

Meeting February 2, 2015

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Bauer at 7:02pm 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, and Councilwomen Bailey, Ruszkowski 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 January 20, 2015 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

Public Comment:

Rob Govern, Director Mount Pleasant EMS Medic 10 announced that Medic 10 will be kicking off the 2015 Subscription Drive in late February or early March. There will be no change in the price this year. Mr. Govern said that Medic 10 will be soliciting residents in Mount Pleasant Borough, Mount Pleasant Township, Bullsken Township and some in East Huntingdon that are in the footprint of their service area. Mr. Govern commended Medic 10 EMS providers for reaching a new goal in January of 296 answered calls. This number included 210 Mount Pleasant Borough calls, 27 Mount Pleasant Township calls, 13 Bullsken calls, 6 East Huntingdon calls and 40 patients transported from Seven Springs.

Speakers: None

Solicitor's Report:

Solicitor Wolfe reported that in December the Borough completed the loan transaction with Scottdale Bank & Trust to fund the replacement of the WWT Bio-tower.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia reminded residents that the Borough has an ordinance requiring that snow from all sidewalks must be removed within 24 hours of a snowfall. Mayor Lucia said it is against the ordinance to shovel the snow onto a street that has already been plowed.

Mayor Lucia asked drivers in the Borough to follow the speed limit and stop at all stop signs in order to prevent accidents.

Mayor Lucia reported that he and Borough Manager Landy attended a meeting in Donegal about a deep coal mine coming to the Donegal area. Mayor Lucia said that the Borough's concern is the increased truck traffic on Main Street. Truck traffic has already increased since the PA Turnpike raised tolls and because of the gas well industry. It was reported at the meeting that a coal truck would come out of the mine every three minutes. A meeting with Penn Dot, the mining company and Westmoreland County Planning is tentatively scheduled for March 6, 2015 to discuss using Rte 982 to Rte 119 for the trucks. Penn Dot assisted the Borough in the past by rerouting the traffic when the Turnpike closes because of an emergency.

President's Report:

President Bauer said that he and Borough Manager Landy met with Westmoreland County Planning to discuss the CDBG Grant funding for this year and in the future. A decision will be made soon on what projects will be funded.

President Bauer said that he and Borough Manager Landy walked Washington Street on Friday January 30th to canvas residents about the parking permit issue on that street. A plan is being formulated to allow residents who have off-street parking one permit per household and those who do not have off-street parking two permits. That would include any businesses on the street. One visitor parking permit will be issued per household. President Bauer said that there are 21

parking spots on the south side of Washington Street and one handicapped space. On the north side there are 16 parking spots.

President Bauer announced that the Westmoreland County Chamber of Commerce will hold a 25th Annual Staff Appreciation Luncheon on Wednesday April 22nd at the Greensburg Country Club. The Chamber is requesting a \$50 donation for the luncheon.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruskowski to donate \$50 to the Westmoreland County Chamber of Commerce for their 25th Annual Staff Appreciation Luncheon on Wednesday April 22nd. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 8-0.

President Bauer said that each borough department will be provided with a yearly calendar to be used to schedule employee vacation days. President Bauer said that from now on WWT and Street personnel vacation days will need to be signed off by the Borough Manager. The Police Department vacation days will be signed by Mayor Lucia. Vacation days must be approved before they are taken.

President Bauer said that an Executive Meeting will be held immediately following the regular council meeting to discuss personnel.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy said that President Bauer asked him to look at body cameras, police cameras and rear vision cameras. Mr. Landy said that he has quotes for these items coming from companies. One of the companies is willing to demonstrate the cameras on February 16, 2015.

Mr. Landy said that the purchasing guidelines from PSAB have changed. If the purchase is under \$10,500 no quotes are necessary. If the purchase is between \$10,500 and \$19,400 three quotes are required and anything over \$19,400 must go through the bidding process.

Borough Manager Landy said that the Costars Salt Contract has been submitted and approved for the year 2015-2016 for 500 ton of salt.

Mr. Landy said that he has contacted DCNR to come and look at our parks and determine if the Borough will be eligible for any DCNR grant funds.

Mr. Landy said that Kathleen Comini, Manager of Mount Pleasant Standard Bank has requested that the Borough allow visitors for their Training Day on February 16, 2015 to park in the Library parking lot or the parking lot behind PNC Bank. Council agreed that they can use the Library parking lot on that day.

Borough Manager Landy said that the BDA has requested a meeting with Council to discuss various issues and requests. President Bauer said that Council will meet with members of the BDA before the regular council meeting on February 16, 2015 at 6:30pm.

