

## Meeting November 3, 2014

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 Caruso, Pritts, Wagner and Councilwomen Bailey, Stevenson and Ruszkowski were present. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Wolfe were present. President Bauer stated we have a quorum.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to dispense with the reading of the minutes of October 20, 2014 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 7-0.

**Public Comments:** None

**Speakers:**

Ms. Christine Barnhart spoke to Council about the 2014 Gingerbread House Competition. Ms. Barnhart said that the competition has received support from Levin Furniture, Mount Pleasant veteran's organizations and local businesses. This year proceeds from the sale of the gingerbread houses will benefit Veterans Hospice Services. The winning house will be chosen by the public at the Gingerbread House Tour at the American Legion on Main Street Wednesday December 3, 2014 from 5pm to 8pm. A \$1.00 donation will be requested at the door and those proceeds will also benefit the Veterans Hospice Services. Ms. Barnhart encouraged the community to participate in the competition this year. The deadline for entries is November 25, 2014 by mail or you may email [gingerbread15666@gmail.com](mailto:gingerbread15666@gmail.com). Information about the competition is available on the Borough web-site.

**Mayor Report:**

Report of the Mount Pleasant Police Department for the month of October 2014

The Department Answered the following calls during the month as follows:

Complaints	103
Requests for assistance	16
Assist Other Departments	9
Accidents investigated	11
Calls Returned	8
Assist Medic 10	7

The Department made 64 arrests during the month as follows

Vehicle Code	59
Crimes Code	6
Borough Ordinance	0
Warning Issued	4

Parking Tickets issued are as follows:

\$4.00 Meter Tickets	0
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets	1
\$5.00 Parking Tickets	6
Void / Excused	1

\$4.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$	-
\$5.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$	-
\$10.00 Parking Tickets Paid	1		
\$15.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$	-
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$	-
	0		

Return from Magistrate Eckels	\$ 1,858.88
	\$
Return from Clerk of Courts	112.97
Parking Tickets Paid for Month	\$ -

	\$	
Return From Drug Task Force	\$	1,268.55
Return from Report Fees	\$	-
Return from Parking Permits	\$	-
Return from Restitution	\$	-
	\$	
Total receipts for the month	\$	3,240.40

Mayor Lucia requested that Mount Pleasant Police provide heavier traffic control on our main streets.

Mayor Lucia said that the Halloween Parade and Trick or Treat in the Borough were very successful this year and he thanked the Fire Department, Medic 10 and the Police Department for their assistance during the events.

Mayor Lucia said that volunteers from the Fire Department will be putting up Christmas decorations on Main Street soon.

President Bauer said that he received complaints again this year from residents of Ramsay Terrace that there were entirely too many Trick or Treaters from out of town. President Bauer said it is something that will have to be looked at before next year.

Councilman Wagner asked Mayor Lucia who is handling Borough Ordinances and Mayor Lucia said that Borough Manager Landy is handling the ordinances with the help of Police Officer Zilli.

#### **Solicitor's Report:**

Solicitor Wolfe said that there the Borough made a motion to accept the bid from First Niagara Bank for the sale of 524 W Main Street and there is a resolution on the agenda tonight that is required by Borough Code. Solicitor Wolfe said that he has the deed and is ready for closing on the property.

Solicitor Wolfe said that the loan from Scottdale Bank is ready to be signed and the money will be available to pay the contractor.

Police Officer Dan Zilli said that he would like Council to consider a Nuisance Alarm Ordinance because there are numerous false alarms being answered by the Police Department. The ordinance would specify a fine to be paid after a certain number of false alarms per year.

#### **Tax Collector's Report:**

Tax Collector Carol Yancosky read the following report for the month of October 2014:

Property Taxes = \$5,114.21

Per Capita Taxes = \$440.00

Total Collected = \$5,554.21

#### **President's Report:**

Attorney Randall Klimchock, Solicitor for the Mount Pleasant Planning Commission, addressed Council and explained the motion for a subdivision that is on the Agenda tonight. The subdivision is a small lot line subdivision between two landowners. Mr. Timothy Farrell, 780 W Vine Street is giving up 10 feet of his frontage to the neighboring property to solve a small encroachment and provide an 8 foot setback. The subdivision was voted on unanimously by the Mount Pleasant Planning Commission.

A motion was made by Councilman Wagner to accept the recommendation of the Mount Pleasant Borough Planning Commission approving the Timothy A. Farrell Subdivision Plan dated January 31, 2014 and to authorize the Borough Council President and Secretary to sign the

said Subdivision Plan, indicating Council's approval of the same. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to participate in the 2015 G-Conference. Motion seconded by Councilman Wagner. Motion carried 7-0.

