

## Meeting September 6, 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, McCloy, Pritts, Tabita, Tate and Councilwomen Ruszkowski and Stevenson were present. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Robb 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 August 22, 2011. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

### Public Comment:

Mary Lou Shick 82 Liberty Street, Mount Pleasant, PA 15666 introduced herself as the new Director of the Mount Pleasant Public Library and spoke to Council about services the Library provides to the community. Also, the Library has new hours. 11am to 8pm Monday through Thursday and 9am to 5pm on Saturday.

Michael Oravetz, 825 W Washington Street talked to Council about repairs that had to be made to his rental property before he could be issued an occupancy permit. He feels that the repairs that were required were unnecessary.

Mark Krystyniak, Mount Pleasant PA addressed Council again saying that if rentals must be inspected he feels all of the commercial properties and all of the residential properties in the Borough should be inspected too. He feels that all residential properties should be inspected when they are sold. Mr. Krystyniak also feels that the two-year requirement is not fair.

Gerald Rendine, Mount Pleasant said that the current requirements for inspections will cause undo hardships for landlords and tenants. Mr. Rendine said that Connellsville got involved in a lawsuit regarding inspections and he feels that's where Mount Pleasant is heading. He said it would be better to work together. Mr. Rendine asked Council if they made a decision to cease inspections until further investigation. Council said no.

Charles Nitterright, Mount Pleasant said he would rather the Borough come to the Landlord Association and ask for donations for the Public Library or some other community project instead of going through attorneys.

A motion was made by Councilman Tabita to extend the time limit for the topic being discussed. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 8-0.

Robert Karfelt, Mount Pleasant read a letter to Council that he wrote regarding what he feels a landlord is.

### Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia read the following Police Report for the month of August 2011:

Report of the Mount Pleasant Police Department for the month of August 2011

The Department answered 387 calls during the month as follows:

Complaints	89
Requests for assistance	5
Assist Other Departments	2
Accidents investigated	7

Calls Returned	10
Assist Medic 10	5
Assist Mutual Aid	0

The Department made 18 arrests during the month as follows:

Vehicle Code	11
Crimes Code	7
Borough Ordinance	0
Warning Issued	1

Parking Tickets issued are as follows:

\$4.00 Meter Tickets	32
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets	3
Void / Excused	1

\$2.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0 \$	-
\$4.00 Parking Tickets Paid	22 \$	88.00
\$5.00 Parking Tickets Paid	2 \$	10.00
\$10.00 Parking Tickets Paid	3 \$	30.00
\$15.00 Parking Tickets Paid	7 \$	105.00
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets Pd	3 \$	30.00
\$20.00 Parking Tickets Pd	0 \$	-

Return from Magistrate Eckels	\$	1,052.69
Return from Clerk of Courts	\$	143.02
Return from Report Fees	\$	60.00
Return from Parking Permits	\$	-
Return from Soliciting Permits	\$	-
Return from Restitution	\$	-

Total	\$	1,518.71
	\$	1,521.53
1 Meter Collection	\$	1,271.06

Total Receipts for the month \$ 3,040.24

Mayor Lucia reminded everyone that the 9/11 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tribute will be on Sunday September 11, 2011 at the Gazebo and Veterans Park at 6:00pm.

**Solicitor's Report:** None

**Tax Collector's Report:**

Tax Collector Carol Yancosky read the following report for the month of August 2011:

Property Taxes	\$6,551.56
Per Capita Taxes	\$2,175.60
Total	\$8,727.16

Ms. Yancosky reminded taxpayers that if they want a receipt they must send a self addressed stamped envelope.

**President's Report:**

A motion was made by Councilman Beranek to appoint Debbie Meshanski, Diamond Pharmacy to the Mount Pleasant Business District Authority. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 8-0.

President Bauer asked everyone to come to the 9/11 Tribute on Sunday to remember the tragedy of 9/11/2011.

**Borough Manager’s Report:**

Borough Manager Landy said that the original speaker for the 9/11 Tribute is unable to attend. He will, however, look into acquiring a piece of steel beam from one of the Twin Towers for the Borough through the Mount Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department.

Mr. Landy asked Council to look at the current Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual now that we are into the ninth month of this year. There have been a lot of changes since the last time we really looked at the report in June 2011.

Borough Manager Landy said that this is a negotiation year for some of the unions in the Borough. The Steel Workers Union is requesting dates that would be good for us to begin negotiations.

Mr. Landy said that the license agreement for the railroad grade crossing to tie into the Coal and Coke Bike Trail is in the hands of the County Railroad Division. It will be up to them to decide if they will sign the agreement. The Borough insurance company has approved the crossing and it should take less than a week to install.

Mr. Landy reported that Curtis Peck, Mount Pleasant has completed the pavilion at the Little League Field for his Eagle Scout project. The money for this project was taken from BOMP1 line item.

