

## Meeting October 3, 2022

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Ruszkowski 7:03pm in Council Chambers at 1 Etze Avenue, Mount Pleasant, PA 15666. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and President Ruszkowski asked for a moment of silence for those affected by Hurricane Ian. President Ruszkowski asked Borough Manager Landy to take roll call. Councilpersons present included Barnes, Czekanski, Cholock, Phillabaum, Lasko, Stevenson and Wojnar. Mayor Bailey and Solicitor Istik were present. President Ruszkowski stated that a quorum is present.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve the minutes of September 6, 2022 and September 19, 2022 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0.

### Speakers:

- Bob Keeler of Mount Joy Road, Mount Pleasant spoke to Council regarding a project that is going on at the Coal & Coke Trail, bike trail, that is beginning today. They are working with the Westmoreland Conservation District to stabilize and redo Shupe Run from Willows Park to Bridgeport. They have received grants totaling approximately \$85,000.00. Adam Eidemiller Construction will be doing the construction. They are stabilizing the stream banks where it is eroding towards the trail, topping trees that are leaning over the trail and creek, and logs throughout the stream. The project is to take approximately two (2) weeks, weather permitting. When the project is completed, they will be resurfacing the trail.

### Public Comment:

- Joseph Bauer, President of the Mount Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department, of N. Geary Street, Mount Pleasant, PA gave the following report for the Mount Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department:
  - Spoke with Borough Manager Landy regarding the time change for the Borough Trick or Treat. The Fire Department does not want to change the time due to having dinner with their families at that time on Sunday. If it is changed, he does not know how many will be available or willing to help with it.

Mayor Bailey read an email from a resident regarding the current time of trick or treat and has requested that Council consider moving trick or treat be later in the evening. The resident asked that they consider 6pm to 8pm and/or move it to a Saturday instead of Sunday. Councilwoman Stevenson stated that safety outweighs any argument that was mentioned in the email. Borough Manager Landy stated that he has checked with several local municipalities and that they have changed their time for trick or treating to later in the evening. Borough Manager Landy stated that moving it to 4:00pm to 6:00pm would be more dusk than dark. Councilman Phillabaum and Councilwoman Lasko stated that if they want to discuss tradition, it has always been from 2:00pm to 4:00pm in the Borough. Councilman Cholock stated when he moved here 24 years ago, he thought the 2:00pm to 4:00pm was unusual due to where he grew up, it was held in the dark; and, his kids don't want to go because it was during the day.

Mr. Bauer stated that although the guys stated that they would prefer it earlier, there will be guys that come out and take care of it.

- The Halloween parade will only run to the Diamond this year. It will start at Eagle Street and end at the gazebo on Main Street and Diamond Street.
- Mark Kraisinger, Fire Chief of the Mount Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department gave the following report:

- Asked if the Street Department could patch some holes at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Fire Station. Councilman Phillabaum stated that he will speak with the Street Department tomorrow about patching the holes.
- Will be attending the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial for line-of-duty deaths in Emmitsburg, Maryland. He has to have a set of dress blue uniforms, which he does have, and he will be escorting Diane Lucia and family in honor of Jerry Lucia. It is held on an air force base and you are required to have clearances. They have visiting hours to visit the memorial; however, while this event is going on, it is a private event. Mr. Kraisinger stated that he is required to stay in a dorm on the base and will arrive on Friday and attend an orientation Saturday morning. He will meet up with the Lucia family on Saturday. He will see that he gets pictures to Marie Dawson so that she can make an album and frame a few pictures.
- Will need a map of the Breast Cancer Walk that the Business District Authority is holding in October.

Council President Ruszkowski stated that there were three (3) excellent candidates for the vacant First Ward seat and thanked all three (3) candidates that applied and stated that each of them would be an asset to set on Council. Council President Ruszkowski stated that she hopes that in the future that they would run for Council if any of them have the opportunity to do so.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to amend the agenda to fill the First Ward Council Seat vacated by James Wojnar. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to appoint Cindy Wojnar to fill the First Ward Council Seat vacated by the resignation of Councilman James Wojnar. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Cindy Wojnar was appointed unanimously to fill the vacant First Ward Council Seat. Councilwoman Wojnar was sworn in by Mayor Bailey.

