

Meeting November 5, 2018

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Caruso 7:01pm 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, Cholock, Phillabaum, Rogacki, Ruszkowski, Stevenson and Yatsko. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Istik was present. President Caruso stated that a quorum is present. Councilwoman Barnes arrived at the meeting at 7:02pm. Councilwoman Bailey left at 9:26pm. Councilman Yatsko left at 9:32pm.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the minutes of October 22, 2018 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 9-0.

Public Comment:

- Cynthia Zelmor representing the Mount Pleasant Public Library, thanked Council for the Borough's annual contribution of \$5000.00; and, updated Council about an energy efficient improvement grant of \$58,000.00 that they have received, events that have held and upcoming events at the Library. The Mount Pleasant Library will also be a member of the Mount Pleasant Business Districts Annual Cookie Tour that will be held this year on November, 24, 2018.
- Tim Short of 715 N. Geary Street, Ext. Mount Pleasant, PA 15666 asked Council if there have been any updates on the stormwater runoff issues to his property from Greenwood Apartments and Pleasant Manor. Councilman Cholock stated that he and Mr. Landy met with the manager of Greenwood Apartments and stressed the concerns that Mr. and Mrs. Short had. The manager was going to turn the information over to the owner of the Greenwood Apartments. Councilman Cholock also stated that they spoke with someone at Pleasant Manor; and, are waiting to hear back from her. Councilman Cholock stated that both of these properties are private property; and, that the Borough cannot force either one to do anything. Councilman Cholock stated that if Greenwood Apartments and Pleasant Manor is not willing to cooperate; then, this now becomes a civil matter between property owners. Mr. Short asked if he is allowed to divert the water to where ever he wants. Solicitor Istik advised Mr. Short that he should not divert the water; and, that by doing that he could possibly bring on additional problems with other neighbors and possible lawsuits against him. Borough Manager Landy stated that Pleasant Manor is willing to cooperate; and, that they have met with their engineer and will be installing a new larger catch basin along with directing the water another direction. Pleasant Manor would like to have this completed by the end of this year.

Speakers:

- Chip Purcell of Enviro21 spoke to Council regarding an online marketplace program they offer to municipalities regarding bidding – focusing on paving, waste, recycling, MS4 and demolition. There is an annual \$250.00 subscriber cost. There is also a percentage cost to the municipality that is based on the amount of the award of a contract. Percentages at this time are: anything over \$250,000.00 is 3%; 25,000 - \$250,000 is 6.5% – 7 %. Under \$25,000 but not less than \$10,000.00 it is 10%.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia reminded everyone to slow down on Main Street now that it is complete.

Mayor Lucia reminded everyone that there is no burning in the Borough. The Street Department has a vacuum truck that will be coming around to gather the leaves.

Mayor Lucia stated that snow will be coming soon; and, anyone living on Vine Street and Spruce Street that they must move their vehicles so the trucks can plow. Residents must maintain their sidewalks during the winter weather.

Mayor Lucia reported that the Nativity Scene will be going up this month, the annual Christmas Parade will be held on November 28, 2018 at 6:30pm; and, the Candlelight Procession will be on December 2, 2018 at 5:30pm.

Mayor Lucia asked neighbors and neighborhoods to keep a lookout in their area; and, if they see anything suspicious to please contact 911. You will remain anonymous.

Solicitor's Report:

Solicitor Istik stated her report will need to be given during Executive Session.

Tax Collector Report:

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

Property Taxes =	\$1,353.87
Supplemental Taxes=	\$ 0.00
Per Capita Taxes =	\$ 435.00
Total Collected =	\$1,788.87

Tax Collector Carol Yancosky reminded residents that the Per Capita Taxes can only be paid through December 31, 2018.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy gave the following report:

- Borough Manager Landy reported that advertising has been done for the VFD Apron. Ad runs on November 2 and 9, 2018.
- Met with Developer from Washington County and showed him the 4 properties, Levin, R&R, Arevalo and Gormley. The Developer is interested in all 4 of the properties. Mr. Landy spoke with the County Land Bank; and, they have sent out a packet along with a price for the properties that they own; which are the Arevalo Building and the R&R. The County Land Bank will negotiate the costs for those properties. The Gormley property was offered at \$15,000.00. If things went well, the Levin property would be a rental and an amusement tax, which would greatly benefit the Borough.
- Attended a social media seminar on marketing at St. Vincent College.
- Attended a C.P.A.C. Meeting about a County Comprehensive Plan. Each Borough must decide if they will adopt and follow the Comprehensive Plan.
- The Borough had over 100 responses for the Waste Water Treatment Plant Laborer position. Interviewed approximately 80 people. It has been narrowed down to 14. Second interviews will begin on Thursday, November 8, 2018.
- Bio-Tower loan has been paid off. Monies were from the Capital Improvement Assessment.
- Met with Frick Hospital regarding the water issue on Eagle Street.
- Each department has received new cellphones. Cellphones were at no cost to the Borough for the upgrades.
- Borough Manager Landy and Councilman Cholock met at Greenwood Apartments with the Barbara Schmuck, Director.

- Council Christmas party will be held on December 4, 2018 at 6:30pm at the Village Restaurant.
- Borough Christmas party will be held on Thursday, December 20, 2018 in Council Chambers from 11:00am to 2:00pm.
- Borough Manager Landy discussed the 2019 Budgets for Medic 10, Waste Water Treatment Plant and the General Fund. Mr. Landy reported that the budget for Medic 10 is balanced and in good standing for next year. Also, Ryan King is working on some additional projects that should make the budget income better than what is stated. Borough Manager Landy believes that the 2019 Budget for Medic 10 can be approved at Medic 10's meeting on Thursday, November 8, 2018.
- Borough Manager Landy reported that General Fund has a profitable balance; however, it is not complete. Mr. Landy is still waiting for the Real Estate Tax number. Borough Manager Landy spoke about costs for stormwater and the different avenues that are offered to help with costs for stormwater. Mr. Landy clarified that he is **not** (*emphasis added*) saying that the Borough should attach a fee for stormwater. He said the Borough should think about it; and, that other locations are doing it. Stormwater is a tremendous cost to the Borough and it is unpredictable.
- Borough Manager Landy stated that the Waste Water Treatment 2019 Budget has some work left to be done before it is completed. It is not balanced.
- Borough Manager Landy reported that the Liquid Fuels 2019 Budget is complete.
- Borough Manager Landy stated that all of these Budgets for 2019 must be completed by November 19, 2018 so that they may be passed on the December 2, 2018 meeting.

President's Report:

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

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

Council President Caruso announced that an **Executive Session was held from 7:58pm – 9:11pm to discuss personnel issues.**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the Business District Authority use of Veteran's Park Gazebo Area and to close Union Alley from Diamond Street to the beginning of the Diamond Mini Mall parking lot and S. Diamond Street from Washington Street to Main Street Route 31 from 10:00am to 3:00pm on November 24, 2018. Also, to waive the requirements of a Transient Business Permit for food vendors for the length of the event. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 9-0.

Property Report:

Councilman Rogacki reported that the bathrooms at Frick Park are deplorable. The paper towel and toilet paper holders need to be fixed and/or replaced. Councilman Rogacki recommended replacing the holders. Councilwoman Bailey stated that these bathrooms stay open all year round. Mayor Lucia requested that the bathrooms at Frick Park be closed for the winter. Councilwoman Bailey stated that they can have the water shut off and locked up around November 15, 2018.

Councilman Rogacki stated he is still waiting on bids for the 1st floor water problem.

Councilman Rogacki reported that he has received some quotes for the roof project at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Mr. Rogacki stated that there are roofs there that are leaking; and, that they may have to be temporarily patch the roof to prevent them from getting any worse. Councilman Rogacki stated that the roof will definitely need replaced.

Councilman Rogacki reported that the fountain at Veteran's Park will be shut down after Veteran's Day and winterized for the winter; plywood will be put down so the Christmas trees can be put up.

