

## Meeting June 5, 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, Ruszkowski and Stevenson. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Liptak were present. President Caruso stated that a quorum is present. Councilman Rogacki arrived at 7:50pm.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the minutes of May 22, 2017 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 8-0.

**Public Comment:** None

**Speakers:** None

### **Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Lucia announced that the 2017 Firemen's Fair will be held on June 19, 2017 through June 24, 2017. The Firemen's Parade will be held on Tuesday June 20, 2017 at 7pm. Any council people wishing to ride in the parade please contact the borough office.

### **Solicitor's Report:**

Solicitor Liptak said that she received correspondence from Attorney Demosky regarding Mount Pleasant Borough vs. Westmoreland County Board of Assessment Appeals, and the Pleasant Acres 5-building apartment complex. The property in question, Pleasant Acres 5-building apartment complex has been appraised at \$300,000. Solicitor Liptak asked Council if they wish to get their own appraisal or just go along with what the School District decides regarding the assessment appeal. Council decided to go along with the School District decision.

Solicitor Liptak said that the Ford representative will have a letter to Council by the next meeting regarding the demands from the Borough.

### **Borough Manager's Report:**

Borough Manager Landy said that the first Concert In The Park will be held on June 18<sup>th</sup>. This year the concerts will begin at 5:30pm and go until 8pm. "Switch" will be the featured entertainment again this year for the Party In The Park on July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Mr. Landy said that there have been numerous discussions with the utility companies working on Main Street. The Borough is not satisfied with the asphalt patching that is being done. There have also been discussions regarding the same company blocking three streets in a row making it very difficult to get from one side of town to the other.

Mr. Landy said that he and Street Crew Leader Jeff McGuinness attended a seminar at A&H Equipment and looked at equipment they had on display.

Borough Manager Landy said that Street Crew Leader Jeff McGuinness is half-way through his probation period for the position and he gave him an interim evaluation. President Caruso sat in during the evaluation.

Mr. Landy said that the Mount Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival is requesting the use of Frick Park for the annual Car Cruise on August 18, 2017 beginning at 7pm and the rain date will be August 25, 2017.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to amend the agenda. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to allow the Glass & Ethnic Festival the use of Frick Park on August 18, 2017 for the annual Car Cruise with a rain date of August 25, 2017. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 8-0.

**Tax Collector's Report:**

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

Property Taxes \$11,201.14  
Supplemental Taxes \$379.59  
Per Capita Taxes \$44.00

Total Taxes Collected \$11,624.73

Ms. Yancosky said that 392 per capita statements were mailed and payment is due by the end of June.

**President's Report:** None

**Waste Water Treatment Report:**

Andrew Zelinsky, WWT Plant gave the following report for the month of May 2017:

- Cleaned Stilling Well.
- Cleaned final clarifiers and towers.
- Drained and cleaned chlorine contact tanks.
- Cleaned grit chamber
- Pressed sludge 12 days
- Installed 2 cleanouts at plant
- Cleaned bar screen
- 2 24-hour samples for NPDES Permit
- Cut grass
- Sand blasted pump housing
- Monthly inspection for all generators
- Helped install sprinkler heads and new control box at Veterans Park
- Got quotes for lights and controller for fountain at Veterans Park
- Met with Councilwoman Barnes regarding removal and replacement of tree at Frick Park
- Helped with layout equipment of new playground equipment
- Meeting with Gibson Thomas
- Meeting with EADS Group
- Helped Street Department on S. Geary Street with storm line
- Cameraed storm lines on S Depot Street, N. Geary Street
- 7 home inspections 45 PA One Calls
- 5 after hours PA One calls
- 1 plant alarm

President Caruso said that the CSO permit application has been submitted by Gibson Thomas Engineering.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to amend the agenda. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to allow the Mount Pleasant Municipal Authority to pay MAWC \$42,909.91 for Pay Estimate #6 for the 2017 Main Street Project. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

**Streets Report:**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to award the internal video inspection of the 36" storm water pipe along S. Geary Street to Robinson Pipe Cleaning Co., 2656 Idlewood Road, Pittsburgh PA in the amount of \$3,900. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilwoman Bailey read Street Crew Leader Jeff McGuinness' report for the month of May 2017:

- General Maintenance of streets including lights and signs
- Cleanup of lots and parks
- Patching holes
- Marking storm drains and lines for PA One Calls
- Maintenance of equipment
- Brush Pickup
- Initial Phase of Frick Park playground project
- Continued work on Ramsey Terrace drainage project
- Lawn maintenance of Land Bank properties
- Repair sink hole on Hoza Way
- Concluded sweeping borough streets

Council discussed the role of the Street Department regarding Parks & Recreation. As in the past each Parks & Recreation project is looked at on an individual basis. Borough Manager Landy said that it was his hope that the Parks & Recreations Advisory Board would provide some solutions for some of the work that needs to be done in the parks. Mr. Landy said that he would like a list of park projects and their priorities. Mayor Lucia stated that the parks are taken care of by both the Street Department and Waste Water Treatment personnel.