### **Mayor’s Report:**

Mayor Bailey read the Mount Pleasant Police Dept. Report for the Month of September 2022:

The Department answered the following calls:

Incidents	113
Criminal Arrests	7
DUI Arrests	1
Parking Tickets Issued (Boro)	16
Traffic & Non-Traffic Citations	29
Assist Other Departments (Police, Fire, EMS)	2
Accidents Investigated	5

#### Income

Parking Meters	\$1967.24
Parking Tickets	\$191.00.00
Fees for Police Reports	\$75.00
Clerk of Courts	\$79.00
District Court	\$673.22
Ordinance Fines	\$90.00
Fingerprinting	\$0.00
DUI Task Force	\$0.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$3075.46</b>

Mayor Bailey gave the following report:

- Attended the Public Safety Meeting at the Borough Building.
- Attended the Veterans Park Advisory Committee meeting.
- Had a great Glass Festival with very few incidents. Everyone has a great time there and this year was no different.
- Attended the Business District Authority (BDA) Meeting.
- Met with Chief Grippo regarding a few issues.
- Attended a PSAB webinar addressing Supervision of Municipal Police Officers.

**Treasurers Report:**

Borough Manager Landy read the following Treasurer’s Report for the month of August 2022:

<b>Mt. Pleasant Borough Treasurer's Report</b>		<b>Aug-22</b>			<b>Balance</b>
		<b>Prev Bal</b>	<b>Deposits</b>	<b>Disbursements</b>	<b>2022</b>
General Fund Checking	Scottdale Bank 19069335	1,008,808.33	113,268.66	137,132.84	984,944.15
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 321615	975,772.83	1,542.63	0.00	977,315.46
**Police	48,591.82				
**Streets	157,131.00				
**Contingency Fund	326,339.24				
**Infrastructure	206,588.62				
**Workers Compensation	50,000.00				
**BOMP Gas Wells	23,989.94				
** Frick Park Gas Well	23,968.48				
**Levins	0.00				
**Fire	3,400.00				
**K-9	13,828.76				
**Medic 10	100,000.00				
**Marcellus Impact Fee					
Act 13	23,477.60				
Police Parking Tickets & Meters	Scottdale Bank 1026616	25,513.42	277.69	572.08	25,219.03
Escrow Account	Scottdale Bank 19069343	4,408.14	1.73	0.00	4,409.87
Liquid Fuels / Scottdale Bank	Scottdale Bank 19123645	222,806.48	80.58	0.00	222,887.06
Monument CD	Standard Bank 446635	7,382.80	0.00	0.00	7,382.80
Payroll Fund	Scottdale Bank 19069350	2,741.81	67,733.36	67,731.17	2,744.00
Veterans Park Fund	Somerset Trust Co 2003058309	24,874.45	301.28	0.00	25,175.73
Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	Scottdale Bank 19069368	1,223.19	0.48	0.00	1,223.67
Turn Back Account	Scottdale Bank 19069384	24,883.89	9.78	0.00	24,893.67
ARPA Covid-19 (American Resuce Plan Act)	Scottdale Bank 19123652	221,840.66	778.78	0.00	222,619.44
Standard Bank CD	Standard Bank 432243	215,254.60	0.00	0.00	215,254.60
Scottdale/MidPenn CD (200yr Anniversary)	Scottdale Bank 318007294	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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>2,821,840.36</b>
Medic 10 Checking	Scottdale Bank 19069533	142,637.64	42,058.33	60,904.73	123,791.24

