

Meeting February 16, 2015

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Bauer at 7:07pm in Council Chambers at 1 Etze Avenue, Mount Pleasant, PA 15666. The Lord's Prayer and The Pledge of Allegiance were said and there was a moment of silence for our deployed troops. President Bauer directed Borough Manager Landy to take roll. Councilmen Caruso, Pritts, Tate, Wagner, Wojnar and Councilwomen Bailey, Ruskowski and Stevenson and 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 February 2, 2015 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruskowski. Motion carried 9-0.

Speakers:

Architect Jim Gayton spoke to Council about plans for Penn Park on East Main Street that will include using artifacts from the Borough and material that is more organic. Mr. Gayton discussed other aspects of the proposed park.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia reported that the Mount Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department, Police Department and EMS Medic 10 are prepared for the approaching weather system.

Councilman Wojnar said that he is in contact with an individual who is organizing community action regarding the proposed deep mine in Donegal PA. Mayor Lucia said that he is also in contact with this person.

Councilman Wojnar said that if anyone else is interested in participating in this community action they can call him for contact information.

Solicitor's Report: None

Treasurer's Report:

Councilwoman Ruskowski began reading the following Treasurer's Report for the month of January 2015 and Borough Manager Landy completed the report:

Mt. Pleasant Borough Treasurer's Report

		Jan-15			Balance
		Previous	Deposits	Disbursements	2015
		Balance			
General Fund Checking	PNC 00-0122-3513	50,000.00	113,527.49	112,631.49	50,896.00
General Fund Sweep	PNC 10-1149-3394	773,990.43	26,932.72	72,860.97	728,062.18
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	PNC 102-457-4388	1.07	0.00	0.00	1.07
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 321615	481,131.76	40.87	0.00	481,172.63
**Police		33,127.60			
**Streets		100,000.00			
**Contingency Fund		164,665.62			
**Infrastructure		86,588.62			
**BOMP1 Gas Well		9,250.00			
**BOMP2 Gas Well		4,572.81			
**Frick Park Gas Well		24,408.36			
**Levins		970.06			
**Surveillance Cameras		160.00			
**Early Warning Siren Grant		1,300.00			
**Fire		45,000.00			
**K-9		11,129.56			
Escrow Account	PNC Bank 10-2912-6867	2,203.70	0.00	0.00	2,203.70
Liquid Fuels PLGIT	PLGIT 56980126	54,708.53	0.83	0.00	54,709.36
Monument CD	Standard Bank 328188	6,747.79	0.00	0.00	6,747.79
Holiday Lighting Fund	Standard Bank 050004849	1,803.65	0.07	0.00	1,803.72
Payroll Fund	PNC 00-0122-6415	7,334.27	49,554.27	56,227.33	661.21
	Somerset Trust Co				
Veterans Park Fund	2003058309	5,659.90	0.00	0.00	5,659.90
Town Clock Fund	Standard Bank 0010038847	613.91	0.02	0.00	613.93
Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	PNC Bank 10-3888-4556	1,213.21	0.00	17.00	1,196.21
Total General Fund Balance					1,333,727.70

Medic 10 Checking	Standard Bank 0010107643	137,210.77	43,539.79	7,837.24	172,913.32
Medic 10 Savings	Standard Bank 0310000238	152,081.10	1,013.00	0.00	153,094.10
Medic 10 Money Market	PNC Bank 10-1516-8804	5,883.77	0.24	0.00	5,884.01
Medic 10 Community Trust	Standard Bank 0000358253	3,115.42	0.00	0.00	3,115.42
Total Medic 10 Fund Balance					335,006.85
WWT Operational Acct	Standard Bank 0320012280	334,911.27	184,007.87	127,190.04	391,729.10
WWT Savings	Standard Bank 0050021008	109,183.73	1,513.53	0.00	110,697.26
WWT Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 0000287245	73,372.36	3.65	52,533.83	20,842.18
**Contingency		13,372.36			
**Infrastructure		7,469.82			
WWT Bio-Tower	Standard Bank 10127923	29,341.34	17,891.43	11,942.71	35,290.06
Total WWT Balance					558,558.60
Total Borough funds					2,227,293.15
Councilwoman Susan Ruskowski					
Secretary Beverly Fedorchak					

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve the Treasurer's Report as read. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 9-0.

