

## Meeting August 1, 2016

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Wagner 7:01pm 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, Caruso, Cholock, Pritts, Rogacki, Ruszkowski and Stevenson. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Liptak were present. President Wagner stated that a quorum is present. Councilwoman Barnes arrived at 7:11pm.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the minutes of July 18, 2016 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 8-0.

### **Public Comment:**

Julie Roebuck, Westmoreland Drug and Alcohol Commission invited all of Council to attend "National Night Out" on August 2, 2016 at 6pm and perhaps volunteer to hand out free hot dogs and water. Mount Pleasant Main Street Deli donated the hot dogs for the event. Two Bicycles donated by the Mount Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival will be raffled off. The goal of the event is to build a better relationship between Police Officers and the public.

Bob Keeler, Coal & Coke Bike Trail reported that the bike trail is now connected to Mount Pleasant Borough, Scottsdale Borough and West Overton Museum. The Coal & Coke Bike Trail has hired a consultant to look at the possibility of extending the trail to Connellsville. The bike trail will end at the Mount Pleasant Senior Center and there will be a sign there asking riders to please show respect by walking their bikes through Veterans Park.

A motion was made and carried to extend Mr. Keeler's public comment by three minutes.

Mr. Keeler said that some of the road markings in the Borough have faded or been paved over and need redone. Mr. Keeler said that he believes there are still funds left from the 2015 General Fund Budget for the Bike Trail and he requested those funds to cover some current expenses.

Mr. Bob Karfelt, 114 S. Depot Street Mount Pleasant PA said that he owns two properties on Depot Street that are zoned Industrial and one property on Bridgeport Street zoned Business. He would like to see all three properties zoned Business so that he can combine the properties. Mr. Karfelt said that Attorney Tim Witt, Mount Pleasant Zoning Hearing Board, told him to ask Council's permission to move forward with having these properties combined and zoned Business.

A motion was made and carried to extend Mr. Karfelt's public comment by three minutes.

Council approved Mr. Karfelt to move forward with his request for re-zoning of the properties on Depot Street.

### **Speakers:**

Mr. Rick Meason, Mount Pleasant Area Historical Society said that the Society is bringing back the "Ghost Walk" in honor of Dalene Ritter on October 22, 2016. The walk will be a guided tour through Mount Pleasant's Historic District starting at the Frick Park Concession Stand at 6:30pm and finishing at the Frick Park Pavilion where refreshments will be served. Mr. Meason requested that the Borough provide traffic control at the Municipal Building parking lot, the intersection of Walnut & Church Streets, the intersection of Reservoir & Eagle Streets and perhaps the intersection of Spring & Eagle Streets.

President Wagner said that motions will be made at the next council meeting regarding the use of the concession stand and blocking off borough streets.

### **Tax Collector's Report:**

Tax Collector Carol Yancosky read the following report for the month of July 2016:

Property Tax = \$6,017.37

Ms. Yancosky said that the 2016 Per Capita Tax and Property Tax statements were mailed today.

**Reading of Communications:** None

**Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Lucia announced that the 2016 Halloween Parade will be held on Wednesday October 26, 2016 with a rain date of Thursday October 27, 2016. Trick or Treat will be held on Sunday October 30, 2016. A discussion ensued regarding the time of day for Trick or Treat. Council agreed to discuss it again at the next council meeting.

Mayor Lucia read the following report of the Mount Pleasant Zoning Officer for the month of June 2016:

Warnings:	47		
High Grass	16 cited	14 resolved	
Erosion	15 cited	9 resolved	4 pending
Commercial Dumping	1 cited	1 resolved	
Sidewalk Replacements	4 cited		4 pending
Rubbish	5 cited	4 resolved	1 pending
Exterior Treatment	1 cited		1 pending
Unsafe Situation	3 cited	2 resolved	1 pending
Vehicles	1 cited	1 sent to Magistrate	

Mayor Lucia said that he attended the State Mayor's Conference and the biggest issue discussed was blighted properties. All municipalities are facing the same issue. Other topics were drug enforcement, volunteer fire departments and the drop in applications for State Police.

President Wagner and Council congratulated Mayor Lucia for being chosen as Mayor of the Year for the State Mayor's Association.

**Borough Manager's Report:**

Mr. Landy said that more details have been added to Penn Park and the County has authorized more funding for the park. The official opening of the park should happen sometime in the middle of September 2016.