Medic 10 Savings	Scottdale Bank 19069723	50,877.02	20.00	0.00	50,897.02
Medic 10 Money Market	Scottdale Bank 19069376	6,023.87	2.37	0.00	6,026.24
Medic 10 Pittsburgh Foundation	Standard Bank 0000358253	9,443.42	0.00	0.00	9,443.42
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
<b>Total Medic 10 Fund Balance</b>					<b>214,886.51</b>
WWT Capital Reserve Account	Scottdale Bank - 19123702	891,508.45	350.44	139.32	891,719.57
Capital Reserve M. A. Account	Somerset Trust Co 2004129745	458,043.05	23.34	0.00	458,066.39
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	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scottdale Bank /MidPenn CD WWT Cap. Resv	Scottdale Bank 318015215	201,508.38	0.00	0.00	201,508.38
Athene Annuity CD (created Jan. 2021)	Somerset Trust	507,249.99	0.00	0.00	507,249.99
<b>Total WWT Balance</b>					<b>5,066,060.77</b>
<b>Total Borough funds</b>					<b>8,102,787.64</b>
Councilwoman Cynthia Stevenson / Secretary Sharon Lesko					

Borough Manager Landy reported that Medic 10 has had an increase in deposits this month. Based on the information that Medic 10 is reporting this should get turned around at least for the next several months.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Czekanski to accept the August 2022 Treasurer's Report. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 8-0.

#### **Solicitor's Report:**

Solicitor Istik will hold her report in Executive Session.

**Tax Collector's Report: None.**

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

Borough Manager Landy gave the following report:

- Attended a webinar with Mayor Bailey, Councilman Phillabaum and Police Chief Grippo regarding Supervision of Municipal Police Officers.
- Met with Shawn Ullery, Architect for the gazebo project, at the gazebo. He will put together an artist rendering of the gazebo.
- Thanked everyone, including Council and all of the department, for their cooperation of Glass Festival. The festival honored Jerry Lucia. It is a big festival and is one of the top 3 or 4 in the County.

Councilman Phillabaum stated that with the help of Mike Ruszkowski, volunteers and Medic 10 sitting at the tables selling 50/50 tickets, they were able to raise \$745.00 for Medic 10. Councilman Phillabaum also stated that guys like Joe Bauer, Gene Santorella, Robbie Karfelt, Jr., Rich Kujawa deserve a lot of credit for the help with setup and teardown of the festival. Councilman Phillabaum has helped with the teardown the last few years also. Councilman Cholock helped with a medical emergency during the teardown. Borough Manager Landy stated that Councilman Phillabaum is correct and that most people don't see the hard work that happens beforehand and after and they only see what is going on during the 33hours that the festival is open.

Councilwoman Stevenson stated that she is at the festival all weekend with two (2) different organizations and both organizations truly appreciate all of the hard work that is done to make the festival successful. Councilwoman Stevenson reported that the Cat Committee and the Historical Society both had a very successful weekend. Borough Manager Landy thanked Councilwoman Stevenson and reported that he was 29 years old when he and Jerry started the festival.

Borough Manager Landy thanked all of the residents and businesses on Washington Street for their cooperation along with the residents of the Borough dealing with the traffic during the festival.

- Will need to begin working on the Budget and the Garbage Contract.
- Worked with Secretary Sharon Lesko on completing two (2) grants. (1) for a police car; and, (2) Electric at the Waterway Project.
- Gave 2 grants to Tim Ferree to work on for the Police.

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

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to hold an executive session regarding personnel and contracts. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 8-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to reconvene. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 8-0.

Council President Ruszkowski stated that the executive session was held from 7:59pm to 9:26pm to discuss personnel contracts.

### **Property Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve the purchase of Christmas decorations of Ribbons, Bows, and additional Rope Lights for Main Street at a cost of 1,974.69. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-1. Councilman Cholock voted no.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to ratify Resolution No. 2022-06 effective 09/27/2022 requesting a Statewide Local Share Account Fund (Gaming Funds) Grant from the Commonwealth Financing Authority for the Waterway Project. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 8-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to ratify Resolution No. 2022-07 effective 09/27/2022 requesting a Statewide Local Share Account Fund (Gaming Funds) Grant from the Commonwealth Financing Authority for a 2023 SUV Police Vehicle. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilwoman Stevenson gave the following report:

- There are 2 companies that will be giving a quote on fixing the window in the stairwell between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.
- There is a company that will be giving a quote on Wednesday for the cleaning of the windows. Working on getting another company to also give a quote for this.

