

Meeting June 2, 2008

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Tabita at 7:00pm 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 Tabita directed Borough Manager Jeff Landy to take roll. Councilmen Bauer, Beranek, Crivella, Slater, Tate, Wiltrout and Councilwomen Rega and Stevenson were present. Mayor Lucia was present and Solicitor Toohey was absent. 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 May 19, 2008. Motion seconded by Councilman Slater. Motion carried 9-0.

Citizen of the Month: Sammy Conyette

Speakers:

John Sarp of Sarp & Co. reported that the 2007 audit of Borough funds is 90% complete and will be completed this coming week. Mr. Sarp commended Borough Manager Landy and Borough Secretary Fedorchak for doing an excellent job throughout the year which makes the audit go smoothly. Councilman Crivella asked Mr. Sarp what is being audited and Mr. Sarp said they are auditing all of the Borough funds.

Mark Stanton reported to Council that he has closed his company, Municipal Code Inspections Inc. He and his entire staff will now be working for Building Inspection Underwriters and they can take over the inspections for the Borough if Council wishes. Mr. Stanton said he is looking forward to helping Council with the work they are doing in the community. There is no written contract with BIU. BIE will be contracted with Westmoreland Council of Governments. Council can simply appoint BIU and if they are dissatisfied they can discharge them. The cost to the Borough will remain the same.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to suspend the rules to appoint Building Inspection Underwriters for code enforcement and inspections. Motion seconded by Councilman Slater. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to appoint Building Inspection Underwriters for code enforcement and building inspections in the Borough. Motion seconded by Councilman Slater. Motion carried 9-0.

Jamie Faló, Library Director, Mount Pleasant Public Library updated Council on the library as follows:

- Summer Library hours will be Mon – Thurs 10am to 8pm, Fri 10am to 5pm and Sat 9:30am to 4:30pm.
- The Mount Pleasant Library collection consists of over 24,000 items.
- The Library offers copy and fax services and offer tax forms to the public.
- In January 2008 the Mount Pleasant Library joined the Westmoreland County Library Network and now the public has access to over 750,000 items. With one library card people can go to over 25 libraries throughout Westmoreland County.
- Citizens can go on line and request items to be sent to the Mount Pleasant Library. Deliveries are made 4-5 times a week.
- There are a number of research databases at the library.
- Last year the door count at the library was over 40,000.
- There are 4 computers at the library for public use.
- 9 new computers will be purchased with grant money from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.
- The summer reading program begins on 6/11/08 and runs through the end of July.
- The Library has reading groups for adults and young people and an adult writing class.
- Numerous programs are scheduled for the summer.

Ms. Faló thanked Council for its continuing support. The web site for the Library is www.mountpleasantpalibrary.org and all events are listed on the website. President Tabita said that the Library is an important asset to the community. Ms. Faló stated that the Mount Pleasant Public Library services all of Westmoreland County free of charge. Councilwoman Stevenson said she has attended Library meetings and she feels that Ms. Faló is taking the Library into the future with a lot of energy and enthusiasm.

Public Comment: None

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia read the following Police Report for the month of May 2008:

Report of the Mount Pleasant
Police Department for the
month of May 2008

The Department answered 421 calls during the month as follows:

Complaints	126
Requests for assistance	11
Assist Other Departments	11
Accidents investigated	5
Calls Returned	25
Assist Medic 10	11

The Department made 84 arrests during the month as follows:

Vehicle Code	77
Crimes Code	7

Parking Tickets issued are as follows:

\$1.00 Meter Tickets	56
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets	6
Void / Excused	0

\$1.00 Parking Tickets Paid	11	\$	11.00
\$5.00 Parking Tickets Paid			
\$10.00 Parking Tickets Paid	3	\$	30.00

Return from Magistrate Eckels	\$2,632.19
Return from Clerk of Courts	\$ 112.68
Return from Report Fees	\$ 60.00
Return from Parking Permits	\$ 5.00
Return from Soliciting Permits	\$ -
Return from Restitution	\$ -

Total \$2,850.87

Meter Receipts 1 Collection \$1,241.44

Total Receipts for the month \$4,092.31

Mayor Lucia asked Police Chief Ober for an update on the police patrols in Frick Park and Chief Ober said everything is going very well.

Mayor Lucia thanked the citizens of the Borough for the wonderful turnout for the Memorial Day ceremonies in Mount Pleasant and asked that they continue to fly the American Flag through the summer months.

Mayor Lucia thanked Borough Manager Landy and the Recreation Committee for the first 2008 Concert In The Park last night. The schedule for the 2008 concert season is now available.

