

Meeting October 21, 2019

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Caruso 7:03pm 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 Barnes, Bailey, Phillabaum, Smetak, Lasko, and Ruszkowski. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Istik were present. President Caruso stated that a quorum is present. Councilman Cholock arrived at 7:23pm. Mayor Lucia left at 8:56pm and Councilman Cholock left at 9:12pm.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the minutes of October 7, 2019 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

Public Comment: None

Speakers: None.

Mayors Report:

Mayor Lucia gave the following report:

- The Radar Bill is before the House. The Bill would allow municipalities to use radar guns for speed enforcement. Signs would have to be posted that the streets are monitored with a radar device. Some of the streets would be Church Street, Diamond Street, Morewood Avenue, Braddock Road Avenue.
- The No Trucks Allowed signage on Center Avenue was damaged. Mayor Lucia notified the Street Department and they are getting another one. Mayor Lucia also said that he suggested a second No Trucks Allowed placed at the top of the hill on Center Avenue by the fire station which would give them room to turn on to Washington Street. Borough Manager Landy said that a blinking light should be placed on the sign.
- There is a house that has become a nuisance house to the neighborhood. Police have been called to the residence many times. Mayor Lucia believes that the Borough can hold the owner of the home liable. Borough Manager Landy stated that there are numerous complaints regarding this home.

Solicitor's Report:

Solicitor Istik gave the following report:

- Contracts are completed for 2020 for the employees that require them. Solicitor Istik said they cannot be finalized until the budget is approved; and, then she can enter the amounts into the contracts.
- Contacted Josh Vecchio, Esq. regarding the Non-Uniform Pension Plan. Ms. Istik stated that the non-uniform pension plan and uniform pension plan taken care of and is complete.
- Followed up with Extenet regarding their cellular towers. They are on and it is 4G. They are working and they have no intentions of adding 5G. They will contact the Borough if they do eventually go to 5G. Solicitor Istik stated that she is currently working with Extenet regarding their contract that will be expiring at the end of the year.
- Crown Castle has responded to Solicitor Istik with information and documents regarding the utility pole that they would like to install. The documents included the health effects with 5G. Crown Castle has requested a public meeting in the Borough. They have provided 2 proposed locations, neither comply with the Borough Ordinance, which is 100' from a residence and can be denied on that basis alone. They dispute this saying that there are electrical poles in that area; and, they should be also permitted to install theirs even though it doesn't comply with the Ordinance, which is 100' from a residence. They

are requesting a public meeting be held prior to the next Borough Council meeting, November 4, 2019. Councilman Phillabaum asked since the electrical poles have been there, are they not grandfathered in. Solicitor Istik stated that is correct; however, there are some things to be aware of. Because they are a public utility company, they are permitted to place a pole in a right of way; however, they must comply with the Borough Ordinance. Solicitor Istik stated the Extenet is in compliance with the Ordinance and is more the 100' from a residence. Borough Manager Landy suggested that the Ordinance be amended to 150' from a residence and that the Ordinance should be changed before holding any public meeting. Solicitor Istik suggested amending the Ordinance at the next meeting. Council agreed to hold a public meeting with Crown Castle on November 18, 2019 at 5:30pm with Crown Castle. Borough Manager Landy asked Ms. Istik if there is to be a royalty in their Agreement with extenet. Ms. Istik stated yes there is. Borough Manager Landy stated that the Borough does not even know when the service was turned on and has received nothing from them.

Treasurer's Report:

Borough Manager Landy read the following Treasurer's Report for the month of September 2019:

Mt. Pleasant Borough Treasurer's Report		Sep-19			Balance
		Prev Bal	Deposits	Disbursements	2019
General Fund Checking	PNC 00-0122-3513	89,434.64	72,026.46	3.48	161,457.62
	Scottdale Bank				
General Fund Checking	19069335	914,783.31	20,962.60	91,711.48	844,034.43
General Fund	Standard Bank				
Budgetary Reserve	321615	689,548.94	906.24	0.00	690,455.18
**Police	42,619.03				
**Streets	150,000.00				
**Contingency Fund	226,062.34				
**Infrastructure	131,588.62				
**BOMP Gas Wells	21,680.23				
** Frick Park Gas					
Well	22,219.67				
**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	22,944.16	3,638.82	572.08	26,010.90
	Scottdale Bank				
Escrow Account	19069343	8,268.85	12.29	0.00	8,281.14
Liquid Fuels PLGIT	PLGIT 56980126	288,176.87	469.83	0.00	288,646.70
Monument CD	Standard Bank 327085	6,842.85	412.95	0.00	7,255.80
	Standard Bank				
Holiday Lighting Fund	050004849	1,807.86	0.08	0.00	1,807.94
	Scottdale Bank				
Payroll Fund	19069350	938.19	47,339.72	47,335.83	942.08
	Somerset Trust Co				
Veterans Park Fund	2003058309	17,036.84	300.00	0.00	17,336.84
	Standard Bank				
Town Clock Fund	0010038847	615.34	0.03	0.00	615.37
Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	PNC Bank 10-3888-4556	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	Scottdale Bank				
	19069368	1,200.84	1.78	0.00	1,202.62
	PNC Bank 10-7766-4491				
Turn Back Account	Scottdale Bank				
	19069384	376,700.45	559.89	0.00	377,260.34
Standard Bank CD	Standard Bank	202,702.98	0.00	0.00	202,702.98
	Standard Bank				
Standard Bank CD	410571	50,000.00	0.00	0.00	50,000.00
Scottdale Bank	Scottdale Bank				
/MidPenn CD	318007294	50,000.00	0.00	0.00	50,000.00
Total General Fund Balance					2,728,009.94

Medic 10 Checking	Standard Bank 0010176010	2,809.78	976.11	0.00	3,785.89
Medic 10 Checking	Scottdale Bank 19069533	115,914.84	35,062.76	44,653.73	106,323.87
Medic 10 Savings	Scottdale Bank	73,730.99	109.59	0.00	73,840.58
Medic 10 Money	Scottdale Bank				
Market	19069376	5,913.71	8.79	0.00	5,922.50
Medic 10 Pittsburgh	Standard Bank				
Foundation	0000358253	7,431.99	62.22	0.00	7,494.21
Medic 10 CD	Standard Bank 371917	18,223.78	0.00	0.00	18,223.78
Medic 10 CD	Standard Bank	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
Total Medic 10 Fund Balance					220,590.83
WWT Operational Acct	Standard Bank 0010175932	688,924.36	66.70	36,487.25	652,503.81
WWT Savings	Standard Bank 0050021008	182,510.46	239.86	0.00	182,750.32
WWT Budgetary	Standard Bank				
Reserve	0000287245	140,171.70	184.22	0.00	140,355.92
**Contingency		112,886.10			
**Infrastructure		27,469.82			
WWT Bio-Tower	Standard Bank 10127923	134,099.43	9,503.45	0.00	143,602.88
Total WWT Balance					1,119,212.93
Total Borough funds					4,067,813.70

Councilwoman Diane Bailey / Secretary Sharon Lesko

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 8-0.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy gave the following report:

- Worked on Budgets with the Finance Committee. Borough Manager Landy stated that since we have changed to Scottdale Bank & Trust the interest has increased from \$3,000 a year to \$10,000 a year.
- The Frick Park Basketball Court Project is complete. Based on the last several rains we have had, the drains seem to be working. Expert Paving stated that they believe that court will last approximately 20 years. Councilman Cholock reported that he had talked to some of the kids that was playing on the new court and asked them how they liked it. They responded that they were really happy about it.
- There are a few contracts that coming up and due by the end of the year that need to be reviewed. One being Skowronek's Landscaping due to not having a public works employee. The second is the garbage, Republic Services. There are 3 more extensions that the Borough can do with Republic Services. Borough Manager Landy recommended doing the extension.
- Attended a Library Board Meeting. The Library will be celebrating their 80th Birthday this year.
- Held Safety Meeting this month. Borough Manager Landy suggested a Council member attend a safety meeting. They are held the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 9:00am.
- Received a letter from Westmoreland County Tax Assessment Office rescheduling the Tax Appeal hearing to December 19, 2019 for Excelsa Health. Borough Manager Landy asked Councilwoman Bailey to reach out to the School District to see if they will be challenging the appeal.
- Borough Manager Landy stated that the bathrooms at Frick Park need to be painted before they are locked; and, that now would be a good time with the weather changing and not as many people out. Councilwoman Bailey suggested that the blinds in the

Borough building be replaced due to them being held together by rubber bands and paperclips.