Tax Collector's Report:

Tax Collector Carol Yancosky read the following report for the month of January 2015:

Per Capita Taxes = \$49.50

Total Collected = \$49.50

Ms. Yancosky said that the Tax Office is busy preparing the tax statements to be mailed March 1st.

President's Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruskowski to advertise for bids for construction of Penn Park. Deadline for bids will be March 20, 2015. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

President Bauer reminded members of Council that it is required that they be NIMS certified. ISO 100 and 700 are required for all council members. President Bauer said that the certifications can be acquired online. Mayor Lucia said that it is important that council members are NIMS certified in case of a disaster and they are called upon to report on-site to run the disaster plan.

President Bauer asked Borough Manager Landy for the status of the Town Clock. Mr. Landy reported that it was repaired and installed by Mike Kroft who is employed by Excelsa Health, but it is running fast. Mr. Kroft said that due he will be glad to work on the clock but it will have to wait until the weather breaks and the construction at Frick Hospital is closer to completion.

President Bauer said that he and Mayor Lucia and Borough Manager Landy met with representatives from Penn Dot. Plans for an \$8.6 million dollar construction project on Main Street should be complete by December 2015 and construction should begin in the spring of 2016. Plans call for concrete at all intersections from Crivelli's on Route 31 to Bridgeport Street. The railroad crossing will be replaced. Borough Manager Landy has been talking to MAWC regarding replacing the water lines on Main Street before the Penn Dot reconstruction begins. Mayor Lucia said that the last time resurfacing was done on Main Street was 1998.

President Bauer said that in addition to the Penn Dot construction there will be an \$860,000 storm water project on Main Street covered by grant money. Mayor Lucia said that right now there are no catch basins from CoGo's down past the Doughboy.

President Bauer discussed the storm water problem at Ramsey Terrace and possible grant funds for a project. WWT Superintendent Larry Hague will camera the lines as soon as the weather breaks. President Bauer said that paving projects for North and South Geary Streets will have to wait until storm water projects are complete. President Bauer said that he will form another council committee for Storm Water and will appoint Councilman Caruso as Chairman.

President Bauer said that he received complaints from businesses on Main Street and he passed along the complaints to the Mount Pleasant BDA.

President Bauer said that Scottsdale Bank is in contact with Frank Monack from K2 Engineering regarding any permits required for their location on Main Street in Mount Pleasant. The tentative date for opening the Mount Pleasant Main Street branch of Scottsdale Bank is March 2015.

Council discussed permit parking for Washington Street and President Bauer said that he will have verbiage for the amendment to the ordinance ready by the next meeting for Solicitor Wolfe's approval. President Bauer said that if anyone has suggestions for the amendment please let him know ASAP.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy talked to Council about the exiting next couple of years in the Borough with the Main Street project by Penn Dot along with the Storm Water project. These projects have been in the works for almost three years and are now being realized.

Mr. Landy said that the borough office has been getting calls regarding this year's community yard sale. Residents are anxious to know the date.

Borough Manager Landy said that he will be attending a workshop on March 13, 2015 IN Indiana County and will speak about Mount Pleasant Borough and what we have accomplished. It's an exciting workshop that they have asked us to participate in.

Mr. Landy said that plans for the new restrooms at Willows Park are finally coming together. The project should be complete around June of 2015 and the restrooms will be more accessible and make Willows Park more attractive to visitors.

Mr. Landy said that the electric savings project originally planned with Honeywell is still going forward. Borough Manager Landy said that he was asked by Honeywell to go back to the bank where the Borough is getting the loan to ask them to reduce the interest rate because the savings were not what we would have liked. The bank agreed to reduce the interest rate and the savings were still not there. Mr. Landy said that he then called Honeywell and they did resolve the savings issue. There will be a meeting with Honeywell to finalize the program.

