

Meeting September 19, 2011

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 and there was a moment of silence for our deployed troops. President Bauer directed Borough Manager Landy to take roll. Councilmen Beranek, Crivella, McCloy, Pritts, Tabita and Councilwomen Ruszkowski and Stevenson were present. Mayor Lucia arrived at 8:03pm and Solicitor Wolfe was absent. 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 September 6, 2011 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

Public Comment:

Kevin McFeaters, 826 W Washington Street, Mount Pleasant PA 15666 spoke to Council regarding the Landlord Ordinance. Mr. McFeaters said that the landlords have voiced their objections to the ordinance and have not received a response from Council. President Bauer said that Council was advised by the Borough Solicitor to listen to the comments from landlords and not to respond since there may be litigation. Mr. Gerald Rendine said that no litigation has been planned by the landlords and that they would rather work with Council to avoid it. Mr. Rendine said that the landlords have not officially formed an association.

Mr. Robert Karfelt Sr., 306 W Main Street, Mount Pleasant PA 15666 asked Council what the fee for a building permit is. President Bauer explained that the fee for a building permit is set by B.I.U. who issues the building permits. The Borough does not collect fees for building permits and does not issue the permits. Mr. Karfelt insisted that in the past there was no charge for a building permit for construction with a cost of under \$2,500. Mr. Landy said that he believes Mr. Karfelt is confusing a building permit with a zoning permit. The Borough issues the zoning permits and collects the fees for zoning permits. There is no fee for a zoning permit with a cost of under \$2,500 but Council does not know if that also applies to building permits.

Mr. Scott Salvatore, 119 N Hazelnut Drive, Mount Pleasant PA 15666 representing Mount Pleasant Little League spoke to Council regarding the project for the Little League Field that was funded by a grant from the gas well monies. The project included erecting fenced in batting cages at the Little League Field. The Little League is ready to move forward with the project as soon as it received a green light from the Borough.

Speakers: None

Solicitor's Report: None

Treasurer's Report:

Borough Manager Landy read the following Treasurers Report for the month of August 2011:

Mt. Pleasant Borough Treasurer's Report

Aug-11

		Previous Balance	Deposits	Disbursements	Balance 2011
General Fund Checking	PNC 00-0122-3513	50,000.00	174,846.00	174,846.00	50,000.00
General Fund Sweep	PNC 10-1149-3394	789,936.47	67,147.89	88,747.84	768,336.52
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	PNC 102-457-4388	63,168.72	11.42	0.00	63,180.14
**Fire	30,000.00				
**Police	0.00				
**Streets	10,000.00				
**Contingency Fund	23,180.14				
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 321615	320,233.07	95.92	7,850.00	312,478.99
**Police	50,000.00				
**Streets	70,000.00				
**Contingency Fund	65,523.34				
**Infrastructure	80,000.00				

**BOMP1 Recreation Fund		7,000.00				
**Frick Park Recreation Fund		9,964.00				
**Levins		10,000.00				
**Surveillance Cameras		9,000.00				
**Fire		5,000.00				
**K-9		5,991.65				
Liquid Fuels PLGIT	PLGIT 56980126	108,345.68	2.37	13,070.42		95,277.63
Monument CD	Standard Bank 242781	5,739.23	0.00	0.00		5,739.23
Holiday Lighting Fund	Standard Bank 050004849	1,800.56	0.08	0.00		1,800.64
Payroll Fund	PNC 00-0122-6415	947.27	72,544.23	65,728.61		7,762.89
Veterans Park Fund	First Niagara 981293700	5,363.79	0.00	0.00		5,363.79
Veterans Park Fund	PLGIT 5698025	11,258.51	0.26	0.00		11,258.77
Police Drug Enforcement	PNC 10-1291-2642	850.50	0.00	0.00		850.50
Town Clock Fund	Standard Bank 0010038847	612.86	0.02	0.00		612.88
Medic 10 Checking	Standard Bank 0010107643	36,637.52	15,314.28	32,359.35		19,592.45
Medic 10 Savings	Standard Bank 0310000238	94,385.89	28.45	0.00		94,414.34
Storm Water Retrofit Phase I	PNC Bank 10-2825-9692	948.00	0.00	0.00		948.00
Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	PNC Bank 10-3388-4556	48,400.40	0.00	1,441.00		46,959.40
K-9 Unit	PNC Bank 10-3388-5954	964.95	0.00	964.95		0.00
Total General Fund Balance						1,484,576.17
WWT Operational Acct	Standard Bank 0320012280	311,431.49	34,917.45	78,622.68		267,726.26
WWT Savings	Standard Bank 0050021008	47,105.04	1,518.68	0.00		48,623.72
WWT Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 0000287245	179,020.18	53.96	0.00		179,074.14
**Contingency		128,900.55				
**Infrastructure		50,000.00				
Total WWT Balance						495,424.12
Total Borough funds						1,980,000.29

Respectfully Submitted:
Councilwoman Susan Ruskowski
Secretary Beverly Fedorchak

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve the Treasurer's Report as read. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

President's Report:

President Bauer said that work is continuing on the Welcome to Mount Pleasant signs.

President Bauer asked council members to give as much time as possible to the Mount Pleasant Glass and Ethnic Festival this year.

