

## Meeting August 23, 2010

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 and also in remembrance of past Council President Richard Cunningham. President Bauer directed Borough Manager Landy to take roll. Councilmen Beranek, Crivella, McCloy, Tabita, Tate and Councilwomen Stevenson and Ruszkowski were present. Mayor Lucia was present and the Solicitor was absent. President Bauer stated we have a quorum.

### Reading of Previous Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to dispense with the reading of the minutes of August 2, 2010. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to appoint Mr. David Pritts to the 1<sup>st</sup> Ward Council seat vacated by Jim Tucholski. Motion seconded by Councilman McCloy. Motion carried 8-0.

Mayor Lucia swore in Mr. David Pritts as Councilman for Mount Pleasant 1<sup>st</sup> Ward council seat.

### Public Comment:

Mr. Mark Krystyniak, 506 Ridgeview Road, Mount Pleasant addressed Council about turning two vacant lots on Main Street owned by him into parking lots. Mr. Krystyniak said the parking lots are needed for doctors who are moving into the Benchmark building. Mr. Krystyniak would also like to purchase the adjacent DiNicola property that is owned by the Borough to expand the parking lot. Mr. Krystyniak said that he will be removing the fence, installing a new sidewalk and wall and then reinstalling a fence on top of the wall with a ramp going down into the parking lot. Two light poles will also be installed for safety purposes. Mr. Krystyniak discussed storm water issues if he paves the parking lot. The parking lot would not be open to the public, only personnel from the proposed doctors offices. Mr. Krystyniak said that he will retain ownership of the property and will lease it to the owner of the Benchmark building. President Bauer said that he will have our Street Department and Westmoreland Conservation District look into the storm water issue. Mr. Krystyniak said he is willing to pay his pro-rated share of any storm water lines.

Ms. Mary Lou Hunter said that she went to the Mount Pleasant Planning Commission for permission to subdivide her property on Yoder Avenue and they told her that there is not enough footage for the property to be subdivided. The Planning Commission told Ms. Hunter to approach Council about creating an R4 Zone to accommodate her subdivision. Councilman Tabita said that the lot does not meet the requirements of R2 Zoning. Council discussed creating an R4 Zone and the problems it would cause.

### Speakers:

Mr. Jeff Wolski, SWP Railroad spoke to Council about changing every railroad crossing to LED along Kennedy Avenue. Mr. Wolski said that the road at the Mount Pleasant crossing has been moved into the signal. The Railroad is going to put up a guardrail going out approximately 5 feet from the signal to protect the signal and any railroad personnel required to work on it. This would reduce the driving lane and there may not be enough room for 3 lanes. The Railroad has a 65ft right-of-way from the center of the track, which affects Kennedy Avenue. Mr. Wolski said he will have the area marked and Council said they will look at the situation.

Mr. John Sarp from Sarp & Co. addressed Council about the 2009 Borough Audit that was just completed. Mr. Sarp said the audit went very well. The auditors did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that were considered to be material weaknesses. The budget shows \$192,000 more in revenue than expenses, which is commendable. Mr. Sarp discussed some points of the audit with Council.

Mr. Nino Barsotti, Mount Pleasant BDA discussed the following points:

- Pedestrian Walkways.
- Slowing down traffic on Main St.
- Trucks jack braking in downtown area.
- Adding handicap parking space.
- The Sign Ordinance.
- Directional parking lot signs
- The Farmer's Market

- The Mount Pleasant Borough website.

Mr. Barsotti also discussed the following proposed BDA Projects:

- Downtown Inventory Project.
- Laurel Highlands Visitors Bureau Brochure Distribution Project.
- Main Street Banner Project.
- Special Newspaper Advertising Package.
- Mount Pleasant BDA Website.
- Tree Trimming Project
- Sidewalk Sale Days.
- Planter Project for Sidewalks.

Mr. Barsotti introduced Ms. Luanne Hout who is the new manager of the Mount Pleasant BDA.

Mr. Barsotti said he would be willing to meet with the Ordinance Committee to discuss the Sign Ordinance revisions. A meeting was set up for 6:30pm on 8/24/10.

Council discussed making the crosswalks more visible on Main Street and President Bauer said that he feels if the crosswalks were repainted with white X's it would help. Mayor Lucia said lighted signs on the decorative lights would be even better.

**Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Lucia gave all of Council a report on the Mayor's Conference he attended recently.

