

Meeting January 2, 2018

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Caruso at 7:01pm in Council Chambers at 1 Etze Avenue, Mount Pleasant, PA 15666. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and President Caruso asked for a moment of silence for our deployed troops. President Caruso asked Borough Manager Landy to take roll call. Councilpersons present included Bailey, Barnes, Cholock, McCloy, Rogacki, Ruszkowski and Stevenson. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Istik were present. President Caruso stated that a quorum is present.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the minutes of December 4, 2017 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilman McCloy. Motion carried 8-0.

Magistrate Roger Eckels swore in the following elected officials:

Gerald Lucia, Mayor
Susan Ruszkowski, Councilwoman
Fred McCloy, Councilman
Jack Caruso, Councilman
Cindy Stevenson, Councilwoman
Matthew Yatsko, Councilman
Carol Yancosky, Tax Collector

Roger Eckels requested a moment of silence for the passing of Don Cramer, Ed Hogan and Russ Shumar.

Public Comment: None

Speakers: None

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia spoke about the passing of Ed Hogan, Don Cramer and Russ Shumar. He also spoke about his 32 years as Mayor and 6 years as a Councilman.

Mayor Lucia said he is very proud to be Fire Chief of the Mount Pleasant VFD; and, for the 21 months they have had no fire loss.

Mayor Lucia asked for the public to rally around our merchants on Main Street because they are the ones that took the big hit this past year and will continue to do so for the next nine (9) month. Merchants really need the support because of the construction.

Solicitor's Report:

Solicitor Istik said in the future Council will go over policies of the Borough, the Social Media Policy for Borough Employees; Ordinance for DROP Program with regard to the Police Department; and Agreements along with the Solicitor's Agreement. Solicitor Istik has a few other policies she is looking at to possibly update with the Borough. Solicitor Istik and Jeff will be going through the Personnel Manual for Borough Employees to bring it up to date with the new technology.

Tax Collector's Report:

Tax Collector Carol Yancosky gave the following report for the month of December 2017:

Property Taxes Collected = \$7,610.55

Per Capita Taxes Collected = \$236.50

Total Collected = \$7,847.05

Tax Collector Carol Yancosky also stated that she will only be collecting Per Capita Taxes now until new taxes go out in March.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy read the following Treasurers Report for November 2017:

Mt. Pleasant Borough Treasurer's Report		Nov-17			Balance
		Prev Bal	Deposits	Disbursements	2017
General Fund Checking	PNC 00-0122-3513	60,534.00	210,004.56	220,538.56	50,000.00
General Fund Sweep	PNC 10-1149-3394	963,398.33	76,442.68	101,961.93	937,879.08
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 321615	674,186.58	6,221.83	0.00	680,408.41
**Police		40,683.60			
**Streets		140,000.00			
**Contingency Fund		231,758.40			
**Infrastructure		121,588.62			
**BOMP1 Gas Well		12,483.85			
**BOMP2 Gas Well		4,762.23			
**Frick Park Gas Well		30,600.76			
**Levins		970.06			
**Surveillance Cameras		160.00			
**Early Warning Siren					
Grant		1,300.00			
**Fire		55,000.00			
**K-9		13,503.76			
**Marcellus Impact Fee					
Act 13		21,486.47			
Police Parking Tickets & Meters	Scottdale Bank 1026616	29,643.14	0.00	5,726.26	23,916.88
Escrow Account	PNC Bank 10-2912-6867	6,655.70	0.00	0.00	6,655.70
Liquid Fuels PLGIT	PLGIT 56980126	55,632.57	38.63	3,248.06	52,423.14
Monument CD	Standard Bank 327085	6,842.85	0.00	0.00	6,842.85
Holiday Lighting Fund	Standard Bank 050004849	1,806.21	0.07	0.00	1,806.28
Payroll Fund	PNC 00-0122-6415	27,085.04	53,458.94	79,868.66	675.32
	Somerset Trust Co				
Veterans Park Fund	2003058309	6,966.84	0.00	0.00	6,966.84
	Standard Bank				
Town Clock Fund	0010038847	614.78	0.02	0.00	614.80
Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	PNC Bank 10-3888-4556	1,247.21	0.00	0.00	1,247.21
	Standard Bank				
Police Grants	0010151752	1,031.05	0.00	0.00	1,031.05
Turn Back Account	PNC Bank 10-7766-4491	417,522.63	188.74	0.00	417,711.37
Total General Fund Balance					2,188,178.93
Medic 10 Checking	Standard Bank 0010107643	62,575.44	40,585.38	57,937.33	45,223.49
	Standard Bank				
Medic 10 Savings	0310000238	136,720.81	1,022.64	0.00	137,743.45
Medic 10 Money Market	PNC Bank 10-1516-8804	5,892.11	0.24	0.00	5,892.35
Medic 10 Pittsburgh Foundation	Standard Bank 0000358253	5,650.39	0.00	0.00	5,650.39
Total Medic 10 Fund Balance					194,509.68
WWT Operational Acct	Standard Bank 0320012280	462,875.63	76,369.46	60,643.41	478,601.68
	Standard Bank				
WWT Savings	0050021008	180,865.69	29.74	0.00	180,895.43
	Standard Bank				
WWT Budgetary Reserve	0000287245	118,965.72	19.56	0.00	118,985.28
**Contingency		111,525.95			
**Infrastructure		7,469.82			
WWT Bio-Tower	Standard Bank 10127923	120,507.27	1,049.60	13,830.50	107,726.37
Total WWT Balance					886,208.76
Total Borough funds					3,268,897.37

Councilwoman Susan Ruzkowski / Secretary Beverly Fedorchak

Borough Manager Landy said that they will begin to have Managers Meetings again. They took a break when Larry Hague left. They will the Managers Meetings on the second Wednesday of every month at noon. Everyone is welcome to come. This will give the opportunity to coordinate things and go over different projects with the supervisors of different departments so that they have the opportunity to help each other out if possible.

Borough Manager Landy said that the new Borough Secretary, Sharon Lesko, started work today.

Borough Manager Landy gave Solicitor Istik a tour of the town and the parks. They also talked about Medic 10 and feel they should solidify themselves with a Solicitor Borough Manager Landy spoke to the Board and stated that if Medic 10 is going to keep moving forward like they are they should consider Solicitor Istik.

Borough Manager Landy said he spent a lot of time talking with the Police Department this past month. They negotiated their contract also talked about a wage scale change for the part-time employees.

Borough Manager Landy also had a citizen call him regarding e-Waste, electronic recycling. He was informed that some of the garbage companies have agreements for that now. Borough Manager Landy, Council President and Mayor Lucia contacted Republic Services and discussed an agreement. Currently, Republic Services does not pick up eWaste – electronics (tv, computers, etc.). The option right now for the Borough is to take it to Westmoreland Cleanways. Westmoreland Cleanways recently had a fire; and, are not taking anything right now. Council President Caruso stated that they are now open again. Borough Manager Landy said there is no an option as a council to include an amendment to the contract. The amendment would include that Republic Services will pick up curbside once a month. The Borough Resident will have to call and schedule it. Republic Services will pick up two (2) electronic items for Forty-Five (\$45.00) Dollars with no size limit on the items instead of charging an additional Two Dollars and Seventy-Five Cents (\$2.75) per household. Borough Manager Landy said that if the Borough decides to accept this amendment, Republic Waste will market it, print out the material and let the public know what they pick up.

Borough Manager Landy said that he received from Westmoreland Conservation District a revision to the Stormwater Management Plan. He also received from Columbia Gas that they are doing their safety program again. They will be doing this online. Columbia Gas will also do a training class on train derailment.

