

Meeting November 18, 2013

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. Councilman McCloy, Pritts, Snyder, Tate, Wojnar and Councilwomen Bailey, and Ruszkowski and Stevenson were present. Mayor Lucia was present and Solicitor Wolfe was absent. 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 November 4, 2013 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 7-0.

Public Comment: None

Speakers: None

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia reported that the Mount Pleasant VFD and Klocek Burial Vault put up the Christmas decorations on Main Street over the weekend.

Mayor Lucia said that every year Excelsior Frick Hospital has a Memory Tree Fund Raiser to benefit elderly citizens who use the life alert system. Mayor Lucia asked Council if they would like to contribute \$25 in memory of deceased residents from the Borough.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to contribute \$25 to the Frick Hospital Memory Tree in honor of all residents of the Borough who are deceased. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

Mayor Lucia said that the Borough was lucky that we did not sustain too much damage from the storm last night. All of the borough departments were on alert in case they were needed.

Solicitor's Report: None

Treasurer's Report:

Borough Manager Landy read the following Treasurer's Report for the month of October 2013:

**Mt. Pleasant
Borough
Treasurer's Report**

Oct-13

		Previous Balance	Deposits	Disbursements	Balance 2013
General Fund Checking	PNC 00-0122-3513	61,790.00	211,675.37	223,465.37	50,000.00
General Fund Sweep	PNC 10-1149-3394	783,680.37	96,115.49	102,124.71	777,671.15
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	PNC 102-457-4388	43,376.25	3.69	0.00	43,379.94
**Fire	30,000.00				
**Police	0.00				
**Streets	10,000.00				
**Contingency Fund	3,379.94				
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 321615	399,144.67	50.85	0.00	399,195.52
**Police	33,127.60				
**Streets	90,000.00				
**Contingency Fund	103,099.25				
**Infrastructure	100,000.00				
**BOMP1 Gas Well	9,250.00				
**BOMP2 Gas Well	4,572.81				
**Frick Park Gas Well	24,408.36				
**Levins	4,365.06				
**Surveillance Cameras	160.00				
**Surveillance Camera Grant	2,182.87				
**Early Warning Siren Grant	1,300.00				
**Fire	15,000.00				

**K-9		11,729.57				
Escrow Account	PNC Bank 10-2912-6867	24,480.87	0.00	2,130.00	22,350.87	
Liquid Fuels PLGIT	PLGIT 56980126	72,399.53	0.85	4,664.26	67,736.12	
Monument CD	Standard Bank 328188	5,950.65	0.00	0.00	5,950.65	
Holiday Lighting Fund	Standard Bank 050004849	1,802.52	0.07	0.00	1,802.59	
Payroll Fund	PNC 00-0122-6415	864.14	55,292.34	55,634.75	521.73	
Veterans Park Fund	First Niagara 981293700	471.49	100.00	0.00	571.49	
Veterans Park Fund	PLGIT 5698025	11,264.93	0.14	0.00	11,265.07	
Town Clock Fund	Standard Bank 0010038847	613.52	0.03	0.00	613.55	
Medic 10 Checking	Standard Bank 0010107643	77,384.05	36,341.53	50,434.00	63,291.58	
Medic 10 Savings	Standard Bank 0310000238	136,876.47	1,017.56	0.00	137,894.03	
Medic 10 Community Trust	Standard Bank 0000358253	2,571.29	0.32	0.00	2,571.61	
Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	PNC Bank 10-3388-4556	1,740.16	0.00	17.00	1,723.16	
Total General Fund Balance						1,586,539.06
WWT Operational Acct	Standard Bank 0320012280	202,443.01	83,201.06	52,648.33	232,995.74	
WWT Savings	Standard Bank 0050021008	86,483.99	3,019.35	0.00	89,503.34	
WWT Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 0000287245	168,195.12	21.43	0.00	168,216.55	
**Contingency		108,174.38				
**Infrastructure		60,000.00				
Total WWT Balance						490,715.63
Total Borough funds						2,077,254.69

Councilwoman Susan Ruskowski
Secretary Beverly Fedorchak

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to approve the Treasurers Report as read. Motion seconded by Councilman McCloy. Motion carried 9-0.

President's Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruskowski to participate in the 2014 G Conference. Motion seconded by Councilman Snyder. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve the 2014 Holiday Schedule. Motion seconded by Councilman Wojnar. Motion carried 9-0.

