

## Meeting September 8, 2015

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 President Bauer asked for a moment of silence for our deployed troops. President Bauer led Council in the Lord's Prayer. 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 said that a quorum is present.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to approve the minutes of August 24, 2015 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

### **Public Comment:**

Mr. Cliff Daniels, 115 Browns Candy Way Mount Pleasant PA 15666, representing the Mount Pleasant Recreation Soccer League, asked Council if a decision has been made regarding the railroad crossing at the soccer field. Borough Manager Landy said that he has not received a response to his request that railroad representatives remove various language in the agreement. Mr. Daniels questioned whether Council had agreed to sign the agreement. President Bauer said no decision can be made until Council sees the final agreement.

Mr. Bob Regola, Regola Consulting, Greensburg PA reported to Council that he has made many trips to Harrisburg and has met with people from both the Legislative and Executive Branches of state government to position the Borough for grant opportunities. Mr. Regola spoke about possible grants that may include inter-municipal grants.

Ms. Dawn Keefer, Westmoreland County Area American Cancer Society, thanked Council for supporting the American Cancer Society and requested permission to put pink bows on borough parking meters during their 2015 campaign. Ms. Keefer also asked permission to use Veterans Park Gazebo Area for their Garden of Hope during the month of October 2015.

Ms. Deborah Salopek, Secretary of the Mount Pleasant Business District Authority, spoke on behalf of the entire BDA Board of Directors to fully endorse the American Cancer Society 2015 Project in the Borough.

Council agreed to allow the American Cancer Society to put pink bows on parking meters in the Borough and to decorate the Gazebo during the month of October 2015 for their 2015 campaign.

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

Mayor Lucia said that the Mount Pleasant Area Reality Tour will be starting soon and the first meeting was held this evening at Rumbaugh Elementary School.

Mayor Lucia said that Police, Fire and EMS personnel will be trained in the use of Narcan which is used to save a person who may be overdosing on drugs in November at the Norvelt Fire Department.

Mayor Lucia said that on Saturday September 12, 2015 the State Police Run will begin at 9am at St. Pius X Church. Mount Pleasant Borough VFD, EMS Medic 10 and the Police Department will assist with traffic control.

Mayor Lucia said that he received a letter from Ms. Valerie Tressler requesting permission to decorate the Gazebo in October in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Mayor Lucia reported that flyers will be distributed regarding the Early Warning Siren which will alert residents who are outside their homes when a warning is issued by the National Weather Service as well as non-weather related emergencies. Tests of the siren will be conducted at 11am on the first Saturday in March, June, September and December.

Mayor Lucia said that Mount Pleasant VFD personnel will attend a class for all municipalities in Westmoreland County with rail service on tankers carrying petroleum or other flammable materials.

**Solicitor's Report:**

Solicitor Wolfe reported that he will supply an electronic copy of the Civil Service Rules and Regulations with Police Chief Sam's revisions. If Council has any questions or suggestions please let him know. The next step would be for the Civil Service Commission to meet to review and adopt the Rules and Regulations. Then Borough Council will approve through a resolution which is attached to the document.

**Tax Collector's Report:**

Tax Collector Carol Yancosky read the following report for the month of August 2015:

Property Tax =\$3,182.08  
Per Capita Tax = \$2,097.20  
  
Total Collected = \$5,279.28

**President's Report:**

President Bauer said that he will meet with Councilwoman Stevenson and Mayor Lucia regarding a start date etc. for the Zoning Officer and a motion will be made at the next meeting.

President Bauer said that he has received the 2015 Mount Pleasant Borough Christmas Ornaments. This year the ornament is red and features the Gazebo. Funds raised from the sale of the ornaments will be used for borough Christmas decorations. Sale of the ornaments will begin at the Glass & Ethnic Festival and then they will be available at JoAnn's Hallmark and the borough office. The price for the ornaments will be \$14.95. There is a special edition Snowman Ornament this year with only 36 available and they will sell for \$19.95.

**Borough Manager's Report:**

Borough Manager Landy reported that the 2015 9/11 Ceremony will be held at 5:30pm on September 11, 2015. The early start time will allow people attending the ceremony to go to the high school football game. Council was provided with a copy of the program.

Mr. Landy asked Council to look at the Budget Vs. Actual Report to determine if line items are on track for the year since it is the beginning of September. The 2016 budget will be based on 2015 spending but the Borough is looking at some new expenses in 2016 that will not be reflected on the current budget.

Borough Manager Landy said that the Borough and the Police Department are registered with Nixel which is a system that sends information over the phone to residents. It can be used as another early warning system and can also be used for road closings etc. The key to the system is to get everyone signed up. The Medic 10 Trailer will be at the Glass & Ethnic Festival where residents can register.

Mr. Landy said he received information on a Dirt Gravel Low Volume Dirt Road Program grant opportunity.

Borough Manager Landy said he received a letter requesting that he attend the Stake Holders Meeting for the Laurel Valley Transportation Improvement Project. The meeting is hosted by Penn DOT on October 1, 2015 at the Arnold Palmer Airport in Latrobe PA. Anyone wishing to attend should let the borough office know. Registration deadline is Friday September 11, 2015.

