

Meeting June 18, 2012

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Bauer at 7:10pm 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 any Borough residents who passed away since the last meeting. President Bauer directed Borough Manager Landy to take roll. Councilmen McCloy, McFeaters, Pritts, Tate and Councilwoman 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 June 4, 2012 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 7-0.

Public Comment: None

Speakers: None

Mayor's Report:

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

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

The Department answered 351 calls during the month as follows:

Complaints	88
Requests for assistance	2
Assist Other Departments	2
Accidents investigated	3
Calls Returned	10
Assist Medic 10	15
Assist Mutual Aid	0

The Department made 26 arrests during the month as follows:

Vehicle Code	20
Crimes Code	6
Borough Ordinance	0
Warning Issued	0

Parking Tickets issued are as follows:

\$4.00 Meter Tickets	4
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets	1
Void / Excused	0

\$2.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$	-
\$4.00 Parking Tickets Paid	5	\$	20.00
\$5.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$	-
\$10.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$	-
\$15.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$	-
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets Pd	1	\$	10.00
\$20.00 Parking Tickets Pd	0	\$	-

Return from Magistrate Eckels	\$ 748.70
Return from Clerk of Courts	\$ 219.76
Return from Report Fees	\$ 15.00
Return from Parking Permits	\$ -
Return from Soliciting Permits	\$ -
Return from Restitution	\$ -
Return from Fence Permits	\$ -

Total \$1,013.46

1 Meter Collection \$1,061.63

Total Receipts for the month \$2,075.09

Mayor Lucia said that he attended a seminar on Rental Property Inspection in Greensburg with Councilman McCloy and Councilwoman Stevenson, a WWT meeting with Councilman Tate and a meeting of the Local Emergency Planning Committee with Police Chief Ober. Mayor Lucia said he also attended a meeting with the Westmoreland County Redevelopment Authority.

Solicitor's Report: None

Tax Collector's Report:

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

Property Taxes	\$10,115.84
Per Capita Taxes	\$ 200.00
Total	\$10,335.84

Mr. Landy asked Ms. Yancosky to explain the tax situation regarding the property on Main Street that Mr. and Mrs. Beck are donating to the Borough. Ms. Yancosky said that the Beck's have already paid the spring taxes and when a property is sold the taxes are pro-rated. When that happens, the new owner pays half of the pro-rated amount and the old owner pays the other half. The County has said that they will not exonerate their portion of the fall taxes and it is up to the Borough to decide if they will exonerate their portion. The Borough can ask for exoneration from the school district but there is a possibility that the Borough will have to pay the school taxes for this year.

Treasurer's Report:

Borough Manager Landy read the following Treasurer's Report for the month of May 2012:

Mt. Pleasant Borough Treasurer's Report

May-12

		Previous Balance	Deposits	Disbursements	Balance 2012
General Fund Checking	PNC 00-0122-3513	177,837.00	304,058.59	431,895.59	50,000.00
General Fund Sweep	PNC 10-1149-3394	593,966.10	293,658.18	120,686.00	766,938.28
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	PNC 102-457-4388	63,243.18	8.03	0.00	63,251.21
**Fire	30,000.00				
**Police	0.00				
**Streets	10,000.00				
**Contingency Fund	23,251.21				
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 321615	412,636.88	69.28	5,000.00	407,706.16
**Police	60,000.00				
**Streets	80,000.00				
**Contingency Fund	96,117.95				
**Infrastructure	90,000.00				
**BOMP1 Gas Well	9,250.00				
**BOMP2 Gas Well	4,572.81				
**Frick Park Gas Well	19,423.96				
**Levins	7,760.06				
**Surveillance Cameras	9,000.00				
**Surveillance Camera Grant	10,000.00				
**Early Warning Siren Grant	3,000.00				
**Fire	10,000.00				
**K-9	8,581.38				
Liquid Fuels PLGIT	PLGIT 56980126	110,440.84	1.47	0.00	110,442.31
Monument CD	Standard Bank 328188	6,023.34	0.00	0.00	6,023.34
Holiday Lighting Fund	Standard Bank 050004849	1,801.24	0.08	0.00	1,801.32
Payroll Fund	PNC 00-0122-6415	1,438.10	72,584.89	72,570.91	1,452.08
Veterans Park Fund	First Niagara 981293700	4,599.99	100.00	190.00	4,509.99
Veterans Park Fund	PLGIT 5698025	11,260.88	0.15	0.00	11,261.03
Police Drug Enforcement	PNC 10-1291-2642	850.50	0.00	0.00	850.50
Town Clock Fund	Standard Bank 0010038847	613.09	0.02	0.00	613.11
Medic 10 Checking	Standard Bank 0010107643	109,892.85	43,371.66	50,329.01	102,935.50
Medic 10 Savings	Standard Bank 0310000238	96,220.85	16.35	0.00	96,237.20
Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	PNC Bank 10-3388-4556	25,739.21	0.00	0.00	25,739.21
Total General Fund Balance					1,649,761.24