Mayor Lucia asked Council's permission to attend the annual Pennsylvania State Mayor's Association Conference in Gettysburg from July 17, 2008 through July 20, 2008.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer for Mayor Lucia to attend the annual Pennsylvania State Mayor's Association Conference in Gettysburg from July 17, 2008 through July 20, 2008. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Rega. Motion carried 9-0

Solicitor's Report: None

Tax Collector's Report:

Tax Collector Carol Yancosky gave the following report for the month of May 2008:

Property taxes	\$9,564.96
Per Capita taxes	\$ 137.50
Total	\$9,702.46

President's Report:

President Tabita said that meetings with Allegheny Power are taking place regarding the Main Street Street-Scape Project. The Borough may be ready to request bids within the next 30 days.

President Tabita reported that Mount Pleasant Veterans Park received a Smart Growth Award at a dinner in Greensburg at the University of Pittsburgh on May 28, 2008.

President Tabita said that Hallie Chatfield, Revitalization Coordinator for Westmoreland County approached us concerning a 3-year Main Street Manager Program with Scottdale. $\frac{3}{4}$ of the salary for the Main Street Manager is paid the first year, $\frac{1}{2}$ the second year and $\frac{1}{4}$ the third year. The Borough would have to budget \$5,000 the first year, \$10,000 the second year and \$15,000 the third year. The manager would integrate with the local businesses with marketing, seminars and education. This person would be available for the Elm Street Project and well as handle the paperwork for grant funding. President Tabita suggested that the BDA cover $\frac{1}{2}$ of the cost to the Borough. To make this work, a nine-person board would have to be formed between Mount Pleasant and Scottdale with four people from Mount Pleasant, four people from Scottdale and one neutral person. Two of the Mount Pleasant members would be from Council and two would be from the BDA. To begin the process, Council would have Solicitor Toohey look into forming a board that would be a 501 non-profit organization.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to prepare documentation to create a board with Scottdale for the purpose of a Main Street Manager Program. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Rega. Motion carried 9-0.

President Tabita said that quotes have been received for a Mount Pleasant promotional video to encourage people to look at Mount Pleasant to establish homes and businesses. The lowest quote was from Kingfish Worldwide Inc. at \$4,948.35 for a fifteen or twenty minute video. \$3,000 has been budgeted for marketing in 2008 and money can be taken from another line item. Councilman Crivella asked how often we would have to budget to have the video updated and President Tabita said probably every two years.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to accept and award the written quote from Kingfish Worldwide Inc. for concepts, design and production of a promotional video of Mount Pleasant Borough. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Rega.

President Tabita said that Solicitor Toohey is still proceeding with a solution to the Gormley and DiNicola properties. It is a very involved and complicated issue. The goal is to do what is best and safest for the Borough.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy said that the borough office is receiving numerous calls reporting high grass and the police are keeping on top of notifying the residents.

Keystate Publishing will have a final report on the ordinance recodification on June 12, 2008 and Council can review it and make a decision.

Mr. Landy said he will be working with the Redevelopment Authority on the application for a Main Street Manager discussed earlier by President Tabita. This program between Scottdale and Mount Pleasant to share a Main Street Manager may be the first in the state.

The Recreation Committee has been working on putting the finishing touches on Veterans Park and the residents will have a chance to enjoy the park during the Concerts In The Park this summer.

Mr. Landy said that he and Mayor Lucia along with Councilman Bauer and Al Maida attended an Emergency Management Seminar at WCCC and there is a great deal available to the Borough during an emergency.

Mayor Lucia and Mr. Landy had several meetings with Pittsburgh Electric Engines located at the Lenox plant. They have asked the Borough along with Senator Regola and Congressman Murtha

and the Mount Pleasant Township Supervisors for support in raising the capital they will need. Mayor Lucia said that Council would be welcome to tour the facility. The engine they are developing will save 40% on fuel costs. The Teamsters and Independent Truckers may offer their support.

Manager Landy and Mayor Lucia are working on a protocol for handling an emergency situation when road closings are necessary and who should be notified.

Mr. Landy said that Veterans Park is now a WiFi location with internet service provided by Armstrong Cable.

Mr. Landy said that this Council should be commended for being so interactive and forward thinking.

Mr. Landy reminded everyone that the Firemen's Fair will be June 16th thru the 21st and the parade will be on June 17th. Mayor Lucia asked anyone riding in the parade to inform Secretary Fedorchak.

Waste Water Treatment Report:

Councilman Tate reported that of the six properties requiring additional plumbing work to accomplish tap-in to the new lines installed in connection with the CSO Project five have been tapped-in, inspected and approved. The project is 91% complete.

The truck that WWT leased from the County for \$1 has been refurbished by the WWT personnel and Council will be able to see the truck at the work session. A lot of labor was put into fixing the truck.

Councilman Tate congratulated the students graduating from Mount Pleasant Area High School for all of their accomplishments throughout the year and for the scholarships they have earned.

