

Meeting November 18, 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 Bailey, Phillabaum, Lasko, and Ruszkowski. Mayor Lucia was present. President Caruso stated that a quorum is present. Councilwoman Barnes arrived at 7:04pm.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the minutes of November 4, 2019 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Comment: None

Speakers: None.

Mayors Report:

Mayor Lucia gave the following report:

- The Christmas Parade will be Wednesday, December 4, 2019 at 6:30pm.
- Light Up Night will be Sunday, December 1, 2019 at 6:00pm.
- Candlelight Procession will be on Sunday, December 8, 2019 at 5:30pm.
- Fire Department is doing well. Medic 10 has been extremely busy with calls.

Mayor Lucia read a thank you card for the Boroughs support from the Mount Pleasant Library. The Library is celebrating its 80th year anniversary. Borough Manager Landy reported that the Library is moving in a good direction. They have a new director and are improving the library with things that they should be doing and being a good resource for the community.

Solicitor's Report:

Solicitor Istik's report, sent via email, is as follows:

- Mailed 90 Notice to CWM Environmental to terminate Agreement. Agreement should end on February 1, 2020.
- Sent letters to all property owners surrounding paper alley on N. Hitchman Street.
- Contacted Shawn Gallagher, attorney for Crown Castle, regarding holding a public meeting on Monday, December 2, 2019 at 5:30pm.
- Contracts have been mailed to Borough Manager Landy and Secretary Sharon Lesko.
- Reviewed Wireless Communications Ordinance regarding the definition of residential and/or residence.

Treasurer's Report:

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

Mt. Pleasant Borough Treasurer's Report

Oct-19

		Prev Bal	Deposits	Disbursements	Balance 2019
General Fund Checking	PNC 00-0122-3513	161,457.62	0.00	0.00	161,457.62
	Scottsdale Bank				
General Fund Checking	19069335	844,034.43	132,833.11	138,210.57	838,656.97
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank				
	321615	690,455.18	1,694.34	0.00	692,149.52
**Police	42,619.03				
**Streets	150,000.00				
**Contingency Fund	226,933.40				
**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	Scottsdale Bank				
	1026616	26,010.90	52.50	572.08	25,491.32
	Scottsdale Bank				
Escrow Account	19069343	8,281.14	12.31	0.00	8,293.45
Liquid Fuels PLGIT	PLGIT 56980126	288,646.70	443.33	0.00	289,090.03
	Standard Bank				
Monument CD	327085	7,255.80	0.00	0.00	7,255.80
	Standard Bank				
Holiday Lighting Fund	050004849	1,807.94	0.07	0.00	1,808.01
	Scottsdale Bank				
Payroll Fund	19069350	942.08	66,118.76	66,113.89	946.95
	Somerset Trust Co				
Veterans Park Fund	2003058309	17,336.84	1,500.00	0.00	18,836.84
	Standard Bank				
Town Clock Fund	0010038847	615.37	0.02	0.00	615.39
Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	Scottsdale Bank				
	19069368	1,202.62	1.79	0.00	1,204.41
	Scottsdale Bank				
Turn Back Account	19069384	377,260.34	560.72	0.00	377,821.06
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
Scottsdale Bank /MidPenn CD	Scottsdale Bank				
	318007294	50,000.00	0.00	0.00	50,000.00
Total General Fund Balance					2,726,330.35
Medic 10 Checking	Standard Bank				
	0010176010	3,785.89	0.00	0.00	3,785.89
	Scottsdale Bank				
Medic 10 Checking	19069533	106,323.87	39,375.32	25,205.29	120,493.90
	Scottsdale Bank				
Medic 10 Savings	19069723	73,840.58	109.75	0.00	73,950.33
	Scottsdale Bank				
Medic 10 Money Market	19069376	5,922.50	8.80	0.00	5,931.30
Medic 10 Pittsburgh Foundation	Standard Bank				
	0000358253	7,494.21	0.00	0.00	7,494.21
	Standard Bank				
Medic 10 CD	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					234,879.41
WWT Operational Acct	Standard Bank				
	0010175932	652,503.81	151,256.01	71,599.07	732,160.75
	Standard Bank				
WWT Savings	0050021008	182,750.32	230.46	0.00	182,980.78
	Standard Bank				
WWT Budgetary Reserve	0000287245	140,355.92	177.00	0.00	140,532.92
**Contingency	113,063.10				
**Infrastructure	27,469.82				
	Standard Bank				
WWT Bio-Tower	10127923	143,602.88	17,715.92	0.00	161,318.80
Total WWT Balance					1,216,993.25
Total Borough funds					4,178,203.01

