

Meeting September 4, 2007

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by Vice President Tate at 7:16 pm. in Council Chambers at 1 Etze Avenue, Mount Pleasant, PA 15666. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and a moment of silence was held. Vice President Tate directed Borough Manager Jeff Landy to take roll. Councilmen Bauer, Beranek Crivella, and Councilwoman Stevenson were present. Mayor Lucia was present and Solicitor Toohey was absent. Vice President Tate 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 August 20, 2007. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried.

Councilman Wiltrout arrived at 7:20pm.

John Sarp of Sarp & Company presented Council with the 2006 audits of the General Fund and WWT Fund. Mr. Sarp said that the audit went very well and there was a great improvement over last year and the year before. There were no disagreements with management as to treatment of accounting matters or classification. The first 12 pages of the report are the DCED filing. Excess revenue for the year 2006 was budgeted at \$4,300 and the excess revenue was actually \$164,790 due to under spending. There is a difference in that the Budget is cash based and the audit is done on an accrual basis. But since the Borough is paying their bills on time there is not much of a difference. The ending fund balance actual is \$401,971. Mr. Sarp commended Borough Manager Landy on his financial management. The auditors did not find any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting. The Borough is in compliance with everything. All of the funds have been put in their own QuickBooks accounts and it has made accounting much more precise. The Management Letter this year is quite positive with no negative comments. Revenues both the General Fund and WWT increased. Borough Manager Landy and Borough Secretary Fedorchak have done an excellent job.

Mayor Lucia commented that this is the best report he has heard in 27 years. Since Sarp & Company and Borough Manager Landy have come on board the fiscal responsibility of the Borough is better now than ever.

Councilman Crivella questioned why there is no report for the BDA. Mr. Sarp asked if any General Fund revenues are expended to the BDA and Councilman Crivella answered no. Mr. Sarp said that in the future perhaps the BDA should be included in the audit since Council appoints the members of the board.

Public Comment:

Jay Springer of 31 Cherry Avenue which is a dead end street that has two signs at the end of the street saying "no outlet" stated that there is a problem with motorist speeding on his street and he has a hearing impaired daughter. He would like a Hearing Impaired sign put up on the street. Council agreed that with documentation of the hearing impairment the Borough would put a Hearing Impaired sign on Cherry Ave.

Mike Cedro of Mount Pleasant spoke to Council regarding self-service gas stations in Mount Pleasant. Mount Pleasant is one of only a few boroughs in the state that prohibits self-service gas stations. Mount Pleasant should remain a people friendly town and respect our handicapped and senior citizens by keeping the stations full-service in the Borough. Vice-President Tate said he has spoken to different people regarding this issue and the majority feels the same way.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia read the following Police Report for the month of August 2007:

Report of the Mount Pleasant Police Department for the month of August 2007

The Department answered 396 calls during the month as follows:

Complaints	89
Requests for assistance	6

Assist Other Departments	6
Accidents investigated	5
Calls Returned	60
Assist Medic 10	3
Assist Mutual Aid	0

The Department made 55 arrests during the month as follows:

Vehicle Code	42
Crimes Code	13

The Department issued 0 warnings during the month.

Vehicle Code	0
Borough Ordinance	0

Parking Tickets issued are as follows:

\$1.00 Meter Tickets	14
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets	14
Void/Excused Tickets	6
Complaints for unpaid Tickets	0

\$1.00 Parking Tickets Paid	14	\$	14.00
\$5.00 Parking Tickets Paid	3	\$	15.00
\$10.00 Parking Tickets Paid	5	\$	50.00

Return from Magistrate Eckels	\$	954.96
Return from Clerk of Courts	\$	564.29
Return from Report Fees	\$	135.00
Return from Parking Permits	\$	5.00
Return from Soliciting Permits	\$	-
Return from Restitution	\$	-

Total \$1,738.25

Meter Receipts 1 Collection \$1,398.07

Total receipts from Mayors Report \$3,136.32

Total Receipts for the month \$3,136.32

Mayor Lucia said that the revenue from this report represents only about 1 ½ of a patrolman’s salary. Councilman Stevenson questioned why the police assisted Scottsdale three times in one day. Councilman Bauer said that Mount Pleasant has an agreement with Scottsdale and they assist us as well.

Mayor Lucia reported that President Tabita, Manager Landy and himself attended a meeting with Congressman Murtha in Johnstown to discuss future projects. We will be requesting federal funding for some of these projects.

Mayor Lucia attended a meeting at the Westmoreland Public Safety Region 13 headquarters to keep abreast of public safety in the Borough.

Mayor Lucia and Borough Manager Landy met with Representative Kula to discuss funding for storm water projects needed in the Borough. Mayor Lucia and Borough Manager Landy also met with John Halligan from Senator Regola’s office to discuss funding for these projects.

Mayor Lucia said that he and Mr. Landy are working daily on problems in the Borough and on getting funding for much needed projects.