WWT Operational Acct	Standard Bank 0320012280	282,981.81	37,522.70	34,405.40	286,099.11
WWT Savings	Standard Bank 0050021008	59,239.59	3,018.40	0.00	62,257.99
WWT Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 0000287245	147,830.76	25.12	0.00	147,855.88
**Contingency		87,855.88			
**Infrastructure		60,000.00			
Total WWT Balance					496,212.98
Total Borough funds					2,145,974.22

Respectfully Submitted:
Councilwoman Susan Ruskowski
Secretary Beverly Fedorchak

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

President's Report:

President Bauer said that the summer program has begun at Frick Park and will run until July 27th from 10am to 12pm for grades K-6. Also, the free lunch program sponsored by Southmoreland School District began today and will run through August 10th. Free lunch will be served Monday through Friday 11:45am to 12:45pm except on July 4th.

President Bauer said that the School District will close the tennis courts because of faulty fence and so that they can replace the breaker box panels because they are a safety concern. It was suggested that instead of having four tennis courts we would have two, which would cut down on expenses. President Bauer said he will schedule a meeting with the school district to discuss this possibility.

President Bauer said that he, Councilman Tate, Councilwoman Ruskowski, Councilwoman Stevenson and the Mayor all met with WWT Supervisor Norman Stout to discuss any problems and the meeting went very well. President Bauer said he will be handling WWT since Councilman Tate resigned from that committee at the end of May.

President Bauer read the following Fire Report for the month of May 2012:

Total calls	29
In town	6
Out of town	23
10-45's	10
10-45's w/entrapment	2
Fires	6
Public service	3
Standby's	2
AFA's	7
Turnpike calls	5
Total men answering	367
Avg. member per call	12
Total hours	204

President Bauer said he has been looking at splash parks in other municipalities and will have a report on whether something like that would be good for the Borough.

President Bauer said he would like to see the Borough put out a quarterly newsletter that would include a report from every committee and anything else that is important to the residents.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to contribute \$50 to the Mount Pleasant Area Historical Society for the 2012 Community Picnic. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to accept the resignations of Michele Premoshis from the Mount Pleasant Borough Vacancy Board and the Mount Pleasant Borough Zoning Hearing Board effective immediately. Motion seconded by Councilman McCloy. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to appoint Michael Ruskowski to fill the position on the Mount Pleasant Borough Vacancy Board. Motion seconded by Councilman Tate. Motion carried 6-0. Councilwoman Ruskowski abstained from voting on this motion.

President Bauer said that there have been a lot of Right To Know requests for Open Records material. A lot of the requests pertain to the Mount Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival audits. President Bauer said that some members of the Glass Festival Committee are feeling as if they are being personally attacked. These requests are coming from members of the Landlord Association and President Bauer feels Borough Manager Jeff Landy and Mayor Lucia may be the targets because they are co-chairman of the festival. President Bauer said that the Glass & Ethnic Festival is audited each year by Sarp & Co. and no findings have ever been reported. President Bauer said that the people who benefit from the Glass Festival are the local churches and senior citizens.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to approve Resolution 2012-05 appointing Ms. Diane Bailey to fill the vacancy in the position of council member in the Second Ward and to serve in that position for such period as permitted by Pennsylvania law. Motion seconded by Councilman McCloy. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve Resolution 2012-06 appointing Mr. Cory Snyder to fill the vacancy in the position of council member in the Third Ward and to serve in that position for such period as permitted by Pennsylvania law. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruskowski. Motion carried 7-0.

Mayor Lucia then swore in Ms. Diane Bailey as council person for Mount Pleasant Borough Second Ward and Mr. Cory Snyder as council person for Mount Pleasant Borough Third Ward.