Borough Manager Landy said that they have had some issues on Main Street; and, he has spent some time with Waste Water Treatment with some lateral issues. The contractor is installing the new stormwater lines which has solved some flooding on the lower end of town. However, they are finding some things that they did not expect and one (1) of them was a lateral and will have to deal with those as they come.

Borough Manager Landy said that a Board Member from the Mount Pleasant Library called to inform him that they are now allowing the public to come to their meetings. They will also be scheduling some of their meetings in the evening. Their meetings were originally on Mondays in the mornings. Councilwoman Diane Bailey said that the meetings are the second Mondays of the month. Even months will be in the evening at 7:00pm and odd months will be in the mornings at 10:00am.

Borough Manager Landy said that he worked with some of Council on the contract negotiations with the Police Department along with the Crossing Guard Contract.

Councilwoman Diane Bailey asked Borough Manager Landy to make a correction to the hours of the meetings for the Mount Pleasant Library. The evening meetings for the Mount Pleasant Library is at 6:00pm and not 7:00pm.

President's Report:

Executive session was held at 6:30pm and ended at 7:15pm regarding personnel.

Waste Water Treatment Report:

Councilman Rogacki stated that they were ordered by Pennsylvania DEP to change the sampling methods. They must sample every hour on the hour 24/7. They had to buy two (2) automatic samplers: one (1) to check the incoming and (1) to check the outgoing. The cost is going to be approximately Six Thousand (\$6,000.00) Dollars each. The Township of Mount Pleasant agreed to pay their share because it is equipment that is required by the state.

WWT Superintendent Nickelson gave the following report:

- Made oil changes to the primary sludge pumps, final sludge pumps and press feed pump.
- Cleaned bio-towers and clarifiers.
- Plowed snow at the plant and the pump stations.

- Ordered the two (2) automatic samplers.
- Removing ice from the towers and equipment.
- Installed a new block heater on the generator at Quarry Street.
- Installed emergency lights and running boards on the new Dodge Truck.
- Adjusted the time at the clock tower.
- Routine plant maintenance.
- Responded to 51 PA One Calls.
- Responded to 12 emergency PA One Calls.
- One Home inspection.

Mayor Lucia asked if One Calls are when someone is doing construction. Superintendent Nickelson said the difference between the PA One Calls and the Emergency PA One Calls is that a regular PA One Call you are supposed to give an advance notice but if an emergency arises, example: waterline breaks today, it has to be fixed immediately that is the Emergency PA One Call.

Borough Manager Landy said that there were two (2) waterlines broken on back streets. There were no waterline breaks on Main Street since the new lines have been put in. Mayor Lucia confirmed there was a waterline broken on Bridgeport Street and one on Silver Street today.

Streets Report:

Councilwoman Bailey announced that they purchased a new plow assembly and new plow for the utility truck and that there will be three (3) available plow trucks on the roads this winter.

Councilwoman Bailey thanked the Borough of Everson for making the plow available to them and being so accommodating.

Councilwoman Bailey said that there is an order in for more salt and sand.

Councilman Rogacki asked about an issue with ice on Sycamore with water run off and freezing on the corner all the way to the bottom of the street. Mr. Rogacki said that both ditches were removed from the sides of the street and more water is coming off of the top of the hill down the street creating a safety hazard. Mr. Rogacki said there was discussion of putting in storm drains which cost approximately Three Thousand Five Hundred (\$3,500.00) Dollars. This was the cost estimate approximately two (2) years ago. Mr. Rogacki said that this needs to be considered again.

Councilwoman Bailey asked if they want the gullies put back in or underground storm lines. Councilman Rogacki said that they would like to see the same thing as they did on Oak Street. Councilwoman Bailey stated that there is a storm drain at the bottom of Sycamore. Councilwoman Bailey said that they will take a look at it and will be a project for the spring.