Public Safety, Zoning and Ordinance Report:

Councilman Bauer read the following Medic 10 report for the month of May 2008:

Total Calls for the month	104
Medical	87
MVA	6
Fire	5
Transfer	0
Standby	6
In Town	57
Out of Town	47
Members per call	2.5

Councilman Bauer said that at the Emergency Management Seminar he attended they stressed the importance of NIMS certifications. All borough officials need the 100 and 700 certifications. The course can be taken on-line.

Councilman Bauer said that a nurse is still needed to serve on the Health Appeals Board. If any nurse is interested in serving on the board please call the borough office.

Councilman Bauer said that he and Manager Landy are working on a pay scale for the part-time police officers.

Councilman Bauer presented Council with the 2007 Glass and Ethnic Festival Audit. A copy will be on file in the borough office for anyone wanting to see it.

Councilman Bauer said that the sidewalk on Washington Street from Church Street to College Avenue is in bad shape on the south side. This sidewalk needs to be fixed and Verizon is reluctant to pay the cost. Council needs to decide how to handle this. Verizon is saying that the trees are what are damaging the sidewalk and the Borough planted the trees. Mayor Lucia said that the Borough did plant the trees. Councilman Bauer said that if trees have to be removed they should be replaced but planted inside the sidewalk.

Councilman Bauer said there are trees on Mullin Avenue that have dead branches and people have been complaining.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to have the trees on Mullin Avenue trimmed. Money was budgeted for this in line item #417.01. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Rega. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to close Social Alley between Washington St. and Union Alley June 8, 2008 between 11am and 5pm for the Second Baptist Youth & Friends Day. Motion seconded by Councilman Slater. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to suspend the rules for the purpose of a motion to close the street for the Firemen's Fair. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Rega. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to close Smithfield Street from June 16, 2008 to June 21, 2008 for the Firemen's Fair. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Rega.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to suspend the rules for the purpose of a motion to close Main St. for the Firemen's Parade. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Rega.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to close Main Street from Braddock Road Ave to Kennedy Ave on June 17, 2008 from 6:00pm to 8:30pm for the Firemen's Parade with permission from PennDot. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Rega. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilman Bauer reported that the Junior Firemen had their first meeting last Thursday evening and 12 young people aged 14 to 18 years old attended. When these young people are old enough many become volunteer firemen and assure the future of the Mount Pleasant VFD. Mayor Lucia said that he check with Higbee Insurance regarding the Junior Firemen being covered under the Borough policy and was told that the VFD has to change their by-laws to include Junior Firemen and send a copy of that change to the borough office. Mayor Lucia said that if there are any young people interested in joining the Junior Firemen they can call 724-547-8501. Mayor Lucia reminded everyone that WCCC offers volunteer firemen free tuition for two years.

Mayor Lucia asked Councilman Bauer if the amendment to the sign ordinance has been completed and Councilman Bauer said that it should be done before the completion of the recodification. He should have samples of ordinances from other communities at the next meeting.

Street Report:

Councilman Crivella said that the monthly meetings of the Street Committee have been scheduled for 6:30pm in Chambers the Tuesday after each regular council meeting.

Councilman Crivella said that the Street Department worked in the parks during the month of May to get them ready for the summer months. They also worked on patching potholes and sweeping the streets. Councilman Crivella and Street Superintendent Mario Fontanazza met with the engineer of the CSO Project. The Street Department will begin repainting the lines on the streets this coming week.

Councilman Bauer said that the line for the turn lane from Main Street onto Church Street needs to be moved back approximately 10 feet so that trucks have more room to turn from Church onto Main.

Finance Report:

Councilwoman Rega said that she has looked at the budgets for the General Fund and for WWT and expenses are below budget. The revenues are below budget because we have not seen the anticipated income from the gas wells so it will be important to keep expenses down for the rest of the year. Money from some of the revenue accounts will come in soon.

Councilwoman Rega presented Council with a \$500 check from Rochling Machine Plastics for the 2008 July 3rd Fireworks Display.

Property Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Beranek to accept the Levin property on Bridgeport St. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Beranek to direct the Solicitor to research the possibility of the Tax Claim Bureau conducting a private judicial sale for the DiNicola property initiated by the Borough making an offer to purchase the property at a price equal to the amount of all outstanding taxes on the DiNicola property. Motion seconded by Councilman Bauer. Motion passed 9-0.

Business/Economic Development & Contracts Report:

Councilman Wiltrout gave the following answers to questions he received regarding the recycling program:

- All labels need to be removed from cans.
- All lids and security rings must be removed from glass and plastic because these are not recyclable even though the glass and plastic container is.
- The pull-tab lids on tuna cans etc. is recyclable as long as all food has been removed.
- The vegetable cans with white lining inside are recyclable.
- Cereal boxes and all cardboard with a waxy coating are not recyclable.
- Plastic garbage bags are not recyclable. Therefore if you are saving newspaper in plastic bags the newspaper will have to be removed from the bag before being put in the recycling bin.

