

Meeting November 5, 2012

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. Councilman McCloy, McFeaters, Pritts, Snyder, Tate and Councilwomen Bailey, Ruszkowski and Stevenson were present. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Wolfe were present. 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 22, 2012 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 9-0.

Mr. Landy, Co-Chairman of the Mount Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival presented K-9 Officer George Grippo a donation in the amount of \$409 for the Mount Pleasant K-9 Unit. The funds were raised at the festival by Knotty Dogs Pet Grooming.

Public Comment:

Gerard Rendine, State Route 31, Mount Pleasant PA addressed Council regarding the amount of taxes he pays to the Mount Pleasant Business District Authority.

Speakers:

Christine Barnhart Co-Chairman of the Gingerbread House Competition talked about the competition. Entry forms were due November 2, 2012 and there is a great deal of interest. Entrants can drop the houses off on the 16th and 17th of November. The houses will be judged and then placed in the windows of businesses on Main Street. The houses will be sold as well as t-shirts and proceeds will go to the Wounded Warrior Project.

Brian Barnhart, Commander Mount Pleasant VFW #3368 presented the Gingerbread House Competition with a donation from the VFW in the amount of \$300 as a contribution to the Wounded Warrior Project. Mr. Barnhart addressed Council about the continued future of the Mount Pleasant VFW and gave some of the history and goals of the Wounded Warrior Project.

Mr. Barnhart also presented the Mount Pleasant Borough Volunteer Fire Department with a donation in the amount of \$500 from Mount Pleasant VFW #3368. Mayor Lucia said that the Mount Pleasant VFW has always supported the Borough and he said that in these tough economic times the donation means even more.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia read the following Police Report for the month of October 2012:

Report of the Mount Pleasant Police Department for the month of October 2012

The Department answered 323 calls during the month as follows:

Complaints	73
Requests for assistance	5
Assist Other Departments	5
Accidents investigated	4
Calls Returned	8
Assist Medic 10	10
Assist Mutual Aid	

The Department made 22 Arrests during the month as follows

Vehicle Code	12
Crimes Code	10
Borough Ordinance	
Warning Issued	

Parking Tickets issued are as follows:

\$1.00 Meter Ticket

\$4.00 Meter Tickets

\$10.00 No Parking Tickets

Void / Excused

\$2.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$	-
\$4.00 Parking Tickets Paid	2	\$	8.00
\$5.00 Parking Tickets Paid		\$	-
\$10.00 Parking Tickets Paid			
\$15.00 Parking Tickets Paid	1	\$	15.00
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets Pd	3	\$	30.00
\$20.00 Parking Tickets Pd	0	\$	-
Return from Magistrate Eckels		\$	820.87
Return from Clerk of Courts		\$	157.35
Return from Report Fees		\$	45.00
Return from Parking Permits		\$	5.00
Return from Soliciting Permits		\$	-
Return from Restitution		\$	-
Return from Fence Permits			
Total		\$	1,081.22
1 meter collection		\$	1,399.72
Total Receipts for the month		\$	2,480.94

Mayor Lucia said that Veterans Day will be observed on Monday November 12th. The parade will begin at 10:30am and there will be a ceremony at Veterans Park immediately following.

Mayor Lucia reported that Mount Pleasant Light Night will be on November 25th at 6:00pm and the Christmas Parade will be held on Saturday December 1st beginning at 11:00am.

Solicitor's Report:

Solicitor Wolfe reported that he has been working on a number of ordinances and related matters with Councilman McCloy and Borough Manager Landy and he will be able to provide additional information on tonight's motion under Zoning & Ordinance.

Tax Collector's Report:

Tax Collector Carol Yancosky read the following report for the month of October 2012:

Property Taxes: \$3,026.49

Per Capita Taxes: \$ 545.00

Total Taxes Collected \$3,571.49

President's Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve Resolution 2012-13 to appoint the delegate and alternate delegates to the Tax Collection committee. Motion seconded Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0. Susan Ruszkowski was appointed as delegate, Jeff Landy was appointed as alternate delegate and Caprice Mills, Mount Pleasant Township was appointed as second alternate.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to accept the bid from Custom Contracting, Acme PA for the Frick Hospital Storm Water Detention Basin Project which is part of Phase II of the Stormwater Retrofit Project in the amount of \$138,380.20. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to approve payment to Richard Kujawa in the amount of \$600 to refurbish the Christmas wreaths. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 9-0.