Street Crew Leader McGuinness read the following report:

In addition to the general maintenance of the Borough Streets, which includes lights and signs, cleanup of lots and parks, patching holes, marking of storm drains and line for PA One Calls, maintenance of equipment / vehicles and picking up brush. The following events occurred:

- Snow Maintenance of Borough / Westmoreland Land Bank Properties and Levin Properties
- Plowing and salting the las month and with the cold weather a little more sand has been added to the mixture.
- Purchased plow rigging and had it placed on the utility truck. Also purchased a plow and had it placed on the truck.

Councilwoman Barnes said that she has had three (3) people saying that chips from the tar and chipping project have not been cleared off the street and they are chipping their cars.

Street Crew Leader McGuinness responded that once the weather breaks the streets will be cleaned.

Borough Manager Landy asked Street Crew Leader McGuinness if it is a problem getting through with cars parked on both sides of the street. Street Crew Leader McGuinness replied it is tight to get through some of the streets. Borough Manager Landy said they will address this issue at their upcoming Managers Meeting.

Public Safety Report:

Councilman Cholock read the following Fire Report:

December 2017

- Total calls – 34
- 10-45’s – 18
- Entrapment calls - 1
- Fires – 7
- AFA’s – 6
- Public service calls – 3
- Turnpike calls – 3
- Total members answering – 570
- Average member per call – 16
- Total staff hours – 349

2017 FIRE REPORT

- Total calls – 558
- 10-45’s – 190
- Entrapment calls - 16
- Fires – 119
- AFA’s – 129
- Public service calls – 103
- Standby’s – 10
- Drills – 5
- Turnpike calls – 60
- Total members answering – 9,562
- Average member per call – 17
- Total staff hours – 7,626

Councilman Cholock thanked the Fire Department for their great efforts.

Mayor Lucia suggested that an estimate be gotten on the Police Car that was wrecked, get it repaired and sell it to Medic 10 for One (\$1.00) Dollar.

A motion was made by Councilman Cholock to ratify the Police Contract with the changes we discussed. Motion Seconded by Councilwoman Ruskowski. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Cholock to ratify the Crossing Guard contract with the changes we discussed. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruskowski. Motion carried 8-0.

Zoning & Ordinance Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to adopt Ordinance No. 650 setting the 2018 millage rate at 17.5 mills. Motion seconded by Councilman McCloy. Motion carried 8-0.

Community & Economic Development/Grants Report:

None.

Parks & Recreation Report:

Councilwoman Barnes thanked Council Rogacki for referring her to Rocky Mountain Garage where they repaired the teeter totter.

Councilwoman Barnes also thanked the Veterans Park Committee for the work they have throughout the year along with the Parks and Recreation Committee.

Finance & Human Resources Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve Resolution 2018-01 setting the 2018 Quarterly Contribution for Non-Uniform Pension at \$3.30 per hour. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve Resolution 2018-02 waiving the required Police Pension member contributions for calendar year 2018 only. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 8-0.

Property Report:

Councilman Rogacki if the two (2) windows that needed replaced have been done, the only left in the Borough Building to do is re-camera the lines to the elevator. Everything else in the Borough Building is in good maintenance.

Council discussed replacing some blinds in the Borough Building.

Sanitation & Recycling Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to amend the Agenda to make a motion to approve and implement eWaste pick up by Republic Services. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve and implement eWaste pick up services provided by Republic Services at a cost of Forty-Five (\$45.00) Dollars for up two (2) items and Fifty-Five (\$55.00) Dollars for three (3) items. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Cholock. Motion carried 8-0.

New Business:

None.

Reading of Communications:

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- Cassandra Vivan regarding meetings at the Mount Pleasant Library about the Early Coal Mines of Henry Clay Frick.

Discussion & Payment of Bills:

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

Public Comment: Mr. Gerard Rendine, Mount Pleasant, PA, spoke to Council regarding inspection of windows in the Borough Building.

Miscellaneous & Adjournment:

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

Meeting adjourned 8:26pm

Motions From Meeting of January 2, 2018

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