Allied Waste will be sending information to residents and people can call Allied Waste with any questions they have.

President Tabita said that the Borough has received the 2008/2009 insurance premiums from Higbee Insurance. The cost is approximately \$1,000 high than last year and the deductible remains \$25,000. The coverage for the VFD has been increased. Council needs to ratify the contract for Higbee Ins to provide us coverage.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to suspend the rules for the purpose of a motion to ratify and approve the Higbee Ins. contract. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Rega. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to ratify and approve Higbee Ins. Option 1 contract in the amount of \$97,927.00 for insurance coverage for the Borough. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Rega. Motion carried 9-0.

Human Resources and Employee Contracts Report:

Councilwoman Stevenson said that the Editor of the Mount Pleasant Journal called Borough Manager Jeff Landy knowledgeable and efficient.

Councilwoman Stevenson asked if the rising cost of fireworks will have an impact on the Borough's July 3rd Fireworks Display. Mr. Landy said that the 2008 budget was increased to cover the increased cost of fireworks. The Borough has a very good relationship with Keystone Fireworks and will be able to have an even better display this year. Anyone interested in donating to this years firework display of fireworks. The Borough has a very good relationship with Keystone Fireworks and will be able to have an even better display this year. Anyone interested in donating to this years firework display can call the borough office.

Recreation Report:

Councilman Slater said he received donations of \$500 each from the Assunta Club and the Slovak Club in Mount Pleasant for the Fireworks Display.

Councilman Slater said he has been getting favorable comments regarding the police presence at Frick Park. Councilman Slater said he would like to see "Do Not Litter" signs at the park with a fine attached.

Councilman Slater asked Council for a motion to approve the Basketball Recreation League use of the basketball court.

A motion was made by Councilman Slater to suspend the rules for the purpose of a motion to allow the Basketball Recreation League use of the basketball court. Motion seconded by Councilman Wiltrout. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Slater allowing the Basketball Recreation League use of the Frick Park Basketball Court for two months starting June 1, 2008. Motion seconded by Councilman Wiltrout. Motion carried 9-0.

New garbage cans will be installed at Veterans Park by the Street Department. Trees have been planted at Veterans Park. Mr. Landy said that the Street Dept should water the trees every day for the first month on days when it doesn't rain.

Councilman Slater said that he would like the Borough to have a banner on Main Street advertising the Concerts in the Park. Mayor Lucia said that banners have not been put up on Main Street recently because the wind has caused problems with transformers. Councilman Slater suggested banners on the poles instead and Mayor Lucia said that the hardware is already on the poles for banners.

Councilman Bauer said that there are approximately 128 spaces left on the tablets at Veterans Park for names.

Councilman Slater said that Farrell Electric should be called to put bulbs in a couple of the lights at Frick Park and look at the transformer because it is making a loud noise.

Councilman Bauer asked Council's permission to draft a letter to be sent to all of the state capitals requesting a state flag so that all 50 flags can be flown at Veterans Park.

A discussion ensued regarding changing the crosswalk at the alley way between the Gazebo and Veterans Wall to brick. Councilman Bauer said that Greensburg has stamped asphalt that looks like brick. It may be possible to do it in July 2008 when Penn Dot paves Diamond St. Councilman Bauer said he would like to see all of the crosswalks on Main St. done in this manner.

New Business:

President Tabita suggested that the neighborhoods could start cleanup projects and put up little signs like on the highways saying "this section of ____cleaned by____". President Tabita thanked the businesses on Main Street who planted flowers at the base of the trees. Mayor Lucia recognized the Garden Club for their generous efforts as well.

Reading of Communications:

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- A letter from Scottdale Borough requesting that they be allowed to bring their yard waste to our compost pile.
- A request from the Westmoreland Municipal Administrators Forum to host the next meeting on Friday June 13, 2008 at 9am at Leo's Grille 31. All of Council is welcome to attend.

Discussion and Payment of Bills:

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

Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

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

Meeting adjourned 8:50pm

Motions from June 2, 2008 Meeting

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to dispense with the reading of the minutes of May 19, 2008. Motion seconded by Councilman Slater. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to suspend the rules to appoint Building Inspection Underwriters for code enforcement and inspections. Motion seconded by Councilman Slater. Motion carried 9-0.

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A motion was made by Councilman Slater allowing the Basketball Recreation League use of the Frick Park Basketball Court for two months starting June 1, 2008. Motion seconded by Councilman Wiltrout. Motion carried 9-0.

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

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