

Meeting February 17, 2020

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

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the minutes of February 3, 2020 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0.

Public Comment: None.

Speakers: None.

Mayors Report:

Mayor Lucia gave the following report:

- The Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County will be shutting the water off on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 around noon on the south side of town from CoGo’s down to the railroad tracks. It will last for approximately 12 hours – 24 hours. Frick Hospital and Ramsay School will have water. The water company stated that they will notify customers with a robocall.
- Mayor Lucia reported that he will be meeting with Police Chief Grippo regarding speeding issues on Main Street and vehicles running through the red light at Eagle Street.
- Magistrate Eckels office in Norvelt will be closing. They are redistricting cases. Borough cases will be now handled through Magistrate Moore’s office.
- There have been discussions of the Borough having their own DOT truck inspection for the truck traffic in town.

Solicitor’s Report: None.

Treasurer’s Report:

Borough Manager Landy read the following Treasurer’s Report for the month of January 2020:

Mt. Pleasant Borough Treasurer's Report		Jan-20			
		Prev Bal	Deposits	Disbursements	Balance 2020
General Fund Checking	Scottdale Bank 19069335	1,023,746.04	39,783.94	112,462.05	951,067.93
Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 321615	650,732.42	718.87	0.00	651,451.29
**Police	42,619.03				
**Streets	107,131.00				
**Contingency Fund	229,104.17				
**Infrastructure	131,588.62				
**BOMP Gas Wells	21,955.15				
** Frick Park Gas					
Well	22,768.03				
**Levins	970.06				
**Fire	60,000.00				
**K-9	13,828.76				
**Marcellus Impact					
Fee Act 13	21,486.47				
Police Parking Tickets & Meters	Scottdale Bank 1026616	25,473.66	0.95	572.08	24,902.53

Escrow Account	Scottdale Bank 19069343	8,317.72	12.36	0.00	8,330.08
Liquid Fuels PLGIT	PLGIT 56980126	288,313.78	364.42	0.00	288,678.20
Monument CD	Standard Bank 446635	7,286.68	0.00	0.00	7,286.68
Holiday Lighting Fund	Standard Bank 050004849	1,808.16	0.57	0.00	1,808.73
Payroll Fund	Scottdale Bank 19069350	954.93	47,572.02	47,568.07	958.88
Veterans Park Fund	Somerset Trust Co 2003058309	18,894.96	1,850.00	0.00	20,744.96
Town Clock Fund	Standard Bank 0010038847	615.44	0.20	0.00	615.64
Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	Scottdale Bank 19069368	1,207.93	1.80	0.00	1,209.73
Turn Back Account	Scottdale Bank 19069384	378,926.87	559.92	8,561.40	370,925.39
Standard Bank CD	Standard Bank	208,875.95	0.00	0.00	208,875.95
Standard Bank CD	Standard Bank 410571	52,120.89	0.00	0.00	52,120.89
Scottdale Bank /MidPenn CD	Scottdale Bank 318007294	50,983.85	0.00	0.00	50,983.85
Total General Fund Balance					2,639,960.73
Medic 10 Checking	Scottdale Bank 19069533	64,588.64	86,298.17	46,091.24	104,795.57
Medic 10 Savings	Scottdale Bank 19069723	112,928.65	1,169.28	0.00	114,097.93
Medic 10 Money Market	Scottdale Bank 19069376	5,948.66	8.84	0.00	5,957.50
Medic 10 Pittsburgh Foundation	Standard Bank 0000358253	7,519.98	0.00	0.00	7,519.98
Medic 10 CD	Standard Bank 371917	18,992.22	0.00	0.00	18,992.22
Medic 10 CD	Standard Bank 410053	5,199.37	0.00	0.00	5,199.37
Total Medic 10 Fund Balance					256,562.57
WWT Operational Acct	Standard Bank 0010175932	705,545.12	228.99	84,515.32	621,258.79
WWT Savings	Standard Bank 0050021008	183,378.75	202.58	0.00	183,581.33
WWT Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 0000287245	140,838.57	155.58	0.00	140,994.15
**Contingency	113,524.33				
**Infrastructure	27,469.82				
WWT Bio-Tower	Standard Bank 10127923	172,081.54	17,717.08	0.00	189,798.62
Total WWT Balance					1,135,632.89
Total Borough funds					4,032,156.19

