

Meeting May 1, 2017

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Caruso 7:01pm in Council Chambers at 1 Etze Avenue, Mount Pleasant, PA 15666. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and President Caruso asked for a moment of silence for our deployed troops. President Caruso asked Borough Manager Landy to take roll call. Councilpersons present included Bailey, Barnes, Cholock, McCloy, Pritts, Rogacki, Stevenson and Ruszkowski. Mayor Lucia was present and Solicitor Liptak arrived at 7:05pm. President Caruso stated that a quorum is present.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the minutes of April 17, 2017 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 9-0.

Public Comment:

Debra Salopek came before Council to represent the Tylka family and to request that Council approve the family's Walk of Hope again this year. The walk will be held on June 17, 2017 beginning at 9am. The walk will go from Spruce and Silver to Terrace, Center, Washington, S. Church Walnut, Eagle Reservoir, Morewood, W. Smithfield Cherry, Center and end at St. Pius Social Hall. The Tylka family is requesting assistance from borough Police, EMS and Firemen during the walk. Council granted permission for the walk.

Mr. Joe Bauer, Mount Pleasant spoke to Council regarding the reconstruction of N Church Street involved in the Penn Dot turnback agreement. Mr. Bauer said that he was told that the project would not begin until the 2017 Main Street Project is complete sometime in 2018. He feels that the area of N Church Street in front of the Harmon House can't wait that long for repairs. Another matter is the crosswalks in the area. Mr. Bauer said that he would like to meet with Borough Manager Landy and Penn Dot to discuss the crosswalk. Councilwoman Bailey said that the Borough will paint the crosswalk according to Police Chief Sam's directions.

Mr. Bauer also spoke to Council about the \$15 surcharge on sewage bills to pay for replacement of the bio-tower at the WWT Plant. Mr. Bauer said that he understood that the surcharge began in August of 2014 and when you factor in the funds from the Mount Pleasant Municipal Authority and Mount Pleasant Township the loan should have been paid off in 2.5 years.

Mr. Bauer said that he feels if the Borough is not going to enforce the inspection penalties in the Landlord Ordinance the ordinance should be repealed and replaced with a simple registration ordinance. Mr. Bauer said that if the Borough is not enforcing the ordinance it leaves us open to lawsuits.

Mr. Bauer said that catch basins near Harmon House are clogged and he was told by a previous council member that the Street Department would assist in cleaning them out. Council agreed to assist.

Speaker:

Ben Foss, EADS Group, spoke to Council about the motion on tonight's agenda regarding the sanitary and storm water project on N Geary Street.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia said that he would like residents to know that it was Council's decision to approve the 2017 Main Street Project, that he was not in charge of the project and that the road is a Penn Dot highway. Mayor Lucia said that he is the Emergency Management Coordinator, on the board of Medic 10 and in charge of the Police Department. The only time he votes on council decisions is if there is a tie vote. Mayor Lucia also wants residents to know that the Borough Manager works for Council and not the Mayor. Mayor Lucia pointed out that since Mr. Landy has been Borough Manager the Borough has never been more financially stable and the Borough has a substantial budgetary reserve in place for emergencies.

Mayor Lucia said that there has been no decision made on a Community Yard Sale this year but the Ramsey Terrace yard sale will be the May 13, 2017 and anyone who wanted to have a yard sale on that day is welcome to. There is no permit required and no fee.

Mayor Lucia said that the Medic 10 subscription letters will be mailed out sometime in the next few weeks. Last year's subscriptions will remain in effect until then for anyone needing Medic 10's assistance.

Solicitor's Report:

Solicitor Liptak said that she has provided Council with a sample of a Wireless Ordinance. The sample does not specify a fee because it has not been discussed.

Solicitor Liptak researched the paper alley question and determined that the Borough is not required to maintain any alley that was never formally opened. The property owners along the paper alley can maintain it but do not own the property and can't put any type of structure on it.

Solicitor Liptak said that the issue with the Ford Taurus is still being worked on. Solicitor Liptak said that she will contact the supervisor of the person she has been talking to in order to get some answers about what can be done with the Ford vehicle.