Councilman Cholock asked if we can contact the manufacturer of the glass company for the security door into the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor offices due to the cracks in that glass. Borough Manager Landy stated that it has been approximately 5 years since that has been put in.

## **Streets / Stormwater Report:**

Councilman Phillabaum gave the following report:

- Need to reach out to Redstone Excavating regarding paving on Evans Street and Orchard Street.
- Jeff McGuinness will be filling potholes in the alley near the McCune property.
- Thanked Mayor Bailey for assisting with getting the equipment taken care of for the street department.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to approve and execute the negotiated United Steel Workers Street Department contract from October 1, 2022 thru September 30, 2025. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 8-0.

Borough Manager Landy reported that he received a call from a resident on College Avenue that would like to have a street light installed. Councilwoman Barnes stated that the resident can contact West Penn Power and they will install a light, which she will have to pay for. It will be on her monthly bill.

Borough Manager Landy stated that the liquid fuels allocation for 2023 will be \$122,740.16. Turnback allocation for 2023 will be \$3,760.00.

## **Parks & Recreation:**

Councilwoman Lasko reported that Mayor Bailey had received a request. Mayor Bailey stated that she had received a request from Linda Macaluso and a group of friends who taught with Vicki Smith-Hickle, who was an elementary teacher with the Mt. Pleasant School District and recently passed away suddenly. They would like to install a park bench at Frick Park in her memory at the far side of the greenspace outside of the outfield fence. Councilwoman Lasko suggested that the bench be placed near the play area with the single piece of playground equipment. Borough Manager Landy stated that there can never be enough seating and trees in the park and that he would like to take the \$2000.00 that was received from Republic Services to buy trees and put in the parks that do not have a lot of trees.

Councilwoman Wojnar asked if they have ever talked with Westmoreland Pollinators. They did a garden at Laurelville and they are going to be part of the Westmoreland 250 and they do pollination gardens. Borough Manager Landy asked Councilwoman Wojnar to contact them and that he would like to do that at the Waterway Project.

## **Public Safety Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilman Cholock to permit the Mt. Pleasant Library to utilize the parking lot next to the library on October 15, 2022 for their Touch-a-Truck event rescheduling from October 1, 2022 due to weather from Hurricane Ian. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilman Phillabaum read the following Fire Report for the month of September 2022:

Total Calls – 41  
In Town – 8  
Out of Town - 33  
10-45's - 15  
Entrapments - 1  
Fires -10  
AFA's - 8  
Hazardous Calls – 4  
Public Service Calls – 4  
Ambulance Assistance –0  
Standby's – 0

Turnpike Calls – 4  
Landing Zones – 0  
Drills – 0  
Total Members Answering – 412  
Avg. Member Per Call – 10

Councilman Cholock gave the following report:

- Attended a meeting with the director at Harmon House.
- Harmon House will be holding an event and have requested baskets for a Chinese auction. The proceeds will be to purchase gifts for residents at the Harmon House that don't have any family or friends. Councilman Cholock reached out to friends and people that he knows and was able to have 23 baskets donated. Councilman Cholock asked that anyone willing to donate a basket, please put your name on it and drop it off at Medic 10 by October 15, 2022 and all the baskets will be delivered by Medic 10.
- During the meeting with the Director of Harmon House, she stated that their relationship with Medic 10 is not going anywhere and will remain that way, which is a good thing.

Borough Manager Landy stated that it is important to support Harmon House and that without Harmon House, Medic 10 would be almost nonexistent. Harmon House also volunteers for events within the community. Councilwoman Czekanski stated that she is President of the Ladies Auxiliary at the VFW. She will see that they donate a basket as well.

