

Meeting September 2, 2014

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Bauer at 7:01pm 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, Wojnar 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 August 18, 2014 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 9-0.

Public Comments:

Deborah Salopek, Mount Pleasant BDA said that at the recent meeting of the BDA on August 20, 2014 a motion was made and passed to contribute matching funds of up to \$2,000 for the extension of the Coal & Coke Bike Trail. The BDA hopes that Borough Council will vote in favor of the project moving forward.

Retirement Awards:

President Bauer presented Mr. Stephen Ober an award for 25 years of service. Mr. Ober retired as Mount Pleasant Borough Police Chief in August 2014.

Swearing In:

Mayor Lucia swore in Mr. Dennis Taylor and Mr. Fred McCloy to the Mount Pleasant Civil Service Board.

Speakers:

Mr. Robert Zelenek, Sarp & Company addressed Council regarding the recently completed 2013 Borough Audit. Mr. Zelenek reported that there were no findings in the audit report and no changes that need to be adopted. Mr. Zelenek reported that the Borough received the highest level of assurance and the best that can be hoped for. Mr. Zelenek said that he did a 4-year comparison and the Borough shows an average increase of \$78,000 or 7% per year and he commends the Borough on maintaining a good fund balance. Mr. Zelenek said that the audit found no issues with internal control.

Mayor's Report:

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

Report of the Mount Pleasant Police Dept. for the month of August 2014

The Department Answered the following calls during the month as follows:

Complaints	59
Requests for assistance	2
Assist Other Departments	6
Accidents investigated	2
Calls Returned	12
Assist Medic 10	5
Assist Mutual Aid	0

The Department made 30 arrests during the month as follows:

Vehicle Code	27
Crimes Code	3
Borough Ordinance	0
Warning Issued	0

Parking Tickets issued are as follows:

\$4.00 Meter Tickets	16
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets	1
Void / Excused	6

\$2.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$	-
\$4.00 Parking Tickets Paid	10	\$	40.00
\$5.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$	-
\$10.00 Parking Tickets Paid	1	\$	10.00
\$15.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$	-
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$	20.00
	0		

Return from Magistrate Eckels	\$	1,694.64
Return from Clerk of Courts	\$	439.96
Return from Report Fees	\$	-
Return from Parking Permits	\$	-
Return from Restitution	\$	-

Total \$ 1,744.64

1 Meter Collection \$ 3,396.33

Total receipts for the month \$ 5,140.97

Mayor Lucia said that the Borough has been working on property maintenance issues for properties in the Borough this summer.

Mayor Lucia announced that the Senior Citizen's Center will hold an Open House on Thursday 9/4/14 from 2pm to 6pm and all of Council is invited.

Solicitor's Report: None

Tax Collector's Report:

Tax Collector Carol Yancosky read the following report for the month of August 2014:

Property Taxes = \$6,010.05
Per Capita Taxes = \$2,170.70

Total Collected = \$8,180.75

President's Report:

President Bauer said that a meeting was held with the Westmoreland Conservation District regarding the Penn Park Project. The project is moving forward with the Conservation District, Westmoreland County officials and Borough officials working hand in hand. The project should be completed sometime next spring.

President Bauer said that West Overton will be having a Civil War Reenactment this Saturday September 6th.

President Bauer said that the Borough is charged a \$100 fee by MAWC to have water restored to sewage accounts that have been shut off because of non-payment. This fee will have to be passed on to the customer. If anyone has their water shut off because of a past due sewage bill, they will have to pay the Borough \$100 on top of any MAWC charges before their service is restored.

President Bauer said that the Borough will hold a 9/11 Remembrance at Veterans Park on Thursday September 11th beginning at 6:30pm.

President Bauer said that the Borough will be selling 2014 Commemorative Christmas Bulbs to fund Holiday Lighting in the Borough. Each bulb will be numbered and there will only be 192 bulbs produced. The cost will be \$14 per bulb and they will be on sale at the Joanne's Hallmark, Hayden's Pharmacy and Standard Bank.

President Bauer said that he is forming a committee consisting of himself, Councilwoman Bailey, Councilman Larry Tate and Borough Manager Landy to work on moving Willow's Park bathrooms. Grant money was received from CDBG funds to move the bathrooms.

President Bauer said that he spoke to the Westmoreland Conservation District regarding what trees to plant at Frick Park. Borough Manager Landy will work with the Conservation District on the project.

President Bauer asked the WWT Committee and the Streets Committee to combine their work forces and complete the wall at Frick Park within the next two weeks. President Bauer said that a French drain should be installed during the completion of the wall.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson for an Executive Session. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 9-0.

Executive Session 7:25pm to 8:07pm.

Borough Manager Report:

Borough Manager Landy asked committee chairman to look at the Profit & Lost Budget Vs. Actual Report to make sure their line items are still in balance.

Borough Manager Landy said that the Mount Pleasant Township project to solve flooding in Ramsey Terrace is almost finalized. They are still working with a property owner for an easement to go through their property.