Tax Collector's Report:

Tax Collector Carol Yancosky read the following report for the month of April 2017:

Property Tax \$312,750.21
Supplemental Tax \$100.84
Per Capita \$49.50

Total Taxes Collected \$312,900.55

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy addressed comments made by Mayor Lucia regarding his position as Borough Manager. Mr. Landy said that at a recent meeting he spoke to the Mayor and Council President of another borough the same size as Mount Pleasant and was asked for his advice. This borough is broke and may have to shut its doors. Mr. Landy said that he feels he has done a good job for the Borough and Mount Pleasant is in much better shape now than when he started.

Borough Manager Landy asked Council to look at the Budget vs. Actual Report and look to see if any adjustments need to be made.

Mr. Landy said that April Kopas, Westmoreland County will give Council the final report on the Bridgeport property study when it comes in.

Borough Manager Landy said that the truck for the Street Department will be picked up this week along with the truck for WWT and he will be ready to do budgetary reserve transfers soon.

Mr. Landy said that the R & R property is being listed with Berkshire Hathaway Real Estate and hopefully there will be more sales activity.

There has been a demolition on Quarry Street. It is owned by Wells Fargo and the Land Bank is not involved at this point.

The following is the schedule for Concerts In The Park:

June 16
July 3 – Party In The Park
July 30
August 27

These are the dates that don't conflict with anything else in town.

Borough Manager Landy said that the East End Food Fest will be held on May 27th and May 28th. The restaurants in the area are excited about the event.

Mr. Landy thanked Council for the flowers and their support when his father passed away recently.

President's Report:

President Caruso asked Councilman McCloy if he would be willing to coordinate a Community Yard Sale this year. Councilman McCloy said he would organize something for the first part of August 2017.

President Caruso said that he received an email from the Mount Pleasant Business District Authority requesting that Council appoint Seth Prentice to the Mount Pleasant BDA Board.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Diane Bailey to amend the agenda. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to appoint Mr. Seth Prentice to the Mount Pleasant Business District Authority to the position previously held by Mr. Nino Barsotti with a start date of January 2017 and continue until the end date of December 2019. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 9-0.

Waste Water Treatment Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Rogacki to sign a general services agreement with EADS Group and to authorize EADS Group to prepare plans and specs for Geary Street sanitary line replacement and storm water review project. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made to advertise for bids for Geary Street sanitary line replacement project. Bids must be received by June 2, 2017 at 10am to be opened at 10:10am and awarded at the council meeting on June 5, 2017 based on EADES Group recommendation. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 9-0.

Mr. Ben Foss, EADS Group said that the advertisement would be placed 10 days from tonight in order to meet advertising requirements. Mr. Foss said that it is an accelerated time period but he believes it can be done.

A motion was made by Councilman Rogacki to increase the cost of the Street Department roof in the amount of \$2,500 to Sasso Construction. Even with this added cost the total is still less than the next highest bid received. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 9-0.

WWT Superintendent Larry Hague gave the following report for the month of April 2017

- The new Security system was installed at the plant along with rekeying locks.
- Team Fishel used their lateral launch camera to televise the lateral at 601 N. Geary St. The resident's lateral was approximately 80% blocked with roots and a low spot in their lateral. Mr. Schroyer was present to see the camera footage. He is going to make plans to replace his lateral line when we replace our main line in that area. Mr. Schroyer wants to move the line to save the tree vs. tearing it down.
- WWT personnel helped move Jeff's office for the construction.
- Applied the 1st round of fertilizer to Veteran's Park and the Gazebo grounds.
- Opened up the fountain for the year at Veteran's Park.
- Jetted and televised a section of the new line on Main St. for R&B Contracting. The line had to be dug up and repaired.
- WWT truck will be picked up this week.
- Councilman Rogacki, Jeff Landy, Paul Wagner, and I met with Gibson Thomas about The Main St. Project issues.
- Councilman Rogacki, Jeff Landy, Councilman Caruso, Councilwoman Bailey, and I met and discussed 601 N. Geary St.
- Numerous council members and I attended the Penn Dot meeting concerning their portion of the Main St. Project.
- Councilman Rogacki, Jeff Landy, Councilman Caruso, Councilwoman Bailey, Jeff McGuinness had a meeting with The EADS Group concerning the sanitary and storm sewers on Geary St.
- Jeff Landy, Jeff McGuinness, and I attended a PA Borough's Association training for Public Works.

PA 1 Calls for April 2017

- Total 68
- Emergency after hours 7

Alarm Call Outs after hours for April 2017

- Total 2

Call Outs after hours

- Total 1 MAWC broke a main line at Main St. and Braddock Road Ave.

