

Meeting May 4, 2009

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Tabita at 7:06pm 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 as well as two members of our borough family, Mr. Glen Zaronsky former Police Chief and past Council President Margaret (Peggy) Mullen who passed away very recently. President Tabita directed Borough Manager Jeff Landy to take roll. Councilmen Bauer, Beranek, Crivella, Slater, Tate and Councilwomen Ruszkowski and Stevenson were present. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Toohey were present. President Tabita stated we have a quorum.

Reading of Previous Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to dispense with the reading of the minutes of April 20, 2009. Motion seconded by Councilman Tate. Motion carried 8-0.

Public Comment:

Medic 10 Chief Don Good told Council that everything pertaining to the fire at Medic 10 that destroyed one of their ambulances has been finalized. Medic 10 has received the insurance money and would like to bring their ambulance fleet back to three ambulances. They have found a Co-Star member to purchase the ambulance from so it will not be necessary to advertise for bids. Medic 10 would like permission to secure a loan for one-half the price of the ambulance. If Medic 10 has a loan for the ambulance a State Fire Grant will provide state funding every year. Mr. Good would like Council to make a motion allowing them to purchase this third ambulance. Mr. Good said they would like to purchase this ambulance before Ford Motor Company goes back to gasoline engines instead of Diesel.

Mayors Report:

Mayor Lucia read the following Police Report for the month of April 2009:

Report of the Mount Pleasant Police Department for the month of April 2009

The Department answered 387 calls during the month as follows:

Complaints	119
Requests for assistance	14
Assist Other Departments	10
Accidents investigated	10
Calls Returned	25
Assist Medic 10	8

The Department made 127 arrests during the month as follows:

Vehicle Code	107
Crimes Code	17
Vehicle Code Warnings	0

Parking Tickets issued are as follows:

\$1.00 Meter Tickets	20
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets	2
Void / Excused	2

\$1.00 Parking Tickets Paid	21	\$	21.00
\$5.00 Parking Tickets Paid	2	\$	10.00
\$10.00 Parking Tickets Paid	3	\$	30.00

Return from Magistrate Eckels	\$3,155.89
Return from Clerk of Courts	\$ 914.48
Return from Report Fees	\$ 165.00
Return from Parking Permits	\$ -
Return from Soliciting Permits	\$ -
Return from Restitution	\$ -
Total	\$4,296.37

Meter Receipts 2 Collections \$ 965.14

Total Receipts for the month \$5,261.51

Mayor Lucia said that it has been a very sad week in the Borough. First we lost one our past police officers and former Police Chief Glenn Zoransky. He was an excellent detective during his time on the force and will be greatly missed.

Mayor Lucia said that we also lost Margaret (Peggy) Mullen this week. Peggy was on Council from 1986 to 2006 and served as a past President. Peggy was Treasurer and a founding member of the Mount Pleasant Glass and Ethnic Festival. Peggy was a volunteer for the Festival for 23 years. She was always a big help with Mount Pleasant VFD fundraisers and worked every year at the Firemen's Fair as well as volunteering for Tuesday night Bingo. As a former school teacher Peggy was a dedicated citizen of Mount Pleasant Borough. President Tabita said that Peggy was an exemplary member of Council in her 20 years of service, made history as the first female President of Council and was involved not only with the VFD, but other organizations in town.

Borough Manager Landy said that Peggy was the definition of Volunteer. She was there from the beginning of the Mount Pleasant Glass and Ethnic Festival when other people doubted that it would work. She was a dedicated member of the committee for 23 years and they were proud to have her.

Mayor Lucia reported that he and Police Chief Ober attended a meeting regarding the recent outbreak of the H1N1 Flu. Governor Rendell released a memo regarding the first confirmed case of this virus. The Borough is in a state of preparedness at this time. Mayor Lucia reminded everyone to take precautions now. Wash your hands frequently and be careful while in public. Westmoreland County is monitoring the virus and Police Chief Ober will get a daily report.

Solicitors Report:

Solicitor Toohey remarked on the motion on tonight's agenda to approve a resolution approving the Inter-Municipal transfer of a liquor license to Ms. Altman. Mr. Toohey's office has advertised the ordinance and a public meeting was held this evening. Council is in a position to approve the resolution. The resolution will then be sent to Ms. Altman's Counsel and he will take the appropriate steps with the Liquor Control Board to finalize the transaction.

Another motion on the agenda tonight is to adopt Ordinance #622 approving an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement between the Borough of Mount Pleasant, the Borough of Scottdale, the Township of East Huntingdon and the County Redevelopment Authority. The agreement has been drafted and the ordinance has been advertised. A 501 C3 will be comprised by three members from each of the municipal entities to run a Main Street Manager Program.

Councilman Bauer said that he wants the public to understand that Council is not bringing another Liquor License into the Borough, but simply replacing the one previously held by the Elks club.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to approve a resolution regarding the Inter-Municipal Transfer of a Restaurant Liquor License owned by Mary T. Carpentier of 1103 State Route 256, Leechburg, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, to Jane Altman, or her assign to premises within the Borough of Mount Pleasant with an address of 462 Main Street, Mount Pleasant, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer for an Executive Session. Motion seconded by Councilman Slater. Motion carried 8-0.

