

## Meeting July 7, 2014

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Bauer at 7:00pm in Council Chambers at 1 Etze Avenue, Mount Pleasant, PA 15666. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and there was a moment of silence for our deployed troops. President Bauer directed Borough Manager Landy to take roll. Councilmen Caruso, Pritts, Tate, Wagner and Councilwomen Bailey, Ruszkowski and Stevenson 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 June 21, 2014 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0

### Public Comment:

Mr. Ed Christophano, Haydens Pharmacy, Main Street Mount Pleasant presented Council with a check from the recent Rock Around The Block Car Show to be used for the July 3<sup>rd</sup> fireworks. Along with the money raised from the car show the Christophano family matched it dollar for dollar. Mr. Christophano said that Haydens Pharmacy will commit to a fund raiser in 2015 for next year's July 3<sup>rd</sup> fireworks.

**Speakers:** None

### Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia read the following Police Report for the month of June 2014:

The Department answered 379 calls during the month as follows:

Complaints	61
Requests for assistance	10
Assist Other Departments	9
Accidents investigated	5
Calls Returned	10
Assist Medic 10	3
Assist Mutual Aid	0

The Department made 75 arrests during the month as follows:

Vehicle Code	71
Crimes Code	4
Borough Ordinance	0
Warning Issued	

Parking Tickets issued are as follows:

\$4.00 Meter Tickets	26	
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets		
Void / Excused		
\$2.00 Parking Tickets Paid	1	\$ 2.00
\$4.00 Parking Tickets Paid	18	\$ 72.00
\$5.00 Parking Tickets Paid	5	\$ 25.00
\$10.00 Parking Tickets Paid	1	\$ 10.00
\$15.00 Parking Tickets Paid	1	\$ 15.00
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets Pd		

Return from Magistrate Eckels	\$1,324.23
Return from Clerk of Courts	\$ 921.68
Return from Report Fees	\$ 60.00
Return from Parking Permits	
Return from Restitution	-
Total	\$2,429.91
1 Meter Collection	-
Total receipts for the month	\$2,429.91

Mayor Lucia recognized Margaret Farrell who passed away at the age of 101 years. Margaret was a volunteer at Frick Hospital for many years.

Mayor Lucia thanked everyone for their support during the Firemen's Fair and for the July 3<sup>rd</sup> celebration. There was a very large turnout and everyone had a wonderful time.

**Solicitor's Report:**

Solicitor Wolfe reported that his office has completed revisions to the Honeywell Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract. Copies of the contract will be given to Council before a vote.

**Tax Collector's Report:**

Tax Collector Carol Yancosky read the following Tax Report for the month of June 2014:

Property Taxes: \$36,297.60

Per Capita Taxes: \$594.00

Total Collected: \$36,891.60

**President's Report:**

President Bauer thanked Borough Manager Landy for organizing the July 3<sup>rd</sup> "Party In The Park". A lot of hard work goes into the event. President Bauer thanked the following for their monetary contributions to the July 3<sup>rd</sup> fireworks:

- Slovak Club
- Kraisingers
- Business District Authority
- Hayden's Pharmacy
- Somerset Trust

**Borough Manager's Report:**

Mr. Landy said that there were a large number of visitors from other communities who came to the July 3<sup>rd</sup> "Party In The Park" and it's good that they see what the Borough has to offer. Borough Manager Landy said that contributions surpassed the cost of the fireworks this year and he thanked everyone for their generosity.

Mr. Landy said that the Borough has been sending violations to property owners with high grass in the Borough and the number of properties who need cited is decreasing.

Borough Manager Landy said that the G11 Committee will hold a one-day training event sometime in November.

Borough Manager Landy asked Council to look at the Budget Vs. Actual Report for their departments. Mr. Landy said that property taxes seem to be coming in earlier this year and that is a very good sign.

Mr. Landy said that the State has given their approval for Penn Park. Meetings will be held with representatives from Westmoreland County and with the Westmoreland Conservation District for bid specs.

Mr. Landy said that Jacobs Creek Watershed is applying for grant funds and their next project in the Borough will be to stabilize Shupe's Run and Kennedy Avenue. Jacobs Creek Watershed is asking the Borough to sign an agreement allowing them to go onto borough property. Council agreed that Mr. Landy can sign the agreement.

**Waste Water Treatment Report:**

Councilman Tate said that sealed bids were opened for the repair of the WWT bio-tower. Two bids were received and the bid was awarded to Konzal Construction, Erie PA in the amount of \$412,000.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to award the Bio tower Media Replacement Project to Konzel Construction, Erie, PA in the amount of \$412,000. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilman Tate said that he is getting quotes to replace a small roof at the WWT Plant

**Veterans Park Report:** None

**Streets Report:**

Councilwoman Bailey said that the Street Department measured Braddock Road Avenue for what needed to be paved. The Street Department also dug a drainage ditch to get rid of the water before the street is paved.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to bid the paving project on Braddock Road Avenue (south side) from the telephone pole next to the Mount Pleasant Cemetery field property to run for 1816 Ft. by 8 Ft. The funds will taken from Liquid Fuels. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to suspend the rules for a motion to advertise for paving bids for Quarry Street. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to advertise for bids to pave Quarry Street with funds from the WWT budget. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilwoman Bailey said that before paving begins the Street Department will replace the storm drains.

Councilwoman Bailey reported that the paving company has milled the Ramsey Terrace project and will lay the blacktop within the next couple of days.