President Bauer said that regarding personal attacks on members of council and borough employees, if any of these people decide to sue they will have to retain their own attorney. They will not be able to use the Borough Solicitor. President Bauer said that if anyone has any questions or needs advice they can call him anytime.

President Bauer said that he will have council committee assignments for the next council meeting.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson for an Executive Session. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruskowski. Motion carried 9-0.

President Bauer said that the Executive Session was held to discuss litigation.

President Bauer reminded everyone that the Firemen's Fair begins on Monday June 25, 2012. President Bauer also asked anyone on council who has some free time to come to the fair and help out. The Firemen's Fair Parade will be Tuesday June 26th at 7:00pm.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy talked about the Mount Pleasant Volunteer Firemen and the service they provided the Borough. Mr. Landy presented Council with coupons from local business that will be given to all of the Mount Pleasant Volunteer Firemen in appreciation of their services. Mr. Landy said he received great response from businesses when he approached them with the idea. The coupons will be presented to the firemen on Thursday evening June 21, 2012. Mr. Landy asked everyone to support the Firemen's Fair as a way to raise money for the Department.

Mr. Landy said that the Westmoreland Conservation District said that Friday June 22nd is the final day for anyone who is interested in a rain garden to contact them. Grant funds for the Storm Water Retrofit Project Phase II must be spent by the end of this year.

Mr. Landy said that the Mount Pleasant Borough Facebook page was put up by borough resident Rick Bowman. Mr. Bowman will manage the page at no cost if Council has no objection.

Mr. Landy said he is researching the insurance and legal ramifications of having a dog park in the Borough and will schedule meetings. Council will be updated at the next meeting.

Mr. Landy said that plans are moving forward for the July 3rd concert in the park and fireworks display. The fireworks fundraiser was unsuccessful but President Bauer said that Council will find money in the budget to pay for the fireworks and donations are welcome. Council will have to start work early next year to plan a fundraiser to pay for fireworks in 2013.

Mr. Landy said he spoke to Colleen Konieczny who is working up a design for the Welcome To Mount Pleasant sign. Her proposal will cost half the amount of the previous design.

Mr. Landy said that he will begin reporting on the Borough's monthly Safety Meetings. Each month representatives from WWT, Streets, Fire, Mount Pleasant EMS and Administration meet to discuss how to improve safety. At the Recent meeting the committee discussed safety vests.

Property Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to accept the donation from Robert and Donna Beck of the property located at 100 W. Main Street Mount Pleasant. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 9-0.

President Bauer thanked Mr. and Mrs. Beck for their generous donation. Council can now move forward with plans to revitalize the east end of Main Street.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to sign the Trail Easement Agreement between the Borough of Mount Pleasant and The Regional Trail Corporation of West Newton PA. The property is located between Shop Demo Depot and Willows Park. Motion seconded by Councilman Tate. Motion carried 9-0

Councilman Pritts thanked everyone who helped clean up outside of the Municipal Building and plant flowers. The building looks much nicer and everyone's hard work is appreciated.

Councilman Pritts reported that the emergency lighting and exit signs were installed in the Municipal Building over the weekend.

Streets Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to hire Justin DePalma for a summer help position with the Mount Pleasant Borough Street Department for 32 hours per week at \$8.00 per hour. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to hire Eugene DeSabato for a summer help position with the Mount Pleasant Borough Street Department for 32 hours per week at \$8.00 per hour. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to hire Kevin Kuzma for a temporary position with the Mount Pleasant Borough Street Department for 32 hours per week at \$12.00 per hour. Motion seconded by Councilman McCloy. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to close Smithfield Street for the annual VFD Street Fair from Sunday June 24th through Sunday July 1st. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to close Main Street/Route 31 from Braddock Rd Avenue to Kennedy Avenue for the annual VFD Street Fair Parade from 6:30pm to 8:30pm on June 26th. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to close Diamond Street/Route 819 from Main Street to Washington Street from 5:30pm to 11:30pm on July 3rd for the annual July 3rd Celebration. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

Zoning & Ordinance Report:

A motion was made by Councilman McCloy to suspend the rules for the purpose of advertising the proposed Sump Pump Ordinance. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman McCloy to advertise Sump Pump Ordinance #634 to be adopted at the council meeting on July 2, 2012. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman McCloy to suspend the rules for a motion to change the fee schedule. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman McCloy to approve Resolution 2012-07 to change the fee schedule for a Transient Retail Merchants permit to include a fee for 90 consecutive days at \$145. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilman McCloy said that on May 31st he, Mayor Lucia and Councilwoman Stevenson attended a seminar on Rental Property Inspection Programs hosted by the PSAB. Susan Smith from Harrisburg ran the program and went all the way through the procedure of adopting an ordinance, from writing the ordinance through enforcing the ordinance. She also spoke about municipalities who have had suits filed against them and the outcomes. In most cases, the ordinance has been upheld. Councilman McCloy said that she referenced Act 90 and said that Council should go on the internet and read it because it is very informative. Councilwoman Stevenson said she left the seminar with a greater sense of confidence that our ordinance has been written and carried out the correct way.