**Public Safety Report:**

Councilman Cholock read the following Fire Report for the month of May 2017:

Total Calls-56  
10-45's-22  
Entrapment Calls-2  
Fires-7  
AFA's-14  
Public Service-7  
Standby's-1  
Drills-3  
Turnpike Calls-7  
Total Members Answering-  
Average Member Per Call  
Total Staff Hours

Mayor Lucia said that he has spoken to Police Chief Sam about some households that the police are repeatedly being called to. Police Chief Sam will make a list of these properties for the last 24 months and when the list is complete the homeowners will be notified.

A motion was made by Councilman Cholock to amend the agenda. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Cholock to appoint Al Dawson Volunteer Acting Director of Mount Pleasant Emergency Medical Services. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

**Policies Report:** None

**Zoning & Ordinance Report:**

Councilwoman Stevenson said that she spoke to a representative from the company who proposed putting a cell tower in the Borough and was told that the company has decided not to pursue the project in the Borough.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that Councilman McCloy is researching ordinances governing back yard fire pits.

Councilman McCloy said that the Mount Pleasant Community Yard Sale will be held on August 12, 2017 with a rain date of August 13, 2017. Anyone who will be participating should call the borough office and they will be put on a map. There is no registration fee.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that her committee has looked at the alley that runs down past the Karate School that has been hit by large trucks. It was discussed that trucks coming down the alley could turn at Levin's and go out to Smithfield Street. There are parking spaces that may have to be removed in order for the trucks to turn. Councilwoman Stevenson said that she is unsure what signage should be put up.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that she is still trying to coordinate a meeting with the Landlord Association regarding the Landlord Ordinance.

Councilwoman Stevenson discussed Act 90 which allows municipalities to deal with blighted properties. Solicitor Liptak stated that Act 90 gives municipalities the power to force blighted property owners to clean up their property. This must be done through a Housing Court. Members of the Housing Court, that would have its own officials and its own committee members, would be the ones who go out to identify blighted properties and cite the homeowners and enforce it through the Housing Court which is overseen by the local Magistrate. Westmoreland County does not have a Housing Court. Mayor Lucia and Councilwoman Stevenson agreed that the Borough's Property Maintenance Ordinance has been working well. The only difference is that the Housing Court would allow the Borough to prosecute out of state owners. If enough municipalities adopt Act 90 it may force Westmoreland Co. to form a Housing Court. In the meantime Act 90 is a state law and Council can instruct the Borough's Code Enforcement Officer to abide by it.

Councilwoman Barnes asked about the Borough's contract with Armstrong Cable and questioned why the rates are being raised. Mayor Lucia said that the Borough stays with Armstrong because they are the only bid received. For another company to come into the Borough they would have to purchase all of Armstrong's cabling. Armstrong offers various plans at different prices and their charges are based on what the providers charge them.

#### **Community & Economic Development Report:**

Councilwoman Bailey said that she will begin work on the CDBG Grant Application soon. The deadline to submit the application is September 30, 2017. Council members should let her know if there is something they would like to apply for.

#### **Parks & Recreation/Veterans Park Report:**

Councilwoman Barnes thanked everyone who participated in the recent Clean Up Day especially the Landlord Association and the Cub Scouts.

Councilwoman Barnes said that there is a Family Fun Day scheduled for August 27, 2017 at Frick Park.

Councilwoman Barnes said that the Teen Council will be meeting this month at Central Fire Station.

Councilwoman Barnes said that a tree has been removed and replaced at Frick Park. The Street Department will be trimming the limbs from other trees in the park using the Tower Truck from the Fire Department.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to approve the purchase of 3 lights and 1 controller for Veterans Park in the amount of \$786 from Wiedamark LLC. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 9-0.

#### **Finance & Human Resources Report:**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the agreement with G. H. Harris to continue as the Borough's delinquent per capita tax collector for 2017 collections. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the contract with Century Insurance Consultants for liability insurance etc. with an annual premium of \$36,221. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that quotes were received and compared. Councilwoman Ruszkowski thanked Borough Manager Landy for his work in finding someone knowledgeable to compare the quotes. There will be a significant savings with the new company.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to accept the renewal proposal from Higbee Insurance for Mount Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$24,770. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

**Property Report:**

Councilman Rogacki said that the garage doors have been installed at the Street Department and the roof is in the process of being repaired.

**Sanitation & Recycling Report:** None

**New Business:**

President Caruso said that the Mount Pleasant Business District Authority is requesting a member of Council as a representative to their board and asked council members to let him know who is interested in volunteering.

**Reading of Communications:**

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- The Mount Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department is requesting sponsorship for their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Mount Pleasant V.F.D. 5K Run/Walk. Council agreed to donate \$50 for the event

**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 8-0.

**Miscellaneous and Adjournment:**

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

**Meeting Adjourned 8:49pm**

## **Motions from Meeting of June 5, 2017**

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