

Meeting October 2, 2017

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Caruso at 7:03pm 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, McCloy, Rogacki and Ruskowski. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Liptak were present. President Caruso stated that a quorum is present.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to approve the minutes of September 18, 2017 with correction since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 6-0.

Public Comment: None

Speakers: None

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia said that he would like Council to take a moment of silence for the people who were killed and injured in Las Vegas on October 1, 2017.

Mayor Lucia thanked Borough Manager Landy and the Mount Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival Committee for a very successful Glass Festival this year. The Festival brought so many people into the Borough.

Mayor Lucia said that the first Reality Tour of the season will be held this week on October 5, 2017 at Rumbaugh School. The schedule for the program is posted at the Municipal Building for anyone who is interested.

Mayor Lucia proclaimed October 23rd to October 31st Nation Red Ribbon Campaign Week. The Westmoreland Drug and Alcohol Commission is offering citizens the opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to drug-free lifestyles (no use of illegal drugs, no illegal use of legal drugs) by wearing and displaying red ribbons during this campaign.

Mayor Lucia said that the Mount Pleasant Halloween Parade will be held October 25, 2017 at 7pm and Trick or Treat will be on Sunday October 29, 2017 from 2pm to 4pm. Mayor Lucia said Trick or Treat bags will be given out to Mount Pleasant residents and will be available at the Police and Fire Stations.

Mayor Lucia gave an update on the Penn Dot SR0031 Project on Main Street Mount Pleasant. Penn Dot will be cementing the following intersections:

- Eagle & Chief Pore Way - Done
- Morewood & Braddock Road Avenue
- N. Church and S. Church Streets
- N. Diamond and S. Diamond Streets – Summer of 2018
- Cherry and Center Avenues

Penn Dot will work up until November 1, 2017 and will start again in the spring. Along with the intersections they will be installing storm water lines on the south side of Main Street.

Mayor Lucia said that he and President Caruso sent a letter to the DEP, PA Fish Commission, Army Corp of Engineers and Mount Pleasant Township to join forces in an effort to clean out Shupes Run to see if we can provide relief from flooding in the Borough. Mayor Lucia said that he would like to see the Borough hire Mike Barrick, Hunt Valley Environmental, to support our efforts to clean out Shupes Run. Mr. Barrick is a Mount Pleasant resident, works with Jacobs Creed Watershed, and has been very helpful in the past.

Solicitor's Report: None

Tax Collector's Report:

Tax Collector Carol Yancosky read the following report for the month of September 2017:

Property Taxes Collected = \$1,179.46
Per Capita Taxes Collected = \$1,827.70

Total Collected = \$3,007.16

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy thanked everyone for making this year's Glass & Ethnic Festival such a success. He especially thanked residents on Washington Street where the festival is held and all of the borough employees and committee members for their hard work. The Glass & Ethnic Festival was picked as the number one festival in Westmoreland County again this year.

Mr. Landy said interviews will begin next week for the full-time secretarial position. Hopefully someone should be hired by November 1, 2017.

Borough Manager Landy said that he and Councilwoman Ruszkowski are getting quotes for 2018 Health Insurance. It is one of the largest expenses in the budgets. 2018 Budget meetings will begin this month.

Mr. Landy said that meetings have been held with Gibson Thomas Engineering and Mount Pleasant Municipal Authority to finalize and close the 2017 Main Street Project.

Borough Manager Landy discussed abandoned properties in the Borough and the importance of the Property Maintenance Code. There is another buyer talking with Westmoreland County Land Bank regarding the purchase of the R & R Restaurant property.

Borough Manager Landy reported that Westmoreland County will not be renewing the agreement with the Borough to calibrate the parking meters.

Borough Manager discussed insurance claims for flooding filed against the Borough. The Borough has been found not negligent by our insurance company and the current claims have been denied.

Mr. Landy said that he is going to meet with the Veterans Park Committee regarding problems with the Veterans Park Digital Wall. The software and hardware companies have been working on the problem and it should be resolved soon.

President's Report:

President Caruso said that he and Councilwoman Bailey met with Ramsey Terrace residents to keep them up to date on what is being done to solve their flooding issues. Councilwoman Bailey said she felt it was a very good meeting and that the home owners were happy to learn that Council is still working on a solution.

President Caruso said that when the flyers about storm water infiltration are printed he will meet with the Borough's Street and WWT Departments to determine how best to distribute them to property owners.

Waste Water Treatment Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Rogacki to advertise for the part-time position at the WWT Plan. Motion seconded by Councilman McCloy. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Rogacki to purchase a ladder rack for the WWT Dodge pickup at a cost not to exceed \$850. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 6-0.

