

Meeting January 22, 2013

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Bauer at 7:01pm in Council Chambers at 1 Etze Avenue, Mount Pleasant, PA 15666. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and there was a moment of silence for our deployed troops. President Bauer directed Borough Manager Landy to take roll. Councilman McCloy, McFeaters, Pritts and Councilwomen Bailey, Ruskowski and Stevenson were present. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Wolfe were present. President Bauer stated we have a quorum. Councilman Snyder arrived 7:45PM

Reading of the Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to dispense with the reading of the minutes of December 3, 2012 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruskowski. Motion carried 7-0.

Public Comment: None

Speakers: None

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia reported that the Mount Pleasant Borough Police Department is making some good arrests in regards to illegal drugs in the Borough.

Councilman McFeaters asked the Mayor if any progress has been made regarding graffiti on borough signs even though there is a reward for information. Mayor Lucia said that no arrests have been made. The Mount Pleasant Street Department has been replacing the damaged signs and using paint remover to repair them. President Bauer suggested using trail cameras for surveillance.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that she has heard reports of a woman residing at Ridgeview Apartments who is often confused and the manager of the complex has told neighbors to simply phone the police when she needs assistance. Councilwoman Stevenson said that she feels it is a poor use of police resources. Mayor Lucia said that the Borough does not receive tax money from Ridgeview Apartments but they are entitled to all borough services. Mayor Lucia said that he will follow up with Police Chief Ober regarding this matter.

Mayor Lucia reported that he attended the Presidential Inauguration on January 21, 2013.

Solicitor's Report: None

Treasurer's Report:

Borough Manager Landy read the following Treasurer's Report for the month of December 2012:

Mt. Pleasant Borough Treasurer's Report		Dec-12			
		Previous Balance	Deposits	Disbursements	Balance 2012
General Fund Checking	PNC 00-0122-3513	50,000.00	175,965.90	175,965.90	50,000.00
General Fund Sweep	PNC 10-1149-3394	700,448.01	38,462.24	78,322.53	660,587.72
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	PNC 102-457-4388	43,340.15	3.67	0.00	43,343.82
**Fire		30,000.00			
**Police		0.00			
**Streets		10,000.00			
**Contingency Fund		3,340.27			
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 321615	384,821.04	47.76	14,064.00	370,804.80
**Police		60,000.00			
**Streets		80,000.00			
**Contingency Fund		82,482.10			
**Infrastructure		90,000.00			
**BOMP1 Gas Well		9,250.00			
**BOMP2 Gas Well		4,572.81			
**Frick Park Gas Well		19,423.96			
**Levins		4,365.06			
**Surveillance Cameras		9,000.00			
**Surveillance Camera Grant		10,000.00			

**Early Warning Siren Grant		3,000.00			
**Fire		10,000.00			
**K-9		8,581.38			
Escrow Account	PNC Bank 10-2912-6867	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	2,500.00
Liquid Fuels PLGIT	PLGIT 56980126	40,614.38	0.77	19,717.30	20,897.85
Monument CD	Standard Bank 328188	5,739.23	211.42	0.00	5,950.65
Holiday Lighting Fund	Standard Bank 050004849	1,801.77	0.07	0.00	1,801.84
Payroll Fund	PNC 00-0122-6415	1,500.93	77,615.61	51,540.54	27,575.00
Veterans Park Fund	First Niagara 981293700	2,864.89	0.00	0.00	2,864.89
Veterans Park Fund	PLGIT 5698025	11,262.55	0.25	0.00	11,262.80
Police Drug Enforcement	PNC 10-1291-2642	0.51	0.00	0.51	0.00
Town Clock Fund	Standard Bank 0010038847	613.27	0.02	0.00	613.29
Medic 10 Checking	Standard Bank 0010107643	55,908.30	30,252.67	47,141.94	39,019.03
Medic 10 Savings	Standard Bank 0310000238	126,711.20	1,016.27	0.00	127,727.47
Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	PNC Bank 10-3388-4556	6,376.22	110,387.26	56,774.49	59,988.99
Total General Fund Balance					1,424,938.15
WWT Operational Acct	Standard Bank 0320012280	279,486.37	29,923.03	59,950.50	249,458.90
WWT Savings	Standard Bank 0050021008	69,840.26	3,017.37	0.00	72,857.63
WWT Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 0000287245	147,994.08	18.85	0.00	148,012.93
**Contingency		88,012.93			
**Infrastructure		60,000.00			
Total WWT Balance					470,329.46
Total Borough funds					1,895,267.61

Respectfully Submitted:
Councilwoman Susan Ruszkowski
Secretary Beverly Fedorchak

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

President's Report:

President Bauer said he received a letter from the Westmoreland Conservation District inviting Council to their 3rd annual roundtable discussion for municipal officials on February 1st at 7:30am at the Westmoreland Conservation District Office. The cost per person is \$5.00 which includes a light breakfast. The discussion will conclude no later than noon. Anyone who wishes to attend can contact the borough office.