Councilwoman Susan Ruszkowski / Secretary
Sharon Lesko

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 7-0.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy gave the following report:

- Update on the work that has been done by Jessie Jones/Public Works:
 - Removed all the Christmas decorations
 - has fixed the lights at Frick Park
 - GFI at Veterans Park
 - Installed bathroom fixtures in the Borough Building
 - Changed tenant names on the signs in front of the Borough Building
 - Updated light in elevator in Borough Building
 - Replace all burned out bulbs at Veterans Park and Borough Building
 - Organized basement furnace room in Borough Building
 - Installed an electrical outlet and television in Council Chambers.
 - In the process of building fire pits at Willows Park. He has taken care of the outlets at Willows Park. He will be doing a lot of work with the parks.
 - He will be cross-trained to work at the waste water treatment plant and the street department just in case they need someone to fill in.

Borough Manager Landy stated that these are all little things that needed done. The other departments were not able to do due to them having their own projects that were more pressing.

- Spoke with Industry Weapons today. There is another new representative. He reached out and is going to look at all notes regarding all of the problems that we have had. He will be in touch with an update.
- YMCA will be holding a 20year anniversary.
- The new appraisal company, AAI, was in and began to inventory.
- The Zoning Permit that the Borough has now, included for a building permit also. It is going to be updated.
- Will be increasing the rates at Willows Park by \$10.00.
- Had several meetings with Councilwoman Bailey and A. Liberoni, Inc. regarding the paving project.
- The legislative office will be reopening on the second floor. It is the Republican party legislative office since there is no one that holds that position for the time being. It will be open by the end of the week or beginning of next week.
- Received one (1) bid from the Amish regarding the roof at the synagogue. Will discuss with the property committee to see if they want to reopen the bids or move forward. The Borough previously received bids for a shingle roof only. They decided to get bids for a metal roof. The bid received from the Amish is for the metal or shingles. Councilwoman Bailey asked if the building is a historic building. Mayor Lucia stated that it is the oldest church in the Borough. Councilwoman Bailey and Councilwoman Lasko asked if there was a criteria that must be met with the historical preservation society.

President's Report: None.

Property: None.

Waste Water Treatment Report:

Councilman Phillabaum stated that he would like to get Jessie Jones down at the plant to possibly learn the basics at the plant in case one of the employees needs to be off for vacations, etc.

Streets / Stormwater Report:

Councilwoman Bailey gave the following report on Streets:

- Engineer will be redesigning the area at Eagle and Church Street.
- Handicap assessible ramps on the sidewalks have been put in and are almost complete.
- Had an issue on S. Church Street with the extremely rough spots where they had dug trenches. Councilwoman Bailey contacted Liberoni construction to fix it. The Street Department went and fixed it a little more than what the construction company had.

Councilwoman Bailey asked if the Borough can look into an Ordinance that states when a utility company or private contractor tears up a street that it must be repaired curb to curb. Borough Manager Landy stated that the Ordinance should state that the repairs must be completed within a certain time frame.

Mayor Lucia asked if the sealant machine has been repaired yet. Councilwoman Bailey stated that it is not repaired yet and is at a shop in Derry, PA.

Stormwater Report:

Councilman Cholock reported that there is a meeting with Mount Pleasant Township regarding the Dollar General that is being put in on North Diamond Street regarding stormwater issues.

Councilwoman Bailey reported that there was an issue on Hoza Way where the new catch basin was installed a few years ago. Rain water got underneath it and created a hole. The Street Department had to close off Hoza Way for the time being; and, that once the weather breaks, they will need to see why this keeps happening.

Parks and Recreation:

Councilwoman Lasko reported that she, Councilman Phillabaum and Councilman Wojnar attended the Municipal Boot Camp seminar, which was very informative.

Councilman Phillabaum spoke with Gabe Kinneer, President of Mount Pleasant Little League. Registration is still going on through until the end of February. They will begin their season on April 4, 2020. Once registration is complete, they will put together a schedule and submit it. Mr. Kinneer stated that they would like to cut back on the night games, also, spread out the games to help curb the parking issues. They will also be having a few of the coaches / volunteers put a vest on and help with parking when they have a big game going on. Mr. Kinneer would like to paint lines for parking. Borough Manager Landy stated that if they offered to do it, he believes the committee should let them do it.

