

Meeting February 17, 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. Councilman Caruso, Pritts, Wagner, Wojnar and Councilwomen Bailey, Ruskowski and Stevenson were present. Mayor Lucia was present and Solicitor Wolfe was absent. President Bauer stated we have a quorum.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to dispense with the reading of the minutes of February 3, 2014 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruskowski. Motion carried 8-0.

Public Comment: None

Speakers:

Attorney Milton Munk spoke to Council regarding the sale of the building at 537 W. Main Street known as the In-Town Shops. The building was owned by the Mount Pleasant Business District Authority. The property was advertised for sale and the bids were opened on February 5, 2014. The only bid received was from Mr. Ed Christophano in the amount of \$129,000. The BDA had two mortgages on the property, Standard Bank and the Westmoreland County Redevelopment Authority. Both mortgages were paid off and \$24,000 was deposited into the BDA bank account. The sale to Christophano Associates LLC closed on Wednesday February 12, 2014 and remodeling of the inside began on Thursday. Mr. Christophano will be opening a drug store on the premises.

Mr. Rob Govern and Mr. Mike Oplinger, Mount Pleasant EMS Medic 10 spoke to Council about purchasing three Phillips MRX Re-certified monitors for Medic 10. The monitors Medic 10 are currently using are 4 years old and will be traded in on the new ones which will lower the cost by \$3,000. The Phillips MRX has become the local standard. Councilwoman Stevenson said that the purchase was discussed at the recent Medic 10 Board of Directors meeting and the board members were very satisfied that Mr. Govern and Mr. Oplinger had done the necessary research and pricing before choosing to purchase these monitors.

Mr. Oplinger said that the 2014 Subscription Drive will begin in approximately two weeks. There will be no price increase this year. The cost for borough residents is \$30, non-borough residents \$35 and a subscription for a business is \$100. Last year the drive brought in approximately \$49,000.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia said that during the recent snow events there were several owners of properties in the Borough who did not clear their sidewalks. It is a very important safety issue and the borough ordinance states that sidewalks must be cleaned within 24 hours after the snow stops falling. And snow shoveled from sidewalks and parking areas should not be thrown into the street.

Mayor Lucia said that when there is a large amount of snow home owners should make a concerted effort to move their vehicles so that the Street Department can clean the streets.

President's Report:

President Bauer said that Borough Manager Landy spoke to him about Code Red Software that would help the borough notify residents who have computers about different situations in the Borough.

President Bauer said he would like to participate in a program with Southwestern Pennsylvania Corporation that offers LED replacements for traffic lights.

President Bauer reminded Council that he sent a memo to all borough departments in May of 2013 stating that no borough equipment may be loaned or rented without the permission of the Borough Manager or the Committee Chairperson.

President Bauer talked about possible businesses moving into the Borough and job opportunities they would offer.

President Bauer said he wants the Mount Pleasant boards and authorities to present quarterly reports to Council. Times can be set aside beginning at 6:00pm before regular council meetings for members of the boards to give a report to Council.

Treasurer's Report:

Borough Manager Landy read the following Treasurer's Report for the month of January 2014:

Mt. Pleasant Borough Treasurer's Report		Jan-14			
		Previous Balance	Deposits	Disbursements	Balance 2014
General Fund Checking	PNC 00-0122-3513	50,000.00	140,258.10	135,407.10	54,851.00
General Fund Sweep	PNC 10-1149-3394	730,269.33	48,313.98	80,342.75	698,240.56
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	PNC 102-457-4388	43,387.19	3.68	0.00	43,390.87
**Fire		30,000.00			
**Police		0.00			
**Streets		10,000.00			
**Contingency Fund		3,390.87			
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 321615	397,112.68	49.50	3,995.01	393,167.17
**Police		33,127.60			
**Streets		90,000.00			
**Contingency Fund		103,248.78			
**Infrastructure		100,000.00			
**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		15,000.00			
**K-9		11,129.56			
Escrow Account	PNC Bank 10-2912-6867	22,350.87	0.00	66.30	22,284.57
Liquid Fuels PLGIT	PLGIT 56980126	58,409.85	1.38	1,382.50	57,028.73
Monument CD	Standard Bank 328188	5,950.65	0.00	0.00	5,950.65
Holiday Lighting Fund	Standard Bank 050004849	1,802.74	0.08	0.00	1,802.82
Payroll Fund	PNC 00-0122-6415	8,658.32	56,066.51	64,385.29	339.54
Veterans Park Fund	First Niagara 981293700	691.49	0.00	0.00	691.49
Veterans Park Fund	PLGIT 5698025	5,548.22	0.13	0.00	5,548.35
Town Clock Fund	Standard Bank 0010038847	613.60	0.02	0.00	613.62
Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	PNC Bank 10-3888-4556	51,064.32	0.00	48,022.11	3,042.21
Total General Fund Balance					1,286,951.58
Medic 10 Checking	Standard Bank 0010107643	98,878.19	47,358.21	65,324.60	80,911.80
Medic 10 Savings	Standard Bank 0310000238	139,928.98	1,017.57	0.00	140,946.55
Medic 10 Money Market	PNC Bank 10-1516-8804	5,880.83	0.25	0.00	5,881.08
Medic 10 Community Trust	Standard Bank 0000358253	2,571.61	0.00	0.00	2,571.61
Total Medic 10 Fund Balance					230,311.04
WWT Operational Acct	Standard Bank 0320012280	208,877.02	97,919.83	47,536.02	259,260.83
WWT Savings	Standard Bank 0050021008	91,029.97	11.34	0.00	91,041.31
WWT Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 0000287245	168,258.72	20.98	0.00	168,279.70
**Contingency		108,279.80			
**Infrastructure		60,000.00			
Total WWT Balance					518,581.84
Total Borough funds					2,035,844.46

Councilwoman Susan Ruszkowski
Secretary Beverly Fedorchak

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to approve of the Treasurer's Report as read. Motion seconded by Councilman Wojnar. Motion carried 8-0.

Mr. Landy said that the Southwestern Pennsylvania Corporation is offering grants to replace current traffic signals with LED lights. Mr. Landy said that there may also be grant money available from Penn Dot for traffic light replacement.

Mr. Landy said that the new Town Clock motor has been received and tested. The motor will be installed when the weather warms up.

Borough Manager Landy said that West Penn Power will have a tour of its Jeannette facility on April 3, 2014 from 8am to noon for any council member who wishes to attend.

Mr. Landy said that he attended the Westmoreland County Conservation District Annual Conference. Porous concrete was discussed and how the Borough will have to pay close attention to maintaining the porous concrete in the Borough. There is also a program called "Low Volume Roads" that may be able to assist Mount Pleasant with Braddock Road Avenue. If we can prove that Braddock Road Avenue is a "low volume road"

there are grant funds available. Someone from the Borough must get certified and there is a certification program on April 30th to May 1st. As soon as someone is certified we can apply for grant funds. Mr. Landy said that there was also a discussion about farm manure. The speaker said that bird droppings may qualify as manure and we may be able to use that to solve the problem of the bamboo on College Avenue.

Mr. Landy said that the borough's insurance company is holding a seminar at Seven Springs and he feels it would benefit the Borough for someone to attend.

Mr. Landy said that the Borough Pension Audit was just completed. Councilwoman Bailey, Mr. Landy and Ms. Fedorchak attended the exit conference. Councilwoman Ruszkowski could not attend the meeting, but had a tele-conference with the auditor and was made aware of any findings. There was a finding reported concerning \$610.25 that was carried over from 2011 to 2012. This amount must be reimbursed to Pennsylvania State Aid. Councilwoman Bailey said the auditor explained that the overage occurs because the Borough calculates pension costs before the year even begins and the audit happens during the next year, after all of the numbers have been finalized. In the future, any monies left in the Borough's Municipal Account at the end of the year must be sent back to Pennsylvania State Aid.

Borough Manager Landy said that along with the Transient Business Permit issued to individuals who want to sell door-to-door in the Borough they will be given a lanyard to wear around their necks, fully visible, with their picture and permit dates.

Waste Water Treatment Report: None

Veterans Park Report: None

Street Report:

Councilwoman Bailey reported that the Street Department is doing its very best during the recent snow events. Street Personnel will clear the main streets first, then the secondary streets and finally the alleys and any sidewalks owned by the Borough. After those have been cleared the Borough will assist the Parking Authority with their parking lots.