President Bauer said he received a letter from the Mount Pleasant Business District Authority regarding appointment requests. President Bauer said he will review the requests and make the appointments at a future meeting.

President Bauer said that Council has had a chance to look at the proposed 2013 BDA Budget and BDA President Nino Barsotti is present at this meeting to answer any questions Council may have. President Bauer opened the discussion with a question about the beautification line item and Mr. Barsotti replied that the money will be used for the flower pots on Main Street and other projects. President Bauer questioned the \$9,000 budgeted for advertising and Mr. Barsotti replied that the BDA is proposing an expo of business in the Borough and surrounding areas and there will be advertising for that event as well as Christmas events. Mr. Barsotti said that the money budgeted for Travel/Meals/Dues will be used to attend seminars. Mr. Barsotti reported that the BDA has hired Mr. Tony Baranowski as Director of the Mount Pleasant Business District Authority. Mr. Barsotti said that the money budgeted for improvement will pay for matching funds for a sidewalk and façade program. Mr. Landy questioned the incubator line item and why there is no money budgeted to fix the roof. Mr. Barsotti said that they discovered the roof does not need repaired. The leakage was coming from the exhaust system in the restaurant and it has been repaired at least temporarily. Eventually the exhaust fan will have to be replaced to conform to current regulations at a cost of approximately \$3,000. Under a new lease for the restaurant, the exhaust fan could be made the responsibility of the restaurant. The BDA would also like to eventually meter the electric for the restaurant separately at a cost of approximately \$1,000. Councilman McCloy stated that he feels replacing the exhaust fan should be a top priority.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that she understood that the new BDA Director was looking to find a tenant for the old Smith Glass location. Councilwoman Stevenson questioned why he would be working on filling a vacancy for property that is in Mount Pleasant Township. Mr. Barsotti said that filling the vacancy for that building would potentially bring jobs to the Borough as well as improve the business situation in the Borough. Mr. Baranowski has contacts through his previous employment. The Director is also working on finding a tenant for the old Burns Drug Store building. Borough Manager Landy said that business owners who are currently paying taxes to the BDA may be unhappy that the BDA Director is working on property in the

Township. Councilman Pritts said that he feels if a tenant for the Smith Glass property is found they would use the services of businesses in the Borough.

Councilwoman Stevenson raised the subject of the Glass Museum and Council's support. A letter was sent to the BDA recently requesting that rent for the Glass Museum be kept to a minimum. Councilwoman Stevenson said that Cassandra Vivian from the Glass Museum received a letter from the BDA outlining a security deposit and rent for future months. The money requested by the BDA far exceeds the money available to the Glass Museum at this time. Councilwoman Stevenson said that Mr. Barsotti told her that he would speak to the BDA Board to try to get the rent reduced in support of Council's wishes. Councilwoman Stevenson discussed the possibility of a perspective tenant wanting to rent space being used by the Glass Museum and that the Glass Museum would understand that the new tenant would generate more income for the incubator. But if that tenant does not rent space then the rooms being used by the museum would be empty and Councilwoman Stevenson said she feels it would still be a benefit for the incubator to receive minimal rent from the museum. Mr. Barsotti said he will ask the BDA Board to give the Glass Museum a month-to-month lease at a greatly reduced rate.

Mr. Barsotti discussed the decorative trees on Main Street and how many have been removed by the business owners as well as the possible damage to sidewalks by the trees. The property owner is responsible for the sidewalk as well as the trees on their property. Mayor Lucia spoke specifically about the tree at the old R & R Restaurant and the damage it is causing to the sidewalk at that location and who is responsible for the sidewalk. Mr. Barsotti said that the owner is responsible for the sidewalk and the tree. Mr. Landy suggested that Council send a letter to the realtor who is listing the property that the owner must repair the sidewalk.

President Bauer said that this year there will be quarterly meetings with all of the Mount Pleasant boards and authorities where they will be asked to explain their budgets and expenditures.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to suspend the rules for the purpose of approving the 2013 BDA Budget. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve the 2013 BDA Budget as presented to Council. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

President Bauer said meetings will be scheduled with the head of each borough department in the coming weeks. Borough Manager Landy spoke about two accidents in December that were not reported to the borough office or Council. Council discussed what should be expected from each department supervisor and department goals for 2013.

