

Meeting November 23, 2009

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by Vice President Bauer at 7:05pm 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. Vice President Bauer directed Borough Manager Landy to take roll. Councilmen Beranek, Crivella, Tate and Councilwomen Ruskowski and Stevenson were present. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Toohey were present. Vice President Bauer stated we have a quorum.

Reading of Previous Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to dispense with the reading of the minutes of November 2, 2009. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruskowski. Motion carried 6-0.

Public Comment: None

Speakers:

Mr. Tim Bates, Business Analyst, Small Business Development Center, Saint Vincent College, Latrobe PA spoke to Council about the program and services provided. The Small Business Development Center offers business counseling to small start-up businesses. The Saint Vincent branch covers Westmoreland and Fayette Counties. Some of the issues they offer counseling on are various licenses, sales tax and business plan development. The business plan is very important because it is what you would take to lenders for financing. Financial Analysis is also provided from the aspect of the buyer who is interested in purchasing an existing business. The Small Business Development Center also provides references to different sources of capital. They also provide assistance with marketing and sales strategies and tactics. Mr. Bates discussed different classes open to the public and went on to outline other services provided. Mayor Lucia asked Mr. Bates if he ever steers new businesses to a certain area. Mr. Bates said that it all depends on the business, but Mount Pleasant's plus is it's busy Main Street.

Mr. Don Good, Medic 10 Chief spoke to Council regarding a change in the format for their paid staff. Since the fire in the ambulance bay they have started working people as needed for twenty-four hour coverage. Personnel will be provided by a staffing agency and will all be certified Emergency Medical Technicians. All costs of the program will be the responsibility of Medic 10. Workers Comp and Unemployment Compensation are the responsibility of the staffing agency. No cost will be incurred by the Borough of Mount Pleasant for this program. This additional staffing is being done to ensure immediate response for emergency calls. Councilwoman Ruskowski asked for the ratio of paid staff and volunteers. Mr. Good said right now it is 1/3 paid and 2/3 volunteer. Mr. Landy said that he feels Mr. Good is asking for a change in the existing ordinance to include language allowing them to use paid staff whenever they are needed.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to turn the request by Medic 10 over to the Public Safety Committee. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 6-0.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia said that problems are reoccurring at Frick Park with bicycles. Walkers are unable to use the walking track because of the bike riders. He has given a directive to the Police Department that he wants the area cleared for walkers. There was vandalism at the playground. It will have to be made clear that it is not a place for juveniles to congregate.

Mayor Lucia suggested that the entrances to the park should be designated as orange areas where no one should be standing or loitering. He also suggested that bike racks be put in the park so that bikes are not lying on the walking track. Council again discussed removing the fountain area at Frick Park. Councilman Tate said that the cameras the Borough purchased have to be mounted on the new concession stand at Frick Park. Councilman Crivella said that a sign with park rules needs to be erected. Borough Manager Landy said that the Parks Ordinance states that there can be no malicious loitering. Our Police Department needs to enforce the ordinance. Mr. Landy suggested a meeting between the Police Department and Solicitor Toohey so that they understand the ordinance.

Mayor Lucia said that the dumpster by the basketball courts is collecting a lot of trash because it is being used by people who are not authorized. The dumpster is supposed to be for the Central VFD, the

Library and the Municipal Building. Vice President Bauer said we should lock the dumpster and give authorized people a key.

Installing the surveillance cameras was discussed. Borough Manager Landy said that when we received grant money for the cameras it only covered the cameras which need to be located at the Doughboy area. Armstrong Cable said at the time that they would install the cameras for free as a donation to the Borough. But the cameras have to be directed to a location where the footage can be recorded. Council directed Mr. Landy to send a letter to Armstrong Cable asking them to install the cameras as soon as possible.

Solicitor’s Report:

Solicitor Toohey said that the reason the ordinance re-codification could not be adopted at tonight’s meeting is because it requires 30 days to notify the County of any Zoning or Subdivision changes in the Zoning Ordinance. Mr. Toohey said that Council can agree tonight to advertise the re-codification ordinance so that it can be adopted at the January 4, 2010 meeting. Council said that there are changes to be made before we advertise.

Treasurer’s Report:

Borough Manager Landy read the following Treasurers Report for October 2009:

		Previous Balance	Deposits	Disbursements	Balance Oct09
General Fund Checking	PNC 00-0122-3513	53,306.00	171,185.48	174,491.48	50,000.00
General Fund Sweep	PNC 10-1149-3394	644,033.69	37,768.31	101,057.35	580,744.65
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	PNC 102-457-4388	102,950.98	55.00	0.00	103,055.98
**Fire	30,000.00				
**Police	10,000.00				
**Streets	10,000.00				
**Contingency Fund	53,055.98				
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 321615	100,890.05	135.78	0.00	101,025.83
**Police	20,000.00				
**Streets	20,000.00				
**Contingency Fund	21,025.83				
**Infrastructure	30,000.00				
**Recreation Grant Fund	10,000.00				
Liquid Fuels PLGIT	PLGIT 56980126	79,146.82	13.70	16,804.33	62,356.19
Monument CD	Standard Bank 242781	5,626.71	103.19	0.00	5,729.90
Holiday Lighting Fund	Standard Bank 050004849	1,797.23	0.23	0.00	1,797.46
Payroll Fund	PNC 00-0122-6415	7,600.98	49,649.62	55,924.61	1,325.99
Veterans Park Fund	First Niagara 981293700	3,109.13	0.00	0.00	3,109.13
Veterans Park PLGIT	PLGIT 5698025	11,243.45	2.01	0.00	11,245.46
Police Drug Enforcement	PNC 10-1291-2642	850.50	0.00	0.00	850.50
Town Clock Fund	Standard Bank 0010038847	611.72	0.08	0.00	611.80
Storm Water Retrofit Phase 1	PNC Bank 10-2825-9692	14,500.00	0.00	0.00	14,500.00
Total General Fund Balance					936,352.89
WWT Operational Acct	Standard Bank 0320012280	226,260.56	12,256.05	56,510.96	182,005.65
WWT Savings	Standard Bank 0050021008	10,609.62	3,025.00	0.00	13,634.62
WWT Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 0000287245	102,125.54	137.44	0.00	102,262.98
**Contingency	62,262.98				
**Infrastructure	40,000.00				
Total WWT Balance					297,903.25
Total Borough funds					1,234,256.14

Respectfully Submitted:
 Councilwoman Susan Ruszkowski
 Borough Manager Jeff Landy

Borough Manager Landy said that even in these economic times we have more funds in the bank this year than last. He will make sure that the borough departments have all 2009 invoices into the office so that they can be paid by December 31, 2009.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to approve the Treasurer's Report as read. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 6-0.

President's Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Crivella to approve the 2010 schedule of council meetings. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate for an Executive Session. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 6-0.

Executive Session 7:51pm to 8:29pm.

Vice President Bauer said that the Executive Session was to discuss personnel and real estate.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy made the following report:

- The 2009 Audit is complete and John Sarp of Sarp & Co. will be presenting the audit to Council at the December 7, 2010 meeting.
- Mr. Landy had a meeting with Brad Clemenson of the Pennsylvania Environmental Council to discuss various projects. The Pennsylvania Environmental Council does visioning and will make recommendations for used of property in the Borough. How the property could be renovated and where money may be available. The banks along Shupes Run from Main Street to Cook's Lumber was discussed. They may be able to help with cleaning up the area.
- The 2009 Annual Christmas Parade will be held on December 5, 2009 at 11:00am. There are other activities scheduled throughout the day. There will be a Candle Light Procession this year at 6:30pm from the Central Fire Station to the Gazebo. At the Gazebo there will be a narration of various Christmas stories..
- Mr. Landy met with April Kopas from the Westmoreland County Department of Planning and Development and gave her a list of projects that the Borough would like to do. One of the projects that they may look at is the Gormley Building. The Borough is on the County's schedule to have the Gormley Building demolished but they are going to send out two representatives to look at the Gormley Building and any adjoining properties that may be for sale. The County is looking at starting a project called "Homes Build Hope". These monies would be separate from any CDBG money.
- The replacement for the broken American Legion granite bench should be installed this week.
- Mr. Landy presented Council with the Purchasing Procedures plan and asked for any suggestions. The plan has been reviewed with our auditor John Sarp.
- The Mount Pleasant Rotary is interested in donating a sign to the Borough. One option would be to put up a sign in the area at the old PNC Drive Thru. The Laurel Highland Chamber has said that the Borough can use that space. The sign would be a changeable sign. Another location would be by Veterans Park.
- There will be a meeting between the Parks and Recreation Committee and the Little League Organization concerning leasing space for a T-Ball Field.
- Kriebel Resources is looking into what it would cost for us to run a gas line from the proposed well at Bridgeport Street to Medic 10 in order for us to received free gas for Medic 10.

Waste Water Treatment Report: None

Public Safety Zoning & Ordinances Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to have Borough Manager Landy sign the 2010 agreement with Hoffman Kennels. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to pay Officer George Grippo \$500 for ordinances from money budgeted for that purpose. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to advertise Ordinance #623 to set the 2010 millage rate at 16.00 mills. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to allow free meter parking in the Borough for the Holiday Season from November 26, 2009 to January 2, 2010. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to approve Resolution #2009-08 re-adopting the Westmoreland County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 6-0.

Council discussed the proposed sign ordinance and any changes that could be made before adoption. One suggestion was to design a sign for all businesses to use. Council agreed that a sign ordinance is very important.

Street, Parks & Recreation Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to advertise for bids for grass cutting and winter snow removal contract. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to ratify purchase of replacement American Legion granite bench from Shoemaker Monuments from insurance proceeds. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to pay A&M Painting \$2,815.00 from Liquid Fuels to paint traffic signal poles. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 6-0.