Public Safety Zoning & Ordinance Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve Medic 10 purchase of MRX re-certified monitors from Bound Tree Medical in the amount of \$25,350.00 total. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

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

Total Calls - 45
In Town - 7
Out of Town - 38
10-45's - 18
10-45's w/Entrapment - 1
Fires - 14
Public Service Calls - 4
AFA's - 9
Turnpike Calls - 5
Total Members answering - 579
Avg. Member Per Call - 12
Total Staff Hours - 503

Councilwoman Stevenson reported that Medic 10 personnel have had two recent vehicle accidents following several years without any accidents. One of the accidents was caused by another driver and the other one was caused by the driver of the ambulance losing control and hit a guide rail.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that Police Chief Ober is getting a couple more estimates to repair the bumper on the 2013 Taurus police cruiser so that Council will have a good comparison.

President Bauer said that he would like Council to take another look at the sign ordinance regarding digital signs and the ordinance governing parking lots.

Community & Economic Development/Grants Report:

Councilman Wagner said he has been researching a couple of grants on the internet and will meet with Police Chief Ober and Police Officer Zilli regarding one of these grants. President Bauer said that if any help is needed when applying for grants, to enlist the help of the borough office.

President Bauer said that he spoke to the Borough's insurance company regarding the Mount Pleasant Police Department assisting a Constable on calls outside of the Borough. President Bauer said that if the State Police request our assistance outside the Borough our officers are covered under the state police insurance. If our officers assist other municipalities who we have an inter-municipal agreement with, our insurance will cover our officers. But outside of those two scenarios, our officers are not covered if they respond to a call outside of Mount Pleasant Borough. Councilwoman Bailey said that Council should add the procedures to follow in these instances to the Policy Manual. Councilman Wagner said that he feels our Police Department should be able to provide backup for any law enforcement official. President Bauer said that our solicitors over the years have told us that if our police are out of their jurisdiction they are not covered under our insurance unless the State Police request assistance or it is a municipality with which we have an inter-municipal agreement.

Parks & Recreation Report:

Councilman Wojnar said he received a letter from Mr. Bob Keeler about a meeting regarding the bike trail in Connellsville. Councilman Wojnar and Councilman Wagner will attend the meeting when a date is set.

Councilman Wojnar said that he is working on job descriptions for borough managers to be used to determine pay raises and any disciplinary action and would welcome input from committee chairmen.

Councilman Wojnar said he is working on forms for monthly or bi-monthly inspections for each borough park. Councilman Wojnar said he is working with President Bauer to determine what needs to be done to update Frick Park this year and also how to handle the problem of mosquitoes in the grass during Movies In The Park.

President Bauer said that he has paperwork for a 2014 Cigarette Litter Prevention Program Grant to purchase cigarette disposal systems for the Borough.

Finance & Human Resources Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to authorize renewal of Worker's Compensation Insurance for the year 3/1/14 to 3/1/15 with Higbee Insurance in the amount of \$48,347.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

Property Report: None

Sanitation & Recycling Report: None

New Business:

Borough Manager Landy reported that the monthly Safety Committee meeting will be held tomorrow 2/18/14 at 9:30am. A member from every borough department will be there and any council member who wishes to attend is welcome.

Mr. Landy said that the Mount Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival offers a \$1,000 grant each year. 2014 applications are due by March 31, 2014.

Councilwoman Bailey reported that she attended the Annual Library Board Meeting. It was reported that door counts, and usage remains the same as 2013. They will start 2014 with a balance forward of \$4,572.46. Interest income for the year 2013 was \$47,620.64. Friends of the Library will be presenting a children's performance of a Dr. Seuss book on Wednesday March 19, 2014.

Reading of Communications:

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- Mount Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department is requesting that the Borough sponsor a hole at their golf outing at a cost of \$100 or donate prizes.
- PSAB Annual Conference will be held April 6-9, 2014 at the Penn Stater in State College.

- Volunteer Recognition Luncheon will be held Wednesday, April 16, 2014 at Westmoreland County Community College Founders Hall Gymnasium 11:30am to 2:30pm.
- Coal and Coke Trail Chapter thanked the Borough for our contribution. It will be used to maintain and improve the Coal and Coke Trail.

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 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 9:07pm

Motions from February 17, 2014 Meeting

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to accept the minutes of February 3, 2014. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

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