

Meeting April 6, 2015

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, Councilman Pritts lead Council in prayer and there was a moment of silence for our deployed troops. President Bauer directed Borough Manager Landy to take roll. Councilmen Caruso, Pritts, Wagner, Wojnar 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 March 23, 2015 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

Public Comment:

Annie Quinn, Director of Jacobs Creek Watershed Association introduced herself to Council and explained that they will be doing a lot of work in the Borough in the next couple of years and she hopes to have a good working relationship with Council. Ms. Quinn also wanted Council's permission to promote their Earth Day Event at Willow Park. Volunteers will be installing bat boxes and bird houses at the park. The event will be held on April 25, 2015 beginning at 1:00pm. Ms. Quinn also wanted to bring Council's attention to the fact that Jacobs Creek Watershed Association will install signage on the Coal & Coke Trail in the next two weeks.

A motion was made by Councilman Wagner to approve installation of bat boxes and bird boxes at Willow Park. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to allow Jacobs Creek Watershed Association to use Willow Park on April 25, 2015 for their Earth Day Event. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

Mr. Ed Christophano, Mount Pleasant Business District Authority President reported to Council that the Farmers Market will be held every Wednesday from 3pm to 7pm this year at the PNC annex location and will begin on July 8, 2015 and run until the end of September. Signs will be put up advertising the Farmers Market and local growers are being asked to participate. Visitors to the market will be using Frick Park restrooms. Councilman Wagner asked Mr. Christophano to please make sure all signs are collected in September when the market is over.

Mr. Christophano said he is working with local businesses on having a weekly sidewalk sale and asked Council if there is a particular day that they do not want to have sidewalk sales on Main Street. Mr. Christophano said he would like to hold the sidewalk sale on Wednesday to coincide with the Farmers Market. Borough Manager Landy suggested that it be held at a later time to accommodate people who work.

Council discussed the BDA By-laws that were handed out by Mr. Christophano at the last meeting and what changes they would like to see made. President Bauer said he would like to see the by-laws changed to state that a member of the Board must be the owner of manager of a business in the Borough. Solicitor Wolfe stated that in order to make that change the Articles of Incorporation must be changed first which would be more involved. Council also discussed BDA taxing formula and appointments to the Board.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia read the following Police Report for the month of March 2015:

Report of the Mount Pleasant Police Department for the month of March 2015

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

Complaints	43
Drug Arrests	3
DUI Arrests	5
Traffic Citations Issued	46
Acidents Investigated	4

Return from District Court		
Return from Clerk of Courts		
Fees for Police Reports	\$	180.00
Parking Tickets Paid		
Parking Meter Collection	\$	1,209.00
Payment For Property Sold		\$100.00
Refund from Drug Task Force		\$548.64
 Total Income for March 2015	 \$	 2,037.64

Mayor Lucia said that he has met with the new Police Chief Doug Sam and has been updated on the progress of transition.

Mayor Lucia said that in March he attended the meetings of the Westmoreland County Firemens Association and the Westmoreland County Fire Chiefs Association. Mayor Lucia said he also met with construction crews at Frick Hospital and Rob Govern from Medic.

Mayor Lucia said that this Saturday April 11, 2015 the Fire Department will be conducting the monthly test of the disaster siren at noon.

President Bauer said that he had a meeting with Police Chief Sam and learned some disturbing things about the previous Mount Pleasant police organization. Police Chief Sam stated that the department paperwork is now up to date and all reports have been filed. President Bauer said that he is optimistic about the future of the department.

Borough Manager Landy said that he received a letter from PNC Bank stating that they will require all coins be counted before they are deposited. The bank will then count the coins and make any adjustments to the deposit. Mr. Landy said he will meet with PNC Bank this week to see if that requirement could be waived.

Solicitor’s Report:

Solicitor Wolfe provided Council with a copy of a draft for a permit parking ordinance. Attorney Wolfe said that he tried to incorporate the needs of the Borough. Council can make suggestions and changes before it is advertised and adopted.