Borough Manager Landy said that transfers to the K-9 fund and Marcellus Shale Gas Well Impact Fee line items in Budgetary Reserve will have to be made that total \$11,000. Mr. Landy said that he is not certain yet if there will be any other monies that can be transferred to reserve.

Mr. Landy said that he received a letter from Penn Dot stating that a permit is required for anyone who puts a driveway off of a state highway. Penn Dot will also be doing a traffic count on Main Street. They will notify us when they are ready to do the project.

Waste Water Treatment Report:

Councilman Tate said that Borough Manager Landy and Waste Water Superintendent Larry Hague are researching the cost of replacing the obsolete comminutor at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. A meeting will be scheduled with Mount Pleasant Township Supervisors to discuss their portion of the cost. There are other projects in the works that will involve the Township.

Veterans Park Report:

Councilman Tate said that letter has been drafted to be sent to local businesses asking for donations to be used for upgrades at Veterans Park.

Street Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to send herself, Jeff Landy and Jeff McGuinness to the Spring Road Safety & Maintenance Workshop on March 25, 2015 at a cost of \$50 per person. Motion seconded by Councilman Wagner. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to advertise for bids for the paving project for South Geary Street beginning at Church Street for a total of 236 feet and for North Geary Street beginning at Church Street for a total of 1026 feet. Motion seconded by Councilman Caruso. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilwoman Bailey said that the Street Department is using more sand with the salt at intersections because it is too cold for the salt to do a good job. Councilwoman Bailey said she has told Street Supervisor Fontanazza that he will have to make himself available if union personnel exceed their overtime limits.

Public Safety, Zoning & Ordinance Report:

Councilwoman Stevenson read the following Police Report for the month of January 2015:

Report of the Mount Pleasant Police Department for the month of January 2015:

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

Complaints	37
Requests for assistance	9
Assist Other Departments	5
Accidents investigated	6
Assist Medic 10	4

The Department made 18 arrests during the month as follows

Vehicle Code	8
Crimes Code	10

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Return from Magistrate Eckels	\$	1,083.25
Return from Clerk of Courts	\$	37.28
Accident Report Fees	\$	45.00
\$10.00 Tickets Paid	\$	40.00
Total Receipts	\$	1,205.53
Meter Collection	\$	-
Total Collected	\$	1,205.53

Councilwoman Stevenson reported that she along with Councilwoman Ruszkowski and Mayor Lucia are continuing to interview for the position of Police Chief for Mount Pleasant Borough. There are two candidates who are very promising. One of the candidates is from the local area and the committee has initiated a background check on him as the first step in the hiring process. When the background check comes back there will be an interview before all council members.

President Bauer said that he spoke to the Borough Solicitor and the Borough Insurance Carrier regarding Veteran's Preference regarding hiring a Police Chief. Both the Solicitor and the Insurance Carrier stated that if candidates have the same qualifications Veteran's Preference should be the deciding factor. If Council decides to begin the hiring process all over again they must re-advertise and start from the beginning.

A discussion ensued regarding statistically required qualifications for the position of Police Chief across the country. Councilman Wagner quoted the advertisement for the position that the Borough put in the newspaper. He also quoted sections from the Borough Code stating his position.

A motion was made by Councilman Wagner to suspend the rules for the purpose of nominating Dan Zilli for the position of Mount Pleasant Borough Chief of Police in accordance Borough Code Section 1171 through 1194 specifically Section 1184 Paragraph D. Motion seconded by Councilman Caruso. A roll call vote was requested as follows:

Councilwoman Bailey	Yes
Councilman Caruso	Yes
Councilman Pritts	No
Councilwoman Ruszkowski	No
Councilwoman Stevenson	No
Councilman Tate	Yes
Councilman Wagner	Yes
Councilman Wojnar	Yes
Councilman Bauer	No

Motion carried 5-4.

