

Meeting February 5, 2024

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Ruszkowski 7:00pm in Council Chambers at 1 Etze Avenue, Mount Pleasant, PA 15666. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. President Ruszkowski asked Borough Manager Lesko to take roll call. Councilpersons present included Barrick, Lasko, Stevenson, Davis, Barnes, Czekanski, Wojnar and Phillabaum. Mayor Bailey was present. Solicitor Mlakar and Solicitor Leechalk were present. President Ruszkowski stated that a quorum is present.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to approve the reorganization minutes and regular meeting minutes of January 2, 2024 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

Medic 10 Report:

- Zach Gergas gave the following report regarding Medic 10:
 - For the month of January 2024, they have had 254 calls.
 - Transports 192
 - Treat – No Transports 12
 - Lift Assists – 11
 - Standbys – 15
 - Canceled – 24
 - Wheelchair Van Trips – 87
 - Total calls dropped this month – 16
 - **Grand Total – 341**
 - Windstorm – January 9th and 10th, 2024
 - 31 Incidents
 - No calls were dropped during this time.
 - Generator failure during the power outage
 - Was able to override the system and use the generator
 - Jeff McGuinness has contacted T P Electric and they are repairing the generator
 - No issues to report
 - Staffing and trucks are good.

Fire Department Report:

- Paul Harenchar, Mount Pleasant Fire Chief, gave the following report:
 - Had a record call of 70 calls for the month of January.
 - Drove to Sutphen in Columbus Ohio today to see what is actually happening with the tower truck. It is still in pieces. Parts are the issue. They are still waiting on parts. They are hoping within one month it will be back.
 - Fish fry will be starting on Ash Wednesday and then on Fridays.
 - Storm day, January 9, 2024, the fire department had a total of 23 calls in one day.

Russell Brown and Joe Zelenak of VFW Post 368 presented a check to the Mount Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$5,000.00. President Rich Pologruto of the Mount Pleasant Fire Department thanked the VFW for their generous contribution.

Public Comment:

- Luke Strickland of 124 South Church Street, Mount Pleasant spoke to Council regarding the Coal and Coke Trail regarding connecting the trail to Connellsville. The trail goes to Washington D.C. Mr. Strickland asked the Borough to send a letter to show support towards the project. It would connect in Everson. They are also working on the other side connecting Morgantown, WV to Connellsville.
- Twila Guidas, member of First United Christ on the corner of Main Street and North Hitchman Street, spoke to Council regarding the following issues:

- The streetlight next to the church is out on North Hitchman Street.
- The handicap parking space that was originally on Main Street in front of the church and was not put back in after the Main Street project. She would like to have the space put back or if allowed, put a handicap space on North Hitchman Street on the same side as the church.
- Would like Council to consider the sign ordinance to include digital signs.
- Richard Pologruto of 222 Orchard Hill Drive, Mt. Pleasant, PA, President of Mt. Pleasant V.F.D. spoke to Council regarding the appointment of the Emergency Management Coordinator. Mr. Pologruto suggested that Corey Snyder remain as the coordinator since he has the certifications. The Board of Directors of the Fire Department voted to support Corey Snyder. Mr. Snyder is an active life member of the fire department. Mr. Pologruto stated that whoever you want to appoint is fine with them; however, their recommendation is Mr. Snyder.

Speakers:

- Renee Shipley of Republic Services spoke to Council regarding new happenings for Republic Services, such as recycling and electric vehicles. Ms. Shipley also spoke about the upcoming schedule changes for the north side of Main Street in the Borough. Their pickup will move to Tuesday instead of Wednesday. The southside of Main Street will remain the same day as it has been on Wednesday. Residents on the northside of Main Street will receive a postcard stating that it is changing along with robocalls and it will be on their schedule.
- Doug Siler of Gibson Thomas Engineering spoke to Council and residents regarding MS4 Stormwater Permit requirements. This refers to the Boroughs storm sewer collection system that only collects stormwater runoff. The Borough has had a combined storm sewer which carry both stormwater and sanitary sewage which is regulated under a different program. Mr. Siler will be speaking specifically about the MS4 program. Stormwater has been recognized by the DEP several years ago as the number 3 cause of stream water impairments in the state, followed by abandoned mine drainage and agricultural runoff. Because of that DEP, being pushed by the EPA, was delegated to mandate communities that have storm systems who are a certain size community having a population of 1000 but fewer than 100,000, DEP has made it known that Boroughs in the MS4 program since 2004, it was required that the Borough must roll out minimum control measures and there are 6 of them. These basically include Public Education and Outreach, This is to raise awareness and educate the general public on the purpose of the storm system of the Borough. Some may see an inlet and think it is somewhere to toss a cigarette butt, pop can or motor oil. The reality is those are all pollutants that do not belong in a storm system. They affect our streams, Shupes Run, Sherricks Run. Ultimately, we want to see these waterways improve over time. By heightening public awareness, the function of the storm system, what it is to supposed to convey and what it shouldn't take in is part of the public education that the Borough has to roll out. DEP expects you to push such things as this on the Borough website, which the Borough does do that, putting out flyers, pamphlets in public places, distribution having children's activities book available in the library or community center where you can get kids engaged and the next generation will take it to the next level. We have to show that there are different ways that we are making it available to the public to understand what the purpose is of the MS4. The next is Public Participation and Involvement, and once you get the public educated on it, next is to get them actively involved. One way would be people would be more vigilant about it, such as if you see something entering an inlet such as an oily sheen, cloudy runoff, chlorinated pool water or silt as an example, then maybe they would know to report it by contacting the Borough office. It gets people more vigilant about it as well as helping with the education program. Things like putting up inlet markings, little discs or little placards adjacent to the storm catch basins saying no waste this drains directly to a stream. It helps other people see it and maybe makes them think twice before they sweep their grass clippings in to the street. Publicly involvement may also mean participating in household waste collection drive, stream or road cleanup. All of that adds to the benefit of the program. The third control measure is Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination. Basically, what that means is that the community needs to be vigilant about monitoring what is going into the streams from their storm MS4 outfalls. Every year the Borough public works department goes down during dry weather and look at the outfalls. There are about 20 outfalls that go into different streams. The concept is if you go during dry weather, you are not supposed to see any flow coming out of the outfalls. By going and checking the outfalls during dry weather if you see any kind of flow coming out of there, you check if it is colored or if there is any odor, any solids or any indication that it is non-stormwater getting into the waterways. Sometimes it requires taking testing and taking samples of the discharge coming out of the outfall. From the sample results, honing in on where the source may be. Part of the outfall detection elimination is to have a system down. You want to know what pipes, what catch