Borough Manager Landy said that the Borough has received approval for the upgrading of railroad warning devices at the public crossing on Route 31 in the Borough.

Mr. Landy reported that re-bids for Penn Park were opened on August 31, 2015. The re-bid numbers were expected to be lower and they were actually higher. Mr. Landy said he will meet

with County Commissioners and Westmoreland County Redevelopment Authority to see if there are any more funds available to help supplement the available grant funds.

Mr. Landy said that he has received an application for the next cycle for the CDBG Grant and has met with Council President Bauer regarding some projects where the funds could be used.

Borough Manager Landy said that the new playground equipment for Frick Park is being shipped along with the pads for the basketball court. The Borough will be requesting quotes for resurfacing of the court.

Mr. Landy said that the Mount Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival will be held on September 25, 26 and 27 this year. There will be lots of new entertainment this year as well as favorites from the past.

Borough Manager Landy said he worked on grants from Standard Bank for the Mount Pleasant VFD and the Mount Pleasant Area Reality Tour and it looks like the grants may be approved.

### **Waste Water Treatment Report:**

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to allow Valerie Tressler to decorate the Gazebo in October for Cancer Awareness Month. Motion seconded by Councilman Wagner. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to allow signs at the Gazebo during the month of October to promote Cancer Awareness Month. Motion seconded by Councilman Wagner. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilman Tate said that there is an overflow problem at the Quarry Street Station and the Borough requested that East Huntingdon Township allow a pay for a meter to monitor the overflow and they refused. Another meeting is scheduled with East Huntingdon Township for Monday to discuss it further.

Councilman Tate said that per the agreement with Mount Pleasant Township they are to pay a 32% of all major repairs and until now they have not contributed to the expense of replacing the bio-tower at the WWT Plant. Under the current agreement Mount Pleasant Township should be paying the Borough \$16,000 per month for the repairs. There is also the cost of the screen system to replace the current comunitor as well as an infiltration problem coming from Mount Pleasant Township that they are making no attempt to fix. Councilman Tate said that if Mount Pleasant Township does not contribute to the WWT Plant repairs by September 15, 2015 he would like the Borough to take over billing for their sewage customers. Solicitor Wolfe said that the next step may be to file a suit under the current agreement. Solicitor Wolfe said that he will have a conversation with the Solicitor for the Mount Pleasant Municipal Authority to discuss how to proceed.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to suspend the rules for an Executive Session. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

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### **Executive Session 8:10pm to 8:30pm**

President Bauer reported that the Executive Session was to discuss an issue with personnel.

### **Streets Report:**

Councilwoman Bailey reported that Braddock Road Avenue was tarred and chipped per our agreement with East Huntingdon Township.

Councilwoman Bailey said that scratch-coating in the Borough would cost approximately \$8,000. The street to be scratch-coated would be E. Sycamore from Bridgeport Street to the Borough line at a cost of \$3,000 and this would include a 25' X 3' patch on Duncan, Warden Street for \$5,000 and the street at an angle between the hospital and the old Uhrin property for

\$1,600. Councilwoman Bailey said that if Council approves she will contact the paving company and provide the dimensions for a final cost and approval to proceed.

**Public Safety Zoning & Ordinance Report:**

Councilwoman Stevenson read the following report of the Mount Pleasant VFD for the month of August 2015:

Total Calls – 33  
In Town – 13  
Out of Town – 20  
10-45's – 11  
Fires – 8  
AFA's – 6  
Public Service Calls – 5  
Standbys – 1  
Turnpike Calls – 5  
Total Members Answering – 451  
Average Member per Call – 13  
Total Staff Hour – 329

**Parks & Recreation Report:**

A motion was made by Councilman Wagner to approve the Girls Softball League fall schedule on Saturdays and Sundays through the end of October 2015 with no games during the Glass Festival. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilman Wagner reported that the Bike Trail into the Borough is complete and the bike rack is installed. Mr. Mark Krystyniak gave permission to chain the bike rack to the post holding the pharmacy sign. Councilman Wagner said that Councilman Wojnar wanted him to thank the Mount Pleasant Street Department for all of their help. Mount Pleasant will be the first municipality in Westmoreland County to have a destination bike trail in their town.

**Finance & Human Resources Report:** None

**Property Report:**

Councilman Pritts said he is still working on getting a quote for replacement windows at Central Fire Station.

**Sanitation & Recycling Report:** None

**New Business:** None

**Reading of Communications:**

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- The Mount Pleasant Library requested permission for their annual Walk In The Park on October 3, 2015 from 6am until 12 noon.
- Westmoreland County Boroughs Association will hold its next meeting September 24, 2015 at the Conservation Barn on Donohoe Road beginning at 7pm.

**Discussion & payment of Bills:**

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

**Miscellaneous & Adjournment:**

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

**Meeting adjourned 8:47pm**

### **Motions from September 8, 2015 Meeting**

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