave the following report:

- Received a thank you from the US Census Bureau.
- Trucks that turn off of North Silver Street onto East Vine Street go to Shupe Street and cannot make the turn right or left. Mayor Lucia proposed that they put up “No Trucks” sign on East Vine Street and North Silver Street. Councilman Phillabaum asked if the signs can be installed without doing a traffic study. Borough Manager Landy said that it must be voted on to install the sign.
- Mayor Lucia proposed removing the parking meters on Washington Street from Diamond Street to South Hitchman Street since it is mostly residents that park at them. Meters have been previously removed on Washington Street from Diamond Street to College Avenue. Mayor Lucia said that he discussed it with Police Chief Grippo and he stated that they get

very little money from those meters. Mayor Lucia stated that those meters could be used to replace others or used elsewhere.

- Mayor Lucia proposed removing the parking meters on Smithfield Street from St. Clair to Church Street. The reason that they were put there was many years ago when the business district was strong, people would park on the streets to shop. Now since business within towns aren't as strong, no one parks at those meters. Borough Manager Landy asked if they should leave the meters since there is a possibility of residents parking along the streets and there will be no parking for the businesses on those streets. One example Borough Manager Landy gave was the resident that is parking their boat on the street and taking up more than one parking space. Borough Manager Landy said that he spoke with Police Chief Grippo regarding the boat. Police Chief Grippo informed Borough Manager Landy that the boat could be parked there; however, it cannot extend into additional parking spaces. Borough Manager Landy stated that is all the further the issue went. Mayor Lucia and President Caruso stated that residents are parking at them now and not being ticketed. The meters were there because of the strong business district in prior years. Business in towns is no longer as strong as they once were and you don't need the meters.
- Haydens Pharmacy will be giving Covid vaccinations during the month of April and May from 9:00am – 5:00pm on Mondays at the Church of God. You must register through Haydens Pharmacy.

Solicitor's Report:

Solicitor Istik stated she has no report.

Treasurer's Report:

Borough Manager Landy read the following Treasurer's Report for the month of February 2021:

Mt. Pleasant Borough Treasurer's Report		Feb-21			Balance
		Prev Bal	Deposits	Disbursements	2021
General Fund Checking	Scottdale Bank 19069335	925,528.15	152,106.61	170,979.28	906,655.48
**Town Clock	619.92				
**Holiday Lighting	1812.51				
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 321615	932,402.88	571.21	0.00	932,974.09
**Police	47,619.03				
**Streets	107,131.00				
**Contingency Fund	288,958.46				
**Infrastructure	171,588.62				
**BOMP Gas Wells	22,462.69				
**Frick Park Gas Well	23,929.00				
**Levins	970.06				
**Fire	35,000.00				
**K-9	13,828.76				
**Medic 10	200,000.00				
**Marcellus Impact Fee Act 13	21,486.47				
Police Parking Tickets & Meters	Scottdale Bank 1026616	24,305.66	288.73	572.08	24,022.31
Escrow Account	Scottdale Bank 19069343	8,384.45	2.09	4,000.00	4,386.54
Liquid Fuels PLGIT	PLGIT 56980126	137,074.04	1.18	14,826.67	122,248.55
Monument CD	Standard Bank 446635	7,382.80	0.00	0.00	7,382.80
Payroll Fund	Scottdale Bank 19069350	931.41	46,521.96	46,519.98	933.39
Veterans Park Fund	Somerset Trust Co 2003058309	22,249.76	1.02	0.00	22,250.78
Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	Scottdale Bank 19069368	1,217.64	0.37	0.00	1,218.01