Borough Manager Landy said that collection letters for unpaid final sewage letters were sent from the borough office. Two letters have been sent and a good portion of the property owners have paid. Council will have to decide what the next steps should be. The procedure for normal billing after the letters have been sent would be to post the property and if payment is not made within 10 days water service is discontinued. The problem in this particular situation is that the person living at the property now is not the person who incurred the final bill and they may not be the property owner so posting the property poses a problem. Council discussed possible solutions.

Veterans Park Report:

Councilman Tate said that there are some repairs that need to be made at Veterans Park and he would like Council's permission to send out letters to request a donation to pay for these repairs. Council is in agreement that letters should be sent.

Waste Water Treatment Report:

Councilman Tate said that a meeting will be scheduled with the Mount Pleasant Township Supervisors to discuss some problems at the Mount Pleasant WWT Plant. The main building at the WWT Plant is in need of a new roof and the Township is responsible for half of the cost. The meeting will be to get their ok to proceed with the repairs.

Streets Report:

Councilwoman Bailey said that she met with representatives from East Huntingdon Township regarding Braddock Road Avenue. East Huntingdon Township will advertise for bids to tar and chip their portion of Braddock Road Avenue and they will let us know the cost to tar and chip our portion of the road.

Councilwoman Bailey said that she did measurements at Ramsey Terrace. The cost to pave Anne Street out to Church Street and a small section of Joseph Street out to Church Street comes in at approximately \$47,000 for 1,100 feet. That cost is based on last year's blacktop prices. Councilwoman Bailey said that she will send the Street Department to measure with the wheel tape.

President Bauer said that Council should look into tarring and chipping some of the other streets in the Borough such as Silver, Summit and Eagle Streets. Councilwoman Bailey said that Mount Pleasant Township is willing to tar and chip in the Borough. A Mount Pleasant Township Supervisor said that if we pay for the materials they will not charge us for the manpower. Councilwoman Bailey said that it may also be possible for us to rent the equipment and do it ourselves.

President Bauer said that Council should decide which streets to bid by next meeting so that we can advertise for bids early in the year.

A discussion ensued about solving the water problem on Park Avenue before it can be paved.

Public Safety Zoning & Ordinance Report:

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

Total Calls – 40
In Town – 8
Out of Town – 32
10-45's – 15
Fires – 10
AFA's – 9
Public Service Calls – 5
Standby's – 2
Turnpike Calls – 5
Total Members Answering – 459
Avg. Member Per Call – 11
Total Staff Hours – 204

Community Economic Development/Grants Report:

Councilman Wagner said that he is looking into some grant opportunities. President Bauer said that Councilman Wagner should not hesitate to ask for assistance from Borough Manager Landy.

Parks & Recreation Report:

Councilwoman Bailey said that the Bike Trail signs and posts are ready and Councilman Wojnar requested that the Street Department pick them up. Councilwoman Bailey said that Street Department personnel will pick up the signs and posts as soon as the weather is no longer an issue.

Finance & Human Resources Report:

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that she has access to an employee smoking policy for Council to look at. Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that she will pass the sample policies along to Solicitor Wolfe for his opinion.

Property Report:

Councilman Pritts said that he received three quotes for security cameras. The lowest quote was from J & M Computers at \$1,377.99.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to accept the quote for security cameras from J & M Computers in the amount of \$1,377.99 for a 4 camera system with DVR to record 15 days of video. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 8-0.

Sanitation & Recycling Report:

Councilman Caruso said that he received a Mount Pleasant Borough 2014 recycling report from Republic Waste. Residential customers recycled 131.40 tons and commercial customers recycled 21.70 tons in 2014. Councilman Caruso said that he made the report available to Ellen Keefe, Westmoreland Cleanways. Councilman Caruso reported that tonnage in 2014 is down from 2013.

President Bauer said that storm water projects are planned for the Borough and he will form a Storm Water Committee with Councilman Caruso as one of the members.

New Business:

President Bauer said that he is still working on getting natural gas service to 15 homes in his neighborhood. President Bauer asked Council’s permission to hold a meeting with these property owners to discuss the issue. President Bauer said that he would like to see other meetings held to discuss storm water issues on S. Geary Street. It will cost the Borough over \$500,000 to line the storm water pipe in that area.

Reading of Communications:

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- The Mount Pleasant Business District Authority will hold their 1st Quarter 2015 Education Series “Corporate Taxes” on Tuesday February 17, 2015 at the Main Street Deli & Café in Mount Pleasant.
- Westmoreland Conservation District will hold a Municipal Roundtable to discuss road maintenance and other issues on Friday February 27, 2015 from 11:30am to 3:30pm at the Conservation Center on Donohoe Road in Greensburg. The cost is \$10 per person.

Discussion and Payment of Bills:

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

Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

Meeting Adjourned 8:15PM

Executive Session 8:25pm to 8:45pm

Motions from February 2, 2015 Meeting

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