

Meeting May 23, 2016

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by Vice-President Caruso 7:01pm in Council Chambers at 1 Etze Avenue, Mount Pleasant, PA 15666. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and Vice-President Caruso asked for a moment of silence for our deployed troops. Vice-President Caruso took roll call. Councilpersons present included Bailey, Barnes, Caruso, Cholock, Pritts, Ruszkowski and Stevenson. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Liptak were present. Vice-President Caruso stated that a quorum is present. President Wagner arrived at 7:03pm and Councilman Rogacki arrived at 7:06pm. Borough Manager Landy arrived at 7:03pm.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the minutes of May 2, 2016 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 8-0.

Public Comment:

Mr. George Porterfield, 145 N. Church Street said that for 25 years there was no yellow line on Vine Street at the corner of Church Street and now there is a 125 foot yellow line. He was told he would get a report regarding traffic accidents in that area as the reason for the yellow line. Mr. Porterfield feels the yellow line is too long.

A motion was made by Councilman Caruso to extend Mr. Porterfield's public comment. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 9-0.

Mayor Lucia said that Police Chief Sam and Councilman Caruso will look at the situation. Councilman Caruso said that they will do what the law allows.

Mr. Porterfield said that there is an issue with the alley behind his property in the winter. The Mount Pleasant Street Department plows only up to the Firemen's Club and does not go all the way to the end of the alley. Mayor Lucia said that he will look into that as well.

Speakers: None

Reading of Communications:

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- The Mount Pleasant Garden Club is requesting \$140 in addition to the \$300 budgeted for flowers at Veterans Park.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to amend the Agenda. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to give the Mount Pleasant Garden Club an addition \$140 for shrubs at Veterans Park. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

- Mr. Al Demarki, 19 Frick Avenue would like to know if it is legal to ride all-terrain vehicles on private property in the Borough. Police Chief Sam stated that it is not against the law and if Council enacts a noise ordinance to address the issue it would have to include lawn mowers etc. The noise ordinance on the books now prohibits noise between the hours of 10pm and 7am.
- Mount Pleasant Viking Cheerleaders are requesting support for their 6th annual fundraising golf outing at Norvelt Golf Club on Sunday August 7, 2016. Council agreed to purchase a program ad in the amount of \$50.
- The Westmoreland County Boroughs Association will hold its monthly meeting on May 26, 2016 beginning at 6pm at the Westmoreland Conservation District location on Donohoe Road, Greensburg PA 15601.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia presented Council with a plaque from the Girls Softball League thanking the Borough for 45 years of support for the League.

Mayor Lucia read the following Police Report for the month of April 2016:

Report of the Mount Pleasant Police Dept. for the month of April 2016

Incidents	117
Criminal Arrests	13

DUI Arrests	4
Parking Tickets Issued (Boro)	55
Parking Tickets Issued (Parking Auth)	18
Traffic and Non-Traffic Citations	41
Assist other Departments	9
Accidents Investigated	3
Parking Tickets	\$227.00
Parking Meters	\$2,352.27
Fees for police reports	\$105.00
Clerk of Courts	\$120.25
District Court	\$1,990.47
Parking Permit	\$0.00
DUI Task Force Refund	\$107.25
Drug Task Force Reimbursement	\$0.00
Total Revenue	\$4,902.24

Mayor Lucia read the Department News. Installation of meter parts has begun and full-time testing is complete. An official case must be opened at the complaint division of the Ford Motor Company to receive further assistance with the 2013 Ford police vehicle that broke down again. Borough Manager Landy said that Solicitor Liptak is beginning that process. The new Ford Explorer has been picked up and will go out for the up-fit this week. With the passing of our Assistant Chief, Dan Zilli, the Mayor and Police Chief Sam have decided to promote George Grippo to the rank of Captain which was approved by the Civil Service Commission.