President Bauer said he will expect all employees who use borough vehicles to write the mileage on each gasoline purchase. President Bauer said that he would like the Borough to go to Wright Express for gasoline charge cards that can be used at a number of different stations and records kept on each vehicle.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy said he will send the accident report for Mario Fontanazza's accident with the plow to the insurance company before paying the invoice that was dropped off by the owner of the vehicle that was damaged.

Borough Manager Landy said that the borough office received a request for a permit to have a sub sale during the week. Fund Raising permits have always been given for weekend days only and Mr. Landy asked Council's opinion on whether to issue them for week days. Council agreed that unless it is a borough organization sub sales should be restricted to the weekends in order to reduce the competition with local businesses selling sandwiches. Councilwoman Bailey asked if there is a fee for the permit. Mr. Landy said that there is a fee on the permit but the fee has always been waived. Mr. Landy said that a map of what areas in town the permit holder is allowed to sell hoagies is included with the permit.

Borough Manager Landy said that there are some lights out at Veterans Park and an electrician has said that it is probably a problem with the breaker and it should be fixed by Wednesday of this week.

Mr. Landy said that he should have quotes for an emergency siren sometime next month.

Mr. Landy reported that there is a new system through Weights and Measures to check parking meters. The State will no longer be involved in doing inspections. The County will continue meter inspections

Mr. Landy said that the borough office has an intern from WCCC, Ms. Laura Bruner, Mount Pleasant who works two days per week. Ms. Bruner has been concentrating on cleaning up the web-site and will start to work on the new map of the Borough.

Mr. Landy said that the Borough does not have a sponsor or a fundraising schedule for the 2013 July 3rd fireworks. A decision will have to be made whether the cost is going to come out of the budget or if a fundraiser should be scheduled. Mr. Landy suggested a barbeque to raise funds, but it would take a commitment from Council to organize such an event and have borough employees set up. If the event becomes a yearly event, it will continually make more money each year. If the event is to be scheduled the borough office will need a decision from Council by the first meeting in February.

Borough Manager Landy said that a letter can be sent to Mrs. Wingrove regarding the sidewalk in front of her property on Main Street that was the former R & R Restaurant. The sidewalk is being damaged by the tree. Mrs. Wingrove as property owner is responsible for both the tree and the sidewalk. Mr. Landy reminded Mount Pleasant businesses that the Mount Pleasant BDA is offering grant money to cover 50% of sidewalk replacement.

Mr. Landy said that Council has a copy of gas well revenues from 2012.

Mr. Landy said he will look for another host for the Mount Pleasant web-site.

Mr. Landy reported that he has a signed agreement from Miller Appliances and the demolition of the old Penn Theater at 100 Main Street will go out for bid. The County should start demolition sometime around March 1, 2013.

Mr. Landy said that the Borough Solicitor suggested having a survey done of the former Gormley property on Main Street so that the property owner next door can be given a boundary line where his property begins. The Borough Solicitor recommends that the Borough give him three feet the length of the building. Council discussed the cost of the surveyor and told Mr. Landy that if the cost is \$500 or less to go ahead with the survey.

Councilman McFeaters asked if the water issue on Quarry Street has been resolved. President Bauer said that a letter was sent to the Kraisingers and to the Shumars stating that it is a property issue and will have to be resolved between them.

Mr. Landy asked Council to start to look at which streets will be paved this year so that the projects can go out to bid soon in order to get the best price.

Waste Water Treatment Report:

President Bauer said that the engineer has given approval to the Quarry Street Project and as soon as the weather breaks Waste Water Treatment personnel can start the job.

Streets Report: None

Public Safety Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Snyder to hire Michael Hooper, Harrison City PA, as part-time Policeman for Mount Pleasant Borough. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilman Snyder said that there are part-time policemen that can be removed from the roster so that we are not paying liability insurance for them. Councilman Snyder said that Police Chief Ober should purge these part-time policemen after they haven't worked for a certain amount of time.

Councilman Snyder said that Mount Pleasant EMS Medic 10 would like to work a trade their gator for a fully stocked 1998 Ford ambulance with a diesel engine and 81,000 miles on it from Norvelt EMS. Medic 10 reported that they don't really have a use for the gator but are in need of another ambulance. Mayor Lucia said that Medic 10 will be in need of another ambulance if we get the contract to transport patients at Seven Springs. Council discussed the affordability of going all the way to Somerset. Mayor Lucia said he would like to see the matter tabled until the Medic 10 Board can discuss it. Borough Manager Landy said that he has instructed that the ambulance they want to trade be taken to Speclin so that they can go over it and see if there is anything

wrong in order for the Board to make a more informed decision. Mr. Landy said he would also get the blue-book amount for the gator.

