

Meeting April 2, 2012

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Bauer at 7:01pm in Council Chambers at 1 Etze Avenue, Mount Pleasant, PA 15666. The Pledge of Allegiance was said with the participation of Cub Scout Pack #135 and there was a moment of silence for our deployed troops. President Bauer directed Borough Manager Landy to take roll. Councilmen Beranek, Crivella, McCloy, McFeaters, Pritts, Tate and Councilwomen Stevenson and Ruskowski 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 March 19, 2012 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruskowski. Motion carried 9-0.

Public Comment:

Ms. Fern Brown, President of the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary 126 Pleasant Acres Way Mount Pleasant PA 15666 spoke to Council about Poppy Sales in the Borough on May 3rd, 4th and 5th. Ms. Brown said that proceeds from poppy sales will help with the needs of veterans and their families. Ms. Brown provided Council with a brief history of the poppy.

Ms. Tara Leeder, 120 Lindley Avenue Mount Pleasant PA 15666 representing the Mount Pleasant Recreational Soccer League spoke to Council about owners bringing their dogs into the fenced in area of the soccer field. The Soccer League would like the Borough to put up a sign saying there are not dogs allowed inside the fence. Ms. Leeder also invited Mayor Lucia and Council to opening day on April 14, 2012 at 8:30am. Ms. Leeder said that there was some vandalism at the soccer field this past Saturday. There was paint sprayed on the concession stand and the door of the men's room. Street Supervisor Mario Fontanazza said that Street Department personnel have tried to remove the paint with a pressure washer. Mayor Lucia said it would help a lot if the trees could be cut down on the border of the Levin property so that residents on Bridgeport St have a view of the park. President Bauer said he would like the Street Department to put the removal of the trees on their schedule.

President Bauer said that vandalism in the Borough is increasing and Council needs to address the issue with higher fines and more police presence. President Bauer said that if it continues, the curfew will be strictly enforced this summer. President Bauer reminded residents that if they see anything suspicious they should contact the borough police. Their identities will be protected.

Speakers:

Hallie Chatfield, Revitalization Coordinator for the Westmoreland Co. Redevelopment Authority, briefed Council on changes to their demolition program. Ms. Chatfield explained that this year the Redevelopment Authority has seen a significant reduction in funding. They have formulated a demolition policy broken up by population. A population of 5,000 or less has a \$1,000 required cash match against residential properties. There is also a category for multi-family structures that require a 50% minimum match. Municipal properties or court ordered demolitions have a \$500 required cash match. The match must be in place before the application is accepted in their office. There is currently one residential property application and they have been instructed to request the match from the Borough. The match can be a combination of the Borough and property owner and the Borough does have the option to lien the property for the cost of the match in addition to the cost of the demolition.

Tina Graft spoke to Council regarding GEO Caching. Ms. Graft explained that GEO Caching is a high-tech version of a scavenger hunt. Hand held GPS units and internet technology are used to get coordinates for where the items are placed. The entertainment value comes from looking for and finding an item. Each item contains a log sheet where you enter your name and the date you found it. There is a tourism aspect to GEO Caching. There have been 9 caches placed in the Borough and 648 people have visited the Borough to find these caches. Borough Manager Landy brought up the possibility of cachers registering with the police department. Council thanked Ms. Graft for the explanation of what GEO Caching is all about. Ms. Graft said that GEO Cachers have organized events to clean up areas and she would be willing to coordinate an event in partnership with the Borough if Council would like to have one in an area park this summer.

Mayor's Report:

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

Report of the Mount Pleasant Police Dept for the month of March 2012

The Department answered 407 calls during the month as follows:

Complaints	74
Requests for assistance	6
Assist Other Departments	5
Accidents investigated	4
Calls Returned	10
Assist Medic 10	0
Assist Mutual Aid	0

The Department made 23 arrests during the month as follows:

Vehicle Code	15
Crimes Code	8
Borough Ordinance	0
Warning Issued	0

Parking Tickets issued are as follows:

\$4.00 Meter Tickets	17
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets	0
Void / Excused	3

\$2.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$	-
		\$	
\$4.00 Parking Tickets Paid	11	44.00	
		\$	
\$5.00 Parking Tickets Paid	2	10.00	
		\$	
\$10.00 Parking Tickets Paid	3	30.00	
\$15.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$	-
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets Pd	0	\$	-
\$20.00 Parking Tickets Pd	0	\$	-

Return from Magistrate Eckels	\$1,050.62
	\$
Return from Clerk of Courts	887.90
	\$
Return from Report Fees	30.00
	\$
Return from Parking Permits	80.00
Return from Soliciting Permits	\$ -
Return from Restitution	\$ -
	\$
Return from Fence Permits	68.00
Total	\$2,200.52
1 Meter Collection	\$1,072.25
Total Receipts for the month	\$3,272.77

Mayor Lucia said that the police will increase patrols at Frick Park and Willows Park and when the Street Department clears some of the trees at the Bridgeport Street property it will help with vandalism. Council discussed lighting possibilities at Willows Park.