basins are draining to that outfall. That helps you find out where the source might be coming from if you see any non-stormwater coming into that the stream from the outfall. Having a map developed is kind of crucial carrying this program out as well as a good tool for public works, first responders perhaps as far as determining if you have a hazardous waste spill in a street, where is this going to end up. Knowing what storm sewers go where, knowing the function and the structural integrity of those, maps help the Borough map out a plan for how to maintain these systems so they are functioning the way they should and so they don't have failures or clogging's that could cause backups and safety hazards in the streets. Number four and five are Construction Site Stormwater Management, Post-Construction Stormwater Management. These basically apply to earth disturbance activities, tearing down a house, converting it to a parking lot, uprooting soil, changing the land cover or creating sediments that might end up in the storm sewers that end up in the stream. Sediment is a major contributor to pollution runoff in a stream. We don't think sometimes because sediment is a natural thing of being a problem but streams that have a lot of sediment runoff, they really hurt the aquatic environment by covering up the stream bed or messing with the foundation of the food chain in an aquatic environment. Sediment in streams can also cause problems with extra flooding. The idea of construction site and post-construction site helps control sediment, construction activities with property erosion control that are reviewed by the Borough and with the County Conservation District Office to make sure these plans are properly executed and maintained. When it comes to post-construction stormwater, after the site has been developed, say you have a parcel that is woods, someone clears the woods out and puts in a parking lot, everyone knows that trees and natural ground like to absorb water, so there is less runoff comes off of natural ground than after you cleared the land and put pavement down you see a lot more runoff, you see more waste and more pollutants, vehicular fluids, salt, sediments running off of disturbed ground. You have to have a way to manage the stormwater, the runoff volume, the quality and rates so you are not flooding out neighbors or causing flash flooding problems downstream. You need to have a solid post-construction stormwater plan. The Borough has an Ordinance that addresses both. It is the Borough's job to make sure that these plans and Ordinances are followed. The Borough does not have a lot of development happening here, but there are still some open space areas that if it were to be developed, proper plans and due process would follow. The last of the six control measures is Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping. That applies to municipal operations themselves. The Borough looks at these are our assets, these are our properties, these are our functions making sure what we are doing are in step with the Borough's MS4 Permit program. DEP always wants to look at salt stockpile storage. We all know, in the winter time you spread salt on the road, the snow melt happens and then the runoff goes down the drain into the stream. That is going to happen but we have to do that to keep our roads safe and clear; but, in the warmer months we don't want the salt being exposed to rain and the stormwater runoff where it can just runoff into the stream. Number one, that's wasting money for your salt and two, extra salt and extra salinity goes into the stream where that can be avoided and it should be avoided. They are actually finding more studies that salinity in streams and streambeds is more persistent than they were thinking. It doesn't just flush away right after the first couple of rains and seems to be lingering more and more. That is becoming more of a problem. We need to be more vigilant of that so making sure the salt piles are covered, kept out of the path of stormwater runoff is important. Other municipal operations such as vehicle maintenance and making sure the vehicles, trucks are maintained in the garage, under cover if your changing fluids. If you have a line or hydraulic hose that breaks during maintenance, you want to make sure that spill is contained, indoors if possible, and if you have indoor drains making sure you know are the drains tied to the storm drains outside or do they go elsewhere. You need to know that. Having spill kits on site to respond to any spills. That is a critical part of municipal operations as well. The Borough has parks, if you are cutting the grass in the parks, your employees know that you aren't to blow your grass clippings out in to the street which cause problems. Grass clippings can clog the storm sewers and catch basins preventing proper drainage. Also, the organics of the grass clippings add into the waters is detrimental to the water quality. It can invite algae growth and oxygen decline in the waters. Keeping in mind, municipal operations is having plans in place, knowing how to maintain and how to wash vehicles, how to store chemicals and salt properly is all part of the pollution prevention and good housekeeping plan. A couple of things that were added to the MS4 program starting in 2018 are Map of MS4 storm sewersheds that discharge to waterways impaired by metals and/or pH associated with Abandoned Mine Drainage (AMD). We put together a fundamental map showing those areas of the Borough that are draining to those impaired water through those metals and pH. The next phase of that is to do an inventory within those sewershed areas and identify source for possible discharges, such as scrapyards or hazardous waste collection sites, of these pollutants. DEP needs to know of these facilities and if they need to be permitted. We notify DEP of the potentials that are out there and need to be monitored. DEP will follow up on that. The last thing that was added recently in 2018, we were on a new permit cycle, was a pollutant reduction plan. This is a plan that addresses sediment pollution through the Borough's MS4 system. It mandates that the Borough come up with a plan to reduce sediments by 10% of what currently goes into the area waterways. Shupes Run and Sherricks Run are both identified by DEP as impaired by sediments. This plan basically requires that certain structural stormwater improvements need to be done. We look at retrofitting sites, stormwater ponds, rain

gardens, bioswales, things that collect water and trap the sediment before it discharges into our waters. There are also nonstructural ways to meet the pollution reduction plan requirement like inlet cleanings, going and backing out inlets or storm pipes. We quantify that about 20 of them to be done per year to help meet with this reduction. Street sweeping is another method to help reduce the sediment load and you have to do that in a prescribed manner to get the credits that you need.