Executive Session 7:22pm to 8:15pm.

President Tabita reported that the Executive Session was to discuss litigation and personnel.

Tax Collectors Report:

Tax Collector Carol Yancosky read the following Tax Collector Report for the month of April 2009:

Property Taxes = \$319,897.22

Per Capita Taxes = \$38.50

Total Collected = \$319,935.72

Presidents Report:

President Tabita said that Phase II of the Main Street Street-Scape Project is almost complete. Mr. Glenn Wolfe from Widmer Engineering reported that the concrete work is done, the handicapped ramps are done and they are waiting for a couple of transformers to be set. The decorative lights will each have four 320-watt bulbs. Mr. Wolfe said he will notify the Borough when the bulbs are going to be installed and President Tabita said we will send out an email so that Council can see them and determine if they will be bright enough. The lights will be on an automatic timer and will all come on at the same time. Mr. Wolfe said a company will come to pave the areas in the street where it was dug up. President Tabita asked if the Borough could cut the height of the two remaining traffic signal poles. Mr. Wolfe said that is a Penn Dot issue and should be run through the state. Any time you change a traffic signal you have to adjust the permit with Penn Dot. President Tabita asked if we can paint the traffic signal poles black and Mr. Wolfe said we should be able to do that without contacting Penn Dot.

Borough Managers Report:

Mr. Landy included the following in his report:

- Mr. Landy asked Council to review the Profit & Loss Budget Vs. Actual report because there are some line items that are already over budget.
- Mr. Landy asked Council to review the 2009 Mount Pleasant VFD Tower 38 Fund Drive report. The VFD is willing to come in and explain the report if Council wishes.
- Mr. Landy received a call from a resident who wants to put up an 8-foot fence.

A discussion ensued about what fence height is allowed. Councilman Bauer said he believes that it is determined in the International Building Code and he will look to see what is written on the subject.

- Another successful Idea Form was held. New “Welcome to Mount Pleasant” signs were discussed. Mr. Landy presented Council with a design.
- The Ministerium requested a permit to hold a Day of Prayer on May 7, 2009 from 7pm to 9pm at the Freedom of Speech area of Veterans Park. Mr. Landy said that the Police Department has been notified and there will be a policeman patrolling the event for traffic etc. and meters will be bagged.
- The schedule for the 2009 Concert In The Parks is complete. The newspapers will be given a copy and it will be posted on our website. Mr. Landy discussed the concert schedule and the entertainment that has been booked.

Public Safety Zoning & Ordinances Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to adopt Ordinance #622 providing for approval of an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement between the Borough of Mount Pleasant, the Borough of Scottdale, the Township of East Huntingdon and the Westmoreland County Redevelopment Authority. President Tabita said he would like the motion to be contingent on the map of the designated areas being changed and approved by Council. Motion seconded by Councilman Tate. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to allow Medic 10 to purchase a 2009 Ambulance through the Pennsylvania Costars Program. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilman Bauer discussed the proposed Solid Waste Ordinance. He would like to add language stating that all apartment complexes with three or more units must have a dumpster big enough to handle all of the garbage from their tenants.

Streets Parks and Recreation Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Slater to purchase a Crack Sealer from Seal –Tite Pavement Maintenance for \$9,500. Motion seconded by Councilman Bauer. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Slater to advertise for bids to seal the Tennis Courts. Bids will be opened on June 2, 2009 at 7:00pm and awarded contingent upon securing a source of funding. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilman Slater said that line painting will begin as soon as the weather gets drier. President Tabita said he would like the crosswalks painted at Veterans Park. Councilman Bauer asked if Penn Dot is going to paint the crosswalks at the Diamond since they paved it. Mr. Landy said he has called Penn Dot concerning the crosswalks and they have not gotten back to him yet. Councilman Bauer said he feels that the asphalt at the corner of Goo's Restaurant that was laid by Penn Dot is deficient and seems to be washing away.

President Tabita instructed Street Supervisor Mario Fontanazza to remove a piece of equipment at Frick Park beside the pavilion that cannot be repaired and has become dangerous.

President Tabita said he would like Supervisor Fontanazza to make a schedule for the summer to clean up the parks on a regular basis.

Mr. Landy said that the Borough was approved for a federal funded program for three people to work for the summer. Two people for the Street Department and one for WWT. The federal program will pay these three people for 10 weeks a year at 30 hours per week. There is an income stipulation. But if you are a student and work part time at least one hour per week you will automatically qualify. The student that was used by the Borough in the past and did an excellent job does not qualify for this program. Councilman Slater said that since this is the first year for this program and we don't know when we will have people assigned to us we should advertise for one person ourselves. The money for summer help has already been budgeted.

A motion was made by Councilman Slater to suspend the rules for the purpose of advertising for applicants to fill a summer help position. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Slater to advertise for applicants to fill the summer help position in the Street Department. Applications will be accepted until noon on May 18, 2009. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 8-0.

