

Meeting June 20, 2016

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Wagner 7:12pm in Council Chambers at 1 Etze Avenue, Mount Pleasant, PA 15666. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and President Wagner asked for a moment of silence for our deployed troops. President Wagner asked Borough Manager Landy to take roll call. Councilpersons present included Bailey, Barnes, Caruso, Cholock, Pritts, Rogacki, Ruszkowski and Stevenson. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Liptak were present. President Wagner stated that a quorum is present.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the minutes of June 6, 2016, 2016 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 9-0.

Public Comment: None

Reading of Communications:

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- Smart Growth Partnership will hold their 15 year Celebration and Recognition Dinner in Chambers Hall at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg on July 14, 2016 beginning at 6pm.
- Council received a letter from a resident. Part of the letter discussed parking tickets that were given outside the Municipal Building during a recent softball game. Another part discussed high grass at properties in the Borough. Also mentioned in the letter was streets that need paved in the Borough. The conclusion of the letter was to say that the Borough is spending money on Penn Park when a better solution would have been to put in a larger parking lot and money would be better spent on repairing streets, sidewalks and parks.
- Dan Zilli’s family sent at card thanking borough council and employees for the wind chimes sent to Dan’s funeral.

Mayor’s Report:

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

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

Incidents	106
Criminal Arrests	11
DUI Arrests	3
Parking Tickets Issued (Boro)	24
Parking Tickets Issued (Parking Auth)	24
Traffic and Non-Traffic Citations	33
Assist other Departments	11
Accidents Investigated	4
Parking Tickets	\$132.00
Parking Meters	\$1,745.40
Fees for police reports	\$15.00
Clerk of Courts	\$148.55
District Court	\$1,391.28
Parking Permit	\$0.00
DUI Task Force Refund	\$0.00
Drug Task Force Reimbursement	\$0.00
Total Revenue	\$3,432.23

Mayor Lucia announced that the Mount Pleasant Tax Office will be closed on June 29, 2016 and will reopen June 30, 2016. Anyone who has questions can call Carol Yancosky at 724-547-7347.

Mayor Lucia requested that he be removed as Chairman of the Mount Pleasant EMS Medic 10 Board. Mayor Lucia said that he was excluded from a recent meeting and is not in agreement with the direction being taken by Medic 10.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to accept Mayor Lucia’s resignation as Chairman of the Medic 10 Board of Directors. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 6-3. With Councilpersons Stevenson, Pritts and Wagner voting no.

Mayor Lucia left the meeting.

Borough Managers Report:

Borough Manager Landy said that the Mount Pleasant Borough Code Enforcement Officer, Ira Bennett has requested a cell phone. Mr. Landy said that he feels Mr. Bennett is doing a good job and having a cell phone would help him do the job as well as eliminating the need for the borough office to act as middle-man for residents who need to reach him.

Borough Manager Landy said that work at Penn Park is moving quickly. Mr. Landy wanted to clarify that the Borough received grant funds for Penn Park and will be reimbursed from the grant for any expenses paid up front.

Mr. Landy reported that the borough auditor is in the process of the 2015 audit and he will keep Council informed as the audit progresses.

Borough Manager Landy said that the FEMA paperwork for reimbursement for the 2016 Winter Storm has not been completed. Questions from the Police and Fire Departments need to be answered.

Borough Manager Landy said that meetings are being held with WWT regarding sewage rates and repayment of the money being borrowed by the Mount Pleasant Municipal Authority for the Bar Screen.

Mr. Landy said that he feels a recent unemployment appeal hearing went well for the Borough.

Borough Manager Landy said that negotiations will begin soon with the Street Department Steel Workers Union for the upcoming contract renewal.

Mr. Landy said that there have been two Concerts in the Park. The first was rained out, but the second one went very well. Mr. Landy asked Council for volunteers for the Concerts In The Park. Mr. Landy will be at the July 3rd Party In the Park and President Wagner did the first two, volunteers are still needed for the other concerts.