Waste Water Treatment Report:

Councilman Rogacki gave the following report:

- New gear box has been put on the sludge conveyor belt
- All generators have been serviced for winter
- The new generator has been installed at the Route 31 pump station
- The sprinkler system at Veteran's Park has been winterized
- The waste water treatment department will be getting the plow set up for the bobcat.

Councilman Rogacki stated that the sewerline project in the alley next Jack Bobbs Park and the sewer line in the alley next to the Slovak Club still need to be completed.

Home Inspections – 13
PA One Calls – 54
Emergency One Calls – 14

Streets Report:

Councilwoman Bailey gave the following report:

- Residents that want leaves picked up are to get them out next to the street. The Street Department will be going around with the leaf vac to pick them up.
- The Borough has the salt and sand ready to go for the upcoming winter.
- Street Department is still working on St. Clair street. Over half of the pipe is installed; and, they should be completing the project soon.

Parks & Recreation:

Councilwoman Bailey reported that any work at the parks are now completed. Councilwoman Bailey stated that there was a group of older students at the new Frick Park playground area that was being disruptive during a funeral; picking picnic tables up; being vulgar and loud, there was a fight; and, Police did go and disband them. There has been a Police presence there. Councilwoman Bailey stressed once again that if any residents see or hear any disruptions going on to please call 911 and report it so that the Police can take care of it. You do remain anonymous.

Public Safety Report:

A Motion was made by Councilman Cholock to hire Zachary Burger of Carroll Township, Washington County, as a part-time Officer at the part-time Officer rate with a start date of November 5, 2018. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilman Cholock reported that the Medic 10 2010 Ford Explorer Squad Car is now complete. Mayor Lucia reported that Medic 10 has answered 24 calls in the last 2 days.

Veterans Park Report:

Councilwoman Bailey reported that they have received approximately 55 applications for the new tablet. Councilwoman Bailey stated if they do not have enough applicants by December 31, 2018, it will be extended thorough March 2019.

Councilwoman Bailey stated that the fountain at Veteran’s Park will be red white and blue for Veteran’s Day. Mayor Lucia reported that the Veteran’s Day Parade will be on Monday, November 12, 2018 at 10:00AM; and, the program will follow directly at Veteran’s Park.

Storm Water Management Report: None.

Community & Economic Development/Grants Report: None.

Zoning & Ordinance Report: None.

Finance & Human Resources Report:

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to hire Roger Vincent at the Waste Water Treatment Plant, effective start date 10/01/2018 at a rate of \$13.75. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 7 – 0.

A Motion was by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to adopt Resolution 2018-05 indicating how excess interest declared by Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Board for Fiscal Year End 2017 shall be allocated. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruskowski to pay Richard Kujawa \$325 for work on the Christmas decorations. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 7-0.

New Business:

Councilwoman Stevenson reported that she has seen the facebook page “What’s Happening in Mount Pleasant”; and, asked if there are things on there that Council should be addressing instead of the site owner, Michelle Sechrist. Mayor Lucia reported that Michelle Sechrist monitors the site; and, does refer individuals to contact the Borough Office.

Reading of Communications:

President Caruso read the following communications:

- Council is invited to a Westmoreland Chamber Breakfast hosted by Scottdale Bank & Trust on Tuesday, November 13, 2018 from 7:45 A.M. to 9:00 A.M. at the Scottdale Bank & Trust, Mount Pleasant Branch, 632 West Main Street, Mount Pleasant, PA 15666. RSVP to Ashleigh Daniels by November 6, 2018 at ashleigh.daniels@midpenbank.com
- Community Thanksgiving Day Meal, Thursday, November 22, 2018 from 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. It is free to everyone. Dine-in only. Hosted by the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 822 W. Main Street, Mt. Pleasant, PA 15666.

Discussion and Payment of Bills:

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

Public Comment: None.

Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

A Motion was made by Councilman Rogacki to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 7-0.

Meeting Adjourned 9:39 pm

Motions from Meeting of November 5, 2018

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