President Bauer said letters were sent to the Shumars and the Kraisingers on Quarry Street regarding run off from Mr. Shumar's sump pump. President Bauer said that he still has not seen any significant amount of water being generated by the sump pump.

President Bauer said that an agreement on the new Police Contract has been reached and should be signed by the next meeting.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager made the following report:

- Hospitalization costs for 2013 will be higher than this year and the 2013 budget will have to be revised to reflect this increase.
- Upgrades to the electric are completed at Frick Park and quotes are being requested for electrical upgrades at Willows Park.
- An insurance claim was filed for the lightning damage to the flow meter at the Waste Water Treatment Plant.
- McCormick Taylor will design the base for the Video Wall at Veterans Park. They have looked at the area and will get back to us.
- Bids for the Parklet at the east end of Main Street will be bid out some time this month and the project should be awarded in December.
- PNC Bank has agreed to adjust the fees to our General Fund bank account and we will not be charged fees in the future.

Mayor Lucia asked Mr. Landy if he feels that the banners on the new sign are helpful and Mr. Landy said that there have been fewer calls regarding events in town since we have been putting up the banners. Mayor Lucia said that should support arguments for an electronic sign there in the future. Mr. Landy said that we should put together a list of people who would advertise on an electronic sign and perhaps get advertising money up front to pay for the sign.

Waste Water Treatment Report:

President Bauer said that there were issues at the Waste Water Treatment Plant following Hurricane Sandy and Superintendent Stout is writing a letter to the DEP.

President Bauer said that the project on Quarry Street should begin in the spring.

Streets Report:

Councilman Tate said that the Street Department did some sealing of the streets and will do more if the weather permits. Street Department personnel have been busy picking up leaves these last two weeks and the project at Willows Park is complete.

Public Safety Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Snyder to allow free meter parking for the Holiday Season from November 23, 2012 to January 2, 2013. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Snyder to close Main Street from Braddock Road Avenue to Cherry Avenue on December 1, 2012 from 10:30am to 1:00pm for the Christmas Parade and Diamond Street from Main Street to Washington Street from 12 noon to 2:00pm on December 1, 2012 for Christmas programs. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilman Snyder read the following Fire Report for the month of September 2012:

Total Calls	40
In Town	15
Out of Town	25
10-45's	13
10-45'S W/ENTRAPMENT	2
Fires	11
AFA's	7
Public Service	7
Standy's	1
Turnpike Calls	2
Drills	1
Total Men answering	594
Average Member per call	14
Total Hours	399

Councilman Snyder read the following Fire Report for the month of October 2012:

Total Calls	60
In Town	15
Out of Town	45
10-45's	20
10-45's w/entrapment	2
Fires	17
AFA's	4
Public Service	16
Standby's	1
Turnpike Calls	3
Drills	1
Total Men Answering	796
Average Member per call	13
Total Man Hours	892

Councilman Snyder read a letter to the public from Mr. Ralph Hribal thanking Council for all of the improvements that have been made to properties in the Borough. Mr. Hribal said that when landlords buy a house and turn it into apartments they don't always maintain the property. Mr. Hribal also feels that there are homeowners that don't worry about making their house presentable. Mr. Hribal would like Council to respond to his letter. President Bauer asked Police Chief Ober to patrol the area to see if there are property maintenance issues and said that Council will respond to Mr. Hribal.

Councilman Snyder said that Council needs to decide about whether to purchase a new police vehicle or get the current ones repaired. There are town police vehicles that are in pretty bad shape and if they were disabled we would be down to one vehicle. Councilman Snyder said that he has quotes on an all-wheel drive Ford Taurus and a Chevrolet Impala. Councilman Snyder said that he did find a used Ford Crown Victoria for \$7,000 with 33,000 miles on it. A new Ford Taurus equipped with everything but the lettering and delivered would cost \$34,400 and they are willing to give us \$2,000 for our trade-in. Mr. Landy said that there is money in the Budgetary Reserve set aside for the Police. Council discussed different vehicle options.