Community & Economic Development/Grants Report:

Councilman McFeaters said that he, President Bauer and Mr. Landy met with representatives from the DEP and KU Resources to discuss possible grant funds to clean up the property owned by the Borough on Bridgeport Street. Councilman McFeaters said that it may also be possible to get the area by the soccer field cleaned up also so that it can be used for parking. KU Resources said that they will work together with the county to try and get grant funds. President Bauer said that it may be possible to erect some storage sheds on the Bridgeport Street property. The Borough could keep the cost per shed at a reasonable rate for borough residents.

Veterans Park Report:

Councilman Tate said that plans for the Veterans Park Video Wall are in the hands of ITS Enclosures and we are waiting to hear from them.

Councilman Bauer said that it may be possible to work with the Laurelville Mennonite Camp to have a shuttle from the Borough out to the camp for residents who want to make use of the swimming pool there. Borough Manager Landy said he is also going to talk to the YMCA about a field trip to the swimming pool for kids who are coming to their summer program at Frick Park.

Mayor Lucia said that the Borough still offers a \$500 reward for information about vandalism in the parks. The reward would be paid to anyone who reports the vandalism after arrest and conviction of the vandals. Mayor Lucia said that he would like to see that reward extended to vandalism of any borough property. Many of the traffic signs in the borough are being spray painted.

Mayor Lucia said that the basketball courts have been kept locked for the last two weeks because of littering. Mayor Lucia said that another problem with the basketball courts is that there are out of town leagues using the courts, making them unavailable to borough residents.

Finance Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to sign a Delinquent Tax Collection Service Agreement with G.H. Harris for collection of 2011 delinquent per capita tax. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to satisfy the tax settlement for the Greenwood and Independence Apartments in the amount of \$22,771.82. Greenwood Apartments = \$10,098.22 and Independence Apartments = \$12,673.60. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

Mayor Lucia said that the Borough just lost \$22,000 from its tax base and it will affect the 2013 budget.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to sign with Higbee Insurance for VFD insurance coverage from July 1, 2012 to July 1, 2013 in the amount of \$20,781.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

Sanitation & Recycling Report:

Councilwoman Stevenson said that she will work on getting recycling containers for the Concerts In The Park and other events in the Borough this summer.

New Business:

Councilwoman Stevenson said that the Cat Committee will be running the fireworks tent at the Mount Pleasant Wal-Mart. All of the fireworks on sale are legal in Pennsylvania. The Cat Committee would appreciate all of the support.

Mayor Lucia spoke about the Mount Pleasant Glass and Ethnic Festival which was started by him and Mr. Landy 26 years ago. Mayor Lucia said that the purpose for starting the festival was to showcase Mount Pleasant and everything it has to offer and to help the church groups and civic organizations raise funds. The festival brings in approximately 40,000 people each year. Mayor Lucia said that there are things being said around town regarding the festival and it's wrong for people to spread rumors and lies because it affects the entire Glass Festival Committee who volunteer many hours every year to Mount Pleasant. President Bauer stated that he would like to see the individuals who are instigating the rumors to put in even a portion of the time that the committee members do to help Mount Pleasant.

Borough Manager Landy suggested that Council invite Sarp & Co. to speak at a council meeting. Sarp & Co. are the auditors who audit the Glass Festival every year and have never found any discrepancy with the financials.

Councilman Tate said that people are unaware of the contributions that the Glass & Ethnic Festival makes to the Borough. They have donated playground equipment and numerous things over the years. Mr. Landy thanked Council for their support of him, Mayor Lucia and the festival committee.

Reading of Communications: None

Discussion and Payment of Bills:

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

Meeting adjourned 8:38pm.

Motions from June 18, 2013 Meeting

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to dispense with the reading of the minutes of June 4, 2012 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

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