Turn Back Account	Scottdale Bank 19069384	29,984.99	8.41	8,972.63	21,020.77
Standard Bank CD	Standard Bank 432243	215,254.60	0.00	0.00	215,254.60
Standard Bank CD	Standard Bank 410571	53,320.84	206.87	53,527.71	0.00
Scottdale Bank /MidPenn CD	Scottdale Bank 318007294	52,396.87	0.00	0.00	52,396.87
Scottdale Bank /MidPenn CD	Scottdale Bank 318012650	0.00	53,527.71	0.00	53,527.71
Total General Fund Balance					2,364,271.90
Medic 10 Checking	Scottdale Bank 19069533	132,846.99	67,690.83	90,884.18	109,653.64
Medic 10 Savings	Scottdale Bank 19069723	126,874.97	1,039.22	0.00	127,914.19
Medic 10 Money Market	Scottdale Bank 19069376	5,996.42	1.84	0.00	5,998.26
Medic 10 Pittsburgh Foundation	Standard Bank 0000358253	7,550.55	0.00	0.00	7,550.55
Medic 10 CD	Standard Bank 371917	19,458.71	0.00	0.00	19,458.71
Medic 10 CD	Standard Bank 410053	5,269.88	0.00	0.00	5,269.88
Total Medic 10 Fund Balance					275,845.23
WWT Capital Reserve Account	Standard Bank 0010175932	928,294.82	283.59	11,320.33	917,258.08
Capital Reserve M. A. Account	Somerset Trust Co 2004129745	450,111.48	20.72	0.00	450,132.20
Oceanview Annuity CD	Scottdale Bank - MidPenn	3,007,516.44	0.00	0.00	3,007,516.44
Standard Bank CD WWT Cap.Resv	Standard Bank 464569	200,000.00	0.00	0.00	200,000.00
Standard Bank CD (Partial MAWC)	Standard Bank 446593	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scottdale Bank /MidPenn CD (MAWC Final)	Scottdale Bank 318011768	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total WWT Balance					4,574,906.72
Total Borough funds					7,215,023.85

Councilwoman Susan Ruskowski / Secretary Sharon Lesko

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to accept the February 2021 Treasurer's Report as read. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 6-0.

Tax Collector's Report:

Borough Manager Landy read the following report for the month of March 2021:

Property Taxes	\$149,701.80
Supplemental Taxes	\$ 0.00
Per Capita Taxes	\$ 0.00
Total Collected	\$149,701.80

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager gave the following report:

- The waterway project next to American Architectural Salvage has started.
- Met with the Engineer regarding the stormwater sidewalk retrofit project. The Borough has received a grant from Jacobs Creek Watershed Authority for the project. The project will be between Hitchman Street and Silver Street on the Southside. They will be replacing the sidewalk with stormwater pavers. If there is money left over, they will go on the other side of the street in the same location and do that also. This will be only if there is money left over. Borough Manager Landy stated that it will improve the stormwater issue and repair the sidewalk. Borough Manager Landy said the sidewalk in that area is terrible.
- Attended pre-construction meeting for the 2021 paving project.

- Spoke at the Westmoreland County Leadership Seminar.
- Met with Levins to decide where to park the trucks to unload the new furniture. Grand opening will be the 14th of April at 9:00am.
- Went with Street Department and the Committee to a property at South Geary Street to look at a stormwater pipe issue. Property owner is Mr. Porterfield.
- Had several meetings at the gazebo deciding what to do with the renovations. Borough Manager Landy said he still has not received a written report from the Engineer.
- PSAB is holding a few webinars coming up:
 - 1) Duties of a Zoning Hearing Board and Zoning Officer. It is a 2-part series. Will be held on April 7, 2021 & April 14, 2021 from Noon to 1:00pm.
 - 2) Proper Supervision of Municipal Police Departments. Will be held on April 21, 2021 from Noon to 1:00pm.
- The 2021 PSAB Annual Conference has been postponed to 2022. There will be a two-day virtual conference announced for June 7 & 8, 2021.
- Received Berkheimer Report. We are behind 30% from last year. This can be made up as we go on through the year.
- Westmoreland County is holding a Get the Lead Out Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes Program. Eligible homes must have children age 6 years old or under, includes a pregnant woman, that lives in the home or visits the residence at least 6 hours a week for 60 hours or more per year. The program covers lead-based paint removal and possibly other hazards related to lead poisoning in the home, e.g. lead in windows, siding and railings, and/or contributing factors to lead poisoning such as a leaky roof (water causing paint that contains lead to chip). Maximum income per year according to household size are as follows:

○ 1 - \$46,500	2 - \$53,150	3 - \$59,800	4 - \$66,400
○ 5 - \$71,750	6 - \$77,050	7 - \$82,350	8 - \$87,650
- Westmoreland County's Planning and Development Department is seeking Contractors to perform lead abatement work for the new HUD funded Lead Hazard Control & Healthy Homes Program in Westmoreland County.

President's Report:

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to hold an Executive Session. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 6-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to reconvene. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 6-0.

Council President Caruso announced that the Executive Session was held from 7:35pm – 8:04pm to discuss contractual and personnel issues.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve Resolution No. 2021-03 for the Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County Act 537 Special Study for the Acquisition of the Mt. Pleasant Municipal Authority. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 6-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to approve Mayor Lucia to attend and expenses for the 50th Annual Conference of the Pennsylvania State Mayor's Association from Thursday,

July 15, 2021 through Sunday, July 18, 2021 at the Sheraton Pittsburgh Hotel at Station Square. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 6-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to renew and execute the Conservation Partnership Agreement (CPA) with the Westmoreland Conservation District. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 6-0.

