

**January 6, 2020**

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 our deployed troops. President Caruso asked Borough Manager Landy to take roll call. Councilpersons present included Bailey, Barnes, Cholock, Phillabaum, Smetak, Lasko, Ruszkowski, and Wojnar. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Istik was present. President Caruso stated that a quorum is present.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the minutes of December 2, 2019 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 9-0.

**Public Comment: None**

**Speakers: None**

**Mayor’s Report:**

Mayor Lucia reported that things went well over the holidays within the Borough. The Fire Department and Medic 10 responded to a serious accident on the Pennsylvania Turnpike on Sunday, January 5, 2020. The fire department was on the scene for approximately 14 hours.

**Solicitor’s Report:**

Solicitor Istik stated that her report she will be held during Executive Session.

**Tax Collector’s Report:**

Tax Collector Carol Yancosky read the following report for the month of December 2018:

Property Taxes	\$ 9,142.70
Supplemental Taxes	\$ 00
Per Capita Taxes	<u>\$ 1,177.00</u>
Total Collected	\$10,319.70

Tax Collector Yancosky reminded tax payers that her office is done collecting 2019 property taxes and per capita. She will be now be spending January and February preparing year end reports, changing files and preparing taxes to be mailed for March.

**Borough Manager’s Report:**

Borough Manager gave the following report for December 2019:

- Had issues with sewage on Yoder Avenue. When Main Street Project was done from Bridgeport Street to Laurelville, the subcontractor that the gas company hired broke some lateral sewage lines. They have repaired the lines for the residents. There is a possibility of others. We won’t know until the resident begins having issues with things backing up.
- Act 144 of the PA Motor Vehicle Code has been amended for handicap parking. Under this amendment, the handicap parking space can be assigned to a certain resident / license plate.
- The new public works employee has started today.
- Had several meetings with Westmoreland County Land Bank.
- Christmas Parade went well. Candlelight ceremony was good but attendance could be much better.
- Had a meeting with employees regarding health insurance.

- Met with Liberoni Construction regarding the upcoming paving project. There will be a big meeting tomorrow at 1:00pm at the Borough Building with the Borough, Liberoni Construction, Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County, Bob Regola and the Engineers.
- There are projects that the Borough Manager would like Council to give some thought for the upcoming year:
  - sound system at the gazebo,
  - refurbishment of the gazebo,
  - main street signs and signs in the Borough,
  - consider an ordinance for paving the street from curb to curb after street is dug up by another company and not just the section that they have dug up,
  - Christmas decorations should be reevaluated and come up with new decorations especially for the decorative lights,
  - Remove and replace the terrace at Frick Park
  - Attempt to sell the Gormley Property and the lots behind Medic 10,
  - Attempt to lease or sell the Levin Property on Bridgeport Street,
  - Sign Ordinance is holding up the Zoning Ordinance,
  - Memorial Square needs additional lighting. It is too dark,
  - Should add decorative lighting at the East End of town,
  - Continue to work to get the electrical box removed at Penn Park,
  - Would like to have a coke oven and a water feature built at Penn Park by Westmoreland artists; and
  - Redo Permit Fees.

**President’s Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilman Cholock to reappoint William Hare, Sr. to the Mount Pleasant Zoning Hearing Board of Directors for a 5-year term expiring on December 31, 2024. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Cholock to hold an Executive Session. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to reconvene. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 9-0.

Council President Caruso announced that an **Executive Session was held from 7:22pm – 7:51pm to discuss legal issues.**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to amend the Agenda to approve the Public Right of Way Use Agreement with Crown Castle Fiber, LLC. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to approve the Public Right of Way Use Agreement with Crown Castle Fiber, LLC, Zoning Permit Application and Building Permit Application. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 9-0.

**Property Report:**

Councilman Smetak reported that he and Councilwoman Lasko looked at the Synagogue Building and believes that only half of the roof would need repaired. They also inspected the Salt Building. Once Councilwoman Barnes has a chance to inspect both buildings, they will put a motion in place as to what they believe should be done.