Councilman Phillabaum gave the following report:

- Councilman Phillabaum, Mark Kraisinger and Mayor Bailey attended the BDA meeting regarding the Knox Box Ordinance. They were very receptive to it and Jim Rega of the BDA would like to organize a get together with the businesses.
- Ed Christofano of Hayden's Pharmacy will be administering flu shots on Monday, October 10, 2022 from 5:00pm – 6:00pm at the Central Fire Station on South Church Street. Must register by Saturday, October 8, 2022 at Hayden's Pharmacy.

### **Veterans Park:**

Councilwoman Barnes gave the following report:

- Thanked Borough Manager Landy for a spot at the Mt. Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival to promote the Veterans Banners.
- Thanked StukUp Grafix with the tablecloth runner for the Veterans Banners.
- Gave out approximately 110 applications for the Veterans Banners. We have received 3 applications with all the required documentation. If an applicant's name is already on the Veterans Wall, they will not need a DD214 showing their Honorable Discharge since we already have a copy of it.
- Thanked the VFW and the volunteers that helped with the booth at the Glass Festival.
- Contractor will be starting on the wall on Monday, October 10, 2022, weather permitting. It will need to set for one week and then the painting will be done. They will need water and electricity. Borough Manager Landy stated that there is water and electric there.

- The digital wall has been down. Borough Manager Landy and Councilwoman Barnes tried contacting Spectrio and received no response. Borough Manager Landy stated that the goal is to get them to come here to see firsthand because the people that formerly set this up, there is probably only one (1) person left from that company, Christian. Spectrio has never seen it.

### **Ordinances:**

Councilwoman Lasko asked where did we leave off on the parking Ordinance regarding large vehicles and trailers. Mayor Bailey stated that she reviewed the Ordinance that drafted and she did have a concern about the vehicle weight as opposed to the vehicle width and believes that the Borough should focus more on the width of the vehicle as opposed to the weight. Councilwoman Lasko stated that she agrees and that she don't want to punish, as an example, vehicles such as vans from the gas company and cable company. Mayor Bailey stated that most of the largest vans and largest pickup trucks are a 5500, which is a one-ton truck and they are all on the same size chassis and are all pretty much the same width, mirror to mirror approximately 103 inches, which fits into a parking space wide. Anything over that is what they would be talking about in the Ordinance. Mayor Bailey will follow up with an email to Solicitor Istik regarding the details that she is concerned about. Mayor Bailey stated that anything that sticks out into the driving area as opposed to fitting in the parking space is the concern.

### **Human Resources:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Czekanski to rescind the termination of Chief Douglas Sam and accept Chief Sam's resignation effective February 4, 2019. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 8-0.

### **Finance / Grants Report: None.**

### **New Business:**

- Borough Manager Landy gave everyone a copy of the G-18 sessions. G-18 will be held on Friday, October 21, 2022 and Saturday, October 22, 2022. Borough Manager Landy asked Council to consider attending since the Borough hosts it and it is held in Laurelville.

### **Reading of Communications:**

- PSAB will be holding an online learning for Winter Maintenance Basics and Best Practices on October, 7, 14, and 21, 2022 from 10:00am to 11:30am. It is a 3-part series. Member rate is \$100.00.
- PSAB will be holding a Webinar Series: Redeveloping Blighted Properties on October 12, 19, 26 and November 2, 2022 from 5:30pm to 6:30pm. Member rate for all 4 webinars is \$125.00 or \$45.00 per webinar.
- Harmon House will be holding Open House Night on October 20, 2022 from 3:30pm to 7:00pm, location Amber House 5<sup>th</sup> Floor. RSVP by: 10/12/2022. Contact Amy Hood at 724-547-1890.

### **Discussion and Payment of Bills:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to pay all authorized and approved bills from the September 19, 2022 meeting retroactive to September 20, 2022 due to lack of quorum and to pay all current authorized and approved bills. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 8-0.



**Public Comment: None.**

**Miscellaneous and Adjournment:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 8-0.

**Meeting Adjourned 10:18pm.**

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jeffrey A. Landy,  
Borough Manager

BOROUGH OF MOUNT PLEASANT

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Susan Ruskowski, Council President

## **Motions from Meeting of October 3, 2022**

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