- Received a call from Dr. Edge regarding his current Zoning Permit he submitted for a house and garage that he is building. He would like to increase the size of the garage by a few feet. He will need an amended Zoning Permit.

Councilwoman Barnes stated that she has been asked if the meetings were still being shown on television. Borough Manager Landy stated that they are; however, they are only being shown on Armstrong's On Demand channel.

Councilwoman Barnes stated that someone asked her why the Mt. Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival can't be held on Main Street. She mentioned that it is a state road; however, they said that Ligonier blocks theirs off and it is a state road. Councilman Cholock stated that State Route 711 in Ligonier is not blocked; and, it is the side streets that are blocked off which are the municipality's streets.

President's Report:

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to amend the Agenda to hold an Executive Session. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to hold an Executive Session regarding personnel. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

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

Council President Caruso announced that the Executive Session was held from 7:50pm – 8:05pm to discuss personnel issues.

Property:

Councilman Smetak gave the following Property Report:

- Will look into blinds for the Borough Building and the painting of the bathrooms for Frick Park.

Councilman Cholock reported that he spoke with Jeff McGuinness over the weekend and discussed putting cameras in at the Street Department. Borough Manager Landy stated that he had believed that former Police Chief Doug Sam had previously ordered cameras for the Street Department. He will have to check with Police Chief Grippo to see if they had been ordered and if they are at the police station.

Councilman Cholock asked where the Christmas wreaths and Borough items that were in Building 4 of the fire department. Borough Manager Landy stated that the wreaths are being stored in the Glass Festival building and the items for the fountain at Veterans Park are at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Councilman Cholock suggested a pole building be built at the Street Department to house all of the items that was stored at Building 4. He also suggested that the Command Center Trailer be stored in it also. Borough Manager Landy stated that there were previous discussions about doing this. Council President Caruso suggested that if this is a possibility that it should be thought about now when creating the budget for the upcoming year. Councilwoman Bailey stated that they can create a wish list now for the upcoming year. Councilman Smetak suggested to selling some old unused equipment to help offset the cost of a new building.

Waste Water Treatment Report:

Councilman Phillabaum gave the following report:

- Updated the schedule for the employees.

- Contract is up at the end of the year with CWM Environmental. They are getting proposals for the upcoming year from them and a few other companies.

Streets Report:

Councilwoman Bailey thanked Council for allowing her to attend the PSAB Conference at State College.

Councilwoman Bailey gave the following report on Streets:

- Crack sealing will begin. The sealant machine has been repaired.

Councilwoman Bailey reported that she and Borough Manager Landy will be contacting A. Liberoni, Inc. this week to set up a preconstruction meeting with them for the paving project.

Stormwater Report:

Councilman Cholock asked if there is any updated information if Greenwood Apartments has complied with the notice that was sent by the Code Officer; and, if it has been verified that the detention pond is working. Councilman Cholock wants confirmation from an engineer that their detention pond is compliant. Councilman Cholock will contact Mark Cypher, Code Enforcement Officer, to follow up with Greenwood Apartments.

Councilman Cholock gave the following report:

- Gravel has been dumped gravel in the paper alley near the Short's residence off of N. Geary Street Extension.
- Received a call from Joe Horrell, board member of the Parking Authority, and asked if the Borough would be willing to help with snowplowing in their 4 parking lots. Councilwoman Bailey stated that she offered a few proposals:

1) is that the Parking Authority choose 2 parking lots that they absolutely need to have open; and, once the Street Department plows Main Street, Diamond Street, Church Street, and when they start on Washington Street they will swing through the parking lot if it is one of the parking lots chosen. They will swing through as they are on the corresponding street that the parking lot adjoins. The Borough will do it and charge for materials and as long as it is not overtime hours for the employees. The remaining 2 will be completed last after everything is done.

2) Another option was someone from the Parking Authority plow the lot and the Borough will salt it and they will only have to pay for salt.

Borough Manager Landy stated that the reason they stopped plowing the parking lots previously was because they did not have the manpower and equipment to keep up with the streets and the parking lots both. Borough Manager Landy stated that the Borough does not own those parking lots.