**Waste Water Treatment Report:**

Councilman Phillabaum gave the following report:

- Glenn Fodor has started services at the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

### **Streets Report:**

Councilwoman Bailey gave the following report:

- Councilwoman Bailey and Borough Manager Landy met with Liberoni Construction on Bridgeport Street regarding catch basins and handicap sidewalks at the intersections.
- Have a water issue on Warden Street and it is continuing to break up the street. They are trying to figure a way to capture the spring water that is on the residents' property and drain it into a culvert or french drain system to keep it from coming onto the street creating an icing issue. Due to the gas company having lines installed on both sides of the street it has proven difficult to just create a trench. There is a utility issue that they have to work around.
- Borough Manager Landy asked if there have been any discussions with the Township regarding the flooding issues located where the new Dollar General is going off of N. Diamond Street and High Street since this has been where the flooding issues have been coming from for St. Clair Street. Councilwoman Bailey said that there have not been any discussions with the Township; however, she will be meeting with Duane Hutter, Mount Pleasant Township Supervisor, and will ask him about it. Councilwoman Bailey stated that since they have replaced the pipes on St. Clair Street, they have not had any issues. Borough Manager Landy stated that we have not had the torrential rains that we have had in the past.

### **Stormwater Management Report:**

Councilman Cholock gave the following report:

- Councilman Cholock spoke with the Borough Code Enforcement Officer, Mark Cypher, regarding Greenwood Apartments. Mr. Cypher informed him that he had spoken with the owner of Greenwood Apartments; and, that the issues have been turned over to his engineering company approximately one (1) month ago to have drawings completed and review the retention pond. They should have an answer next week about what is going on with the retention pond.
- Received a bill from Gary's Garage at 400 N. Church Street for \$9,600.00 for work that he had done regarding his flooding issues.

### **Parks & Recreation:**

Councilwoman Lasko asked Borough Manger Landy if this "wish list" was given to the new Public Works employee. Borough Manager Landy said that he has not gotten it yet; but he does know that there the bulk of his work will be with the parks.

Councilwoman Lasko asked if Silvis Group would be willing to spray the parks with an organic spray. Borough Manager Landy had asked them and they stated that they would not use it due to it not being very effective. Council President Caruso asked if you have to be licensed to spray the organic solution. Councilman Smetak stated that you do not have to be licensed. Council President Caruso stated that if they do not have to be certified that the Borough could spray it.

### **Public Safety Report:**

Councilwoman Ruskowski stated that they have received an invoice from Trident Insurance for the \$1000.00 deductible for the civil summons that was received regarding former Police Chief Doug Sam.

### **Veterans Park Report:**

Councilwoman Barnes reported that names /applications are still being received for the new tablet. She believes that there are approximately 30 names left.

Councilwoman Barnes stated that they are considering putting photos of veterans down Main Street during certain times, possibly spring and fall. Borough Manager Landy stated that they will need to apply for a Permit with West Penn Power. He feels that they will approve it and that it is just a matter of completing and sending the paper work in.

Borough Manager Landy stated that the Christmas tree at Veterans Park had not been on a lot this year due to the weather continuously tripping the GFI outlet. They will look into replacing it.

**Human Resources/Ordinances Report:                      None.**

**Finance & Grants Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to approve Resolution No. 2020-01 setting the 2020 Quarterly Contribution for Non-Uniform Pension at \$3.45 per hour. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to approve Resolution 2020-02 waiving the required Police Pension member contributions for calendar year 2020 only. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to transfer \$20,000.00 from Budgetary Reserve to General Fund to balance the budget, specifically line items 340.00 Interest - \$15,000.00 and 301.00 Real Estate Taxes – Current - \$5,000.00, in accordance with the Borough Code Section 1312 due to an addition error. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 9-0.

**New Business:**

Borough Manager Landy reported that we have received a request for a new contract for the Borough Auditor, McClure & Wolf, LLP. They are requesting a five (5) year contract and will hold the fee for the last four (4) years of the contract. The first year will be increased by \$500.00.

**Reading of Communications:**

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- Received information from OSHA regarding compliance for the year 2020.
- Boot Camp for newly elected officials will be held on February 14 and 15, 2020.
- Received letter from a resident who wants to reserve Willows Park with certain requirements. They would like to reserve the park and no one else be able to come in.
- There will be a new President at the Business District Authority.

**Discussion and Payment of Bills:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to pay all authorized and approved bills. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 9-0.

**Public Comment:    None.**

**Miscellaneous and Adjournment:**

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

**Meeting Adjourned 8:33 pm**

## Motions from Meeting of January 6, 2020

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