Mr. Landy said that it would be Council should look at the equipment at the Street Department and the WWT Department to determine if there are things that can be shared between the two.

Borough Manager Landy said that the Borough received a \$5,000 Keep America Beautiful/UPS Tree Planting Grant to plant trees in Willow's Park, Frick Park and at the Municipal Building. Mr. Landy said that he received a list of suggested trees from the Westmoreland Conservation District and will be getting quotes for buying and planting the trees. UPS has said that UPS employees would donate time to help plant the trees, but they have not said specifically how many hours would be available.

Mr. Landy said that Solicitor Wolfe drew up a criminal complaint that the Borough will now file against property owners who do not comply with a property maintenance violation notice. Mr. Landy said that he will file the complaint with the Magistrate.

Mr. Landy said that the Glass & Ethnic Festival will be held on September 26, 27 and 28 this year and anyone wishing to volunteer their help can call the borough office.

Waste Water Treatment Report:

Councilman Tate said that Council received a letter from the Mount Pleasant Township Supervisors questioning the \$15 Capital Improvement charge on sewage bills. Councilman Tate said that he passed the letter onto Solicitor Wolfe.

Councilman Tate said that a meeting will be held with the engineering company who is in charge of the flow meters. Councilman Tate said that with the significant rainfall this summer they should have enough data to analyze.

Veterans Park Report:

President Bauer reported that funds to maintain Veterans Park are getting low and it would be beneficial to have someone at the Glass & Ethnic Festival promote the Digital Wall. Councilman Tate said that sometime this month he will get someone to paint the wall and the base of the clock at Veterans Park.

Streets Report:

Councilwoman Bailey reported that a preconstruction meeting was held on Thursday September 4, 2014 for the Braddock Road and Quarry Street paving project.

Councilwoman Bailey said that the catch basin on Vine Street has been replaced and the Mount Pleasant Street Department is working on replacing the one on Orchard Avenue

Public Safety Zoning & Ordinance Report:

Councilwoman Stevenson read the following Fire Report for the month of August 2014:

Total Calls – 45

In Town – 19
Out of Town – 26
10-45's – 19
Fires – 10
Public Service Calls – 12
AFA's – 4
Turnpike – 2
Total Members Answering – 453
Avg. Member Per Call – 11
Total Staff Hours – 532

Councilwoman Stevenson said that the deadline to submit an application for Mount Pleasant Borough Police Chief was August 29th. The Borough received a large number of applications and will perform a careful and diligent hiring process, as this is probably the most important position the Borough will fill.

President Bauer said that he had the decals removed from the police vehicle that is not currently in use. After the vehicle is inspected Borough Manager Landy will use it to drive the Borough looking for Property Maintenance violations.

Community & Economic Development/Grants Report:

President Bauer said that he will have the borough office look for available grants.

Parks & Recreation Report:

Councilman Wojnar said that he visited all of the borough parks. Medic 10 and Jack Bobb's Parks are in pretty good shape, although Medic 10 Park needs mowed. President Bauer said that we have received a quote from Skowronek Landscaping to mow Medic 10 Park. The quote is \$45 per mow. Councilman Wojnar thanked Councilman Wagner and Councilwoman Stevenson for going to Frick Park to see what needs to be done there.

A motion was made by Councilman Wojnar to designate and institute a bike path into Mount Pleasant Borough from the Coal and Coke Trail per the Westmoreland County Planning Department recommendations. To be completed in two phases with funding of up to \$2,000 provided by the Borough. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

Borough Manager Landy said that Council needs to look at the trees in the borough parks. In the past the Borough has trimmed and removed, but it has been a couple of years and the Parks & Recreation Committee may have to be done again especially at Jack Bobb's Park. None of the trees need to be removed, but they do need trimmed.

Finance & Human Resources Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to hire Andrew Zelinski to the position of full-time WWT Maintenance Worker. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to sign a contract with G.H. Harris to collect Delinquent Per Capita Tax for 2013. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 9-0.

Property Report: None

Sanitation & Recycling Report:

Councilman Caruso reminded residents that Westmoreland Cleanways will be holding its annual hazardous waste cleanup day on October 4, 2014 at WCCC in Parking Lot B.

New Business:

Borough Manager Landy thanked businesses in the Borough who continue to contribute to the Volunteer Coupon Book. He also thanked Denise DeSabato, Stuk Up Grafix for all of her help.

Mayor Lucia said that the Mount Pleasant Police Department collects unused prescription drugs and disposes of them. Mayor Lucia said that Frick Hospital employees can bring their unused prescription drugs to the hospital and the Mount Pleasant Police Department will pick them up. If unused drugs are disposed of young people won't have access to them.

Reading of Communication:

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- PSAB Fall Leadership Conference will be held on October 17-19, 2014 in Gettysburg PA
- The Mount Pleasant YMCA will hold an Ambassadors Group breakfast meeting on September 5, 2014 at 8am.

Discussion and Payment of Bills:

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to pay all authorized and approved bills. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 9-0.

Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

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

Meeting Adjourned 8:43pm

Motions from September 2, 2014 Meeting

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