A motion was made by Councilman Cholock to amend the Agenda. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Cholock to promote Sergeant Grippo to the rank of Captain, with no pay increase, making him second in command of the Mount Pleasant Borough Police Department as approved by the Civil Service Commission. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Cholock to amend the agenda. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to suspend the position of Mount Pleasant Borough Assistant Police Chief indefinitely. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

Mayor Lucia reported to the Recreation Committee that the drain behind the backstop at Frick Park is completely blocked. Councilman Caruso said that the Street Department was working on that today.

Mayor Lucia said that the caps on the new cement wall at Frick Park are very slick and pose a falling hazard. Council discussed different ways to fix the problem. President Wagner asked Councilwoman Barnes to look into fixing the problem.

Mayor Lucia said that the G13 Conference was very informative this year and a lot was learned from the other members of the Conference.

Mayor Lucia said that he spoke to Bob Ceroni and Bob is going to set up a NIMS class for council members who are not certified yet.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy reported that the schedule for the Concerts In The Park is complete, but sponsors are still needed for three of the concerts. The cost of \$375 for the first concert in June will have to come out of the General Fund. Mr. Landy said that if anyone is interested in sponsoring a concert to please call the borough office.

Mr. Landy said that Council received a proposal from Andy Zelinsky in the amount of \$600 to cut down the three pine trees next to the fence at the old volleyball court. Another proposal from Mr. Zelinsky in the amount of \$1,700 to remove the dead tree at Jack Bobb's Park, trim the trees in the alley and cut down a tree on Silver Street near the park. Councilwoman Stevenson questioned the liability issues of having Mr. Zelinsky cut the trees. President Wagner said that the Recreation Committee will review the proposals.

Borough Manager Landy brought up the problem of when a duplex has one meter and one of the tenants does not pay their sewage bill. The Borough can't shut off the water to the property because it would shut the water off for the tenant who has paid. Mr. Landy said he will research the problem further.

Borough Manager Landy said that the PEMA paperwork for the snow event this last winter is almost ready to be sent. There is some documentation still needed from the Police and Fire Departments.

Mr. Landy thanked everyone for their support of the 2016 G13 Conference. Mr. Landy said that he feels it is the best one they have ever had. Having the Pennsylvania Lieutenant Governor and the highest ranking Pennsylvania Senator was exceptional. Councilman Pritts commented that he learns something new at every conference and President Wagner said that the Lieutenant Governor said he would like to see more of these conferences across the state.

Treasurers Report:

Borough Manager Landy read the following Treasurers Report for the month of April 2016:

Mt. Pleasant Borough Treasurer's Report		Apr-16			Balance
		Previous	Deposits	Disbursements	2016
		Balance			
General Fund Checking	PNC 00-0122-3513	82,008.00	305,760.65	337,768.65	50,000.00
General Fund Sweep	PNC 10-1149-3394	756,755.71	163,693.85	163,625.20	756,824.36
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 321615	566,247.38	97,979.98	0.00	664,227.36
**Police		40,683.60			
**Streets		140,000.00			
**Contingency Fund		229,640.46			
**Infrastructure		121,588.62			
**BOMP1 Gas Well		12,483.85			
**BOMP2 Gas Well		4,762.23			
**Frick Park Gas Well		30,600.76			
**Levins		970.06			
**Surveillance Cameras		160.00			
**Early Warning Siren Grant		1,300.00			
**Fire		55,000.00			
**K-9		12,772.76			
**Marcellus Impact Fee Act		14,265.02			
13					
Police Parking Tickets & Meters	Scottdale Bank 7000126	15,634.54	2,579.27	0.00	18,213.81
Escrow Account	PNC Bank 10-2912-6867	17,326.92	0.00	0.00	17,326.92
Liquid Fuels PLGIT	PLGIT 56980126	155,182.24	36.26	0.00	155,218.50
Monument CD	Standard Bank 327085	6,842.85	0.00	0.00	6,842.85
Holiday Lighting Fund	Standard Bank 050004849	1,804.77	0.08	0.00	1,804.85
Payroll Fund	PNC 00-0122-6415	625.07	60,493.59	60,493.58	625.08
	Somerset Trust Co				
Veterans Park Fund	2003058309	3,831.60	0.00	0.00	3,831.60
Town Clock Fund	Standard Bank 0010038847	614.29	0.02	0.00	614.31
Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	PNC Bank 10-3888-4556	1,247.21	0.00	0.00	1,247.21
Total General Fund Balance					1,676,776.85
Medic 10 Checking	Standard Bank 0010107643	75,067.87	73,817.75	80,380.74	68,504.88
Medic 10 Savings	Standard Bank 0310000238	142,273.48	1,018.84	0.00	143,292.32
Medic 10 Money Market	PNC Bank 10-1516-8804	5,887.44	0.24	0.00	5,887.68
Medic 10 Pittsburgh Foundation	Standard Bank 0000358253	4,739.91	0.00	0.00	4,739.91
Total Medic 10 Fund Balance					222,424.79
WWT Operational Acct	Standard Bank 0320012280	498,441.16	79,487.01	134,987.92	442,940.25
WWT Savings	Standard Bank 0050021008	131,896.95	1,521.67	0.00	133,418.62
WWT Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 0000287245	40,886.19	77,722.19	0.00	118,608.38
**Contingency		111,138.56			
**Infrastructure		7,469.82			
WWT Bio-Tower	Standard Bank 10127923	63,925.62	17,772.87	6,915.25	74,783.24
Total WWT Balance					769,750.49
Total Borough funds					2,668,952.13