Councilman Snyder said that the new police vehicle should be delivered in the next couple of weeks. President Bauer said he does not want the vehicle to be used at all until the proper decals are on it. Councilman Snyder asked Council their opinion on tinting the windows to the legal limit to protect and preserve the electronics inside the vehicle. Council felt tinted windows would not be necessary.

Council discussed police officers wearing bullet-proof vests. Councilman Snyder said that there is a program sponsored by 10-4 Ministries that supplies bullet-proof vests to par-time policemen who cannot afford to buy one themselves.

Zoning & Ordinance Report:

Councilman McCloy said that Solicitor Wolfe is still working on some ordinance amendments and should have them ready by the next meeting. Council discussed changes to the Library Ordinance and decided to ask Solicitor Wolfe to hold off making any changes to that ordinance.

Community & Economic Development/Grants Report:

Councilwoman Bailey reported that she reviewed the grant that proposed by Patrolman Zilli and did not find any situations that are a part of the grant that apply to Mount Pleasant Borough.

Veterans Park Report:

Borough Manager Landy said that we are going to send names of veterans already engraved on the wall to ITS Enclosures to be put on the Video Wall, pour the concrete at the park for the installation of the Video Wall and will start advertising for participants in March of 2013. The new Video Wall at Veterans Wall will be dedicated on Memorial Day 2013. Councilman Pritts asked if anyone was found to convert the information applicants send into electronic format. Mr. Landy said that Councilman Tate has found a teacher who will work with Marie Dawson on converting the information. Mr. Landy said he will get a computer that can be dedicated to that process in the borough office.

Parks & Recreation Report:

Councilman McFeaters said that he received a quote from A-1 Lawn Service in the amount of \$3,200. For that price they will cut down the trees and make the stumps into benches. Councilman McFeaters said that this is the lowest quote he has received. A-1 Lawn Service said that if we schedule now he can do the job in late March or early April 2013. President Bauer said that there is \$2,000 budgeted for tree trimming and the rest would have to come out of parks. Mayor Lucia said that there may be money from 2012 that can be put in budgetary reserve for tree trimming in 2013.

Councilman McFeaters asked if there had been any progress on grant money to develop the property on Bridgeport Street. President Bauer said that we are working with the county on the parklet at the old Penn Theater and right now that is taking priority. Councilman McFeaters said that if Council puts storage units at the Bridgeport Street property we would be in competition with other storage unit owners in the Borough. Mayor Lucia said that the other storage units in the Borough are all full and more space is needed. Also, there are only a limited number of approved uses for the Bridgeport Street property. Mayor Lucia said that a good many of the proposed storage units would be used to store borough property. President Bauer said that storage units would also be a way to raise money in the Borough without raising taxes.

Finance & Human Resources Report: None

Property Report:

Councilman Pritts said that the company that is building the Welcome To Mount Pleasant sign is requesting payment for ½ of the cost and will send an invoice to the borough office.

Sanitation & Recycling Report:

Councilwoman Stevenson said that she is still working on the issue of recycling electronics in the Borough. Councilwoman Stevenson said that the Borough should be looking at making it convenient for the public to

drop off these recyclables. Councilwoman Stevenson explained how different locations are handling electronic recycling and how much money they are getting per pound. Council agreed that directing residents to Shop Demo Depot for their electronic recyclables is the best course of action. Councilwoman Stevenson said that she has asked a representative from Shop Demo Depot to come and speak to Council about the process.

Communications Report: None

New Business:

President Bauer reminded Council that they must fill out their Ethics Forms and turn them into the borough office.

President Bauer thanked Republic Waste for donating the jackets to Council and to Borough Manager Landy for having them engraved.

Mayor Lucia asked Borough Manager Landy if the Borough carries the insurance for the BDA. Mr. Landy said the Borough pays for property insurance and for errors and omissions insurance for the board members. Mayor Lucia said that the BDA would like a copy of the insurance certificate.

President Bauer spoke about putting a digital sign inside the sign at the old PNC drive-thru and said he has looked at different options. President Bauer said that to put a digital sign inside the existing sign would be too expensive. Mr. Landy said that ITS Enclosures has a digital sign on display that may be a good option and the Property Committee could look at it to decide if it would work for us and if it would be cost effective. Mr. Landy said the sign would be approximately \$8,000.

Reading of Communications: None

Discussion and Payment of Bills:

A motion was made by Councilman Snyder to pay all authorized and approved bills. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 8-0.

Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

A motion was made by Councilman Snyder to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

Meeting Adjourned 10:05pm