

Meeting October 18, 2010

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Bauer at 7:02pm 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. Councilmen Beranek, Pritts, Tabita, Tate and Councilwomen Stevenson and Ruszkowski were present. Mayor Lucia was present and Solicitor Wolfe was absent. President Bauer stated we have a quorum.

Reading of the Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to dispense with the reading of the minutes of October 4, 2010. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 7-0.

Public Comment:

Vince Zaccharia, owner of Premier Audio Video, Mount Pleasant PA 15666 addressed Council regarding updates to the front of his building including a sign for his business. Councilman Beranek said he would like to see dimensions of the building as well as the proposed sign. Mr. Zaccharia said that he would like to install a canopy with a sign at the edge of the canopy to gain more visibility. Mr. Zaccharia said it would be a metal framework canopy. Mr. Zaccharia said that the neighboring business has an awning and blocks the view of Premier Audio Video. President Bauer asked Mr. Zaccharia to provide Council with drawings and the committee with review his request.

Kathy Hamilton, Westmoreland Conservation District reported that the Residential Rain Garden Project is half way completed. Ms. Hamilton said personnel from the Westmoreland Conservation District have been on site every day to make sure the project is running smoothly. President Bauer asked Ms. Hamilton on the progress for the repair of the Levin parking lot rain garden. Ms. Hamilton said another contractor is doing that work and plan to do it sometime this week.

Mr. Jim Gayton, Architect spoke to Council about the Welcome to Mount Pleasant signs. Mr. Gayton said that one of the most important decisions is the contract of the colors. The color contrast has to make the words visible. Mr. Gayton presented Council with drawings. President Bauer said the Councilman Pritts and the Property Committee will review the drawings.

Speakers: None

Mayor Lucia said that there were some permit issues in the Borough and they have been resolved.

Mayor Lucia said that he and Mr. Landy attended the PSAB Fall Conference in Gettysburg met with representatives from other towns who deal with the same issues we do.

Mayor Lucia said that the new police vehicle has been delivered and will be lettered as soon as possible.

Solicitor's Report: None

Treasurer's Report:

Borough Manager Landy read the following Treasurer's Report for the month of September 2010:

Mount Pleasant Borough Treasurer's Report

10-Sep

		Previous Balance	Deposits	Disbursements	Balance Sep2010
General Fund Checking	PNC 00-0122-3513	65,362.00	241,851.24	252,345.24	54,868.00
General Fund Sweep	PNC 10-1149-3394	704,630.98	172,788.17	53,619.34	823,799.81
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	PNC 102-457-4388	69,938.60	17.25	0.00	69,955.85
**Fire		30,000.00			
**Police		10,000.00			
**Streets		10,000.00			
**Contingency Fund		19,938.60			
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 321615	196,321.88	136.13	0.00	196,458.01
**Police		40,000.00			
**Streets		40,000.00			

**Contingency Fund		56,958.01			
**Infrastructure		50,000.00			
**BOMP1 Recreation Fund		7,000.00			
**Frick Park Recreation Fund		2,500.00			
Liquid Fuels PLGIT	PLGIT 56980126	85,099.99	3.43	8,122.47	76,980.95
Monument CD	Standard Bank 242781	5,739.23	0.00	0.00	5,739.23
Holiday Lighting Fund	Standard Bank 050004849	1,799.57	0.14	0.00	1,799.71
Payroll Fund	PNC 00-0122-6415	24,434.06	50,591.57	73,164.08	1,861.55
Veterans Park Fund	First Niagara 981293700	5,466.46	0.00	0.00	5,466.46
Veterans Park PLGIT	PLGIT 5698025	11,254.34	0.49	0.00	11,254.83
Police Drug Enforcement	PNC 10-1291-2642	850.50	0.00	0.00	850.50
Town Clock Fund	Standard Bank 0010038847	612.52	0.05	0.00	612.57
Storm Water Retrofit Phase 1	PNC Bank 10-2825-9692	482.01	0.00	0.00	482.01
Total General Fund Balance					1,250,129.48
WWT Operational Acct	Standard Bank 0320012280	248,862.19	35,903.35	66,259.33	218,506.21
WWT Savings	Standard Bank 0050021008	30,365.15	1,525.33	0.00	31,890.48
WWT Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 0000287245	128,276.36	88.95	0.00	128,365.31
**Contingency		88,078.31			
**Infrastructure		40,000.00			
Total WWT Balance					378,762.00
Total Borough funds					1,628,891.48

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

Mayor Lucia announced that today is the birthday of Marilyn Forbes who covers the council meetings for the Daily Courier.

President's Report:

President Bauer said that Council received the 2008 Medic 10 Audit. President Bauer reported that he, Mayor Lucia, Councilman Tabita and Borough Manager Landy attended the meeting about Ramsay School.

President Bauer said that he received a complaint of high grass on 161 E Vine Street. That complaint is being addressed. President Bauer told Councilwoman Stevenson that there is also a problem with stray cats on E Vine Street and Councilwoman Stevenson said that the Cat Committee is aware of the problem in that area and are dealing with it.