Finance Report:

Councilwoman Ruszkowski asked all committees to continue to monitor their budget line items. She will meet with Councilman Bauer to go over the Medic 10 budget and discuss issues with their utilities.

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that she attended a webinar at the high school regarding the regionalization of the Earned Income Tax collection, which will begin in January 2012. There will be a starting phase this November when a delegate from each municipality will create bylaws, hire a solicitor appoint a tax collection committee. What this means is that every county except Philadelphia and Allegheny counties will elect a single tax collector. There will be 69 tax collectors instead of the current 560. There will be a set-up fee for each municipality, which could be between \$500 and \$1,000. It is a non-funding program.

President Tabita asked Councilwoman Ruszkowski which utilities she is questioning on the Medic 10 Budget. Councilwoman Ruszkowski said the gas bill and the telephone bill. President Tabita said all committee's budgets should be looked at.

Property Report:

Councilman Beranek thanked the Mount Pleasant VFD for taking down the Veterans Park sign. It is being fabricated. Councilman Beranek asked the Recreation Committee if there is a date they would like it completed. Councilman Tate said he would like to have it done for Memorial Day. Mayor Lucia said he would like someone to stabilize the sign at Frick Park.

Community Eco-Green Report: None

Human Resources and Employee Contracts Report:

Councilwoman Stevenson thanked Medic 10 for sending personnel to stand by during the Cemetery Walk on Saturday. There were no problems but it was nice to have their presence. Mayor Lucia said the Walk was very organized and a lot of fun.

Councilwoman Stevenson said the Cat Program is still moving forward and she feels it is a successful program. The newspapers are making the public aware of the program.

Community, Economic Development and Grants Report: None

Mayor Lucia said that when the In-Town Shops are sold and that burden is removed from the BDA he would like to see more funds used to market our business district. Councilman Crivella said that the BDA already has some ideas and he feels that they will do a lot of good things this year. President Tabita said that it might be possible for the BDA to offer some start up costs to a qualified new business on Main Street. President Tabita said that the addition of the Main Street Manager Program will also benefit our downtown. Councilman Crivella said it would benefit the new Main Street Manager if there was some sort of inventory of what properties are available for rent on Main Street.

New Business:

President Tabita said that we have been approached by Kriebel Resources who are interested in a location for a gas well across the railroad tracks at the Bridgeport Street property owned by the Borough. Kriebel is not interested in drilling at a second location at the Soccer Field but are interested in drilling at the Bridgeport Street location. They will keep the pipeline and well equipment close to the railroad right-of-way. There would be a lease amendment to add the addition acres to the current lease. The well would have to be positioned so that it does not interfere with any development of the property.

Reading of Communications:

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- There will be a seminar on Police Operations in Butler County on June 23rd and 24th. Mr. Landy will give Chief Ober the registration form.
- Laurel Highlands Chamber of Commerce will hold a golf outing on Friday June 19, 2009 at the Cherry Creek Golf Course in Youngwood. The cost is \$90 for individuals and \$340 for a foursome.
- West Overton Museum's Opening Day will be Saturday May 9, 2009 from 9am to 5pm. The admission will be free and they would like people from Mount Pleasant to attend.
- Laurel Highlands Chamber of Commerce is having its annual Student Recognition Banquet on Thursday May 14, 2009 at Seven Springs. Advertising/Sponsorship is available. Council agreed to do a \$100 ad.
- A Mount Pleasant resident sent a letter saying that the sidewalk on Church Street across from the VFD is need of repair.

Discussion and Payment of Bills:

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to pay all approved and authorized bills. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 8-0.

Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 8-0.

Meeting adjourned 9:50pm.

Motions from May 4, 2009 Meeting

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to dispense with the reading of the minutes of April 20, 2009. Motion seconded by Councilman Tate. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to approve a resolution regarding the Inter-Municipal Transfer of a Restaurant Liquor License owned by Mary T. Carpentier of 1103 State Route 256, Leechburg, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, to Jane Altman, or her assign to premises within the Borough of Mount Pleasant with an address of 462 Main Street, Mount Pleasant, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer for an Executive Session. Motion seconded by Councilman Slater. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Slater to purchase a Crack Sealer from Seal –Tite Pavement Maintenance for \$9,500. Motion seconded by Councilman Bauer. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Slater to advertise for bids to seal the Tennis Courts. Bids will be opened on June 2, 2009 at 7:00pm and awarded contingent upon securing a source of funding. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to adopt Ordinance #622 providing for approval of an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement between the Borough of Mount Pleasant, the Borough of Scottdale, the Township of East Huntingdon and the County Redevelopment Authority. President Tabita said he would like the motion to be contingent on the map of the designated areas being changed and approved by Council. Motion seconded by Councilman Tate. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to allow Medic 10 to purchase a 2009 Ambulance through the Pennsylvania Costars Program. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Slater to suspend the rules for the purpose of advertising for applicants to fill a summer help position. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Slater to advertise for applicants to fill the summer help position in the Street Department. Applications will be accepted until noon on May 18, 2009. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to pay all approved and authorized bills. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 8-0.