Solicitor Wolfe said that he is working on the arrangement with Mount Pleasant Township regarding their contribution toward the cost of the WWT bio-tower replacement but he has not received a reply after several attempts to contact their Solicitor. Solicitor Wolfe suggested simply sending them a detailed invoice for their share of the payments the Borough has made thus far. WWT Superintendent Larry Hague stated that the delay in an agreement with the Township is causing a delay in repairs at the plant. The cost to replace the comminator with current technology is approximately \$120,000. This repair should be done as soon as possible right now it is overloading the new bio-tower.

WWT Superintendent Hague said that there is also the issue of the Main Street Project and the cost to the Borough. He is meeting with representatives from Penn Dot on April 20, 2015 and they are estimating the project to begin in the spring of 2016 which means that the sewer lines on Main Street will have to be replaced before then. We will have a better time line after the meeting with Penn Dot.

Tax Collector Report:

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

Property Taxes = \$120,235.73
 Per Capita Taxes = \$99.00
 Total = \$120,334.73

President’s Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to accept the recommendation of the Mount Pleasant Borough Planning Commission approving the Bell Consolidation Plan dated February 4, 2015 and to authorize the Borough Council President and Secretary to sign the said Consolidation Plan indicating Council's approval of the same. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

Attorney Randy Klimchok explained to Council that this consolidation is simply to consolidate two sub-standard lots in to one and making the garage which is on the smaller lot part of the house lot.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to re-appoint Bill George to the Mount Pleasant Municipal Authority for a 5-year term. Remove Bill Steiner and appoint Hallie Chatfield to the Mount Pleasant Zoning Hearing Board for a 5-year term. Re-appoint Mike Tabita to the Mount Pleasant Planning Commission for a 4-year term and re-appoint Dale Walker to the Mount Pleasant Parking Authority for a 5-year term. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

President Bauer said that he has received complaints about the weeds at the corner of Church and Washington Streets. President Bauer said that he will ask Patrolman George Grippo to look at the situation. There is also a pile of brush at a property on Parkview Terrace that needs cleaned up. Councilwoman Bailey said that she will ask Street Supervisor Mario Fontanazza to look at it and determine if it is something that the Street Department can pick-up after payment from the property owner.

President Bauer said that a gentleman, Mr. Brian Dawson who applied for a position at the Mount Pleasant Library about 5 years ago and was turned down for the position because he was "not qualified" has just recently been appointed by the Governor of Pennsylvania as State Librarian/Deputy Secretary overseeing all of the libraries in the state. Mr. Dawson is the son of Marie Dawson who is a valued volunteer for the Mount Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival.

President Bauer said that he would like Council to consider changing the Landlord Ordinance to require landlords to get their rental properties inspected every three years instead of the current two years. He feels that the two year requirement has been difficult to enforce. A discussion ensued and Council agreed to table the suggestion and look at it again next year.

President Bauer reminded council members again that if they do not have their NIMS certifications it could put the Borough in jeopardy. Borough Manager Landy said it would be best to schedule a class for council member who need certified. Mayor Lucia said that it is also possible to get certified on-line.

President Bauer said that he has an example of visitor parking permits that he would like to see added to the Borough's Parking Ordinance. Solicitor Wolfe said he will incorporate the language into the ordinance.

President Bauer read a letter from Krystyniak Family Limited Partnership informing Council that they are in the final stage of the demolition project at 651 West Main Street. The difficult winter made it impossible to complete the project sooner, but they intend to have the project completed by May 15, 2015. President Bauer said that Mr. Krystyniak will have to meet with The Westmoreland County Conservation District to make sure they follow storm water management principles on the vacant lot.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy made the following report:

- The Town Clock is repaired and is running on time. Mr. Landy thanked Jim Sebek and Mike Kropp and WWT Superintendent Larry Hague for their determination to solve the problem. Mr. Landy said that at this time the Borough rents the clock tower from the church, but owns the clock. Mr. Hague reported that some of the light fixtures need to be replaced in the tower. Borough Manager Landy said that if the Borough purchases the fixtures Mr. Hague can install them.
- There are now two lights out at the Doughboy and Vivian Electric will repair them. Vivian Electric said that the issue is that the conduit is rotting. For Vivian Electric to dig up the conduit and replace it would be very costly and they asked if borough personnel could dig it up.