Solicitor's Report: None

Tax Collector's Report:

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

Property Taxes	\$112,312.35
Per Capita	\$77.00
Total Taxes Collected	\$112,389.35

Ms. Yancosky reminded tax payers that if they want a receipt they must include a self-addressed stamped envelope with their payment.

President’s Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Crivella to appoint David Stairs, Basil Howanchak and Charlotte Mowry to the Mount Pleasant Business District Authority. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman McCloy to appoint Patsy DePalma to the Mount Pleasant Municipal Authority. Motion seconded by Councilman Tate. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made Councilman Crivella to authorize the purchase of fencing for John E Satcho Playground in the amount of \$5,500 from the following line items:

#450.24 - \$4,500

#460.04 - \$2,000

Budgetary Reserve, BOMP1 Recreation Line Item \$2,000

Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruskowski. Motion passed 9-0.

President Bauer said that a 10ft fence will be erected along the rear of the park and there will not be an opening to the Township. The only way to get into the park will be through the front entrance. This may be the first step in stopping vandalism at Satcho’s Park.

President Bauer said that Council will be meeting with more of the Boards and Authorities to discuss appointments.

President Bauer said that he and Councilman Crivella will look at the parks to see what needs to be done this summer. In the past Medic 10 Park was maintained by Medic 10 volunteers but now it is the responsibility of the Borough. Borough Manager Landy said that different organizations have offered their services to the Borough. It may be possible to do an “adopt a park” program if Council is interested.

Borough Manager’s Report:

Borough Manager Landy thanked council members who participated in the G-5 Conference this year. All of the participants agreed that it was a great success and the municipalities took away some valuable information. Mr. Landy thanked Armstrong, Standard Bank, TNT Embroidery, HDH Insurance, Widmer Engineering, B.I.U. and the Democratic Caucus of Scottsdale for their sponsorship of the Conference. The Conference received a resolution from Representative Kula and PA House of Representatives.

Borough Manager Landy said he is working on putting together a coupon booklet to give to volunteers of the Fire Department and other volunteer organizations in the Borough to show our appreciation. There have been a few businesses in town willing to offer a coupon for the booklet and if any other businesses are interested they can call the borough office. Mayor Lucia said that 15 years ago there were 235,000 volunteer firemen and now the number is 77,000.

Borough Manager Landy said he met with representatives from the Jacob’s Creek Watershed Organization and they will be working with us on the Phase II of the Stormwater Retrofit Project along with the Westmoreland Conservation District and our engineers.

Mr. Landy said that the basketball court is in need of some work. I would be more cost effective to keep up with preventative Maintenance than go through the expense of another resurfacing project.

Mr. Landy said he Industrial Appraisal sent a questionnaire regarding our properties and equipment and he will discuss it with Councilman Pritts. Then the report generated by Industrial Appraisal would cost \$350. It is much less expensive than an entire new appraisal.

Public Works Report:

Councilman Tate read the following bids that were received for paving Rumbaugh Avenue:

New Enterprise Stone & Lime	\$17,772.60
A Folino Construction	\$16,068.00
Donegal Construction	\$20,390.00
Victor Paving	\$22,080.00
ElGrande Industries Inc.	\$24,835.00
Morgan Excavating	\$21,033.00
Derry Construction	\$19,031.00

J M Paving

\$24,200.00

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to review the paving bids for Rumbaugh Avenue and award the bid with the recommendation from McCormick Taylor Engineering pending Penn Dot approval. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilman Tate read the following bids that were received for paving College Avenue:

New Enterprise Stone & Lime	\$39,426.60
A Folino Construction	\$35,127.50
Donegal Construction	\$34,890.00
Victor Paving	\$34,459.00
ElGrande Industries Inc.	\$41,297.50
Morgan Excavating	\$36,290.00
Derry Construction	\$36,118.00
J M Paving	\$57,100.00

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to review the paving bids for College Avenue and award the bid with recommendation from McCormick Taylor Engineering pending Penn Dot approval. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 9-0.

Council discussed the possibility of using Mount Pleasant Township to tar and chip some roads this year. Borough Manager Landy said that the Township wants to know if they should order supplies to tar and chip for the Borough this year.

Councilman Tate said that when he attended the G5 Conference he learned of a new patching material that can be used in the Borough. Mr. Landy said that he called the company who sells the patching material and if the members of the G5 Conference buy together the company will give us a break on the cost.

Councilwoman Stevenson asked Councilman Tate if the mulch that is made by the Street Department is available to the public and Councilman Tate said if they go to the Street Department on Depot Street workers will load the truck for them and there is no charge for the mulch.