Councilwoman Diane Bailey
Secretary Beverly Fedorchak

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to approve the Treasurers Report as read. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 9-0.

Solicitor's Report:

Solicitor Liptak said that she has a resolution absolving the Borough of any liability incurred by the Mount Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival and another proposed resolution regarding the Mount Pleasant Municipal Authority borrowing funds for the 2017 Main Street Project with the Borough paying back the loan.

Solicitor Liptak said that she did some research on the safety of playground materials and whoever does the construction will have to comply with the ASTM standards and an engineer will have to review it to make sure it complies. The surface will have to be monitored for wear under certain pieces of equipment and replaced when it reaches a certain point. Solicitor Liptak said that the artificial turf is a more feasible product to use because it doesn't get tossed around as much as mulch or sand etc.

Council discussed the cost and funding of the sewage portion of the 2017 Main Street Project. A resolution is required to allow the Mount Pleasant Municipal Authority to borrow the necessary \$885,000 to fund the project with the Borough repaying the loan. Solicitor Liptak said that she will write the resolution and send it via email to council members for their vote. If Council votes to approve the resolution it can be ratified at the next council meeting.

President Wagner said that there is also the issue of the funding for the Mechanically Cleaned Bar Screen at the WWT Plant. It will most certainly be necessary to raise sewage rates to fund these important projects. Grants are not available unless we show some in-kind money. The Borough Engineer has said that to bring the Mount Pleasant WWT Plant up to standard it will cost the Borough approximately 5 million dollars. Council also discussed the possibility of selling the WWT Plant.

WWT Plant Superintendent Larry Hague said that the deadline to begin the actual construction of the 2017 Main Street/Penn Dot Project will be August of 2016 so that asphalt is still available. If the Borough does not complete their part of the project Penn Dot will cancel the entire project and down the road the Borough will have to fund the entire resurfacing of Main Street. And the Mechanically Cleaned Bar Screen is necessary as soon as possible to protect the 2nd bio-tower.

Solicitor Liptak explained that the proposed Glass Festival Resolution states that the Mount Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival will no longer use the Borough EIN # and will perform their own audit. It also states that it will no longer be necessary for Council to approve their yearly budget.

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

A motion was made to approve Resolution 2016-04 regarding the relationship between Mount Pleasant Borough and the Mount Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 9-0.

President's Report:

President Wagner said that he appreciates everyone working together to move forward and to resolve the issues facing Council.