President Bauer said that he would like to put the rumor that the Borough is interested in acquiring McCali Manor. The Borough has no interest in the property and is making no effort to acquire it.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy said that Council will be presented tonight with a balanced 2014 budget.

Borough Manager reported that he and President Bauer have been meeting with a developer regarding 2014 projects. The Borough will continue to move forward in the coming year.

Borough Manager Landy said that Council was provided with a copy of the Christmas program. We are calling it "Christmas Wonderland". Light Night and the lighting of the life size Nativity Scene will be on December 1st at 6:00pm. The Christmas Parade will be held on December 7th at 11am and will be "It's A Gingerbread Christmas". This year there will be crafters near the Gazebo while Santa is there and the Knights of Columbus Council 3334 will be offering free hot chocolate and cookies. The Mount Pleasant Historical Society will be serving free hot dogs and roasted marshmallows over an open fire at noon and the Gingerbread House Tour & Competition will be on display at the In Town Shops from November 18th through December 20th. The winning gingerbread house is on display at Levin Furniture. Borough Manager Landy said that the gingerbread houses will be for sale and the proceeds will benefit the Wounded Warrior Project and local veterans.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to approve the 2014 schedule of council meetings. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

President Bauer said that the D.A.R. House will have its annual display beginning Friday November 29th.

Waste Water Treatment:

Norm Stout, Superintendent of the Mount Pleasant Waste Water Treatment gave Council a report on the 2013 Quarry Street Project and changes that had to be made to the project. The project is complete with the exception of a 15 foot piece of pipe that ties everything together, but is near an electric pole. Mr. Stout met with West Penn and that piece of pipe will take approximately one day to complete.

Mr. Stout said that borough engineers assessed the project and what it would have cost to bid out the project. The engineer estimated the project to have cost \$175,000 if bid out and to date the Borough has spent \$35,800 doing it in-house which is a savings of approximately \$125,000. Mr. Stout said that before the Borough paves Quarry Street they should look at some storm water issues on the street. The Township will reciprocate if we need anything.

Superintendent Stout requested a 2013 bonus for Waste Water Treatment personnel because of the money that was saved by doing the Quarry Street Project.

Borough Manager Landy said that he received from Connellsville Township requesting that Mount Pleasant WWT workers spend a day in Connellsville Township to jet three storm lines. Mr. Landy asked the Waste Water Treatment Committee to discuss it and decided if it is something the Borough would be willing to do. The work could be done when it is convenient for our employees.

Streets Report:

Councilman Tate said that the Street Department should be ready to begin work on the wall at Frick Park on Wednesday November 20th.

Borough Manager Landy reported that we have gotten a quote from State Pipe to do the S. Geary Street Project that involved damage to a driveway on that street. The Borough has also received a grant from the Mount Pleasant Municipal Authority to do the project. State Pipe has informed the Borough that they will be making the pipe on December 5, 2013. It will take a couple of days to ship and they will make arrangements with the Borough on when they can install the pipe.

Public Safety Report:

Councilman Snyder discussed with Council the possibility of using the former K-9 vehicle back into service as a regular police car again. It would need to be thoroughly cleaned and a new back seat installed. A discussion ensued on other uses for the car.

Mayor Lucia said that he received a letter from Mr. Alex Hanes, a Criminal Justice student at Seton Hill University requesting permission to ride with the Mount Pleasant Police as an intern. Mr. Hanes said that he feels this internship would be invaluable to his future plans to become a police officer.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to suspend the rules for the purpose of allowing an intern to ride along with the Mount Pleasant Police Department. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to grant permission to Mr. Alex Hanes to ride along with patrolmen from the Mount Pleasant Police Department as an intern. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 9-0.

Mr. Landy said that our insurance company will have guidelines regarding what an intern riding with the police is and is not allowed to do.

Zoning & Ordinance Report:

Councilman McCloy reported that he attended the Medic 10 board meeting. Secretary Fedorchak will be providing a Medic 10 Treasurer's Report for each Medic 10 board meeting in the future. Mayor Lucia said that the board meeting was very productive and the Board was able to assist Medic 10 with their 2014 Budget.

Borough Manager Landy said that there will be a hearing on November 26, 2013 at 8:30am before Judge Ober on the Arevalo building on Main Street. The Borough Building and Health Inspectors have condemned the building and Dr. Arevalo appealed the ruling. This will be a hearing to decide on the appeal. Council can express their support by attending the hearing.