President Bauer announced that Council will be having Executive Sessions on November 17<sup>th</sup> at 6pm to discuss contracts and at 6pm on November 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> to discuss personnel.

President Bauer said that he would like Council to think about and consider a Mount Pleasant Fund Drive for St. Jude's Hospital. It could be a 4 hour event on a Saturday or maybe a Friday night. We could send letters out to businesses and clubs and put some volunteers on the streets with firemen's boots to see how much we could collect for St. Jude's. Any council member, or anyone from the public who would like to help, please call the borough office. A date can be picked between now and the end of the year.

President Bauer announced that there are less than 30 Commemorative Christmas Ornaments left in stock. The will probably be sold out before the Christmas Parade on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. President Bauer said that he will design and order the 2015 ornament sometime in January.

#### **Borough Manager's Report:**

Borough Manager Landy said that the Christmas Parade this year will be in the evening and it should bring in a bigger crowd because the floats will be lit and it will be much prettier. This year the parade will be on Wednesday December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm and Light Night will be the same night. Mr. Landy said that he will talk to businesses on Main Street to see if they would like to serve food during the parade. After the parade the Historical Society will host "Christmas at the Cabin" with an open fire to roast marshmallows and hot dogs.

Mr. Landy said that the Nativity Scene light up will be on November 30<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. And on December 10<sup>th</sup> will be the Candlelight Procession.

Borough Manager Landy said that he ordered 100 ton of road salt in preparation for the winter season. The funds were taken from the 2014 budget.

Mr. Landy said that Architect Jim Gayton is currently working on the plans for underground utilities at Penn Park. Hopefully some underground construction can be done over the winter and when the weather breaks we can bid for the above ground construction.

Mr. Landy said that the Borough received a Tree Grant from Westmoreland Cleanways in the amount of \$5,000 and all 19 of the trees have been ordered and planted. The trees that were planted at Frick Park should bloom between April and July and will give the park a whole new look. Two willow trees were planted at Willows Park and two lilac trees on the borough campus.

Borough Manager Landy said that a meeting with Mount Pleasant Township officials was held to discuss their contribution to the repair of the bio-tower at the WWT Plant and the project is moving forward with the Township as our partner.

Mr. Landy said that he and Mayor Lucia attended a meeting about the construction at Frick Hospital. The permits for the project have been obtained and construction should begin soon and should be done by May 2015.

Borough Manager Landy said that paperwork for the sale of 524 W Main Street to First Niagara Bank is done and ready for the closing. It required a lot of time and effort from borough personnel, but everything should be in order.

Borough Manager Landy said that he attended a Property Maintenance seminar and learned that there are certain things the Borough can and can't do. K-2 Engineering also attended the seminar and between the Borough and K-2 Engineering we should have a better understanding of the ordinance and how to enforce it. Mr. Landy said that he will be attending a meeting with the

Westmoreland County Sheriff's Department on November 14<sup>th</sup> and will discuss their contribution to the property maintenance process.

Mr. Landy said Westmoreland Conservation District works on storm water maintenance and is working with First Niagara Bank on their new construction and what is allowed and not allowed. Westmoreland Conservation has given the outline of what should be done and have approved the plans and they will follow up with First Niagara during the construction process.

Mr. Landy asked Council to look at the preliminary 2015 budget and to let him know if any numbers need to be changed. Mr. Landy went through the 2015 General Fund Budget and pointed out some of the changes that needed to be made. Mr. Landy said that some numbers do need to be verified before the budget is final. President Bauer said that there will be a meeting to go over the budget more thoroughly on November 10 at 7:00pm.

President Bauer thanked Excela Health for their commitment to Mount Pleasant Borough. The proposed changes and construction at the facility will be very impressive.

President Bauer said that there will be openings on some of the Mount Pleasant Boards and Authorities and if anyone in the Borough is interested in serving on one of the boards please send a letter of interest to the borough office.

#### **Waste Water Treatment Report:**

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to suspend the rules for the purpose of a motion to repair Pump #1. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to approve up to \$10,923 to repair pump #1 at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

President Bauer said that the Borough will need to look at replacing the comminuter at the Waste Water Treatment Plant in the near future. The cost of the replacement will be approximately \$60,000.

Waste Water Superintendent Larry Hague said that the louvres at the base of the bio-tower need to be replaced and now would be a good time to do the work because there is a way into the tower.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to suspend the rules for the purpose of a motion to fix the louvres on the bio-tower. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to approve approximately \$16,000 to fix the louvres on the bio-tower. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 7-0.