Finance & Human Resources Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to approve expenses as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to approve the employment of Derek Hoover as a full-time WWT employee effective upon release from his previous employer. The rate of pay to be \$15 per hour with benefits as per the Mount Pleasant Borough Employee Handbook. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to approve payment of \$45,407.65 from the General Fund to the WWT Fund in order to repay the fire truck loan in full. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to approve the renewal of Property & Liability Insurance with the Darwin Public Officials & Employment Practices Liability in the amount of \$11,088 and the Darwin Police Professional Liability in the amount of \$9,145 for a total annual premium of \$59,473. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilwoman Bailey explained that the Property & Liability Insurance is part of a rebate program and this year the estimated rebate is \$10,000. The Borough received a \$6,100 rebate in 2015.

Breakout Session:

Council discussed funding of the WWT Projects and the need to raise sewage rates and the capital assessment fee. Also discussed was if there is a need to hire a part-time WWT employee in order to complete necessary projects.

President Wagner suggested a Town Meeting to discuss the issues facing the with residents.

Council discussed the 2016 paving project and the tar & chipping project that will be with Mount Pleasant Township.

Council discussed selling equipment that is not being used at the WWT Plant. Councilwoman Bailey said that if the piece of equipment is valued under \$1,000 it can be offered for sale to employees, citizens etc. without going out to public bid. Superintendent Hague said that he will generate a list of equipment that can be sold.

Councilwoman Barnes discussed the Street Department replacing chains on swings at the parks to make the swings lower. Borough Manager Landy said that Street Department personnel re-mulched under the swings which also made them lower. Council also discussed repairing or replacing the fence at Jack Bobb's Park.

Council discussed upgrading the computer equipment in the borough office. Councilman Pritts pointed out that the Borough can use up to \$1,000 from Liquid Fuels money.

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that the backflows at borough facilities have all been completed except Medic 10 and the Municipal Building.

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that she has received two quotes to replace the 8 windows at Central Fire Station.

Borough Manager Landy said that contractors at Penn Park have applied for a permit for a handicapped ramp Cherry Avenue across from Brown's Candy Kitchen that will be approved in the next week and then work will be completed on the Park.

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that the 2016 Christmas Ornament will have to be ordered by the end of May 2016 and her committee which includes Councilwoman Bailey and Marie Dawson is working on the artwork.

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that the material is in to repair the pavilions at Willow Park. Councilwoman Barnes is getting a group together to paint the tables.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to amend the agenda. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to replace eight windows at the Central Fire Station at a cost of \$5,538.48. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilman Pritts said that he will be applying for a grant to get 5 recycling receptacles in the parks. Council has to decide who will empty the recycling receptacles and where they will put the collected materials.

Borough Manager Landy said that at one of the G13 Sessions purchasing street signs as a cooperative was discussed. A committee will be formed to try and get six or seven municipalities who will purchase two dozen signs each.

Waste Water Treatment:

A motion was made by Councilman Rogacki to pay all approved expenses. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

Streets Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Caruso to pay all approved expenses as presented. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

Public Safety Zoning & Ordinance Report:

Councilman Cholock thanked everyone in the community who offered support for the death of Assistant Police Chief Dan Zilli.

A motion was made by Councilman Cholock to pay all approved expenses as presented. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

Parks & Recreation Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to pay all approved expenses as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 9-0.

Property Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to pay all approved expenses as presented except the Schindler Elevator invoice. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

Sanitation & Recycling Report:

Councilman Pritts reported that the Borough was awarded a Recycling Performance Grant in the amount of \$957.

Community & Economic Development/Grants Report: None

New Business:

Councilwoman Stevenson said that Levins is having an event for non-profits over the weekend and the Cat Committee will be there selling hot dogs Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

Councilwoman Barnes said that since Councilwoman Bailey is the only one who is going to attend the Annual PSAB Conference that the Borough should pay the hotel bill for all three nights instead of just one.

A motion was made by Councilman Cholock to amend the agenda. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Cholock to approve payment of the hotel for all three nights and for any turnpike fees for Councilwoman Bailey to attend the 2016 PSAB Annual Conference. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson for an Executive Session. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

Executive Session 10:14 to 11:20pm for legal issues.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to reconvene the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

Miscellaneous & Adjournment:

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

Meeting 11:24pm

Motions From Meeting of 5/23/16

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the minutes of May 2, 2016 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Caruso to extend Mr. Porterfield's public comment. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 9-0.

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