Mayor Lucia said that the Borough has had a memorial service every year on September 11th and he would like to continue the tradition. All of the surrounding Fire, Police and Ambulance services are invited to participate.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to hold the Borough sponsored 9/11 ceremony on September 11, 2007 with the assistance of the Mount Pleasant Ministerium. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried.

Vice-President Tate said that a citizen called our Police Department to report an incident and his message was never returned. Our Police Department needs to check the messages and return the calls.

Solicitor's Report: None

Tax Collector's Report:

Tax Collector Carol Yancosky read the following report for the month of August 2007:

Property Taxes:	\$3,988.33
Per Capita Taxes:	\$1,739.50
Total	\$5,727.83

President's Report:

Vice-President Tate requested a motion to send Borough Manager Landy to the PSAB Fall Leadership Conference on October 20, 2007.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to send Borough Manager Landy to the PSAB Fall Leadership Conference on October 20, 2007 in State College, PA. Motion seconded by Councilman Bauer. Motion carried.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy asked Council to look over the copies of the most recent Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual reports and call him with any questions or input on the upcoming 2008 Budget that will be ready for the first meeting in November.

Mr. Landy commended Secretary Fedorchak on gathering the information and assisting the auditor on the 2006 General Fund and WWT Audit.

Mr. Landy said there have been changes to the Mount Pleasant Borough web site and if Council knows of anything to be added please contact him or Ms. Fedorchak. The web site is to inform the public of all aspects of the Borough.

Mr. Landy thanked everyone for their help on the Concert In The Park Series in 2007 and said that new this year there will be "Kids Day Special Move Presentation" on Saturday September 8, 2007 at the Gazebo at 8:00pm. The Mount Pleasant Rotary will be sponsoring this event. There will be free popcorn and drinks for \$1.00. People should bring chairs and blankets.

Mr. Landy said that the Mount Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival will be held on September 28, 29 and 30, 2007. This year The Clark's will be performing on Sunday. Three oldies bands will be performing back to back on Saturday.

Mr. Landy reported that the 2008 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Mount Pleasant Borough Non-Uniform Pension Plan will be \$35, 032.00. The 2008 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Mount Pleasant Borough Uniform Pension Plan will be zero.

Mr. Landy said he was personally pleased with the budget because when he was hired his goal was to make the Borough fiscally solvent and still be able to offer all of the services without raising taxes. This audit shows that we're on the right track and the administration came through with its promise. Vice-President Tate said that in the past the Borough paid some large fines because of mismanagement and this administration has done an excellent job making sure that doesn't happen. Vice-President Tate said that if anyone has a special project for 2008 now is the time to start budgeting for that project so that money doesn't have to be moved around next year.

Vice-President Tate announced that an Executive Session will be held on September 17, 2007 at 6:30 before the regular council meeting to discuss issues involving Medic 10.

Waste Water Treatment Report:

Vice-President Tate said that the CSO Project is progressing and if any citizens have complaints call the borough office or Widmer Engineering. Some people are upset about the mess, but it will be cleaned up. This project is costing the Borough money but will save us money in the long run.

Public Safety, Zoning and Ordinance Report:

Councilman Bauer reported that he has been getting phone calls about people speeding in the Borough and he asked people to please slow down. Councilman Bauer also asked property and business owners on Main Street and home owners in other parts of town to please pull the weeds around the trees and their buildings to show some community pride before thousands of people come to the Borough for the Glass & Ethnic Festival.

Councilman Bauer read the following Medic 10 Report for the month of August 2007:

Total Calls for the month	158
Medical	126
MVA	12
Fire	13
Transfer	0
Standby	7
In Town	92
Out of town	66
Members per call	3.2

Councilman Bauer read the following Fire Chief’s Report for the month of August 2007:

Total Calls	61
In Town Calls	14
Out of Town Calls	47
Total Members attending calls	949
Average Members per call	15

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to adopt Public Parks Ordinance #611. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to adopt Special Events Ordinance #612. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried with Councilman Crivella casting the only no vote.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to adopt Transient Retail Business Ordinance #613. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried.

Councilman Bauer thanked Borough Manager Landy for all of his hard work since taking the position of Manager and his help with these ordinances.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to hold the Mount Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival on September 28, 29 and 30, 2007 at Veterans Park Memorial Area and the Gazebo Area. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to close S. Diamond St. from Rt 31 Main Street to Spruce Street from noon September 27, 2007 to October 1, 2007. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to close Washington Street from Hitchman Street to College Avenue from noon September 27, 2007 to October 1, 2007. Motion seconded by Councilman Wiltout. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to close Rte 31 Main Street from Braddock Rd Avenue to Cooks Way and Eagle Street to Rt 31 Main Street from 1:30pm to 4:00pm on September 29, 2007 for the Glass & Ethnic Festival Parade. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried.

