

## Meeting February 5, 2018

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by Vice President Rogacki 7:01pm in Council Chambers at 1 Etze Avenue, Mount Pleasant, PA 15666. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and Vice President Rogacki asked for a moment of silence. Vice President Rogacki asked Borough Manager Landy to take roll call. Councilpersons present included Bailey, Barnes, McCloy, Rogacki, Ruszkowski, Stevenson, and Yatsko. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Istik were present.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the minutes of January 22, 2018 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilman McCloy. Motion carried 7-0.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Speakers:** None.

### Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia read the following Code Enforcement Report for the month of January 2017:

Mayor Lucia Proclaims April 2018 as PA 811 Safe Digging Month.

Mayor Lucia recognized the following citizens that have recently passed away:

1. Erma Eckels, mother of Magistrate Roger Eckels, age 101, a lifelong member of the Borough of Mount Pleasant. Her husband, Franklin, was the Borough Secretary and Council Member of the Borough of Mount Pleasant years ago.
2. Robert Covert, 82 years old, was a life member of the Fire Department, a mailman in Mount Pleasant and a WPIAL Official; and
3. Charles (Chuck) Hixson worked for the Mount Pleasant Journal.

### Solicitor's Report:

Solicitor Istik said that she emailed all Council Members a revised Employee Handbook for their review. She will be including the new Social Media Policy in the Employee Handbook. The Employee Handbook, when completed, will need to be signed by the employee.

Solicitor Istik emailed all Council Members notifying them of a Joint Stipulation Agreement between the Westmoreland County Board of Assessment Appeals and the Mount Pleasant Properties Association for the Tax Assessment Appeal filed by Mount Pleasant Properties Association for the five (5) parcels that they own. The properties were reassessed for the years 2016, 2017 and 2018.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve the Joint Stipulation Agreement for the Tax Assessment Appeal filed by the Mount Pleasant Properties Association. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

Solicitor Istik stated that she prepared a Resolution Amending the Fee Schedule to add a fee of Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars for a Sign Permit.

### **Tax Collector Report:**

Tax Collector Carol Yancosky read the following report for the month of January 2018:

Per Capita = \$154.00.

Ms. Yancosky said that tax statements will be mailed on March 1, 2018.

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

Borough Manager Landy gave the following report:

- Met with the Community Foundation for Grants. They are seeking Multi-Grant Applicants. The Grants go up to approximately \$35,000.00 - \$40,000.00 and must benefit the Borough as a whole not each individual entity. Eligible Projects include: Main Street Initiatives; Façade Improvement Programs; Streetscape or Planter Programs; Beautification Programs; Public Art; Greens Space Developments; Playgrounds; ADA Compliance Projects; and Residential Stabilization Initiatives. The Deadline for the Grant is March 23, 2018.
- Met with Dawood Engineering regarding the S. Church Street and Bridgeport Street Turnback Project.
- Mr. Landy and Mayor Lucia attended a meeting that Magistrate Roger Eckels and the County of Westmoreland presented regarding community service for juveniles and adults/parents of the juveniles. All of the Departments in the Borough would be included in the "MDJ Community Service Work Program". Child Clearances and Background Checks will be required by Borough Employees.
- Met with the County. They are creating a Countywide Comprehensive Plan. Districts will be created. The Borough will be in the Lower District of the County. The County would like the Borough of Mount Pleasant and Borough Manager Landy to be the leader of the District. The District will be made up of three (3) or four (4) municipalities.
- The Auditors were in for three (3) days to begin the annual audit.
- Borough Manager Landy and Councilwoman Bailey attended the Westmoreland Conservation District Stormwater Management Program. Met with a manager of a Conservation District. There are three (3) projects that was given to him for review regarding stormwater/flooding: (i) The project at the Cemetery, to see if a stormwater pond can be installed to help control the flooding. (ii) The possibility of dredging Shupe's Run at the inlet where the water gets high; and (iii) Sasko Park.
- Attended the Smart Growth Board meeting. There is a project called the Greenlick Dam Project that Smart Growth would like the Borough to help with the revitalization of the area.
- Held a mid-winter meeting with all departments. Discussed the winter storms; how to make communications better; and how to work better among the departments.
- The blighted R&R and Arevalo Building that were bought by the Westmoreland County Landbank are being strongly marketed by the Westmoreland County Land Bank. They want a decision who is going to develop the properties. If they are not going to be developed then they will be demolished by the County with redevelopment monies. If the Westmoreland County Land Bank demolishes the properties, the redevelopment does not include parking lots. It must be redeveloped into a business or something of that nature. There has been some interest in the R&R and Arevalo Building properties if the buildings were torn down. Manager Landy stated he had a few meetings regarding the Bridgeport property. He stated we are getting close to getting the final approval and believes we will now have the clearance. There has been some interest in the Bridgeport property. Bobby Karfelt, Jr. is one of the interested parties. He is interested in one part of the property. There has been interest in the other parts of the property.
- Mr. Landy asked that all Councilmembers review every month the Budget vs. Actual Report that they receive to be sure all line items look correct. Mr. Landy asked that they do not wait until the end of the year to review it.