Mr. Landy said that there will be a tax assessment appeal and Council discussed whether to send a representative from the Borough. President Wagner said that he will make the decision after receiving all of the information.

Treasurer’s Report:

Borough Manager Landy read the following Treasurer’s Report for the month of May 2016:

Mt. Pleasant Borough Treasurer's Report		May-16			Balance
		Previous	Deposits	Disbursements	2016
		Balance			
General Fund Checking	PNC 00-0122-3513	50,000.00	413,693.66	412,239.66	51,454.00
General Fund Sweep	PNC 10-1149-3394	756,824.36	273,601.51	114,262.57	916,163.30
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 321615	664,227.36	112.84	0.00	664,340.20
**Police		40,683.60			
**Streets		140,000.00			
**Contingency Fund		229,753.30			
**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					
13		14,265.02			
Police Parking Tickets & Meters	Scottdale Bank 7000126	18,213.81	13,007.40	0.00	31,221.21
Escrow Account	PNC Bank 10-2912-6867	17,326.92	0.00	0.00	17,326.92
Liquid Fuels PLGIT	PLGIT 56980126	155,218.50	34.78	0.00	155,253.28
Monument CD	Standard Bank 327085	6,842.85	0.00	0.00	6,842.85
Holiday Lighting Fund	Standard Bank 050004849	1,804.85	0.07	0.00	1,804.92
Payroll Fund	PNC 00-0122-6415	625.08	98,303.20	74,094.27	24,834.01
	Somerset Trust Co				
Veterans Park Fund	2003058309	3,831.60	150.00	0.00	3,981.60
Town Clock Fund	Standard Bank 0010038847	614.31	0.03	0.00	614.34
Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	PNC Bank 10-3888-4556	1,247.21	0.00	0.00	1,247.21
Total General Fund Balance					1,875,083.84
Medic 10 Checking	Standard Bank 0010107643	68,504.88	65,246.00	106,890.68	26,860.20
Medic 10 Savings	Standard Bank 0310000238	143,292.32	1,024.51	0.00	144,316.83
Medic 10 Money Market	PNC Bank 10-1516-8804	5,887.68	0.26	0.00	5,887.94
Medic 10 Pittsburgh Foundation	Standard Bank 0000358253	4,739.91	0.00	0.00	4,739.91
Total Medic 10 Fund Balance					181,804.88
WWT Operational Acct	Standard Bank 0320012280	442,940.25	130,152.77	80,671.77	492,421.25
WWT Savings	Standard Bank 0050021008	133,418.62	1,527.04	0.00	134,945.66
WWT Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 0000287245	118,608.38	20.15	0.00	118,628.53
**Contingency		111,158.71			
**Infrastructure		7,469.82			
WWT Bio-Tower	Standard Bank 10127923	74,783.24	1,123.00	6,915.25	68,990.99
Total WWT Balance					814,986.43
Total Borough funds					2,871,875.15

Councilwoman Diane Bailey
Secretary Beverly Fedorchak

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

President Wagner said that he would like to see the Firemen's Account for the funds from the Murtha Foundation Veterans Park Maintenance Fund on the monthly Borough Treasurer's Report.

Solicitor's Report:

Solicitor Liptak said that she has a claim number to be used in order to get resolution for the police vehicle that has required numerous repairs since its purchase. Ms. Liptak said that the adjuster wants receipts for all repairs done on the vehicle.

Solicitor Liptak said that she has reviewed the contract for the WWT Bar Screen and it can be signed tonight if Council wishes. The contract makes the contractor mostly liable if something should go wrong. All of the bonds are in order.

Councilman Caruso and Street Department employee Larry Golobish spoke to Council about playgrounds. Mr. Golobish said that the playground equipment has been moved from Frick Park to Willow Park and he is waiting for Council's decision on what to put on the ground under the equipment. Mr. Golobish presented Council with samples of regular mulch, double brown mulch, pea gravel and rubber mulch. Anything that Council decides on must have fabric, a foundation of 4 inches of gravel and a drainage system. Mr. Golobish talked about pros and cons of each option as well as cost and maintenance. A vote was taken and it was decided that pea gravel would be used.