Public Safety Report:

Councilman Cholock read the following Fire Report for the month of January 2020:

Total Calls - 32
10-45's - 12
Entrapment Calls - 1
Fires - 11
AFA's - 5
Public Service Calls - 4
Turnpike Calls - 4
Total Members Answering - 623
Avg. Member Per Call - 19
Total Staff Hours - 865

Councilman Cholock gave the following report:

- Medic 10 held their monthly meeting.
- Medic 10 is looking into holding a spaghetti dinner fundraiser.

Mayor Lucia does not want to sound negative, but he believes the spaghetti dinner fundraiser will not do well; and, feels that they should hold off on doing it. Mayor Lucia stated that with the subscriptions they are doing well right now. He stated that the medics won't have time to participate in the fundraiser due to having to answer calls. Councilman Cholock stated that he can get volunteers to help with the fundraiser so that they would not have to rely on just the medics to be there. Borough Manager Landy stated that yes, they are doing well with subscriptions right now; however, the Borough does not want to lose Medic 10 due to not enough finances; and, we need to do whatever we can to support Medic 10.

Councilwoman Bailey asked what Mayor Lucia's concern was, whether it is lack of participation, volunteers, people are subscribing yet they still need money. Mayor Lucia is worried that the people would wonder why are they paying subscription fees why are they doing a fundraiser. Councilman Wojnar stated why can't they state what the fundraiser is for. Borough Manager Landy agreed with Councilman Wojnar that they can or should state what the

fundraiser is for. Councilwoman Barnes stated that an ad could be placed in the newspaper thanking residents for their support and that they will be holding a fundraiser to raise additional funds for whatever the project may be.

Veterans Park:

Councilwoman Barnes gave the following report:

- There are an additional 14 names to be placed on the new tablet.

Human Resources / Ordinances:

Councilman Wojnar gave the following report:

- He is working on the Sign Ordinance. He would like to speak with other Councilmembers to get different opinions before finalizing anything. Councilman Wojnar said he will also be speaking with Solicitor Istik regarding the Ordinance. Councilman Wojnar wants to be certain that all avenues have been checked before putting an Ordinance out that could ultimately cause more issues than they want.
- Councilman Wojnar has a meeting on Thursday, February 20, 2020 at 2:00pm with Principal Gumbita at the Mount Pleasant High School regarding the Junior Council.

Finance / Grants Report:

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the proposal with McClure & Wolf, LLP for the years ending 2019, 2020 and 2021 ratified February 10, 2020. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to authorize the Borough Manager to execute an agreement with Higbee Insurance for the 2020-2021 Worker's Compensation & Municipal Liability Insurance at a cost of \$51,042.00. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to transfer \$150,000.00 from General Fund to the following Budgetary Reserve Line Items: Police - \$5,000.00; Streets - \$40,000.00; Infrastructure - \$40,000.00; Contingency - \$60,000.00 and, Fire - \$5,000.00. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

New Business:

Councilman Wojnar spoke about the Elected Officials Bootcamp Seminar that he attended with Councilwoman Lasko and Councilman Phillabaum.

Reading of Communications:

- There will be a 36th Annual TET Party "The Year of the Rat" Vietnam Veterans of Westmoreland County on Saturday, February 29, 2020 from 3:00PM to 9:00PM at the All Saints Brewery. Cost is \$20.00 per person. Tickets sold at the door.
- Connellsville Township V.F.D. along with Pendulum will be holding a spaghetti dinner and show benefitting Veterans on Saturday, April 4, 2020. Cost is \$20.00 per person. Tickets go on sale March 16, 2020 – Call: 724-454-3475 or 724-880-3377.
- DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) Braddock Trail Chapter will be holding its annual Basket Bazaar on Saturday, May 2, 2020. They are requesting donations. It will be held at the Kecksburg VFD. Admission is \$10.00.

Discussion and Payment of Bills:

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

Public Comment: None.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to amend the agenda to hold an executive session. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to hold an executive session regarding personnel. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 7-0.

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

Council Vice President Cholock announced that the Executive Session was held from 8:14pm – 8:27pm to discuss personnel issues.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to post the position of a certified truck inspector for the Officers of Mount Pleasant Police Station. Motion seconded by Councilman Wojnar. Motion carried 7-0.

Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

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

Meeting Adjourned 8:29pm.

Motions from Meeting of February 17, 2020

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