Mr. Siler stated that he wanted to impress that the map of the line drainage, sewer sheds to the line drainage, impaired waterways, the pollutant reduction plan, the map of the overall storm sewers, these are all items that were to be completed by September 30, 2023. He believes it is warranted to have further discussions about this. We need to show more movement toward the pollutant reduction plan, the mapping of the sewer shed, storm system mapping and inventory of the metal and/or pH pollutant sources. DEP will want to see progress on these items. Mr. Siler reported that he has attended DEP meetings in other areas where they said if you are lagging behind, they might hit you with a notice of violation which doesn't mean a whole lot. It is basically a letter saying we recognize that you are behind and lagging in these areas but you need to get caught up but then subsequent meetings with municipalities will probably follow where they might talk about consent orders and coming up with timelines of when you can become compliant. It is not going to go away. DEP has said if certain communities can do it, we are not going to let other communities lag behind because it is not fair to everybody. Mr. Siler stressed that we need to have further conversations about this. There is going to be an expense. We discussed putting a grant out with Growing Greener which opens around Earth Day, to submit an application to get the mapping underway. It is a big expense; but it is a big step towards getting us more in compliance.

Councilwoman Barnes asked what would happen in the Borough if we received a month worth of flooding in one day such as is happening in Los Angeles right now. Mr. Siler stated that you will get flooded. Stormwater Management is designed not to make flooding worse but human land changes will cause flooding if they remove trees and land.

Councilwoman Barnes stated that she sees residents cutting grass and it going into the streets and that there are catch basins near there. She has tried to educate the residents of what will happen if they continue to do it. Mr. Siler stated that in the Stormwater Ordinance there is a section regarding illicit discharges and it is illegal to do so and they could be cited. It will take some education and making people aware.

Councilwoman Stevenson asked if he has any idea of an overall cost of any of the requirements since we are looking at a grant. Mr. Siler stated that we are looking at a \$90,000.00 price tag for the mapping. Mr. Siler stated that there is a 50% match required for the grant. The pollutant reduction plan that was introduced in 2018, to put a price on that was approximately \$380,000.00. That is something that we can bite off with bits and pieces by getting grant applications to cover different projects.

Councilman Barrick asked what the DEP is requesting for our 10% of sediment reduction and have you investigated anywhere to do the required sediment reduction. Mr. Siler stated it is around 53,000lbs. per year. Mr. Siler stated that yes, they have investigated where to do the sediment reduction. They were looking at four bioswales at the lower end of parks. Mr. Siler stated that it is a challenge to do it in a community like Mt. Pleasant Borough that is built out. The other location was at the public works building. Councilwoman Lasko asked to explain what a bioswale was. Mr. Siler responded that a bioswale is a long narrow channel and instead of having a rock bottom or concrete bottom or just grass, put in a special soil medium that is kind of like a sand organic top soil and it acts like a sponge and absorbs the stormwater. You put water loving plantings on it that help to take up the runoff through the roots. That helps it improve the water quality and helps slow the water down letting it absorb into the underlying ground water table. Councilwoman Stevenson asked if it is a bigger version of a rain garden. Mr. Siler said yes, it is.

Councilman Barrick asked Mr. Siler if he received the target area plan that the watershed group did? It is in the watershed implementation plan and the Borough helped the watershed group with what was called a Target Area Plan which identified 13 or 14 area sites within the Borough. Mr. Siler asked when it was done. Mr. Barrick stated that it was done in 2015 or 2016. Mr. Siler said that he does not believe he received it and it is not incorporated in the stormwater plan. Mr. Barrick stated that it would not have been incorporated with the stormwater plan since the watershed group used 319 funds and would not be permitted to use it. However, you could still use the sites and pay for the modeling completed for it. Mr. Siler no modeling is required for this. Councilman Barrick said that the modeling would give him the estimated reduction. Borough Manager Lesko stated that we are going to have Mr. Siler meet with the Stormwater Committee in the next week or so.