Councilman Bauer spoke about the Gasoline Dispensing Ordinance before he made a motion to repeal the ordinance. Council has put a lot of time in this ordinance in the past. Women pumping their own gas is not longer an issue. The Borough of Mount Pleasant census shows that 80% of our population is under 65 years old and 20% is over 65 years of age so age is not really an issue. The one concern he does have is that a large chain coming in with cheaper sandwiches and cheaper gas would shut all of the little guys down. There will be people who lose their jobs.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer to repeal the Dispensing of Gasoline Ordinance #462. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Councilman Crivella said if you require self-serve you can go to Caruso's and the Get Go has hand sanitizer at the pump if you need it. Councilman Crivella said he feels the people in town deserve self-serve and the cheapest price possible. Councilman Beranek said he would like to see businesses remain in Mount Pleasant. In his business he sees that the price of gas in Mount Pleasant is the same as other places. Councilman Crivella disagreed. Mayor Lucia stressed that he, President Tabita and Borough Manager Landy spent hours with the owners of Amy Lyne's when they came here from Smithfield to put a gas station in town. The owners put months into remodeling the station and they knew about the full-service ordinance. They came from 50 miles away to invest in this town and have been operating the station for over a year and are satisfied. The gentleman who is asking us to repeal this ordinance has full-service stations in Scottsdale and Connellsville!

Councilman Bauer called for a role call vote as follows:

Councilman Bauer	No
Councilman Beranek	No
Councilman Crivella	Yes
Councilwoman Stevenson	Yes
Councilman Tate	No
Councilman Wiltout	No

Motion carried not to repeal ordinance #462.

A motion was made by Councilman Bauer for an Executive Session to discuss the Police Contract. Motion seconded by Councilman Wiltout. Motion carried.

Executive Session 8:14pm to 8:25pm

Councilman Bauer said there are some homeowners on Church Street who are piling their garbage by the fire hydrant and he feels that is a safety issue. Mayor Lucia said that he would look into the situation.

Councilman Bauer said that there was a meeting with Medic 10 regarding concern over call response. Everyone is working to resolve the matter.

Street Report:

Councilman Crivella reported that the Street Department is patching holes on the streets and getting rid of weeds around signs in the Borough so the signs are more visible. The street paving project will begin in approximately one week.

Mayor Lucia requested that the Street Department put seal coat on the parking lot in front of the Municipal Building on Etze Avenue.

Councilman Bauer said in the future he would like to discuss paving of the alley behind the Diamond Car Wash and the alley behind the VFW. The garbage trucks are damaging the alleys. Ann Street also needs paved and there are curbing issues on Joseph Street and S. Geary Street.

Finance Report: None

Property Report:

Councilman Beranek said he is still working on the Premoshis Christmas displays. It will be a very involved project to switch them to computers. Vice-President said he can get the computers for the displays.

Mayor Lucia asked Councilman Crivella if he had any update on the broken storm water lines in the downtown area. Councilman Crivella said it would cost approximately \$12,000 to fix the problem. Mayor Lucia suggested showing Council the film that WWT Supervisor Norm Stout took of the problem area. Council watched the film of cameraing from Shupe Street to the bridge. Councilman Crivella suggested doing a study of all of the storm water lines in the Borough and Mayor Lucia agreed but said that this section needs addressed as soon as possible. Mr. Landy said Penn Dot has a shared program where they dig the hole and the Borough puts the line in. Mr. Landy said that he and Mayor Lucia spoke to Congressman Murtha about a grant to do a large project covering all of the problems. Mayor Lucia said that Congressman Murtha wants to see a plan. Councilman Bauer said we should talk to Widmer Engineering and discuss going from a 24" pipe to a 36" pipe. Councilman Crivella said that Penn Dot maintains storm water lines in Mount Pleasant Township, why do we have to maintain state roads in the Borough. Mr. Landy said he will schedule a meeting with Penn Dot to discuss the matter.

Grants, Vendor Contracts, Sanitation Report: None

Human Resource, Employee Contracts Report:

Councilwoman Stevenson said she is reviewing an employee handbook outline prepared by Borough Manager Landy and should have a handbook completed for the Borough soon.

Recreation Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Crivella to allow the Glass & Ethnic Festival to use the volleyball court to hold a volleyball tournament on September 28 & 29, 2007. Motion seconded by Councilman Wilttrout. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Stevenson said she and Councilwoman Rega had a meeting with Mr. Skowronek regarding the trees at Veterans Park. The decision was made to wait until after the Glass & Ethnic Festival to plant the trees. Councilwoman Stevenson said that the two trees by the monument that died will be replaced before the Glass Festival. Mr. Landy said that those trees came with a guarantee and he will supply Councilwoman Stevenson with the sales receipt.

New Business: None

Reading of Communications:

Mr. Landy reported the following communications:

- An invitation from the Laurel Highlands Chamber to the 10th Annual Golf Classic on 9/14/07 at the Donegal Highlands Golf Course.
- The Westmoreland County Boroughs Association will have their next meeting on 9/27/07 at the Westmoreland Conservation District in Greensburg at 7:00pm.

Discussion and Payment of Bills:

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

Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

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

Meeting adjourned 8:47pm

Motions from September 4, 2007 Meeting

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Councilman Beranek	No
Councilman Crivella	Yes
Councilwoman Stevenson	Yes
Councilman Tate	No
Councilman Wiltout	No

Motion carried.

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