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

Executive Session 7:28pm to 7:44pm

President Bauer said that the Executive Session was to discuss legal issues.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy reported that he attended a seminar hosted by the county on Building Sustainable Communities. The seminar covered a new law passed by the state regarding blighted properties. The law has not been imposed on owners yet, but the law says that if a community has a blighted property and the municipality knows who owns the property they can work with other municipalities to make sure that the owner does not receive a building permit in that town either. The boroughs were advised at the seminar to wait for cities to enforce this law and see what happens. Mr. Landy said he also learned at the seminar that there is help from the county to reclaim property that has been contaminated.

Mr. Landy said that he represented small boroughs before the Democratic House Committee and talked about how the budget cuts have affected us.

Mr. Landy reminded everyone that the Mount Pleasant Glass and Ethnic Festival will be on September 23, 24 and 25. He asked Council to attend the festival and help out in any way they can.

Waste Water Treatment Report: None

Street Report: None

Public Safety Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Beranek to suspend the rules for the purpose of a motion to hire a part-time employee for Medic 10 and to approve a new volunteer. Motion seconded by Councilman McCloy. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Beranek to hire Brian Dawson as a casual part-time employee for Medic 10 and to approve volunteer Drew Kozak. Motion seconded by Councilman McCloy. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilman Beranek reported that Officer George Grippo received complaints about drugs at a property in the Borough. Officer Dan Zilli stopped a vehicle near the property and had just cause to call Officer Grippo and the Mount Pleasant K-9. The K-9 was able to locate approximately \$1,000 worth of marijuana. After consent to search the house marijuana pipes, grinders and other drug paraphernalia were found. Officer Grippo and K-9 Officer Gerro should be commended for a job well done.

Zoning & Ordinance Report:

A motion was made by Councilman McCloy to adopt Ordinance #631 amending Dispensing of Gasoline and Other Flammable Liquids” Ordinance. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 8-0.

Community & Economic Development/Grants Report:

Borough Manager Landy reported that the borough engineers have been in contact with Penn Dot regarding the sign at the old PNC drive-thru because they govern the signs along any state highway. The borough engineers are waiting to hear from Penn Dot regarding their regulations on the electronic portion of the sign. Councilman Tabita said that we are not ready for the electronic portion of the sign. Council agreed that the Borough Street Department will get a copy of the specs and erect the sign and Council would agree on the electronic portion by spring of 2012.

Veterans Park Report:

Councilman Tabita said that ITS Enclosures is working on the Video Wall for Veterans Park and he will have more to report at the next council meeting.

Parks and Recreation Report:

Councilman Crivella said that he met with Mount Pleasant Area School Superintendent Terry Struble to discuss repairing the tennis courts. Councilman Crivella said that the cost to repair the tennis courts would be between \$46,000 and \$50,000. The Borough would be responsible for half of the cost. Councilman Crivella said he would like to see the funds to do this in the 2012 budget. Councilman Tabita said he would like to see a lease agreement for the tennis courts between the School District and the Borough. Councilman Crivella said that if we pay half of the cost to repair the courts and do not have a lease agreement the School District would be responsible for the upkeep of the courts in the future. Councilman Tabita said that he would like the Borough to have a lease to protect the courts from being turned into a parking lot as previously discussed by the School District.

President Bauer said that there are problems with the fencing at Satcho’s Park and he would like to see money in the 2012 budget to repair the fencing.

Finance Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to sign an agreement with Hoffman Kennels for 2012. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 8-0.

Borough Manager Landy asked Council to look at the Budget vs. Actual Report and start to make some notes for the 2012 Budget. This is the time of year to see what money is available and how much has been spent.

Property Report:

Councilman Pritts said that not bids were received for the Medic 10 Bridgeport Street property. Since the Borough has advertised twice for bids and none were received we can pursue other avenues to sell the property. Councilman Pritts said that any offers would be discussed by the Property Committee.

Councilman Pritts said he worked Saturday on the surveillance cameras for Main Street. The camera for the In-Town-Shops is up and Councilman Pritts said he would like to talk to the BDA about adding a Static IP address to their account that we could connect to. The cost through Armstrong would be approximately \$20/mo.

Sanitation & Recycling Report: None

New Business:

Councilwoman Stevenson said that during the Mount Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival the Friends of the Library are having a used book sale at the Mount Pleasant Free Public Library

Reading of Communications:

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- Westmoreland County Boroughs Association will hold a meeting September 29, 2011 at the Westmoreland Conservation District Office at 7:00pm. The topic will be Ordinances regarding tenants, blight conditions and Uniformed Construction Code in the Boroughs. Mayor Lucia suggested that Council attend this meeting with everything that is going on in the Borough regarding these subjects.
- Central Westmoreland COG will hold a special meeting on September 27, 2011 at 7:00pm

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia said he would like to have friends and concerned citizens of Mount Pleasant call the Mount Pleasant Police Department or send a letter to the Mayor's office when they see anything suspicious or unusual in their neighborhoods.

Mayor Lucia said he has received calls about dogs running loose in the parks. Some people actually stop their cars and let their animals run into the park to do their business then put them back into the car and leave. Mayor Lucia said that the police will patrol more heavily and will not tolerate this sort of activity. Mayor Lucia said he has been asked to provide a fenced-in area where owners can run their dogs. Mayor Lucia thought the Levin property on Bridgeport Street could be a location if funds could be raised for a fence.

Mayor Lucia said that he received an invitation to a seminar given by Westmoreland Mental Health and he would like to attend. The cost of the seminar is \$35.00

Discussion and Payment of Bills:

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

Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

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

Meeting adjourned 8:20PM

Motions from September 19, 2011 Meeting

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