Borough Manager Landy said that it is time for departments to look at spending for 2017. The Finance Committee will start putting together a budget soon and needs to determine income versus spending.

Borough Manager Landy read the following MS4 announcement:

As part of the Pennsylvania DEP'S MS4 Program (SMALL MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS), the Borough of Mount Pleasant would like to remind everyone that our storm sewer inlets and drainage swales discharge directly to Jacobs Creek. We are striving to educate the public about the drainage systems and the problems with allowing various items to enter our streams and waterways. Shupe Run and Jacobs Creek bring many benefits to our community. We ask your assistance in educating our community about inappropriate practices that will damage one of our most precious resources.

Mr. Landy discussed adding storm water inlets to Main Street. A grant applied for by Jacob's Creek Watershed was rejected and on 8/4/16 he, President Wagner and Mayor Lucia will attend a meeting with the Secretary of the DEP, Secretary of Transportation and the Lt Governor to try and get the grant approved. The cost of the project would be approximately \$800,000.

Borough Manager Landy said that the Mount Pleasant Parking Authority is requesting that the Borough consider placing the parking lots back on its liability insurance policy.

Borough Manager Landy said that there are only two Concerts In The Park left this summer. Councilman Caruso said that the concert on August 14<sup>th</sup> will be a tribute to Veterans, especially Vietnam Veterans and free food will be provided for the Veterans. Westmoreland County Commissioner Charles Anderson will speak at the event.

Mr. Landy said that he and President Wagner are exploring the possibility of music on Main Street. The music would promote walkers on Main Street with music in the background for atmosphere.

Mr. Landy announced that the Mount Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival was chosen as number one of the top-ten event in Westmoreland County.

Councilwoman Barnes asked if it would be possible to enlarge Penn Park by approximately ten feet. Borough Manager Landy said it was the purpose of the design to accommodate as many parking spaces as possible and still have a parklet.

**Solicitor's Report:**

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts for an Executive Session. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

**Executive Session 8:24 to 9:13PM**

A motion was made by Councilman Rogacki to reconvene the council meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 8-0.

President Wagner said that the Executive Session was to discuss personnel.

President Wagner presented Mayor Lucia, Councilwoman Stevenson and Borough Manager Landy with Cecil Leberknight Awards. The award is to encourage persons to enter into government service and is for 10 years of dedication and effectiveness.

President Wagner read a letter from Street Supervisor Mario Fontanazza stating that he will retire effective December 2, 2016. Mr. Fontanazza has been employed by the Borough for 51 years.

A motion was made by Councilman Rogacki to accept the resignation of Mario Fontanazza effective December 2, 2016. Motion seconded by Councilman Caruso. Motion carried 8-0.

**Waste Water Treatment Report:**

A motion was made by Councilman Rogacki to approve expenses as presented. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Rogacki to approve Resolution 2016-09 to increase current sewage rates to the proposed rates to fund the Main Street Sewage Project. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Rogacki to ratify Resolution 2016-06 dated 7/18/16 approving the bid of R & B Contracting in the amount of \$1,549,275 with \$791,340 being the portion of the bid that is allocated to the replacement of the Mount Pleasant sewage lines. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Rogacki to approve Resolution 2016-08 increasing the total Dye Test Fee to \$150.00. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilman Rogacki announced that Mount Pleasant will no longer issue credit for swimming pool fill-ups. The DEP requires that water from swimming pools be discharged into the sewage system to be treated so the water you use to fill the pool will ultimately go into the sewage system. The Borough holds a storm water permit that is regulated by the DEP. If they find chemicals from pool water in the storm water the Borough could be issued a fine. Borough Manager Landy said that the DEP has commended and agreed with the procedures of our WWT Plant and that speaks well of the direction of the plant and its personnel.

**Streets Report:**

A motion was made by Councilman Caruso to approve all expenses as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilman Caruso said that the 2016 paving project is complete, but immediately after completion a water leak occurred and MAWC had to dig up the street. MAWC has agreed to redo the entire intersection where the leak occurred.

Councilman Caruso said that the tentative date for tar & chipping in the Borough will be August 4, 2016 weather permitting.

Councilman Caruso said that the Street Department is working on updating street signs. The plan is to do an area at a time. Councilman Pritts suggested posting a map of the progress.

Councilman Caruso said that the Street Department will start painting lines in the Borough when the tar & chipping project is complete.