Councilwoman Diane Bailey / Secretary Sharon Lesko

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 6-0.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy gave the following report:

- There will be a safety meeting tomorrow, Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at 9:00am.
- Attended Smart Growth Meeting, spoke about growth in Westmoreland County and S.R. 119 and the Pleasant Valley Extension.
- Attended Medic 10 Board Meeting. They are moving along fine.
- Attended a Library Board Meeting. The Library will be celebrating their 80th Birthday this year.
- Transferred remainder of monies and closed the account from PNC Bank General Fund to Scottdale Bank & Trust General Fund.
- Transferred remainder of monies and closed the account from Standard Bank Medic 10 General Fund to Scottdale Bank & Trust Medic 10 General Fund.
- Met with Jeff McGuinness and Kelly McGuinness about decorating the gazebo for the holidays.
- Christmas Parade is Wednesday, December 4, 2019 starting at 6:30pm. It will go the Diamond. The theme is "O' Christmas Tree".
- Candlelight Procession is Sunday, December 8, 2019 starting at 5:30pm.
- There will be possibly rental space open on the second floor. Representative Justin Walsh won the election for Judge in Westmoreland County. Borough Manager Landy is hoping that whoever is appointed to take his place will remain in the Borough Building.
- There is another space that is open now. There is a lady that has looked at the space and would like to put a tattoo shop in it. She works through the day and would be doing the tattoos in the evening by appointment. Councilwoman Lasko stated that she had no objections to the tattoo shop; however, she wanted to be sure that the needles were being properly disposed of. Councilman Phillabaum stated that he believes that there are guidelines that they must follow with needles. Borough Manager Landy stated that a clause could be added to the lease agreement that she must dispose of them in a biohazard container and off the property.
- Spoke with Jon McGoran of Republic Services regarding an extension of the garbage contract.
- The parking lot above the Borough Building that was installed for Frick Park is being used by residents. The Borough will be putting a sign up that states it can only be used for event parking.
- Jacobs Creek Watershed will be holding its annual meeting on December 3, 2019 at 5:30pm at the Laurelville Mennonite Camp.
- There is a training class for Waste Water Maintenance on January 16, 2020 at the Chestnut Ridge Golf Resort, 1762 Old William Penn Highway, Blairsville, PA 15717 from 8:00am to 2:30pm; Registration 7:30AM. Borough Manager Landy and Councilman Phillabaum believes both Roger Vincent and Joe Lovis should attend. Borough Manager Landy would also like to attend.

President’s Report:

Council President Caruso read a resignation letter from Councilman Matthew Yatsko resigning from Council effective November 18, 2019.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to accept the resignation of Matthew Yatsko of 1st Ward, effective November 18, 2019. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 6-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to reappoint Dale Walker to the Parking Authority of the Borough of Mount Pleasant for a 5-year term expiring on 12/31/2024. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 6-0.

Property:

Borough Manager Landy gave the following Property Report:

- Councilman Smetak is having a difficult time contacting the person at Trident Insurance regarding the synagogue and salt building damage. He has contacted the insurance company and they do not seem to know who he needs to speak with. He is going to try and contact her by email.

Waste Water Treatment Report:

Councilman Phillabaum gave the following report:

- Agreement with CWM Environmental will come to an end on February 1, 2020.
- Met with a few companies about operating the plant. One person they met with currently operates the waste water treatment plant at Hidden Valley. He will come in one day a week for approximately 2 hours. He will be accessible by phone.

Streets Report:

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to allow free meter parking on Main Street from November 29, 2019 through January 2, 2020. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 6-0.

Councilwoman Bailey gave the following report on Streets:

- Councilwoman Bailey and Councilman Phillabaum met with the Parking Authority regarding snow plowing for their lots. Councilwoman Bailey proposed that the Borough would plow for them the way it was done in the past; their lots would be done last after streets were completed. The Parking Authority agreed that they would be willing to do this. Councilwoman Bailey stated that they would be required to pay the salt costs. The Parking Authority stated that once the Authority was out of money that it would all be handed back to the Borough. A second option that was presented to the Parking Authority was to have a private truck plow their lots and the Borough would salt the lots; however, the Parking Authority would still be required to pay for the salt. Councilwoman Bailey also reported that the Parking Authority has to shovel sidewalks around their lots; and, they asked if once the Borough hires a public works employee if they could pay him or the Borough to shovel their sidewalks. Councilman Phillabaum stated that the sidewalks around the parking lot by Leo’s is in bad shape. She stated that she knows they were fixed at one time with a grant that the Borough had received; and, asked if that makes the Borough responsible for the sidewalk repair at the lot. Councilwoman Bailey stated that she will present all options to Council; and, they will have to decide the final outcome and if so, what they would like to charge for salt.