Council President Caruso announced that the Borough will be holding its annual Community Yard Sale on Saturday, May 8, 2021 from 8:00AM – 3:00PM rain or shine. Residents can contact the Borough to have their address added to the map. The Historical Society will be handing the maps out for the yard sale.

Property Report: None.

Stormwater/ MS4 Report:

Councilman Phillabaum gave the following report:

- Had a conference call with Gibson Thomas Engineering along with Borough Manager Landy and Jeff McGuinness, Street Department regarding MS4.

Streets Report:

Councilwoman Bailey gave the following report:

- Street sweeping will begin the week of April 19, 2021 starting with 1st Ward. Street sweeping should be completed by the end of May.
- Met at property on S. Geary Street regarding stormwater that has traversed out of the pipe and caused a 3 or 4 foot hole in the backyard of Mr. Porterfield. Asked a contractor to look at it due to the size of our equipment. The contractor would have smaller equipment to handle the issue and it will be a less evasive procedure than if the Borough went in and did the repair. Councilwoman Bailey stated that it affected two (2) properties. Both property owners are aware and understand that their yards will need to be dug up. They are good with it as long as we are going to repair the pipe. We will put everything back as best as can be to the way it was. Councilwoman Bailey stated that the water rusted the pipe in a specific area causing the water to run on the outside of the pipe right along side of it and it goes approximately 20 – 25 feet and runs back into the pipe in another area where the area is also open due to it rusting away also. Councilwoman Bailey stated that nothing will be done until after the rainy season. The Borough is waiting on a quote for the repair. Councilwoman Ruskowski stated that the property owners would like a two (2) week notice before the repairs begin.
- Received Liquid Fuels money.
- We are accepting bids on the 2 dump trucks at the Street Department.

Parks & Recreation:

Councilwoman Lasko asked Council for input on opening the bathrooms at Frick Park. The bathrooms were not opened at all last year. Councilwoman Lasko stated that they would not be able to clean them on an hourly basis as recommended last year; however, she believes those guidelines have changed since then. Borough Manager Landy suggested that they be opened and that he can put up a sign stating one person at a time in the restroom; however, he did say that they cannot guarantee that there wouldn't be more than one in there. Council agreed that they should be open.

Councilwoman Lasko gave the following report:

- Received correspondence from Bob Keeler of the Coal and Coke Trail. Several years ago, the trail paid to have a path along the parking lot at Willows Park to connect the trail to town. Last year at a meeting, they noticed that cars were parking on the pavement

all the way through the lot. Mr. Keeler asked if it is possible to install curb stops to prevent damage to the paved path. Borough Manager Landy said that he suggested painting a yellow line to deter the parking on it. If that does not work, then we will have to look into the cost of parking bumpers. Council President suggested pipe or bollards sticking up and Councilwoman Bailey suggested large logs with rebar behind or through the logs to place as a stop. Borough Manager Landy stated that he does not believe to many use the path. It was a bike trail that was to go to the Borough's bike route. Borough Manager Landy said that there is no more paint on the streets. Councilwoman Bailey reported that Mr. Keeler also requested the bike route be repainted. Council President Caruso said that they are called sharrows. Councilwoman Bailey said if we have the sharrows should we repaint them. At one time the people from the bike trail volunteered and painted them. The Borough had purchased the sharrows and told them what type of paint to use. Mayor Lucia stated that he doesn't believe anyone used it. Councilwoman Bailey said that it is all up hill. Borough Manager Landy stated that we paid for the engineer, signage, sharrows, and doesn't recall ever seeing a bike using it. Borough Manager Landy said that if the bike trail wants it, they should do it.

- Councilwoman Lasko stated that the new park equipment is in. It will be placed at Frick Park, which will be its home base. It will be anchored into the ground. It will be moved from park to park. June and July it will be at Willows Park since people will be holding reunions and picnics. August and September it can be at one of the other parks. October it will go back to Frick Park to stay until the following year. Councilwoman Lasko said that they will be making a schedule as to which park it will go to each month. Councilwoman Bailey asked if we know how easy this will be to tear down and move. Councilwoman Lasko stated according to the gentleman that sold the equipment said that it is very simple since it is not very big. It is a two-man job. Councilwoman Barnes asked what the age setting is for the equipment. Borough Manager Landy said no older than 7 years of age.