Zoning & Ordinance Report:

Solicitor Wolfe went over changes to be made to the Residential Rental Property Ordinance regarding the enforcement procedures and who would make up the Appeals Board. The Appeals Board would consist of three people chosen from the Mount Pleasant Zoning Hearing Board and Planning Commission. Solicitor Wolfe said that a fee will have to be established by resolution to cover the costs of an appeal.

A motion was made by Councilman McCloy to advertise Ordinance #635 to amend Violations and Penalties of the Residential Rental Property Ordinance. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman McCloy to advertise Ordinance #636 setting the 2013 millage rate at 16.00 mills. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

President Bauer said that this Borough Council made a commitment to balance the 2013 budget without raising taxes.

Council discussed the Borough curfew and if changing it will cut down on crime and vandalism in the Borough, what other measures homeowners can take and police enforcement.

Community & Economic Development/Grants Report:

Councilwoman Bailey reported that the CDBG Grant application was sent in on time and we will hear back from the County after it is reviewed.

Veterans Park Report:

Councilman Tate said that everyone involved with the Video Wall at Veterans Park is moving forward with the project and hopefully it is completed in the spring of 2013.

Parks & Recreation Report:

Councilman McFeaters announced that the Coal & Coke Trail will be holding a "Comedy Night" on Saturday November 11, 2012 at the Scottdale Firemen's Club featuring three professional comedians and dinner catered by Leo's Grille 31. Tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased at the Village Restaurant and Miss Martha's Tea Room.

Councilman McFeaters reported that the swings for the parks have been delivered and they will be installed in the spring.

Councilman McFeaters asked Borough Manager about the line item for the Video Wall License. Mr. Landy explained that it is a software license for the video wall that must be renewed every year.

President Bauer said that he would like to see the bathrooms at Willows Park moved closer to the large pavilion and the graffiti cleaned off of the pavilion. Councilman Tate said that Council should talk to Vo-Tech and see if they are able to help with moving the bathrooms closer. Mr. Landy suggested that the Recreation Advisory Committee look into it.

Council discussed different options for removing the trees at Frick Park and repairing or replacing the wall and walking track.

Finance & Human Resources Report:

Councilwoman Ruskowski said that the 2013 Budget will be ready for advertisement at the November 19th meeting.

Property Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to increase the rent for the following suites in the Municipal Building:

Suite 209 Heals To Your Health \$173.00 to \$195.00

Suite 211 GEO Systems \$165.00 to \$175.00

Suite 212 Representative Kula \$227.00 to \$240.00

Suite 214 Attorney Klimchock \$165.00 to \$175.00

Motion seconded by Councilman McCloy. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilman Pritts said that the lease has been signed for the property where we are going to put the Welcome To Mount Pleasant Sign and he is talking with the builders and the Street Department to get it started.

Councilman Pritts said that he is talking to vendors about getting cameras in the parks. He would like to see at least one camera at each location.

Sanitation & Recycling Report:

Councilwoman Stevenson reported that beginning January 1, 2013 residents will no longer be allowed to put computers, monitors, peripheral computer equipment and televisions out with the regular trash. Councilwoman Stevenson said she is working on finding a company who will pick up these items and demanufacture them.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that she is still seeing trash out at the curb days before the regular garbage pickup. Residents should be aware that there is an ordinance that states you cannot put out your garbage until 24 hours before pickup.

Communications Report: None

New Business:

Councilman Tate reported that the Mount Pleasant Vikings are in the second round of the WPIAL Playoffs and the Packers won the Midget Football Championship.

Councilwoman Bailey reported that the Library Board emailed her their current By-laws and the financial statement dated December 31, 2011.

President Bauer commended Connellsville residents for their grass roots effort regarding the Ten Commandments being displayed at the high school. Mr. Landy said that the Borough protected the Nativity Scene display in town by designating a Freedom of Speech Area.

Reading of Communications: None

Discussion and Payment of Bills:

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to pay all authorized and approved bills. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 9-0.

Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

Meeting adjourned 8:30pm

Motions from November 5, 2012 Meeting

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