Councilman Tate said that he would like our building inspectors to look at the building next to the borough lot where the Gormley building used to be. Councilman Tate said that the building is in bad shape as well as the wall dividing the property. Mr. Landy said that he will bring the issue up at the meeting scheduled tomorrow with B.I. U.

Borough Manager Landy said that there will be a meeting tomorrow November 19, 2013 with B.I.U. and Ms. Jane Altman regarding proposed changes to the building she owns on Main Street and is currently McCali Manor. The discussion will center on zoning and building codes.

Community & Economic Development/Grants Report:

Councilwoman Bailey said that she received the information from Medic 10 on a grant they would like her to assist them with. Councilwoman Bailey said that the grant is through FEMA and she may need some assistance from someone who is more knowledgeable about these grants. The grant deadline is December 6, 2013. Councilwoman Bailey said that she will find out if Medic 10 has any more information that would be helpful in writing the grant and whether we can even make the deadline.

Veterans Park Report:

Councilman Tate reported that the Veterans Park Digital Wall is up and running and the names are on the wall. As soon as the Borough is trained on the software there are a couple more names that will be added. Borough Manager Landy said that Industry Weapon still has to program the Digital Wall to shut down at night.

Parks & Recreation Report:

Councilman Wojnar said that he has several people interested in serving on the Recreation Advisory Committee and he will go over them with Councilman Tate.

Councilman Wojnar said that he has participated in some webinars. One in particular had to do with the "Get Outdoors PA" sponsored by the DCNR. Another webinar by the DCNR and the DCED covered recreational grants available. Councilman Wojnar said that one of these grants could be used to bring our parks up to code.

Councilman Wojnar said that he will be participating in a local Parks & Recreation Alliance and will attend a meeting on January 9, 2014.

Councilman Wojnar said that he and Councilwoman Stevenson were approached on Election Day by a resident regarding yard sale signs. This resident had posted yard sale signs on telephone poles and Police Chief Ober informed here that that was against borough ordinance. Here concern was insistent enforcement, because there were other yard sale signs that were not removed from poles.

Finance & Human Resources Report:

Councilwoman Ruskowski said that all of Council has been provided with copies of the 2014 General Fund, WWT, Medic 10, Mount Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival and Liquid Fuels budgets. Councilwoman Ruskowski said that as of last week there budget showed a \$12,000 surplus in the 2014 budget and we were able to put the \$12,000 back into the budget. 2014 income is \$14,000 lower than in 2013 and expenses had to be lowered to bring the budget into balance.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that she understands there are no employee raises in the 2014 budget and she feels that borough employees deserve to receive raises if at all possible. Councilwoman Ruskowski said that it was decided that since Council was not raising taxes in 2014 that there should be a freeze on wages this year. President Bauer said that he feels the money should be spent on improvements in the Borough. A discussion ensued regarding whether to give raises to borough employees.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to suspend the rules for purpose of a motion to give borough employees raises in 2014. Motion seconded by Councilman Snyder. The following roll call vote was taken:

Councilwoman Bailey	No
Councilman McCloy	No
Councilman Pritts	Yes
Councilwoman Ruskowski	No
Councilman Snyder	Yes
Councilwoman Stevenson	Yes

Councilman Tate	Yes
Councilman Wojnar	Yes
President Bauer	No

Motion was carried 5-4.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to include in the 2014 budget a 1.5% raise for non-union borough employees. Motion seconded by Councilman Snyder. The following roll call vote was taken.

Councilwoman Bailey	No
Councilman McCloy	No
Councilman Pritts	Yes
Councilwoman Ruszkowski	No
Councilman Snyder	Yes
Councilwoman Stevenson	Yes
Councilman Tate	Yes
Councilman Wojnar	Yes
President Bauer	No

Motion was carried 5-4.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to advertise the 2014 General Fund, WWT, Medic 10 and Liquid Fuels budgets. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve Mount Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival 2014 budget with revenues of \$72,620.00 and expenses of \$67,031.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to make the following line item transfers in the General Fund:

- \$300 from 403.50 to 403.60
- \$260 from 405.22 to 405.21
- \$490 from 405.34 to 405.25
- \$100 from 409.25 to 409.21
- \$825 from 410.37 to 410.19
- \$5 from 410.37 to 410.20
- \$240 from 410.37 to 410.21
- \$390 from 410.37 to 410.92
- \$400 from 410.37 to 410.33
- \$390 from 410.37 to 410.92
- \$1,010 from 411.25 to 411.12
- \$40 from 411.25 to 411.20
- \$300 from 411.25 to 411.24
- \$1,200 from 430.17 to 430.13
- \$1,200 from 430.17 to 430.14
- \$500 from 430.17 to 430.15
- \$300 from 430.17 to 430.23
- \$100 from 430.17 to 430.24
- \$1,150 from 430.17 to 433.00
- \$2,160 from 450.16 to 450.03
- \$1,600 from 450.16 to 450.05
- \$765 from 450.16 to 450.12
- \$215 from 486.96 to 486.51
- \$480 from 486.96 to 486.75
- \$3,800 from 400.26 to 411.40
- \$9,000 from 400.28 to 411.40
- \$1,828 from 405.12 to 411.40

Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to make the following line item transfers in the WWT Fund:

- \$9,000 from 860.39 to 840.39
- \$1,000 from 860.35 to 840.39
- \$4,500 from 860.06 to 840.28
- \$1,000 from 860.43 to 840.28
- \$1,000 from 860.43 to 860.05
- \$250 from 860.36 to 860.05
- \$700 from 860.43 to 860.23
- \$150 from 860.43 to 860.60

\$500 from 860.80 to 840.58
\$250 from 860.80 to 860.12
\$2,500 from 860.14 to 860.41

Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to authorize Borough Manager to make any necessary transfers between now and the end of 2013. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to sign Franchise Agreement with Armstrong Cable to provide cable service to borough residents for the year 2014. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0. Councilman Pritts abstained from voting.

Borough Manager Landy said that he had the borough solicitor look at the Franchise Agreement with Armstrong Cable and he stated that it is a standard agreement and similar to ones signed in the past. Mr. Landy said that the new agreement will include the free Wi-Fi that Armstrong now provides the Borough. That way if Armstrong hires a new manager it will be in the agreement and not simply a verbal agreement.

Property Report:

Councilman Pritts reported that he installed the lights at the Welcome To Mount Pleasant sign and the electricity should be hooked up as soon as the borough orders some conduit to run the underground line.

Councilman Pritts said that Medic 10 had to spend \$250 to do some repairs in a restroom and he is getting quotes to replace the broken railing at the Fire Department with vinyl.

Sanitation & Recycling Report:

Councilwoman Stevenson said she received a new agreement from Allied Waste via email. Councilwoman Stevenson said she would like to look it over with Borough Manager Landy and will bring it to the next council meeting.

New Business:

President Bauer said that when he met with a developer, they said that they didn't want to develop any sites in the middle of town. Therefore the Mount Pleasant VFW is still on the market to be sold. President Bauer said that after Thanksgiving he is meeting with a representative from Homes For Hope to show her the site of the VFW to see if they would be interested. Homes For Hope said that for the project to go forward they would need the cooperation of Mount Pleasant Borough Council and Westmoreland County.

Borough Manager Landy said that Council has a copy of a Letter Of Intent from Honeywell that states if we decide to do the project and then quit, we will have to pay them \$6,000 for the study they performed.

Mr. Landy said that Council has a copy of the Mount Pleasant BDA 2014 Budget along with the breakdown of line items.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve the 2014 Mount Pleasant BDA Budget as submitted. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 9-0.

Reading of Communications: None

Discussion and Payment of Bills:

A motion was made by Councilman Snyder to pay all approved and authorized bills. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

A motion was made by Councilman Snyder to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

Meeting adjourned 8:49pm

Motions from November 18, 2013 Meeting

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to dispense with the reading of the minutes of November 4, 2013 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to contribute \$25 to the Frick Hospital Memory Tree in honor of all residents of the Borough who are deceased. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

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A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to suspend the rules for purpose of a motion to give borough employees raises in 2014. Motion seconded by Councilman Snyder. The following roll call vote was taken:

Councilwoman Bailey	No
Councilman McCloy	No
Councilman Pritts	Yes
Councilwoman Ruszkowski	No
Councilman Snyder	Yes
Councilwoman Stevenson	Yes
Councilman Tate	Yes
Councilman Wojnar	Yes
President Bauer	No

Motion was carried 5-4.

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Councilman Tate	Yes
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President Bauer	No

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\$700 from 860.43 to 860.23
\$150 from 860.43 to 860.60
\$500 from 860.80 to 840.58
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A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to sign Franchise Agreement with Armstrong Cable to provide cable service to borough residents for the year 2014. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0. Councilman Pritts abstained from voting.

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A motion was made by Councilman Snyder to pay all approved and authorized bills. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Snyder to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