Mr. Landy said that the Mount Pleasant Glass and Ethnic Festival was featured in this month’s Borough News. All of Council has a copy of the festival brochure. This year marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the festival. The feature band this year is “Great White”. The dates for the festival this year are September 23, 24 and 25.

**Waste Water Treatment Report:**

Councilman Tate reported that the bridge at Willows Park is almost completed. WWT personnel have to do some back filling and then it will be done. Also, the roof at the WWT Plant that was damaged by high winds has been replaced and the electrical project is about 95% complete.

**Street Report:**

Councilman Tate said that Street Department personnel are preparing a list of street openings that need repaired before winter. Right now the way they were left will damage the plows this winter.

**Public Safety Report:**

Councilman Beranek read the following Fire Report for the month of August 2011:

Total Calls	43
In Town	13
Out of Town	30
10 45’s	14
10 45’s w/entrapment	1
Fires	10
AFA’s	9
Public Service	7
Stand By’s	1
PA Turnpike Calls	4
Boat Call	1
Total Men Answering Calls	526
Average Men Per Call	12
Total Man Hours	475

### **Zoning and Ordinance Report:**

A motion was made by Councilman McCloy to advertise Ordinance #631, an amendment to the Gasoline Ordinance. Motion seconded by Albert. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilman McCloy reported that the Ordinance Committee had a meeting on August 29<sup>th</sup> along with President Bauer, Mayor Lucia and Borough Manager Landy. Landlords were present at the meeting and expressed their concerns about the Landlord Ordinance and the inspection of rental property. More meetings will have to be scheduled to iron out some points and then the committee will bring Council their recommendations. As of right now, the ordinance is still in effect, including occupancy inspections.

### **Community & Economic Development/Grants Report:**

Councilman Tabita said that Council has been provided with scale drawings of the proposed sign to be erected at the old PNC Drive-thru. The drawings are for scale only and not a representation of what the sign will actually look like. Right now the preference seems to be the 10 foot sign located on the west side of the entrance near the house. Electricity is already available at that location. A discussion ensued regarding the size of the sign.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to make the sign for Mount Pleasant at the old PNC drive-thru 10 feet high and 8 feet wide. Motion seconded by Councilman McCloy. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilman Tabita said the borough engineer is working preparing requirements to extend the bike trail to Main Street. We are able to go across by the concession stand at the soccer field, over the bridge to the pavilion area, right and through the woods up to the back of Third Ward Fire Station. Then it can go down Center Avenue a couple of blocks, turn right toward Jack Bobb's Park, up to Summit behind third ward school, parallel to Washington Street, down to Hitchman and left onto Washington to Veterans Park. That route has the least traffic and be most level grade.

### **Veterans Park Report:**

Councilman Tabita said work is continuing on the Veterans Park Video Wall. Councilman Tabita reported that work is being done on the design, size and placement of the video screens.

### **Parks and Recreation Report:**

Borough Manager Landy said that Councilman Crivella asked him to report that he is getting quotes for electric updates in the parks.

President Bauer said that playground equipment for Satcho's Park has been ordered.

### **Finance Report:**

Councilwoman Ruszkowski explained that in 2008 Pennsylvania passed a law that changed the way Earned Income Tax is collected and distributed. It required that all municipalities and school districts have only one tax collector for the EIT Tax beginning in January of 2012. The Westmoreland Tax Collection Committee was formed and they have chosen Berkheimer as the tax administrator.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to sign an agreement with G.H. Harris for the collection of delinquent Per Capita Taxes for 2010-2011. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 8-0.

### **Property Report:**

Councilman Pritts said that we did not receive any bids to sell the Medic 10 property on Bridgeport Street.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to suspend the rules for the purpose of re-advertising for bids to sell the Medic 10 property on Bridgeport Street. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to re-advertising for bids to sell the Medic 10 Property on Bridgeport Street. Bids will be accepted until 4:00pm on September 19, 2011 and will be opened at the council meeting at 7:00pm on September 19, 2011. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

**Sanitation & Recycling Report:** None

**New Business:**

President Bauer said he received an email from the borough engineer requesting a motion to advertise for the construction of the next phase of the Residential Rain Gardens.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to suspend the rules for the purpose of a motion to advertise for the construction of the next phase of the Residential Rain Gardens pending approval by the borough engineers. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to advertise for the construction of the next phase of the Residential Rain Gardens pending review and approval by McCormick Taylor, Inc., the Borough's Engineer, of the bid documents prepared by the Westmoreland Conservation District. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

Borough Manager Landy said that the Thirteenth Annual Three Rivers Wet Weather Sewer Conference will be held in Monroeville on October 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Landy and WWT Supervisor Norm Stout may attend the seminar.

President Bauer said that the PSAB Fall Leadership Conference will be held at State College PA from October 21<sup>st</sup> to October 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Reading of Communications:** None

**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 8-0.

**Miscellaneous and Adjournment:**

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

**Meeting adjourned 8:06pm**

## **Motions from September 6, 2011 Meeting**

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

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