Councilwoman Tabita said he has a brochure with pictures of the proposed Ramsay Elementary School expansion. Councilman Tabita said that Councilwoman Stevenson is preparing a neighborhood response to try to insure that the street retains a residential look and feel to it.

A motion was made by Councilman Tabita to suspend the rules for the purpose of sending a letter to the Mount Pleasant Area School District to retain the residential look and feel of the neighborhood. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tabita to send a letter to the Mount Pleasant Area School District asking them to retain the residential look and feel of the neighborhood while planning the Ramsay Elementary School expansion. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy gave the following report:

- The Council Christmas Party will be December 6, 2010 at the Village Restaurant at 8:30pm.
- The Mount Pleasant Parking Authority has requested that Council reappoint Joe Horrell to the Parking Authority board. His current term will be over on December 31, 2010.
- The Parking Authority has met with the BDA regarding better signage. The Parking Authority came to the borough office asking what kind of signs they can put up.
- Council has a copy of the Gas Well Revenue Report.
- Council has copies of the preliminary General Fund, WWT and Liquid Fuels 2011 Budget. The budget should be approved at the December 6, 2010 council meeting.
- The borough office submitted five DCED Grants. The grants requested were for an emergency siren, a wood and tree chipper, a snow blower for one of the Street Department trucks, surveillance cameras for

the park and electrical wiring for additional Christmas decorations. Representative Kula said that Mount Pleasant Borough is the first to submit these grants in our District.

Mr. Landy said that he was very impressed by the PSAB Fall Conference this year and gave the following report:

- Liquid Fuels money can be used for crosswalk stamping. Some concerns regarding the life of crosswalk stamping are high volumes of traffic and traffic turning, such as at the Doughboy.
- There was discussion regarding public comment on motions. It is very important that President Bauer asks for public comment after each motion.
- There was a seminar at the conference regarding surveillance cameras and the Borough should put up signs at each camera that says "Activity in this area is being recorded".
- There was a seminar energy savings. The Borough of Bellefonte is doing more for energy savings than anyone else in the state. They have invited Mount Pleasant Borough officials to take a tour of their sewage facility. They have recently done some energy efficient improvements.

Waste Water Treatment Reports:

Councilman Tate said that there was a problem with the Variable Frequency Drive at the WWT Plant on Friday. Plant Supervisor Norm Stout was able to get it working again but Council should look into replacing the drive. Mr. Stout said that if the drive should go down the Borough is looking at some major sewage plant violations. Mr. Stout said that the current drive is 20 years old and there is no way of telling when it may fail.

Public Safety Report:

Councilman Beranek said he has received complaints from residents about drivers speeding in the Borough. The speed meters that we are using have been successful on the streets that we have them on while speeding seems to be getting worse on other streets. Mayor Lucia said that there is a rotation schedule for the speed meters and they will be moved to all of the major streets.

Borough Manager Landy said that we were able to get the local banks and Levin Furniture to contribute toward the cost of surveillance cameras from PNC Bank down to The In Town Shops depending on where the cameras can be mounted. Vince Zaccharia, Premier Audio Video explained the different cameras that the Borough could purchase. Analog cameras get connected to a digital video recorder and then the picture is converted to a digital picture and saved on a hard drive. You can then upload the DVR to the internet. The other type of camera is an IP Camera which is a high definition version of the analog. These cameras require a network video recorder. Both cameras will have to go through the internet so there will have to be some sort of internet at each location. There is also the option of a wireless mesh system which would take the IP address of the municipal building and wirelessly transmit down Main Street. This would be the most expensive option. Councilman Tabita said that if we went with this option in an emergency if the phone system should go down we could link the phones to that web location and communicate from the street to here. Mr. Landy said that PNC, Standard Bank, First Niagara Bank and Levin Furniture have donated money towards the camera so it is important that they be mounted so that they cover the front of the banks. Mr. Landy said that the Borough already has surveillance cameras at the Doughboy, the Municipal Building, Veterans Park, the Police Station and the Street Department so it would not be difficult to add more.

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that she was approached by someone who may be able to supply a bulletproof vest for our K-9 Unit.

Zoning and Ordinance Report:

Mr. Landy said that the draft of the Flood Plain Ordinance has been received from our Solicitor and has been forwarded to DCED for approval.

Streets Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to suspend the rules for the purpose of naming an alley in the Borough. Motion seconded by Councilman Tabita. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to name the alley between Silver and Sycamore Streets Mercurio Way. Motion seconded by Councilman Tabita. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilman Tate said that the Borough should set up meetings between our Street Department, WWT Plant, Donegal Construction and Gulisek Construction to discuss a plan for snow removal this winter. We should be able to get a more competitive rate this year.

Parks and Recreation Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to purchase playground equipment for Jack Bobb's Park from the COSTARS Program. Motion seconded by Councilman Tabita. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to advertise for bids for installation of playground equipment and sit amenities for Jack Bobb's Park Project. Bids will be opened at the Council Meeting on November 1, 2010 and will be awarded on November 8, 2010 at 2:00pm in Council Chambers. Bids must be received at the borough office by 2:00pm November 1, 2010. Motion seconded by Councilman Tabita. Motion carried 7-0.