- The borough insurance company has stated that if a borough employee is attending a class after working hours they would be covered under our insurance to use a company vehicle.
- Bids for Penn Park came in much higher than the grant funds available. Borough Manager Landy said that he, Hallie Chatfield and Architect Jim Gayton met with two companies who did not bid on the project to discuss why the bids were so high and why those companies did not bid. The companies attending the meeting said that the bid was too confusing and there were a lot of unknowns. That may be why the bids were so high. Bidders priced it on the high end in order to cover any unexpected costs. Mr. Landy said that the specs will be rewritten with some of the items removed and the project will be re-bid.
- The Street Department computer system has been updated.
- Mr. Landy and President Bauer met with Scottdale Bank and it looks like the relationship between the Borough and the bank will be a good one.
- The MS4 Storm Water Management Permit renewal will require an engineer. Mr. Landy said he will get quotes from at least two engineering firms
- Southmoreland School District will be doing the summer food program again this summer at Frick Park concession stand and the YMCA will be holding a summer program at the park as well.
- Mr. Landy presented Council with the revised Demolition Permit for their review.
- The Maruca Project on N. Geary Street is ready to start and Mr. Landy will approve the Street Occupancy Permit. The project will eliminate water coming from the trailer park in the Township.
- The 2015 Concert In The Park schedule is complete. There will be a sign up sheet available at the next meeting for council members.
- The G13 Conference details have been finalized and council members are encouraged to attend along with department employees.
- The County needs pictures and a report regarding CDBG grant funding for Frick Park and Frick Park Basketball Court. Councilman Wojnar took pictures and Mr. Landy will write a report outlining the project so that the funds can be released.

Waste Water Treatment Report:

Superintendent Larry Hague reported that there was another back up at Harmon House because of rags etc clogging the line. Mr. Hague and Mr. Landy met with representatives from Harmon House and a letter was written by Gibson Thomas Engineering to Harmon House regarding the ongoing problem. If the issues are not resolved the Borough may be fined by the DEP.

Mr. Hague said that he got estimates for a snow plow for a WWT pickup truck to be used as a spare during the winter season. It will cost less to purchase a used plow than to install one of the Street Department plows on the pickup. Council agreed that Mr. Hague should purchase the used plow at a cost of \$1,800.

Veterans Park Report: None

Street Department Report:

Councilwoman Bailey said that paving bids for the North and South Geary Street Projects were opened on April 2, 2015 and the lowest bid for both streets came in at \$38,248.50 and the highest bid came in at \$99,000. Councilwoman Bailey said she will review the bids to make sure they meet all requirements.

Councilwoman Bailey said that she and Councilman Caruso looked at streets that need milled and patched. The cost of renting a milling machine to be used on the Bob Cat will be \$825 for a week. Asphalt will not be ready until next week at the earliest and will cost between \$52 and \$60 per ton. Councilman Bailey said that she will ride with Street Department personnel to get measurements of Church, Diamond, Eagle Streets and some of Washington Streets. After measurements are taken Mr. Rick Skovinsky from Penn Dot will give us calculations for the amount of asphalt required. Mount Pleasant will look into borrowing a roller from Connellsville. Liquid Fuel funds can be used for this project.

Council has been presented with a 2015 Street Sweeping Schedule and it will be on the Borough web-site.

Councilwoman Bailey said that the McCali Manor sandwich board is attached to a pole again after being removed by Street Department personnel. She suggested someone make a phone call or write a letter to the owner to inform her that it is against borough ordinance to attach any sign to borough property.

Councilwoman Bailey reported that she, Borough Manager Landy and Joe Yancosky attended a seminar and they said we can tar and chip at 50 degrees or higher. They also said that tar & chipping is the best way to extend the life of our roads.