Mr. Siler stated that it is important to note that the PRP is a planning tool. We saw what looked like opportunities back in 2018, things have changed since then. Things that weren't available then may be available now and what looked good then are no longer on the table. There are different areas that can be looked at or we can target. Councilman Barrick asked if looking at private property for stabilization could be an option to get us to the 53,000lbs. Mr. Siler stated that it was one of the options and called out for 100ft of streambank stabilization rehab for Shupes Run off of Cherry Avenue. However, the feedback he is receiving back from DEP on streambank stabilization is it is not a simple matter of stabilizing the banks with anything they are saying to do it correctly you are going to need a full-on joint permit application and it is going to be challenging and you need the room on both sides of the stream, you need a buffer on each side of the stream. Another possible site might be the County Housing Authority and no stormwater management has been identified in that area and we could possibly retrofit that area with stormwater, which may be an option. It may be a good opportunity since they have worked with them on other projects and may be receptive to it. Borough Manager Lesko will set up a meeting to discuss this further.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Bailey gave the following report:

- Attended safety meeting. Topics were Accident Prevention and Understanding Electricity and Breaker panels.
- Attended the Business District Authority meeting.
- Swore in the Officers for the Fire Department for the year 2024.
 - President: Richard Pologruto
 - Vice President: Mike Liska
 - Treasurer: Joe Siska
 - Secretary: Luke Strickland

 - Fire Chief: Paul Harenchar
 - Assistant Fire Chief: Bruce Gearhart
- Met with new solicitors and welcomed them
- Attended National Night Out Meeting

Mayor Bailey read the Mount Pleasant Police Dept. Report for the month of January 2024:

The Department answered the following calls:

Incidents	86
Criminal Arrests	2
DUI Arrests	0
Parking Tickets Issued (Boro)	18
Traffic & Non-Traffic Citations	32
Assist Other Departments (Police Fire EMS)	6
Accidents Investigated	5
Special Details	0

Income

Parking Tickets	\$70.00
Parking Meters	\$0.00
Fees for Police Reports	\$60.00
Clerk of Courts	\$522.44
District Court	\$551.29
Parking Permit	\$670.00
DUI Task Force Refund	\$0.00
Donations	\$100.00

Total Revenue \$1,923.73

Treasurer's Report:

Councilwoman Stevenson read the following Treasurer's Report for the month of December 2023:

Mt. Pleasant Borough Treasurer's Report		Dec-23			Balance
		Prev Bal	Deposits	Disbursements	2023
General Fund Checking	Scottdale Bank 19069335	1,228,844.24	373,610.97	281,594.45	1,320,860.76
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 321615	1,039,621.89	3,528.82	0.00	1,043,150.71
**Police	48,591.82				
**Streets	148,604.25				
**Contingency Fund	372,779.86				
**Infrastructure	206,588.62				
**Workers Compensation	50,000.00				
**BOMP Gas Wells	26,773.10				
** Frick Park Gas Well	29,106.70				
**Levins	0.00				
**Fire	23,400.00				
**K-9	13,828.76				
**Medic 10	100,000.00				
**Marcellus Impact Fee					
Act 13	23,477.60				
Police Parking Tickets & Meters	Scottdale Bank 1026616	32,577.58	198.68	0.00	32,776.26
Escrow Account	Scottdale Bank 19069343	4,545.40	16.11	0.00	4,561.51
Liquid Fuels / Scottdale Bank	Scottdale Bank 19123645	61,419.48	217.64	0.00	61,637.12
Monument CD	Standard Bank 446635	7,382.80	0.00	0.00	7,382.80
Payroll Fund	Scottdale Bank 19069350	3,048.38	80,563.16	57,730.75	25,880.79
Veterans Park Fund	Somerset Trust Co 2003058309	25,458.90	452.38	0.00	25,911.28
Veterans Military Banners Fund	Somerset Trust Co 2004522337	2,475.55	0.23	0.00	2,475.78
Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	Scottdale Bank 19069368	1,261.27	4.47	0.00	1,265.74
ARPA Covid-19 (American Resuce Plan Act)	Scottdale Bank 19123652	457,743.93	1,548.17	201,525.15	257,766.95
Standard Bank CD	Standard Bank 432243	215,254.60	0.00	0.00	215,254.60
Scottdale Bank /MidPenn CD	Scottdale Bank 318012650	53,527.71	0.00	0.00	53,527.71
Standard Bank CD (200yr Anniversary)	Standard Bank 6677418044	54,243.17	0.00	0.00	54,243.17
Total General Fund Balance					3,106,695.18
Medic 10 Checking	Scottdale Bank 19069533	287,088.43	64,404.81	112,690.40	238,802.84
Medic 10 Savings	Scottdale Bank 19069723	58,672.66	207.91	0.00	58,880.57
Medic 10 Pittsburgh Foundation	Standard Bank 0000358253	10,900.02	37.00	0.00	10,937.02
Medic 10 - 501(c)(3)	Scottdale Bank 19145689	251.31	0.89	0.00	252.20
Medic 10 CD	Standard Bank 371917	19,458.71	0.00	0.00	19,458.71
Medic 10 CD	Standard Bank 410053	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Medic 10 CD	Mid Penn Bank 318023688	5,325.42	0.00	0.00	5,325.42
Total Medic 10 Fund Balance					333,656.76
WWT Capital Reserve Account	Scottdale Bank - 19123702	888,701.84	3,149.17	0.00	891,851.01
Capital Reserve M. A. Savings Acct	Somerset Trust Co 2004521230	476,075.31	1,492.01	0.00	477,567.32