Veterans Park Report:

Councilman Tabita said that there was a Veterans Park Committee meeting on Saturday October 16, 2010. There was a discussion of putting LCD screens in at Veterans Park as the last tablet. The committee discussed the possibility with Vince Zaccharia, Premier Audio Video and received a lot of good information regarding enclosures and existing technology. The company who manufactures these enclosures is located at the industrial park near the former Sony Plant. They are self-contained glass-front units that have heating and air-conditioning that you install LCD's into. The committee is looking to put 46 inch LCD's in four of these units that would be 4 feet wide and 8 feet wide. They would be just about identical to the existing tablets. The units would have touch screens where you bring up a name and get a short power-point presentation of that person. Names from the wall and the tablets could also be looked up and it would tell you where to find the name. Council watched a presentation of the enclosures. Councilman Tabita said the cost of the project would be \$30,000 - \$35,000. Councilman Tabita said that the committee is thinking of collecting \$120.00 per name. After all of the costs are tabulated we will have a better idea what the cost per name will be. It would be reasonable to assume that the monitors in the displays would have to be replaced in seven years at a cost of approximately \$20,000. There would also be the cost of the electricity, software and general maintenance at approximately \$1,800 per year. To cover these costs would only require 39 names per year. The total names of veterans at the park is currently 2,717. There are 733 names on the tablets and 1,984 on the wall. Some of these families will want to add a power-point presentation on the new displays.

Councilman Tate said that if the Borough adds any benches at Veterans Park, the family of Leonard Skilone would like to put one in for him.

Finance Report:

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that we are ending the preliminary phase of the 2011 Budget and the final budget should be completed in November for passage in December. Councilwoman Ruszkowski asked each committee to look over their budget and call her with any concerns or suggestions.

Councilwoman Ruszkowski asked if this is the last year we are committed to using the Frick Park Gas Well income strictly for recreation. Councilman Tabita said we committed 3 to 5 years and it hasn't been 5 years yet. President Bauer said that the Parks and Recreation Committee should start working on improvements to Frick Park.

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said she met with Councilman Pritts regarding some repairs needed at some of the properties and she will get together with Borough Manager Landy to discuss them.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to authorize Borough Manager Landy to sign 2011 Service Contract with Hoffman Kennels. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. President Bauer asked for public comment and Ms. Michelle Premoshis asked what service Hoffman Kennels provided. President Bauer said they are our dogcatcher. Motion carried 7-0.

Property Report:

Councilman Pritts said he and Mayor Lucia took a tour of borough properties and people pointed out some problems. The singles on the front porch roof at the Police Station need replaced, some work at the 3rd Ward Fire Station and an air conditioner that needs replaced are the biggest items.

Councilman Pritts said that the roof at the Street Department has been sealed and seems to have corrected the problem.

Councilman Pritts said that the rental rates for the Municipal Building may have to be raised to cover the rising cost of utilities. The increases would be minimal. Councilman Pritts said he will have the rates to be voted on at the next meeting.

President Bauer said that the Police Department has some storage issues. We may have to use the current meter room for storage.

Sanitation and Recycling Report:

Councilwoman Stevenson reminded residents again that pizza boxes cannot be recycled and cardboard can not be any bigger than 3ft by 3ft and should be bundled.

Community and Economic Development/Grants Report:

Councilman Tabita said that The Frick Communities was unofficially awarded the money for the Main Street Manager. Official notification should arrive within the next couple of weeks and funding should begin in January 2011. The BDA and General Fund will have to have funds budgeted for the program in 2011.

Councilman Tabita said he spoke to the BDA regarding PA Barn Quilts. They provide colorful and uniform designs for over hanging signs and benches. Councilwoman Stevenson said there are currently barn quilts at Browns Candy Kitchen and at the Log House on Washington Street.

New Business:

Councilwoman Stevenson thanked everyone who came out for the Historical Society's 1st Annual Pancake Breakfast. The event was a great success.

Councilwoman Stevenson reported that almost 200 cats have been spayed and neutered. Councilwoman Stevenson wanted to remind everyone that it is a "catch, neuter and release" program. The Cat Committee does not relocate or provide a shelter for cats. The mission of The Cat Committee is to slow down the reproduction rate of cats.

Reading of Communications:

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- A letter from Ms. Ronald Smith voicing concerns about the intersection of Braddock Road and Morewood Street and she would like a turn lane. Council agreed that we tried a turning lane there in the past and there just isn't enough space available.
- Westmoreland County Boroughs Association monthly meeting at New Stanton Fire Hall on October 28, 2010.
- Jacobs Creek Area Faith In Action sent an invitation to their Volunteer Recognition Luncheon at the Senior Citizen Center Monday November 8, 2010 from 1pm to 2:30pm.

Discussion and Payment of Bills:

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

Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

A motion was made by Councilman Beranek to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

Meeting adjourned

Motions from October 18, 2010 Meeting

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to dispense with the reading of the minutes of October 4, 2010. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 7-0.

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