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

A motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to authorize Larry Golobish to purchase peat gravel and all materials as deemed to complete willow park playground units. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

Council agreed to remove the Fire Truck playground equipment from Frick Park and dispose of it at the Street Department.

Speakers:

Attorney Henry Moore, Greensburg PA spoke to Council about what Medic 10 would like to do. Medic10 would like to become two new companies under their 501C3 status by buying assets from the Borough for \$1 to be an emergency medical service as well as a transport organization. In the event that the new companies fail, the assets would revert back to the Borough and they would continue to provide emergency services to the Borough. The first company would be the emergency medical service and the second company would be the income-generating transport organization with satellite locations in North Versailles and perhaps the Mon Valley. The ambulances and crews would have to be divided between the emergency medical services and the transport services with the WPAHS employees staying with the emergency medical services. Attorney Moore said that if Council agrees to go forward the model he would use to accomplish this transition would be similar to the one used by Mutual Aid.

Borough Manager Landy asked whether Medic 10 currently has its own EIN # and Attorney Moore said that he believes that since checks are being generated by the borough office, they are using the Borough's EIN #. Mr. Landy said that if Medic 10 is a 501C3 they would have their own EIN#. Attorney Moore said that in 1981 they were established as a 501C3, but some years ago it was recommended that the Borough take over operation under the arm of the Borough and they are currently using their EIN#. If Council agrees to Medic 10's requests they would become their own company and get their own EIN #.

Attorney Moore said that in the by-laws it would have to be stipulated that the income generating transport organization would help fund the emergency medical services and any excess profit would be directed to the Borough so that Medic 10 does not lose their 501C3 status.

Councilwoman Bailey said that if the new companies fail and the assets are deeded back to the Borough, what happens to the debts incurred by those companies. Would the debt also become the Borough's? Attorney Moore said that any liability to the Borough would have to be determined and that is the reason for looking at what the best structure would be to protect and safeguard the Borough.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that Council would need to be assured of timely and effective service to borough residents and that the new companies would not move out of the Borough. Attorney Moore said that best use of equipment would have to be looked at closely and mandated. He would also look closely at how the non-profit is set up. Councilman Pritts said that a long term lease may be better than a deed transfer. Attorney Moore said that he will draft something preliminary for Council to look at.

President Wagner said that he feels Medic 10 is looking for the means to survive and compete with other organizations that they can't compete with now.

Council agreed that going forward Attorney Moore should work with Solicitor Liptak on the preliminary draft etc. so that she can voice the interests of the Borough and streamline the procedure.

Mr. Rob Govern, President of Mount Pleasant EMS Medic 10 spoke to Council and explained that in today's climate insurance reimbursements from ambulance calls will not sustain the organization. Transports supplement the ambulance calls. Mr. Govern said that in order to keep Medic 10 operating, adjustments have been made and other avenues have been explored. Mr. Govern said that the current financial model is based on insurance reimbursement for ambulance calls and financial support from the Borough. That is not enough to sustain Medic 10 into the future. Transports generate consistent income.

Mr. Landy asked Attorney Moore how the Borough can be assured that if the proposed companies start to fail the Borough will have sufficient time to protect the assets. Attorney Moore said that the by-laws would include language that states the Borough will be given audited financial reports and places on the Board of Directors.

Waste Water Treatment Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Rogacki to approve payment of expenses as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Caruso. Motion carried 9-0.

Streets Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Caruso to approve payment of expenses as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilman Caruso said that Victor Paving should begin the paving project by next week and the gravel for the tar and chip project with Mount Pleasant Township is being delivered to the borough shed.

President Wagner said he would like an opportunity to meet with members of the Mount Pleasant Borough Street Department and he would like Council to receive a monthly report from the Street Department similar to the WWT and Police reports.