Council President Caruso stated that they could possibly work out a formula as to how much to charge for salt, such as, knowing the square footage of the parking lot and then logging each time the lot is salted. Council President Caruso said that it would have to be documented every time that the salt the lot. Councilwoman Bailey also suggested notifying the Parking Authority to let them know the date and when they have salted the lot. Councilwoman Bailey stated that there were also discussions at the meeting of the possibility of hiring a meter person. Borough Manager Landy stated that you would need to discuss it with the union since they would be part of the crossing guard contract.

- Contract has been sent to A. Liberoni, Inc. for the paving contract.

Stormwater Report:

Borough Manager Landy reported that he, Mayor Lucia and Council President Caruso will be attending a seminar on Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at WCCC regarding stormwater.

Parks and Recreation:

Councilwoman Lasko gave the following report:

- Contacted the two (2) individuals that have reached out about participating on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Borough Manager Landy stated that there is another person interested. Councilwoman Lasko will contact them; and, then possibly meet once the holidays are over.

Public Safety Report:

Councilwoman Ruszkowski gave the following report:

- Attended the monthly Medic 10 Board of Directors meeting.
- Medic 10 will begin mailing out the subscriptions.
- Medic 10 presented their budget for 2020; and, it is a balanced budget.

Mayor Lucia read a thank you letter that was sent to Police Chief Grippo from the National Church Residences, Ridgeview Apartments, 100 Ridgeview Court, Mount Pleasant regarding the presentation that was given to their residents about Senior Citizen scams, phone solicitations and door to door solicitations.

Veterans Park:

Councilwoman Barnes gave the following report:

- The pyramids will be soon covered for the winter.

Councilwoman Bailey reported that the street department has one (1) stone left in good shape; and, it is the size that was requested by Mr. Hutchinson at their previous Veteran's Park meeting. Councilwoman Bailey stated that they will need to look back to see what the cost of the stone was and will also need to contact Shoemaker to get a cost for engraving.

Human Resources / Ordinances: None.

Finance / Grants Report:

Councilwoman Bailey stated that everyone has received a copy of all of the budgets; General Fund, Liquid Fuels, Waste Water Treatment and Medic 10. They have been balanced.

Councilwoman Bailey drew attention to the real estate taxes; and, that the income will be down by \$10,000.00 compared to 2018. Borough Manager Landy stated that this raises a red flag. Council President Caruso stated that discussions were raised last year about raising taxes. There

will be no millage increase this coming year; however, it may be inevitable next year due to the large income loss. Councilwoman Bailey stated that it is correct.

Councilwoman Ruszkowski thanked Councilwoman Bailey and Borough Manager Landy for working with her to on the budget to be able to hire a fourth fulltime Officer that the Borough needed. Councilwoman Ruszkowski stated that they were able to cut the part-time budget by a considerable amount; and, that the part-time officers' rate will be set at \$16.50 an hour across the Board and \$13.50 for their training period. With the part-time budget it is still giving approximately 5000 hours per month, which is a lot of hours. Councilwoman Ruszkowski stated that Police Chief Grippo worked with her on the budget to make this work.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to advertise the 2020 General Fund Budget, 2020 Waste Water Treatment Budget, 2020 Liquid Fuels Budget and the 2020 Medic 10 Budget. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 6-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to advertise Ordinance Number 656 setting the millage rate at 17.5 mils for 2020. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 6-0.

New Business: None.

Reading of Communications:

- PSAB is holding the yearly boot camp for newly elected municipal officials on February 14 – 15, 2019 in Greensburg, PA. Borough Manager Landy suggested Councilman Phillabaum, Councilwoman Lasko and Councilman Smetak attend the seminar.
- Pennsylvania Downtown will be holding its Pennsylvania Downtown Center's 2020 Conference on June 7 – 10, 2020 in Reading, Pennsylvania. The seminar hosts leaders in the field representing downtowns, central business districts, neighborhoods and core community revitalization programs from across PA. Borough Manager Landy would like to participate.
- DAR Braddock Trail will hold its annual festival of lights.

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 6-0.

Public Comment: None.

Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 6-0.

Meeting Adjourned 8:15pm.

Motions from Meeting of November 18, 2019

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