Councilwoman Bailey said that she and Jeff McGuinness attended a demonstration in Scottsdale by Unique Paving. They demonstrated the new cold patch that is supposed to last much longer, along with a cold crack seal demonstration.

President Bauer said that he attended the demonstration for a product call Gravel Check which is like a driveway sealer for streets that can extend the life of the street by three to five years. The cost of the sprayer is \$2,500 and it can be also be used for crack sealing for an additional \$1,000.

Mayor Lucia said that he would like the Borough to request help from PennDot to pave S. Church Street and tie it in with the Excelsa Health expansion.

**Public Safety Zoning & Ordinance Report:**

Councilwoman Stevenson said that she has been speaking with Solicitor Wolfe and other municipalities regarding how they handle code enforcement and it will help during the interview process for a borough code enforcement officer.

Councilwoman Stevenson said she also been talking with other municipalities about how they handle high grass and there may be a way to amend the borough ordinance to make it more effective. One municipality has an agreement with the company that is contracted by the borough to cut grass. When there is a property with high grass the property owner is given 5 days to mow it. If it is not mowed in that time the company the borough uses mows the grass and the property owner is billed for the service with 15% added to the cost. If the bill is not paid a lien is filed against the property. Even if the property goes to Sheriff's Sale the Borough can still collect on the lien if the Sherriff understands that the Borough is not willing to have those liens dismissed.

Councilwoman Stevenson discussed enforcement of cooling towers in the Borough. Councilwoman Stevenson said that her research shows that the state regulates cooling towers and it is not something the Borough needs to do.

Councilwoman Stevenson read the following Fire Report for the month of June 1014:

Total Calls – 46  
In Town – 13  
10-45's – 13  
10-45's w/ Entrapment – 1  
Fires – 12  
AFA's – 13  
Public Service Calls – 8  
Turnpike Calls – 5  
Total Member Answering – 601  
Average Member Per Call – 13  
Total Staff Hours – 293

Council discussed the need for a Parking Lot Ordinance to regulate water run-off.

Councilman Tate said that he has received complaints that some landlords have paid B.I.U. for inspections and the inspections were never done. Councilwoman Stevenson said that she will contact B.I.U. about performing the inspections or returning the payments.

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

Councilman Wagner thanked the Mount Pleasant Municipal Authority for the grant money to help with the expense of repairing the WWT bio-tower.

Council discussed how to protect the Borough in the future if another bio-tower is damaged. President Bauer said that sewage rates will be increased and a portion of that increase will be set aside as a fund for any future repairs.

Councilman Wagner said he has met with Westmoreland County representative Jim Bendel and has gotten very valuable contacts and information regarding grant opportunities.

### **Parks & Recreation Report:**

President Bauer read the following Recreation Report from Councilman Wojnar:

- The summer programs at Frick Park are being very well-attended.
- The bees at Frick Park have been exterminated.
- Councilman Wojnar is working with the Cub Scouts to create a meeting and camping area at Willows Park.
- Councilman Wojnar spoke with the presidents of the sports leagues regarding their needs.
- Councilman Wojnar spoke with the insurance company regarding league basketball.

Councilwoman Bailey said that the merry-to round and two sets of monkey bars have been removed from Frick Park.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to suspend the rules for the purpose of donating money to the Mount Pleasant VFD for the annual golf outing. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to donate \$300 to the Mount Pleasant VFD for their annual golf outing. This money will include Mayor Lucia's golfing fee. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

President Bauer reported that of the 38 active firemen in the Borough 20 are currently life-time members and can retire at any time and 6 are junior firemen who are not eligible to fight fires. If the life-time members retire there will be only 11 active firemen able to fight fires. President Bauer said that if anyone is interested in becoming a volunteer fireman they can get an application from Mayor Lucia or the Central Fire Station.

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

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that the Borough has received proposals from four banks for a loan to repair the bio-tower at the WWT Plant. The Finance Committee is recommending that we accept the proposal from Scottsdale Bank.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to sign the 2014-2015 Winter Municipal Agreement with Penn Dot in the amount of \$10,136.68. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to close out First Niagara Veterans Park Fund in the amount of \$3,111.85. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to close out PLGIT Veterans Park Fund in the amount of \$11,264.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to open a Veterans Park Fund at Somerset Trust in the amount of \$14,375.85. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to advertise for a WWT maintenance worker. Resumes/applications must be received in the borough office by 4:00pm August 4, 2014. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

### **Property Report:**

Councilman Pritts was brought up-to-date on repairs that were made and need to be made to borough properties since his return from vacation.

Councilman Pritts discussed the progress on the Welcome Wall and the proposed surveillance cameras.

### **Sanitation & Recycling Report: None**

### **New Business:**

Borough Manager Landy reported that a developer is going to build on the empty lots on Main Street and more details will be available in a few weeks. This developer is also interested in purchasing the property owned by the Borough adjacent to the other lots.

### **Reading of Communications:**

Borough Manager read the following communications:

- Westmoreland County Department of Planning & Development will be sponsoring a meeting on Wednesday July 30, 2014 at the Mount Pleasant Township Municipal Building from 10:00am to noon to discuss the upcoming funding cycle for the county's CDBG program.

### **Discussion and Payment of Bills:**

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to pay all approved and authorized bills. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

### **Miscellaneous and Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

**Meeting adjourned 8:17pm**

## **Motions from Meeting of July 7, 2014**

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A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