A motion was made by Councilman Rogacki for a 15 minute Executive Session for personnel. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 9-0.

Executive Session 8:05pm to 8:23pm

A motion was made by Councilman Cholock to reconvene the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 9-0.

Streets Report:

Councilwoman Bailey said that Mount Pleasant Township will be doing the tar and chip project in the Borough again this year. As before, the Borough buys the material and the Township does the labor. There are 10 streets being tar and chipped in 2017.

Street Crew Leader Jeff McGuinness gave the following report for the month of April 2017:

- General maintenance of lights and signs.
- Pot hole patching.
- Emptied garbage at lots and parks.
- PA One Call markings.
- Brush pickup.
- Replaced light fixture at corner of Main and N Diamond Streets.
- Patched sink hole on Washington Street.
- Repaired drain on Yoder Avenue.
- Began street sweeping.
- Vehicle maintenance.

Mr. McGuinness reported that he and Mr. Yancosky cleaned up the tree that blew down onto Bobcat Alley so that the school buses can get through.

Council and Mr. McGuinness discussed patching material and it was decided that material from Hei-Way is \$40/ton cheaper and their delivery charge is \$10/ton. Mr. McGuinness said that the material is comparable to Unique Paving but cheaper.

Public Safety Report: None

Policies Report: None

Zoning & Ordinance Report: None

Community & Economic Development/Grants Report: None

Parks & Recreation/Veterans Park Report:

Council discussed options to level the ground for playground equipment at Frick Park. It was decided that it would be more cost effective to have an outside contractor do the work instead of renting equipment and tying up Street Department personnel.

Councilwoman Barnes spoke about establishing a Mount Pleasant Borough Teen Council. The teens would be encouraged as members of the community to contribute to Mount Pleasant Borough. Councilwoman Barnes stated that the teens would chair their own committees. Hopefully the Teen Council would include some troubled youths who could be helped by the program. Parents would be required to be present during the application process and a waiver form would need to be signed.

Councilman Cholock said that the Ramsey Student Council will be holding their meeting in Chambers at 3:45pm on Tuesday May 2, 2017.

Councilwoman Barnes said that she is also interested in getting teens involved in the July 30th Family Fun Day before the evening Concert In The Park. August 1, 2017 is the date for 2017 National Night Out.

Councilwoman Barnes said that Mount Pleasant Borough Clean Up Day will be held on May 21, 2017 from 11am to 2pm. The rain date is June 11, 2017.

WWT Supervisor Larry Hague said that he found lights for the fountain at Veterans Park for a cost of \$200 each. The lights are LED and have a controller that changes the color of the lights.

Finance & Human Resources Report:

Councilwoman Ruszkowski asked Council Chairmen who are planning projects in the borough to also take into consideration and plan where the financing will come from. Look at the budget to see if there are funds for the project and include the line item when putting the motion on the Agenda.

Property Report:

Councilman Rogacki said that the project for bullet-proof doors and pass through windows on the third floor of the municipal building should be completed within the next three weeks as well as the garage doors for the Street Department building. The upgrade to the electric in the Police Department has been completed.

Sanitation & Recycling Report: None

New Business:

Councilwoman Stevenson said that she has been asked to join a committee to rewrite the by-laws for the Mount Pleasant Public Library.

Mayor Lucia said that on May 21st the first “Blessing of the Bikes” in Mount Pleasant will be held at the First United Church of Christ. The service will begin at 10:15am.

Borough Manager Landy said that he will hold a Managers Meeting once a month beginning sometime in May in an effort to better coordinate departments and work together.

Reading of Communications:

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- A newsletter from Jacobs Creek Watershed Association listed the Mount Pleasant Main Street Construction sidewalk project.
- Mount Pleasant Area Historical Society will hold its 2017 Ghost Walk on August 5, 2017 from 6pm to 8pm. The walks will commence at Frick Park every 20 Minutes. They are requesting a sponsorship from the Borough.
- Standard Bank has merged with Allegheny Valley Bank. Standard Bank will keep its name and the borough accounts shouldn’t change in any way.
- The Mount Pleasant Area Historical Society has also requested a donation for the 2017 Community Picnic on June 13, 2017. The Borough usually donated \$50 each year.

Discussion & Payment of Bills:

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to pay all authorized and approved bills. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried d9-0.

Miscellaneous & Adjournment:

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

Meeting adjourned 9:04pm

Motions From Meeting of May 1, 2017

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