Public Safety Report:

Councilman Beranek read the following Fire Report for the month of March 2012:

Total calls	45
In Town	11
Out of town	34
10-45's	15
10-45 with entrapment	1
Fires	13
AFA's	10
Public Service	7
Turnpike calls	3
Total men answering	601
Avg. member per call	13
Total Hrs	353

Councilman Beranek read the following Medic 10 Report for the month of March 2012:

Total calls	172
Patient Transports	108
Boro & Twp	167
Bullskin Twp	4
Connellsville	1
Medical calls	117
Trauma calls	28
Motor vehicle crashes	5
Fire standbys	12
Ambulance standbys	3
Non-emergency interfacility	7

Zoning & Ordinance Report:

Councilman McCloy said his committee will review the sample Street Occupancy Ordinance he received and compare it to the Mount Pleasant Borough ordinance to see if we need to raise the cost of our fees to be more in line with other municipalities or if there are any other portions of our ordinance that need to be changed.

Councilman McCloy said he will look into ways to advertise the Mount Pleasant Borough Community Yard Sale so that residents know it will be held on May 12, 2012 from 8am to 5pm.

Community & Economic Development/Grants Report:

Councilman McFeaters said he is still waiting to hear from Representative Kula regarding available grant funds. President Bauer said he spoke to Representative Kula at the G5 Conference and she suggested that we try to find federal grants that are available for the cement apron at the Central Fire Station.

Councilman Bauer said that trucks used for Marcellus Shale well drilling will be using Main Street. The trucking company has agreed to pay the borough \$1,000 per truck to come through the borough. Councilman Bauer said if that happens we will use the money for the cement apron. Councilwoman Stevenson asked why we are charging them and Councilman Beranek said that when they come through the Borough there will have to be police presence, some meters will have to be blocked etc. President Bauer said that the trucks may cause some damage to the road Penn Dot will help with the repair costs.

Veterans Park:

Councilman Tate said that the engineers at ITS Enclosures will start designing our Video Wall June 1, 2012. Councilman Tate said that there will be a lot of computer work involved in getting all of the names on the video wall and it may be a good senior project for a high school student.

Councilman Tate said that R.K. Shumaker Memorials will fix the granite benches at Veterans Park.

Parks & Recreation Report:

Councilman Crivella wants residents to realize that the parks in the Borough are public property and belong to all of us. People should be proud of the parks in Mount Pleasant. There are limited funds to fix damage done to the parks by vandals. If anyone sees something happening at the parks they should call the police to report it. Councilman Crivella also reminded dog owners that dogs must be on a leash at all times except at the Dog Park and owners must clean up after their pets.

A motion was made by Councilman Crivella to accept the proposal from the Regional Family YMCA of Laurel Highlands for a Summer Recreation Program for ages 6 – 12 years at a cost to the Borough of \$2,500 from line item #450.24. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilman Crivella said that the program will begin June 11, 2012 and run through July 27, 2012 at Frick Park from 10:00am to noon. Along with the YMCA Summer Program the USA Department of Agriculture offers a free lunch program run by the Southmoreland School District from 11:45am to 12:45pm Monday through Friday all summer except July 4th.

Finance Report:

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that Key Tex Energy would like to meet with Council before the meeting on April 23, 2012 to present them with a current contract for energy pricing for the Borough. Key Tex Energy solicits competitive offers for the Borough.

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that we were informed by First Energy that West Penn Power became part of First Energy last year and on April 2, 2012 they will be sending out new statements with new account numbers. Customers should be aware of their new account numbers.

Property Report:

Councilman Pritts said that a meeting is scheduled with Honeywell on Wednesday April 11th regarding possible energy savings.

Councilman Pritts said that Mr. Hudec is going to start the welcome to Mount Pleasant project sometime this week.

Councilman Pritts said that he purchased an external hard drive from Best Buy for the camera server.

Councilman Pritts said that he talked to Mine Safety regarding mounting the brackets for the surveillance cameras on Main Street. When the brackets are made they will be installed.

President Bauer said that Borough Manager Landy is getting prices to clean up the front of the Municipal Building and eliminate the weeds etc.

Sanitation and Recycling Report:

Councilwoman Stevenson said that she is working on another recycling grant. President Bauer said he would like residents to have a bigger container for recyclables and Councilwoman Stevenson said that we could use the grant money for something like that.

Council discussed the dumpster in Union Alley and how the garbage trucks are tearing up the alley. The dumpster is also taking up two parking spaces and looks unsightly so near to the Social Walkway.

New Business:

President Bauer said that he received a letter from The HDH Group, our insurance carrier letting us know that they were very impressed with the Special Events discussion at the G5 Conference. They were also impressed with the turn out. President Bauer said that he feels that Mount Pleasant is as advanced and competitive as the other communities who attended the conference, but we also learned a lot from the other participants.

Councilman Crivella reminded voters that April 24th is the Primary and urged everyone to get out and vote.

Reading of Communications:

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- Harmon House will be hosting an open house on April 27th to celebrate their 25th Anniversary from 6:00pm to 8:30pm. The deadline for RSVP is April 16th.

Discussion and Payment of Bills:

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

Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

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

Meeting adjourned 8:50pm

Motions from April 2, 2012 Meeting

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