Councilwoman Barnes asked Borough Manager Landy if there have been any further discussions regarding the mine and the trucks that will be travelling through the Borough. She also stated

that there was to be a hearing, which was cancelled due to the mine not being in compliance. Borough Manager stated that they will come into compliance and be approved by the County. He also spoke with the County about the concerns of the numerous trucks that will be coming through the Borough when the mine is approved.

- Borough Manager Landy stated that Councilman Rogacki sent information to him that Senator Walsh issued regarding information for a Grant for First Responders.

Councilman Yatsko stated that he would be willing to help with the Child Clearances and Background Checks for the “MDJ Community Service Work Program” that is required by employees for the program. The forms will need completed by the employee. He stated that the clearances are mailed to the employee and would have to be brought to the Borough Office once they receive the clearance. He also stated that if they need FBI Clearances they will need to be fingerprinted and that would have to be done in Greensburg.

### **President’s Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to reappoint James Sebek to Mount Pleasant Municipal Authority for a 5-Year term expiring on 12/31/2022. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to reappoint George Wood to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a 4-Year term expiring on 12/31/2021. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to reappoint Kathleen Ceroni-Poleshko to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a 4-Year term expiring on 12/31/2021. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to reappoint Edward Christofano to the Business District Authority for a 3-Year term expiring on 12/31/2020. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to reappoint David Stairs to the Business District Authority for a 3-Year term expiring on 12/31/2020. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to reappoint Mike Ruszkowski to the Zoning Hearing Board for a 5-Year term expiring on 12/31/2022. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Councilwoman Ruszkowski abstained from voting. Motion carried 6-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to participate and enter into a Community Service Work Agency Agreement with the County of Westmoreland for the Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Community Service Work Program. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

Borough Manager Landy stated that he had spoke with all the Solicitors that run all the aforementioned Boards and Authority’s and the President of the Business District Authority and have approved the appointments via telephone.

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

WWT Superintendent Shane Nickelson gave the following WWT Report for the month of January 2018:

- Monthly check on generators.
- Assisted the Street Department plowing snow
- Cleaned bio-towers and final clarifiers
- Pumped out drying beds and spare digester.
- Oil changes and service pickup truck, dump truck, vactor, excavator and skid steer.
- Removed Christmas tree and decorations at Veterans Park and the Borough Building.
- Did camera work for contractor on Main Street.
- Rebuilt and plumbed in the Spare CL2 Booster Pump and got it back in service.
- Did camera work and jetting for Mt. Pleasant Township.

- Jetted and vacced a clogged mainline on Eagle Street.
- Regular routine maintenance at the plant.
- PA One Calls – 75.
- Emergency One Calls – 8.
- Home Inspections – 5.

### **Streets Report:**

Councilwoman Bailey stated that she and Borough Manager Landy had a meeting with Dawood Engineers. Dawood Engineers provided a proposal entailing the preliminary engineering work, which includes surveying and design for the Church Street Project. The bid was Thirty Thousand One Hundred Ninety-One (\$30,191.00) Dollars plus reimbursable expenses not to exceed Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to hire Dawood Engineer for the 2018 Preliminary Survey and Design for the Church Street Roadway Repaving Project at an estimated cost not to exceed Thirty Thousand One Hundred Ninety-One (\$30,191.00) Dollars plus reimbursable expenses not to exceed Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to Amend the Agenda to make a motion to approve the installation of a new street light by West Penn Power at 26 West Smithfield Street at a cost of Two Hundred Sixty-Five (\$265.00) Dollars. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to approve the installation of a new street light by West Penn Power at 26 West Smithfield Street at a cost of Two Hundred Sixty-Five (\$265.00) Dollars. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilwoman Bailey read the following report from Mr. Jeff McGuinness for January 2018:

In addition to general maintenance of Borough Streets which included lights and signs, clean up of lots and parks, patching holes, marking of storm drains and lines for PA One Calls, maintenance of equipment/vehicles, and picking up brush.

The following events occurred during the month:

- Snow Maintenance of Borough Westmoreland Land Bank Properties and Levin's Property.
- Plowing and Salting during the month and with the cold weather they have been adding additional sand to the mixture.
- Picked up Christmas Trees.
- Fixed the bollard at Leo's Grille 31.

Councilwoman Bailey stated that with the weather in January 2018, they Street Department has been mostly plowing and salting. The Street Department has been keeping up along with the help of the Waste Water Treatment Department. Councilwoman Bailey thanked the Waste Water Treatment Department for all of their help.

Councilwoman Ruszkowski asked if there is a colored sleeve, reflective strip or something they can do with the bollard that keeps getting hit. Mayor Lucia stated that the bollard was placed there to keep people from hitting the street light. Councilwoman Bailey stated that with the truck traffic coming through she doesn't believe that colored sleeves will help; but, may try reflective sleeves to see if that helps. It is tractor trailers that are catching it with the backs of their trailers.