Finance Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to advertise the proposed 2010 General Fund, WWT and Liquid Fuels budgets. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to transfer funds from line item # 405.35 to the following line items:

- \$200 to #400.26
- \$400 to #400.29
- \$275 to #403.50
- \$ 50 to #405.21
- #3,020 to #405.36
- \$160 to #405.42
- \$200 to #405.55
- \$430 to #409.24
- \$650 to #409.37
- \$400 to #409.38
- \$ 50 to #409.85
- \$1,500 to #410.19
- \$150 to #410.22
- \$100 to #410.25
- \$2,265 to #410.26
- \$125 to #410.33
- \$1,375 to #410.37
- \$550 to #410.92
- \$375 to #411.12
- \$150 to #411.20
- \$200 to #411.22
- \$250 to #411.24
- \$250 to #412.04
- \$1,600 to #412.05
- \$188 to #430.18
- \$1,600 to #430.25
- \$1,300 to #431.00
- \$1,200 to #437.00
- \$500 to #437.01
- \$650 to #450.03
- \$105 to #450.10

\$1,055 to #450.18

\$5,867 to #470.70

\$375 to #480.01

\$2,799 to #486.60

\$2,815 to #437.20

Motion seconded by Councilman Tate. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to make the following transfers in the WWT Fund:

\$13,500 from #842.10 to #860.22

\$500 from #842.10 to #860.31

\$2,000 from #842.10 to #860.39

\$200 from #840.30 to #860.30

\$400 from #840.30 to #860.42

\$2,000 from #840.30 to #860.14

\$500 from #860.80 to #860.35

\$2,000 from #860.80 to #860.39

\$4,000 from #840.28 to #860.14

Motion seconded by Councilman Tate. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to authorize Borough Manager Landy to make any necessary transfers between now and the end of 2009. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek.

Motion carried 6-0.

Property Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Beranek to open sealed bids for the Truck Room boiler replacement at the Central Fire Station. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 6-0.

The following sealed bids were opened by Vice President Bauer:

Newco Mechanical, Scottdale, PA 15683 \$20,115.00

G & D Mechanical, Harrison City, PA 15636 \$14,500.00

John Hall Mechanical Contractors, Ligonier, PA 15685 \$12,970.00

All bids were accompanied by bid bonds.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to accept the lowest responsible bid for the Truck Room boiler replacement at the Central Fire Station. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 6-0.

Councilman Beranek said they had a productive meeting with Mike Todd regarding the Carolons for the Town Clock.

Councilman Beranek asked Mr. Landy to have Street Supervisor Fontanazza contact Barry Premoshis regarding setting up the Premoshis Christmas Displays. We are unable to put a display in the window of Joe's Pools because for the condensation on the windows so we will have to move the display to another location. Councilman Beranek suggested the In-Town Shops.

Vice President Bauer said he would like to see the old Christmas decorations fixed up so that they can be put up in other areas in town.

Community Eco-Green Report: None

Human Resource/Employee Contracts Report: None

Community and Economic Development/Grants Report:

Councilman Crivella said that The Frick Communities is applying for the Government's Award for Excellence.

Councilman Crivella said there will be a meeting tomorrow evening at the Scottdale Firemen's Club at 6:30pm. The meeting will be with Penn Dot regarding the five-lane bridge they are proposing on Rte. 819 over Rte. 119. The project will begin in the spring of 2012.

Councilwoman Stevenson questioned Councilman Crivella about the unpaid assessments owed to the BDA. Councilman Crivella said that the unpaid assessments remain on the books and when the property is sold there will be a lien on the property.

New Business:

Councilman Tate said he and Borough Manager Landy interviewed an engineering firm. WWT Supervisor Norman Stout was present at the interview. They were recommended by the Business Manager at Moon Township. They are a smaller engineering firm, which would be good for Mount Pleasant. Councilman Tate said he and Mr. Landy will be interviewing another firm next week.

Reading of Communications:

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- A letter from the BDA requesting that Council reappoint Nino Barsotti, Bill George and Dale Walker to the BDA.
- A letter from Jane Altman requesting a letter from Council stating that the trees in front of her property at 462 W Main Street belong to her and that she can remove the trees. The company that is cutting the trees will not start until he receives a letter from Council.
- COG will have a meeting on November 24, 2009 at 7:00pm
- PSAB 2010 Annual Conference in April 2010 at the William Penn Hotel in Pittsburgh.
- Mount Pleasant Light Up Night will be November 29, 2009 beginning at 6:00pm.

Discussion and Payment of Bills:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to pay all properly authorized bills. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 6-0.

Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

A motion was made by Councilman Beranek to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 6-0.

Meeting adjourned 9:06pm.

Motions from November 23, 2009 Meeting

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to dispense with the reading of the minutes of November 2, 2009. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to turn the request by Medic 10 over to the Public Safety Committee. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 6-0.

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G & D Mechanical, Harrison City, PA 15636 \$14,500.00
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All bids were accompanied by bid bonds.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to accept the lowest responsible bid for the Truck Room boiler replacement at the Central Fire Station. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to pay all properly authorized bills. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Beranek to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 6-0.