Parks and Recreation:

Councilwoman Lasko gave the following report:

- Ms. Lasko has done an inventory of all the parks. She and Borough Manager Landy have been working on what equipment to move around and what to retire. Ms. Lasko has spoken with a playground expert who has given her some guidance on what to do and where to start.
- Ms. Barnes stated that there is a new piece of playground equipment at the street department that could be use.
- The pavilion has a storage room at Frick Park which has some exercise equipment in it that may possibly be able to be used.

Councilman Cholock asked if the lights at the Frick Park Basketball Courts work. Borough Manager Landy stated that years back Council decided that no one was to use the courts after dusk due to residents complaining of loud music and kids yelling and using foul language. Councilman Cholock stated that with the new courts they should have the lights on until approximately 9:00pm in the evening and have the Police shut them off or place a timer on the lights to shut off at a certain time. Councilman Cholock stated that if things get out of hand or they begin receiving complaints they will be shut them back off.

Public Safety Report: None.

Veterans Park:

Councilwoman Barnes gave the following report:

- They will be submitting additional names to the monument company to be engraved on the new tablet before Veterans Day.
- There are approximately 60 spaces left on the new tablet.
- There will be a Veterans Park Committee Meeting next Thursday. They will be discussing the bricks with Rich Hutchinson that he wants to purchase.

Councilwoman Barnes asked Councilman Cholock if the gazebo will be painted in the spring. Councilman Cholock stated that he has discussed it at the Board meeting with Medic 10 and they are getting a plan together and will be doing renovations. Along with painting the gazebo they were thinking of possibly moving the large stone that sits at the gazebo. Borough Manager Landy stated that they may have to use not only the money set aside for the gazebo but also use additional funds from the Borough to pay for the renovations. Councilwoman Ruszkowski discussed that they had also discussed installing a PA system; and, that maybe they should consider only painting the outside of the gazebo and purchase a PA system due to the limited funds. Councilman Cholock stated he does not think a PA System should be installed; and, that there are portable PA systems that could be used that work just as well. Borough Manager Landy stated that the problem with the portable is where it is kept and who will be setting it up.

Human Resources / Ordinances:

Councilwoman Lasko stated that they had approved a digital sign for the Church of God; however, she has a few safety concerns with it. She is worried about how close it sits to the road and when coming off of Hitchman Street it does cause a problem to see around it. Ms. Lasko also stated that it does not look to be on a very stable structure. Mayor Lucia stated that it is there temporarily. Councilwoman Lasko said that it was her understanding that they were only going to use it when they were making announcements and just as needed; however, it seems like they are using it all of the time. Ms. Lasko asked that it please be checked that the sign is not blocking any view of someone trying to pull out. Councilman Cholock stated that he has had other businesses asking about digital signs. Councilman Smetak said that it definitely blocks the view of traffic.

Finance / Grants Report:

Councilwoman Bailey stated that the finance committee is working on budgets; and, everyone has received a copy of the preliminary budget. Councilwoman Bailey would like everyone to review it in detail and if there are things on your wish list to please let them know. Ms. Bailey also stated that included in this budget is a new police officer, everyone's salary, all taxes for salary, insurance. They would like to add for radar guns if the Bill passes, the apron for the Central Station Fire Department if the grant does not go through, pole building at the Street Department; and a piece of equipment, roller, for the Street Department. Borough Manager Landy stated that they will not know a true figure until we receive the letter from the County with the numbers regarding the real estate taxes.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to sign the 2019-202 Westmoreland County Transit Agreement in the amount of \$1,785.00. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 8-0.

New Business: None.

Reading of Communications:

- West Overton Museum will be holding a Whiskey Smash on Saturday, November 16, 2019 from 6:00pm – 9:00pm. Tickets cost \$50.00 per person. VIP Tickets cost \$75.00.
- Mt. Pleasant McDonalds will be holding a grand opening with a Red Ribbon Ceremony on October 25, 2019 at 9:45am.
- YMCA will be holding its 8th Annual Gift Basket Bonanza on Sunday, December 8, 2019. Admission cost \$15.00.

Discussion and Payment of Bills:

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to pay all authorized and approved bills. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 7-0.

Public Comment: None.

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 9:14pm.

Motions from Meeting of October 21, 2019

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the minutes of October 7, 2019 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 8-0.

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