A motion was made by Councilman Tabita to permit the 5K Race sponsored by the Knights of Columbus on August 28, 2010. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 9-0.

Mayor Lucia requested a motion to send a letter to Homeland Security for a disaster alert siren in Mount Pleasant Borough for tornados, storms etc. to alert the public. Mayor Lucia feels Homeland Security has funds available.

Police Officer George Grippo reported that he has received sufficient donations to activate the Mount Pleasant K-9 Unit. Office Grippo requested permission to start distributing the funds and begin the program.

A motion was made by Councilman Tabita to suspend the rules for the purpose of signing an agreement between officer George Grippo and the Borough concerning the K-9 Unit. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tabita to sign an agreement between Officer George Grippo and the Borough regarding Officer Grippo's position as K-9 Officer. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 9-0.

**Solicitor's Report:**

Borough Manager Landy said that Solicitor Fred Wolfe is working on getting a reimbursement on the cost of the Aerial Fire Truck. The Borough feels that the mileage was misrepresented and that we are owed a refund on the purchase price.

**Treasurers Report:**

Borough Manager Jeff Landy read the following Treasurers Report for the month of July 2010:

**Mt. Pleasant Borough Treasurer's Report: Jul-10**

		Previous Balance	Deposits	Disbursements	Balance Jul10
General Fund Checking	PNC 00-0122-3513	50,189.00	177,353.28	177,542.28	50,000.00
General Fund Sweep	PNC 10-1149-3394	719,672.90	72,070.04	72,939.79	718,803.15
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	PNC 102-457-4388	69,902.97	17.24	0.00	69,920.21
**Fire		30,000.00			
**Police		10,000.00			

**Streets		10,000.00				
**Contingency Fund		19,920.21				
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 321615	196,018.77	153.11	0.00		196,171.88
**Police		40,000.00				
**Streets		40,000.00				
**Contingency Fund		56,671.88				
**Infrastructure		50,000.00				
**BOMP1 Recreation Fund		7,000.00				
**Frick Park Recreation Fund		2,500.00				
Liquid Fuels PLGIT	PLGIT 56980126	94,722.32	4.40	4,851.86		89,874.86
Monument CD	Standard Bank 242781	5,739.23	0.00	0.00		5,739.23
Holiday Lighting Fund	Standard Bank 050004849	1,799.25	0.16	0.00		1,799.41
Payroll Fund	PNC 00-0122-6415	1,473.93	49,264.29	48,970.49		1,767.73
Veterans Park Fund	First Niagra 981293700	5,708.71	0.00	242.25		5,466.46
Veterans Park PLGIT	PLGIT 5698025	11,253.06	0.54	0.00		11,253.60
Police Drug Enforcement	PNC 10-1291-2642	850.50	0.00	0.00		850.50
Town Clock Fund	Standard Bank 0010038847	612.41	0.05	0.00		612.46
Storm Water Retrofit Phase 1	PNC Bank 10-2825-9692	482.01	30,330.64	0.00		30,812.65
<b>Total General Fund Balance</b>						<b>1,183,072.14</b>
WWT Operational Acct	Standard Bank 0320012280	224,223.16	102,984.27	44,386.70		282,820.73
WWT Savings	Standard Bank 0050021008	25,807.18	3,030.73	0.00		28,837.91
WWT Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 0000287245	178,078.31	100.04	0.00		128,178.35
**Contingency		88,078.31				
**Infrastructure		40,000.00				
<b>Total WWT Balance</b>						<b>439,836.99</b>
<b>Total Borough funds</b>						<b>1,622,909.13</b>

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve the Treasurer's Report as read. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 9-0.

### President's Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Tabita to advertise for bids for contractors to build Ramsey Terrace Rain Gardens using grant money from Storm Water Retrofit Project Phase II. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tabita to approve the location of the road and pipeline for BOMP2 at the Bridgeport Street property. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

Borough Manager Landy said that the location of the pipeline will not affect the location of the proposed railroad crossing for the Coal & Coke Bike Trail. The gas well should be drilled by December 2010. There will be a meeting regarding the gas well at the Bridgeport Street property on Wednesday at 3:30pm.

President Bauer said that he and Borough Manager Landy met with Al Pate about placement of the Welcome To Mount Pleasant sign. Mr. Pate was very receptive to the idea and said he will even pay for the electric costs to light the sign. The Borough Street Department will clear the area before the sign is erected. Architect Jim Gayton will prepare a design for the sign and the sign should be up before the Christmas Holidays.