WWT Superintendent Shane Nickelson gave the following report on work being done by WWT personnel:

- Helped set up and tear down for Glass Festival
- Pumped and cleaned chlorine contact tanks
- Monthly routine generator maintenance
- Cleaned and painted at treatment plant
- Routine grass cutting and trimming at plant and all pump stations
- Cut grass at Willow Park and all right of ways
- Cleaned and scrubbed final clarifiers and towers
- Replaced concrete on post at back gate
- Drained and cleaned fountain at Veterans Park
- Dug utility ditch at Willow Park for Eagle Scout project
- Assisted with car fire on Main Street
- Delivered supplies to contractor for Main Street Project
- Performed routine maintenance at WWT Plant
- Attended PA One Call convention in Monroeville

Home inspections – 3

PA One Calls – 104

Emergency PA One Calls – 9

Call Outs – 1

Streets Report:

Street Crew Leader Jeff McGuinness gave the following report:

- General Maintenance including lights and signs
- Clean up of lots and parks
- Patching holes
- Marking PA One Calls
- Equipment maintenance
- Brush pick up
- Ramsey Terrace Drainage project
- Lawn maintenance of Land Bank properties
- Swept tar & chipped roads
- Worked to resolve drainage problem on St. Clair Street
- Fixed water line at Willow Park
- Installed new Jack Bobb's Park sign

Public Safety Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to purchase upfit for black police vehicle at a cost not to exceed \$2,500. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 6-0.

Zoning & Ordinance Report:

A motion was made by Councilman McCloy to adopt amendment to Noise Ordinance. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 6-0.

Community & Economic Development/Grants Report:

Councilwoman Bailey said that the 2018-2020 CDBG Grant has been submitted. The application is for the Frick Park Basketball Court at a cost of approximately \$76,000. The current basketball court will be dug up and excavated. A pipe will be installed to solve the water problem. The court will then be resurfaced, repainted and resealed. There is \$25,000 left from the last grant and the County has agreed to allow the Borough to apply for that money during this grant period. The grant amount for the 2018-2020 is \$141,041.59. Borough Manager Landy stated that the County said that if the Borough comes up with another idea we can submit another grant proposal.

Mayor Lucia said that he would like to reapply for a CDBG Grant to replace the new cement apron at Central Fire Station. The current surface is unsafe and someone is going to get hurt. Councilwoman Bailey said that she will send in a grant application for the cement apron.

Parks & Recreation/Veterans Park Report:

Councilwoman Barnes thanked Street Department personnel for the excellent job on the Jack Bobb's Park sign.

Councilwoman Barnes said that she spoke to Borough Manager Landy about moving some playground equipment from Medic 10 Park to Frick Park or Willow Park.

Councilwoman Barnes said she spoke to Rocky Mountain Garage regarding the teeter totter and they can repair it at a cost not to exceed \$500.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to amend the agenda. Motion seconded by councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to hire Rocky Mountain Garage in New Stanton to repair the teeter totter at Willow Park. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 6-0.

Councilwoman Barnes thanked the Veterans Park Committee for replacing the lights at Veterans Park. The lights on the fountain still need to be replaced.

Finance & Human Resources Report:

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that the second meeting was held with the Mount Pleasant Police Department about the upcoming Police Contract renewal.

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that any council member who would like something included in the 2018 Budget should have their request to the Finance Committee in email or writing by October 13, 2017.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to sign the agreement with Westmoreland County Transit Authority for the year 7/1/17 to 6/30/18 at a cost of \$1,785. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 6-0.

Property Report:

Councilman Rogacki said that he is getting prices for repairing the windows at the Municipal Building. The cost may be more than anticipated because they will require more than just calking.

Council discussed moving the generator at Medic 10 outside for safety reasons. The generator would have to be sheltered and Council discussed buying a storage shed to house it.

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that she would like something done so that Tax Collector Carol Yancosky can hear tax payers when they come to her window. Right now tax payers cannot always hear or be heard. Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that the windows were also installed incorrectly. The screws are on the outside and should be on the inside. Councilman Rogacki and Borough Manager Landy said that they will speak to Ira Bennett who worked with the contractors and get the issues resolved before the next council meeting.

Sanitation & Recycling Report: None

New Business: None

Reading of Communications:

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- A letter from a gentleman who would like to be Mount Pleasant Borough Santa.
- An application for a wedding at the Gazebo in November.

Councilwoman Barnes said that there is a tree in a pot at Frick Park that she does not have any information on. Councilwoman Bailey said that it may be from the work that Lowes was doing in the park. Councilwoman Barnes said that she will call Lowes.

Council discussed reimbursing Ms. Karen Nelson for a portion of her donation to Family Fun Day. Councilwoman Barnes said that Ms. Nelson donated a total of \$400 worth of merchandise and would like to be reimbursed for \$100 of the cost. Council agreed to reimburse Ms. Nelson but in the future anything that is a specified as a donation will not be reimbursed.

Discussion & Payment of Bills:

A motion was made by Councilman Rogacki to pay all authorized and approved bills. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 6-0.

Public Comment: None

Miscellaneous & Adjournment:

A motion was made by Councilman Rogacki to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 6-0.

Meeting Adjourned 8:35pm

Motions From Meeting of October 2, 2017

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