Public Safety Report:

Councilwoman Ruszkowski read the following Fire Report for the month of March 2021:

Total Calls - 51
10-45's - 12
Entrapments - 1
Fires -16
AFA's - 12
Public Service Calls – 7
Hazardous Calls – 3
Drills - 0
Turnpike Calls - 3
Total Members Answering – 653
Avg. Member Per Call – 13

Councilwoman Ruszkowski gave the following report:

- There have been discussions about purchasing a police car. Public Safety is not aware of it. Councilwoman Ruszkowski stated that she had spoke with Councilman Cholock today regarding purchasing a police car. Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that the finance committee along with the public safety committee should have been made aware that there was an interest in purchasing a police car and what vehicle they will be replacing. Borough Manager Landy asked Mayor Lucia if he knew; and, Mayor Lucia stated he was not involved in any of the conversations. Councilwoman Ruszkowski stated that they were not involved in any of the conversations either. Borough Manager Landy asked if Police Chief Grippo should speak with Councilwoman Ruszkowski. She stated that he can speak with her or with Councilman Cholock. Councilwoman Ruszkowski asked Borough Manager Landy if he knew about this prior to today's meeting. Borough Manager Landy responded that yes, he did. Borough Manager Landy stated that he informed Police Chief Grippo that he needed to go to the Public Safety Committee and not Borough Manager Landy. Borough Manager Landy said that he told

him to gather the information so he has it when he talks to the Public Safety Committee. Council President Caruso stated that there are a lot of variables to consider, such as are they trading in a vehicle. Councilwoman Ruskowski asked Borough Manager Landy if he knows if a vehicle is being traded; and, if so, what vehicle. Borough Manager Landy stated he did not know that information.

A Motion to amend the agenda was made by Councilman Phillabaum to place signage at the intersection of North Silver Street and East Vine Street. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruskowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to place signage at the intersection of North Silver Street and East Vine Street prohibiting truck travel and to update the Ordinance accordingly. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruskowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A Motion to amend the agenda was made by Councilwoman Lasko to remove parking meters. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 6-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to remove the parking meters on Washington Street between Diamond Street and South Hitchman Street; on Smithfield Street between St. Clair Street and North Church Street and on North Diamond Street from Main Street to Smithfield Street. Motion carried 6-0.

Councilwoman Ruskowski asked Mayor Lucia to discuss what you can and cannot do with fire pits and that residents cannot burn garbage in their fire pits late at night and leave them unattended. Mayor Lucia stated that you cannot burn garbage at any time in the Borough. You cannot burn wood, brush, garbage or debris of any kind within the Borough. Fire pits are to be used for recreational purposes only.

Veterans Park Report:

Councilwoman Barnes gave the following report:

- Had their first meeting after a couple of months on Thursday March 25, 2021. Mr. Meredith will be soon installing the various military signs on the backside of Veterans Wall. Mr. Meredith said that Joe Zelenak from the VFW is order the wood that is needed to hang the signs. There will be proper drainage so the signs do not collect water.
- Mr. Uhlerly from the school district will be soon ready to work on the Digital Wall. Councilwoman Bailey has spoken with him and she is hoping within in the next several weeks he will be able to do it. He didn't give a definite time; but he did respond. Councilwoman Barnes stated that she is hoping to have the digital wall running by Memorial Day.

Borough Manager Landy asked if the Veterans Park Committee has looked at the lights that shine on the wall. Councilwoman Barnes said that they have talked about that as well; and, that the light on the last wall is brighter than all the others. Councilwoman Bailey reported that the street department has been made aware that the one light is much brighter; and, they said the bulb is the same. They seem to think that the difference is because the bulb is new and the other bulbs have been there for such a long period of time that the covering has faded, scratched and weathered. Councilwoman Barnes said that some of them are out and seem to be shorting out from ground water. Mr. Meredith believes that an electrician will need to come in and check. Borough Manager Landy said he does not believe that they were installed properly because they are continuously fixing them. Council President Caruso suggested to remove them all and have them installed properly.

- There are still approximately 20 – 24 spaces available on the granite wall.

Human Resources/Ordinances Report: None.

Finance / Grants Report: None.

New Business: **None.**

Reading of Communications:

- Levins will be holding their grand opening on April 14, 2021 at Noon. Must RSVP by April 7, 2021.

Discussion and Payment of Bills:

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to pay all authorized and approved bills. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 6-0.

Public Comment: **None.**

Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 6-0.

Meeting Adjourned 8:41PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Jeffrey A. Landy,
Borough Manager

BOROUGH OF MOUNT PLEASANT

John H. Caruso, Jr., Council President

Motions from Meeting of April 5, 2021

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