President Bauer reported that there is an article in this month's Borough News about Mr. Landy and the recent G3 Conference. President Bauer said there was also an article about Trafford Borough and their "no tolerance for speeding". President Bauer said he would like to adopt the same policy in Mount Pleasant.

President Bauer asked for an update on the chimes at the Town Clock. Councilman Beranek said that he was told the system that is in place now can't be fixed and a new system would cost approximately \$20,000. Councilman Tabita said that he believes someone knowledgeable in electronics could fix it. Mr. Landy said that Premier Audio Video can install something that will work but won't have the flexibility that a Carolon system would have.

President Bauer said he would like to see bike racks on Main Street soon to accommodate riders from the Coal & Coke Bike Trail and he would like to see the Welcome To Mount Pleasant Signs up before the end of the year.

**Borough Manager’s Report:**

Borough Manager Landy made the following report:

- He has received resumes for an intern and will be doing interviews this week. The intern will be at no cost to the Borough.
- He has designed a sign for a photo spot at CoGo’s and will have prices for the next meeting.
- There is a different phone system in the borough office that includes some voice prompts.
- The demolition of the Gormley property should begin in September. Bids will be sent to the County and they will chose the demolition company. The county suggested putting up a sign that demolition will begin soon.
- Cell phones for the borough employees were upgraded under the new government contract at no cost to the Borough.
- He attended a meeting with Mount Pleasant Township and Westmoreland County Conservation District regarding grant money to be used to curtail some of the flooding coming from the trailer parks and the apartment complex onto N Geary Street.
- County officials would like to meet with borough officials after the Gormley building is demolished to discuss possible uses for the property.
- Bids will be requested soon for equipment for Jack Bobb’s Park using money from the CDBG grant monies.
- The Center Avenue paving project will be done in the spring of 2011.

Borough Manager Landy said that the Borough’s 2011 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Police pension is zero and the 2011 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Non-Uniform pension will be \$49,072.

**Waste Water Treatment Report:**

Councilman Tate said that he obtained quotes to replace the windows at the WWT Plant. WWT personnel will do the installation.

Councilman Tate asked Council to look at the report from Gibson Thomas Engineers regarding the properties on Quarry Street.

**Public Safety Report:**

Councilman Beranek read the following report for the month of July 2010:

Total Calls	67
In-Town Calls	24
Out of Town Calls	43
10-45’s In Town	3
10-45’s Out Of Town	19
Fires	12
AFA’s	10
Turnpike Calls	7
Public Service	5
Ambulance Assists	2
Stand-bys	2
Air Truck	2
Flooding	5
Total Man Hours	543
Average Men Per Call	13
Total Calls	322

A motion was made by Councilman Beranek to authorize the purchase of a Ford Crown Victoria for the Mount Pleasant Police Department from the CoStars Program. Motion seconded by Councilman Tabita. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Beranek to approve expenditures for the K-9 Unit from Line Item #328.94 as needed. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilman Beranek said he has a request from David Bert at 424 Howard Street to cut the curb and paint a yellow line to allow him to have a driveway so that he can get his cars off of Howard Street, which has become very congested.

A motion was made by Councilman Beranek to suspend the rules for a motion to grant David Bert's request to cut the curb in front of his property. Motion seconded by Councilman Tabita. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Beranek to cut the curb and paint a yellow line at 424 Howard Street to allow the property owner to put in a driveway. Motion seconded by Councilman Tabita. Motion carried 9-0.

**Zoning and Ordinance Report:** None

**Street Report:**

Councilman Tate said that the Street Department will patch Washington Street before the Glass & Ethnic Festival in September and will take care of the weeds at the Bridgeport Street property. Mayor Lucia said that the weeds around the borough building need to be addressed as well as the volley ball court.

Councilman Tabita said that he received a request from Dennis Taylor on Frick Avenue to repair the street in front of his house. Councilman Tate said he will bring it to the attention of the Street Department.

**Parks and Recreation Report:**

Councilman Crivella said that he and Mr. Landy will meeting with McCormick Taylor Engineers on Wednesday to choose equipment for Jack Bobb's Park so that it can go out for bid.

A motion was made by Councilman Crivella to allow the Girls Softball League to use Frick Park Ball Field Saturday & Sunday August 28<sup>th</sup> through October 31<sup>st</sup> excluding the weekend of the Glass and Ethnic Festival. Motion seconded by Councilman Tabita. Motion carried 9-0.