Parks & Recreation Report:

Councilman Wojnar said that Clean Up Day in Mount Pleasant will be on Saturday April 18th from noon to 3pm. Registration will be at the Municipal Building for anyone who wants to participate. If any council member knows of an area that needs special attention please call Councilman Wojnar.

President Bauer said that he will repair the boat at John E. Satcho Park himself.

Public Safety Zoning & Ordinance Report:

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

Total Calls = 46
In Town = 14
Out Of Town = 32
10-45's = 13
10-45's W/Entrapment = 1
Fires = 12
Public Service Calls = 7
AFA's - 12
Standby's = 1
Turnpike Calls = 3
Total Members Answering = 576
Avg. Member Per Call = 12
Total Staff Hours = 295

Community & Economic Development/Grants Report:

Councilman Wagner said that he is reviewing various grant opportunities for the Borough. Borough Manager Landy said that a meeting of the committee could be held to discuss the grants.

Finance & Human Resources Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to transfer \$80,861.77 from General Fund to the following Budgetary Reserve Line Items:

Police - \$7,500
Streets - \$10,000
Contingency - \$40,000
Infrastructure - \$10,000
Bomp 1 Gas Well - \$2,248.30
Bomp 2 Gas Well - \$95.54
Frick Park Gas Well - \$4,374.73
Fire - \$5,000
K-9 - \$1,643.20

Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to transfer \$20,000 from WWT to the following Budgetary Reserve Line Item:

Contingency - \$20,000

Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

Property Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to advertise for bids for the new Willow Park bathroom. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

Mayor Lucia explained work being done at Third Ward Fire Station. Lentels are being replaced above the windows and two joints are being repaired. These repairs will prevent water from getting in and causing more damage.

Councilman Pritts said that improvements need to be done to the evidence room in the police station. A steel-framed steel door will be installed at a cost of \$1,085 from line item #409.25. Police Chief Sam said that it will also be necessary to establish a juvenile detention area separate from the adult area. Council agreed that the police station should be brought into compliance.

Sanitation & Recycling Report:

Councilman Caruso reminded residents that Shop Demo Depot will take old televisions and electronics for a small fee and Westmoreland Cleanways will take them for free. Electronics cannot be put out with the regular garbage.

New Business:

President Bauer said that Council should look into putting a digital sign in the empty sign at the old PNC Drive Thru that could be used in conjunction with the emergency siren. He was in a town where the digital sign flashed an emergency warning at the same time that the siren was going off. There may be Homeland Security grant funds available for something like this.

Police Chief Sam said that he can get an emergency alert system through the Police Department. Residents can sign up for the service and register for the alerts they want. Borough officials would be able to send out an alert over the system.

Councilwoman Bailey said that she attended the Westmoreland County Boroughs Association and Mr. Rick Skovinsky was the speaker. Mr. Skovinsky spoke about an agility agreement with the state for when we run out of salt. The Borough would be able to borrow salt and pay it back in man hours. Mayor Lucia said that the Borough has had an agility agreement in the past.

Reading of Communications:

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- Republic Services sent a letter regarding 200 W Main Street when the landlord cleaned out apartments that never established a trash service account.
- The Annual Rotary Citizen of the Year Banquet will be held on Sunday April 19, 2015.
- West Overton Village would like the Borough to sponsor their "Prohibition and The Ruse of Organized Crime In America"
- David Stairs has moved his office to Quarry Street and Council is invited to attend his grand opening on April 10th beginning at 12 noon.
- Senator Pat Stefano is holding an open house at 171 W Crawford Avenue. Connellsville PA 15425 on April 7, 2015 from 4pm to 7pm.
- Connellsville Township Supervisors have invited Council to their open house on April 9, 2015.

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 Stevenson. Motion carried 8-0.

Meeting adjourned 9:36pm

Motions from April 6, 2015 Meeting

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to dispense with the reading of the minutes of March 23, 2015 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Wagner to suspend the rules for a motion to approve installation of bat boxes and bird boxes at Willow Park. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

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