Borough Manager Landy suggested documenting paving projects in the Borough to keep track of what roads were paved and when.

President Wagner said that he received quotes from Pittsburgh Bob Cat for new, used and rental costs for a 24" milling machine and a Bob Cat and he has passed given those quotes to Borough Manager Landy.

President Wagner said that the Town Hall Meeting regarding the 2017 Main Street Project and the sewage rate increase was held at the Mount Pleasant Church of God and he thanked everyone who attended. WWT Superintendent Hague put together a very nice presentation. President Wagner said that Council would like borough residents to be fully aware of direction and decisions of Council.

### **Public Safety Report:**

Councilman Cholock gave the following Fire Report for the month of July 2016:

10-45's – 22  
Entrapment calls – 1  
Fires – 6  
AFA's – 18  
Public service – 4  
Standby's –  
Turnpike calls – 11  
Total members answering – 832  
Avg. member per call – 16  
Total staff hrs – 450

A motion was made by Councilman Cholock to pay expenses as presented. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Councilman Caruso abstained. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Zoning & Ordinance Report:**

Councilwoman Stevenson said that she received correspondence from Ms. Rachel Hoza regarding Hoza's Garage on N. Church Street. Ms. Hoza would like to sell the property to be used for business. The property is zoned R1 Residential. Hoza's Garage was grandfathered when the zoning was made R1. Councilwoman Stevenson said that the Zoning Ordinance states that a grandfathered property, when closed for one or more years loses its grandfathered status so the only option available to Ms. Hoza is to go before the Zoning Hearing Board.

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

Councilwoman Barnes said that she received a quote from Mr. Marker for the fence at Jack Bobb's Park and was unable to get any other quotes. Borough Manager Landy said that the decision can be made at the next meeting whether to use Mr. Marker or continue to look for other quotes. Any quote should include a gate.

Councilwoman Barnes said that at a meeting of the Recreational Advisory Board it was suggested that netting should go up around the basketball court. The next meeting of the board will be August 18, 2016.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to re-advertise for bids to resurface, reseal and repaint the Basketball Court. Bids will be opened at 2:10pm in council chambers on August 18, 2016. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilwoman Barnes said that the tables at Willow Park have been repainted by the Mount Pleasant Landlord Association along with the inside of the walking bridge. Councilwoman Barnes thanked Mr. Gerard Rendine, Mr. Jim Meredith and Mr. Charles Nitterright.

Councilwoman Barnes said that the trees have been trimmed and removed at Jack Bobb's Park.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to pay approved expenses as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 8-0.

President Wagner said that the Mount Pleasant Recreational Soccer League will use the soccer field on Sundays, Saturdays and on a limited basis on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to approve Resolution 2016-07 to not increase Non-Uniform Pension contributions. The contribution will remain \$3.20 per hour worked by a member for calendar 2016 only. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to approve expenses as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 8-0.

#### **Negotiations:**

Councilwoman Bailey said that there will be a meeting of the contract negotiations committee on Wednesday August 3, 2016 regarding upcoming Steel Workers contract negotiations and Council will be made aware of any discussions and decisions.

#### **Property Report:**

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that she is still waiting for quotes to do the backflow in the Municipal Building.

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that she has received quotes to repair the curb in front of the Municipal Building that was damaged during a vehicle accident. The lowest quote is for \$2,875.00.

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

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to accept the quote from Handyman Joe in the amount of \$2,875.00 to replace the curb on the left and right of the steps in front of the Municipal Building that was damaged during a vehicle accident. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

Mayor Lucia said that vines are getting into the windows and mortar of the Synagogue and Handy Man Joe suggested spraying the vines to stop their growth.

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

President Wagner said that it may be necessary to remind residents that there is an ordinance in the Borough that states garbage cannot be put at the curb before 24 hours of pickup.

#### **Community & Economic Development/Grants Report: None**

President Wagner asked whether there has been any communication from Decoplan Associates who we have contracted to assist with grants.

#### **New Business: None**

**Public Comment:**

Mr. Davis Hall, 441 3 Mile Hill said that he is having a reunion at Willow Park on August 13, 2016 and he invited all of Council to come to the party from noon to 6pm.

**Miscellaneous & Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Councilman Rogacki to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 8-0.

**Meeting adjourned 10:31pm**

## Motions From Meeting of August 1, 2016

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