A motion was made by Councilman Wagner to nominate Dan Zilli for the position of Mount Pleasant Borough Chief of Police in accordance Borough Code Section 1171 through 1194 specifically Section 1184 Paragraph D. Motion seconded by Councilman Caruso. A roll call vote was requested as follows:

Councilwoman Bailey	Abstain
Councilman Caruso	Yes
Councilman Pritts	No

Councilwoman Ruskowski	No
Councilwoman Stevenson	No
Councilman Tate	Yes
Councilman Wagner	Yes
Councilman Wojnar	Yes
President Bauer	No

The council meeting was suspended in order to wait for Mayor Lucia to return from an emergency. The meeting resumed and Mayor Lucia was informed about the motion on the floor.

Mayor Lucia	No
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Motion died 5-4.

Community & Economic Development/Grants Report: None

Parks & Recreation Report:

Councilman Wojnar said that he has received 5 commitments for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and is trying to coordinate a time for the first meeting. Councilman Wojnar said that he would like a total of eight individuals on the board.

Councilman Wojnar said that the signs for the bike trail extension have arrived and are being stored in the borough shed. Councilman Wojnar said he will meet with Mr. Keeler to coordinate a time to paint the “share the road” markers on the streets and installing the signs.

Councilman Wojnar said that he is working on a date for a cleanup day in Mount Pleasant. The campaign is sponsored by the State and they will provide free bags and vests. Councilman Wojnar said he will have a firm date by the next council meeting.

Councilman Wojnar said that he has been in contact with presidents from Mount Pleasant sports leagues to find out if there is anything they need and if they have contacted Mount Pleasant Township with their requests. While the leagues play in the Borough a large number of participants live in the Township.

Finance & Human Resources Report:

Councilwoman Ruskowski said that she will give some samples of Employee Smoking Policies to the Borough Solicitor for his review.

Property Report:

Councilman Pritts said that some improvements were made in the Police Department and security cameras were installed in the Police Department and the lobby of the Municipal Building.

Sanitation & Recycling Report:

Councilman Caruso said that he received incorrect information in the tonnage report that he gave at the last meeting. Instead of 131.40 tons of recycling it was actually 172.93 tons which is an increase from the previous year.

Councilman Caruso said that there are certain residents that are putting their trash out before the 24 hour window specified in the ordinance and animals are scattering the trash.

Councilman Wojnar said that when the Student Council met in Council Chambers it was suggested that Ramsey Elementary School have a recycling program and Borough Manager Landy was instrumental in coordinating some training for the school.

New Business: None

Reading of Communications:

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- There will be an Economic Growth Membership luncheon on February 25, 2015 at the Fred Rogers Center at St. Vincent College beginning at 11:30am.
- PSATS will hold a Learning at Lunch Webinar about Provisions of Police, Fire and EMT Services in the Face of Increased Costs and Decreased Revenue – Current Trends on June 17, 2015 from Noon to 1:30pm.

- PSATS will hold another webinar about Understanding Crosswalks: Deciding When and How to Mark Them on April 7, 2015 from Noon to 1:30pm.
- Westmoreland County Boroughs Association will hold its Annual Banquet on Friday May 1, 2015 at Lakeview beginning at 1:00pm. The cost is \$20 per person.
- PA Rural Water Association will hold a seminar on March 18, 2015 at the Ramada in Greensburg from 8am to 3:30pm about water and wastewater utilities common challenges.
- The Mount Pleasant Parking Authority submitted their 2014 Audit for Council's review.

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 9-0.

Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

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

Meeting Adjourned 8:56PM

Motions from February 16, 2015 Meeting

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to dispense with the reading of the minutes of February 2, 2015 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve the Treasurer's Report as read. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 9-0.

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Councilwoman Bailey	Yes
Councilman Caruso	Yes
Councilman Pritts	No
Councilwoman Ruszkowski	No
Councilwoman Stevenson	No
Councilman Tate	Yes
Councilman Wagner	Yes
Councilman Wojnar	Yes
Councilman Bauer	No

Motion carried 5-4.

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Councilman Caruso	Yes
Councilman Pritts	No
Councilwoman Ruszkowski	No
Councilwoman Stevenson	No
Councilman Tate	Yes
Councilman Wagner	Yes
Councilman Wojnar	Yes
President Bauer	No

The council meeting was suspended in order to wait for Mayor Lucia to return from an emergency.

Mayor Lucia	No
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Motion died 5-4.

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