Borough Manager Landy said that he has asked WWT Superintendent Larry Hague to put together a list of repairs that will need to be made in the future and it will be presented to Mount Pleasant Township. Mount Pleasant Township has agreed that because of their sewage customers utilizing our plant that they are responsible to help with the cost of repairs.

#### **Veterans Park Report:**

Borough Manager Landy reminded everyone that the Veterans Park Digital Wall is up and running and anyone can add a veteran's name as well as a picture and short biography.

#### **Streets Report:**

Councilwoman Bailey reported that the paving project at Braddock Road Avenue and Quarry Street is complete except for sealing and some clean up.

#### **Public Safety Zoning & Ordinance Report:**

Councilwoman Stevenson read the following Fire Report for the month of October 2014:

Total Calls – 43  
In Town – 12  
Out of Town – 31  
10-45's – 16  
Fires – 10  
Public Service Calls – 7  
Standby's – 1  
AFA's – 9  
Turnpike Calls – 1  
Total Members Answering – 529  
Avg. Members Per Call – 12  
Total Staff Hours – 356

Councilwoman Stevenson said that Council is moving forward in the process of hiring a new Police Chief. A job description has been written and 6 interviews will be scheduled the last Monday and Tuesday of November.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that she will be attending a PSAB seminar on Managing a Professional Police Department.

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

Councilman Wagner said that the Mount Pleasant Slovak Club has donated \$500 to our Police Department for wireless internet in the police vehicles.

Councilman Wagner said that the BDA's "Paint the Town Pink" campaign is over. Mount Pleasant businesses and the community came together as a whole to raise breast cancer awareness.

Councilman Wagner thanked Councilwoman Bailey and Borough Manager Landy for all their efforts in putting together the 2015-2017 CDBG Grant Application.

**Parks & Recreation Report:** None

**Finance & Human Resources Report:** None

#### **Property Report:**

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to approve Resolution 2014-05 permitting the Borough to sell real estate located 524 W Main Street, Mount Pleasant, PA to First Niagara Bank for the amount of \$14,000. Motion seconded by Councilman Wagner. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilman Pritts said that the repairs made so far to the Municipal Building have corrected the water problem in the first floor suites. Glass block windows will be installed and the contractor has agreed to repair the inside of the wall as well.

Councilman Pritts reported that there are some electrical issues that need to be repaired at the Third Ward Fire Station and the Municipal Building which include an update to the circuit for the fire alarm.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to suspend the rules for a motion to approve \$825 for electrical work at Third Ward Fire Station and the Municipal Building. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to authorize Ron Smith to do electrical work at the Third Ward Fire Station and the Municipal Building at a cost of \$825. Motion seconded by Councilman Wagner. Motion carried 7-0.

Mayor Lucia said that the Mount Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department paid to have two new doors installed at the Third Ward Fire Station.

#### **Sanitation & Recycling Report:**

Councilman Caruso reported that Republic Waste Services has delivered the smaller recycling containers for the residents in the pilot program who can't manage the larger containers.

**New Business:**

President Bauer reminded everyone that the Veterans Day Parade and Service will begin at 10:30am on November 11, 2014.

President Bauer said that the fountain at Veterans Park will be decorated differently this year. Borough Manager Landy and WWT Superintendent Larry Hague have designed a Christmas tree this year.

Mayor Lucia said that he and Borough Manager Landy have received calls about interest in the borough property for sale on Bridgeport Street by Medic 10.

A discussion ensued regarding plans for Penn Dot to widen the intersection at Bridgeport Street in anticipation of the Borough developing the Levin property now owned by the Borough.

President Bauer said that he would like to put some rumors to rest regarding money he supposedly received for selling the building that housed the VFW on Main Street. He wanted to assure residents of the Borough that he did not receive any finder's fee or any other money during the sale of the VFW. President Bauer said that if the rumors continue and he finds out the source he will seek legal counsel. He also announced that because of commitments to his employer his church and his duties on Council, he will be resigning as Quarter Master for the VFW sometime in the next two weeks.

Councilwoman Bailey reported that the Library Association has provided Council with 2013 Financial Statements.

Councilman Wagner wished the Mount Pleasant Viking Football Team and their Cheerleaders good luck during the WPIAL Playoff game this weekend.

**Reading of Communications:**

Borough Manager Landy read the following communication:

- A Glimmer of Hope requested a donation. All proceeds raised will go toward funding research and finding a cure for breast cancer.
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**Discussion and Payment of Bills:**

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to pay all authorized and approved bills. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

**Miscellaneous and Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

**Meeting adjourned 8:37pm**

## **Motions From Meeting of November 3, 2014**

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