Finance & Human Resources Report:

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

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to hire Nathan Ellwood as a full-time Police Officer at a salary of \$43,680 with contractual benefits including a six month probationary period. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 8-1 with Councilman Rogacki voting no.

Council discussed a previous agreement involving removing the catch-up clause from the Police Contract and hiring an officer to replace Officer Zilli as well as a fourth full-time officer. Councilman Cholock said that if only one officer is hired the catch-up clause will remain in the contract. Councilwoman Barnes said that the cost of a fourth full-time officer for the remainder of 2016 would be an increase of \$10,000 because the cost of the part-time officers would be reduced. To continue paying the fourth full-time officer in 2017 the millage rate may have to be increased because it will be a \$20,000 increase based on the salaries of the full-time officers and the reduction of the part-time salaries. The \$20,000 increase is justified by the facts that Police Chief Sam can concentrate on administration duties and there will be three other full-time officers to cover the shifts and get out into the community.

Police Chief Sam said that there will be a significant savings between the new full-time officer and Officer Zilli's pay and other changes are being made.

Councilman Caruso read the following report of the Ordinance Officer Ira Bennett for the month of May 2016:

61 Citations Written

40 Citations Resolved

Councilman Caruso reported that Mr. Bennett said there some issues where home owners can't afford to paint their homes etc. Mr. Bennett got information from Representative Harhai's office and has put together a packet with information about grants and loans available.

Police Chief Sam said that he has ordered a Code Enforcement Badge for Mr. Bennett along with an I.D. Card.

Public Safety Zoning & Ordinance Report:

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

Councilman Caruso said that the Streets Committee made the decision to leave the yellow line on Vine Street that was discussed at the last meeting because it is a safety issue and parking should not be allowed.

President Wagner said that there have been complaints regarding the Police Department ticketing. The parking lots are enforced 24/7 and going forward tickets will be issued. President Wagner said that he would have liked the Police to issue warnings first since tickets were never issued before at Frick Park during a softball game.

Parks & Recreation (General) Report:

Councilwoman Barnes said that she has spoken to Mr. Zelinsky regarding removing trees from Frick and Jack Bobb’s Park. She has received information regarding liability insurance from Mr. Zelinsky and she would like to see Council make a motion to approve the cost.

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

A motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to approve the quote from Mr. Andy Zelinski for the trimming and removal of trees at Jack Bobb’s Park and cutting the tree pine trees at Frick Park in the amount of \$2,250. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilwoman Barnes said that grant funds are available for the repair of the basketball court and she has requested a quote from Mr. Lutz. Someone would have to come in and repair the cracks and Mr. Lutz’s company would seal the surface.

Councilman Pritts said that there are two lights out at the northwest corner of the Frick Park Walking Trail. The Mount Pleasant Street Department will have to get the pole number and report to West Penn Power who will replace the lights.

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

President Wagner asked Councilwoman Barnes how many individuals she has on the Recreational Sub-Committee. Councilwoman Barnes said that she currently has seven people and she would like two more.

Property Report:

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that she received a quote from Otis Elevator. The maintenance quote from Otis Elevator is \$450 more per year but covers more than the Schindler Elevator contract does and they will provide Council with a monthly report. Mr. Landy said that he agrees with replacing Schindler, but they will probably sue the Borough to get paid for the \$2,000 invoice that we are refusing to pay.

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

Sanitation & Recycling Report: None

Borough Manager Landy said that the borough office and council members are receiving reports that garbage and recycling is not being picked up on time. Mr. Landy said that he feels a meeting in person with a representative from Republic Services is called for.

Community & Economic Development/Grants Report: None

A motion was made by Councilman Rogacki for an Executive Session. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 9-0.

Executive Session: 10:25 to 10:38

Motions from Meeting of June 20, 2016

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the minutes of June 6, 2016, 2016 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 9-0.

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