Mayor Lucia stated that there is not enough lighting at the Diamond. Borough Manager Landy said that they tried to get a grant through CDBG and was denied. He wanted to place lighted bollards to supplement the lighting. They will have to look for other funding as it is a costly project. Per PennDOT regulations, the lightbulb wattage cannot be increased on existing decorative light poles.

**Public Safety Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to make Retroactive (January 1, 2018) Police Part-time Pay Rate as follows: Less than 32 hours per pay is \$13.00 per hour; 32 hours and over per pay is \$14.00 per hour; and, all training hours and court time is at \$12.00 per hour. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilwoman Bailey asked how much of an increase is this from previously. Borough Manager Landy stated that previously it was: Less than 25 hours per pay is \$12.00 per hour; 25 hours and over per pay is \$13.00 per hour; and, all training hours and court time was paid at their regular hourly rate. Mr. Landy stated the reason for the pay rate is to stay competitive with other municipalities for part-time Police employees.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to close off the back room of the Dentist's Office and extend the Police Station on the first floor of the Municipal Building. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

**Zoning & Ordinance Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilman McCloy to adopt Resolution 2018-03 setting the Sign Permit Fee at Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman McCloy to advertise the Amendment to Ordinance #624 changing the penalty from "up to \$1,000" to "not more than \$200 plus costs". Councilman McCloy stated this is regarding snow shoveling of sidewalks. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

**Community & Economic Development/Grants Report: None**

**Parks & Recreation:**

Councilwoman Bailey stated that they are looking at various ways to implement the construction of the new playground equipment and the turf pad that goes under the equipment that will need to be ready.

**Veterans Park Report:**

Councilwoman Barnes stated that the committee met Thursday, February 1, 2018. They discussed putting up banners for soldiers. Councilwoman Barnes said that anyone interested in having their loved one have a banner to please contact the Borough. Councilman Rogacki stated that a permit will be needed from West Penn Power Company to use their poles before the banners can be put up.

Councilwoman Barnes stated that they also discussed the lighting and the possible replacement of lighting at Veterans Park.

Councilwoman Bailey stated that the Digital Wall is displaying a message stating that it is low on memory.

Councilwoman Barnes asked Borough Manager Landy what the annual maintenance cost is for the Digital Wall through Industry Weapon. Borough Manager Landy stated the cost is One Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty (\$1,860.00) Dollars per year which includes the licensing fee.

Councilwoman Barnes asked if Industry Weapon can remotely tell if there is an issue with the Digital Wall. Borough Manager Landy stated that they cannot originally tell if there is an issue. He believes it is an additional software upgrade. Industry Weapon does not monitor the digital

wall at all times. There are issues they can resolve remotely; however, they cannot reboot the system remotely.

Councilman Yatsko asked the software was specifically Industry Weapon's software. Borough Manager Landy answered yes. Mr. Landy stated there are only two (2) other locations that have the capability of a digital wall. Ground Zero and the Vietnam Veteran's Wall. Their software is not from Industry Weapon. Industry Weapon created and wrote the software specifically for the Borough. Industry Weapon is the owner of the software. The Borough owns the hardware.

Borough Manager Landy stated that ITSEnclosures also is involved with the Digital Wall. They built the cabinet, the touchscreen and the tv part of the Digital Wall. Industry Weapon is strictly software. Hardware is ITSEnclosures.

Councilwoman Barnes stated she will research to see if any other options are available for software for the Digital Wall. Councilman Yatsko also offered to help look into other software and costs.

### **Finance & Human Resources Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to appoint Borough Secretary Sharon Lesko Open Records Officer for the Borough. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Property Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to purchase a copy machine for the Borough Office from Ford Business Machines at a cost of Five Thousand Seven Hundred (\$5,700.00) Dollars. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilwoman Barnes asked what will happen with the current copy machine. Borough Manager Landy stated it will go to one of the Departments within the Borough.

### **Storm Water Management Report:**

Councilman Yatsko stated Borough Manager Landy brought him some information to review regarding the Stormwater Management Meeting that he attended.

### **Reading of Communications:**

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- PennDOT Connects and the Future of Transportation Planning Municipal Outreach Workshop Thursday, March 1, 2018 at PennDOT District 12-0 in Uniontown, Pennsylvania from 9:00am – 11:00am.

### **Discussion and Payment of Bills:**

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

### **New Business:**

Councilman McCloy suggested that when the Fire Department is on the Diamond selling tickets that they hand out the maps for the community yard sales.

**Miscellaneous and Adjournment:**

Councilwoman Stevenson stated that Council supported the Cat Committee with money the first couple years it started. She stated that the Cat Committee has now hit a milestone with feral cats; and, had 2000 cats spayed/neutered. Councilwoman Stevenson thanked Council and the community for its support. Councilwoman Stevenson also stated that they do a series of clinics from April through October that a citizen can have their cat fixed at a low cost. The clinics are held at the Church of God and the Mount Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department on Church Street.

A Motion was made by Councilman McCloy to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

**Meeting Adjourned 8:10pm**

## **Motions from Meeting of February 5, 2018**

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