Council discussed the allowed uses for the ball field at Frick Park.

Councilman Tate said he received a request from the Mount Pleasant Junior Football League for \$1,500 to help them with the cost of wiring their new equipment shed. Mr. Landy said that he and Councilwoman Ruszkowski would have to look at the budget to see where the money can come from.

Councilman Tabita said that the Borough should look into acquiring a portion of the Excelsa Health property at Eagle and Reservoir Streets to use to build tennis courts since the School District may remove the existing courts.

**Veterans Park Report:** None

**Finance Report:**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to transfer \$30,000 from the Police line item of the General Fund Standard Bank Budgetary Reserve Account to the General Fund PNC Account to purchase the new police vehicle. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

**Property Report:** None

**Sanitation and Recycling Report:**

Councilwoman Stevenson said that people are still putting things in their recycling bins that can not be recycled. Allied Waste will not empty any bin that has non-recyclables in it. They will leave a note and let you know what your violation is. President Bauer said it would be nice to have recycling containers available at the Borough events.

**Community and Economic Development Report:**

Councilman Tabita said that he feels it is imperative that we have more open communications with the Coal & Coke Trail regarding in what direction the trail is expanded as well as what the sign will look like. The Borough would like to see the bike trail go from Mount Pleasant to Connellsville. Councilman Tabita said he would like to talk to our engineers about bringing the bike trail to Washington Street and mark both sides with painted "share the road" lines and signage.

Councilman Tabita brought up the subject of Ms. Hunter's request to subdivide her property on Yoder Avenue. In order for that to happen there would have to be an R4 designation which would allow for 1800 square feet lots. Council agreed that an R4 designation would not be in the best interest of the Borough.

A motion was made by Councilman Tabita to retain the current Borough zoning designations. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Councilman McCloy abstained from voting because he lives in the neighborhood in question. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilman Tabita said that the Borough Engineers are going to approve the Wilkins Subdivision. Mayor Lucia said that the alley will have to be named because there is an apartment in the rear that will have to be numbered.

**New Business:**

Councilwoman Stevenson said that the Tomato Festival at West Overton will be this weekend and there will be a number of Mount Pleasant vendors including the Cat Committee and the Historical Society.

Councilwoman Stevenson said she attended the meeting of the Library Board this morning and they would like Council to send them the 2010 Library contribution. President Bauer said that Council is still waiting for the most recent Library audit. President Bauer would like Councilwoman Stevenson as a member of the Library Board to demand information regarding the audit. Councilwoman Stevenson said the audit was delivered to Council. President Bauer said that the audit was missing vital information. Councilwoman Stevenson said that the Library is not subject to the Open Records Law, but as a board member she has the right to see any financial information she requests. Councilwoman Stevenson said that the library bylaws state that there should be 11 board members and there are now only 7. So Council can appoint another board member at any time to fill the seat. Mr. Landy said that there is a borough ordinance stating that we must contribute \$7,500 per year to the Library. Mr. Landy said perhaps Council should look at ordinances from other municipalities in order to change ours in regards to the contribution amount. Councilwoman Stevenson said that the Library is actually part of the state library system and not under the control of the Borough. Councilwoman Stevenson said that the Borough can do their own audit of the Library. Councilwoman Stevenson said she would like the borough auditor to look at the audit we received from the Library that Council feels is incomplete and give his opinion.

**Reading of Communications:**

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- The Westmoreland County Parks & Recreation Citizens Advisory Board will hold it's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Green Luncheon at Twin Lakes Park, Pavilion #5 on September 23, 2010 beginning at 11:30am. The cost is \$20 per person and the RSVP must be returned by September 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Westmoreland County is having its 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Community and Economic Development Summit on September 9, 2010 from 8:30am to 4:30pm at the Conference Center at St. Vincent College in the Fred M Rogers Center, Latrobe. The cost is \$20 per person.
- Central Westmoreland C.O.G. meeting will be August 24, 2010 at 7:00pm.
- Smouse Trucks Vans & Trailers, Inc. will be having an open house on September 2, 2010 from 8am to 6pm.

**Discussion and Payment of Bills:**

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

**Miscellaneous and Adjournment:**

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

**Meeting adjourned 10:08pm**

### **Motions from August 23, 2010 Meeting**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to dispense with the reading of the minutes of August 2, 2010. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

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