Oceanview Annuity CD	Scottdale Bank - MidPenn	3,088,600.02	48,262.38	88,645.09	3,048,217.31
Scottdale Bank /MidPenn CD	Scottdale Bank				
WWT Cap. Resv	318015215	201,508.38	0.00	0.00	201,508.38
American National (9/5/2023)	Scottdale Bank - MidPenn	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Athene Annuity CD (created Jan. 2021)	Somerset Trust Mid Penn Bank -	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
American National (9/5/2023)	Scottdale Bank	518594.74	0.00	0.00	518594.74
Total WWT Balance					4,619,144.02
Total Borough funds					8,059,495.96

Councilwoman Cynthia Stevenson / Secretary
Sharon Lesko

Councilwoman Stevenson gave the following report regarding the Treasurers Report:

- The transfer of funds from the ARPA account is to reimburse general fund for the payment of the ambulance.
- The large disbursement for Medic 10 was two payrolls.
- The Oceanview account has been closed and moved to American National which will show on the next report.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to accept the December 2023 Treasurer's Report. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Czekanski. Motion carried 9-0.

Solicitor's Report: None.

Tax Collector's Report:

Borough Manager Lesko reported that there was no tax collector report due to no collections in the months of January or February.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Lesko gave the following report:

- Met with Dollar Bank regarding fess being charged to the Borough account. They have waived the fees and will be reimbursed.
- Held the monthly safety meeting. Topics were Accident Prevention and Understanding Electricity and Breaker panels.
- Met with Brandon Firestone from PennDOT Re: Year End Reports and finalize MS-965 report. This must be completed before they will send the liquid fuels for the new year.
- Met with Renee Shipley and had several discussions regarding the updated garbage collection dates for the north side of Main Street. Garbage collection and recycling will change to Tuesdays instead of Wednesdays for everyone on the north side of Main Street (same side as PNC Bank). This will begin March 5, 2024.
- Attended the informational meeting with the new solicitors. It was very informative. We welcome them.
- Met with Councilman Barrick and Gibson Thomas Engineering regarding some issues with the Borough building. There are some cracks in the walls and near the ceiling in the former Mayors office. They are also coming in tomorrow to check the roof.
- Met with Verizon via zoom regarding the new GPS system called Reveal for the Borough vehicles.
- Auditors were in to conduct the Turnback Audit for the years of 2017 – 2022. They need to return one more time before they complete their audit. This was for the paving project that was done on South Church Street and on Bridgeport Street.

- Attended the webinar for the grant regarding Covid ARPA PA Multipurpose Community Facilities Program. The minimum is \$250,000.00 and there is no match required. There are stipulations on what you can apply for. It must be for something that is open to the public on a daily basis during a regular business week. Would like to use it to remodel the Borough building.
- Met with Gibson Thomas Engineering Re: Veterans Park / Gazebo area to put together a bid package for electrical work. They have received permission to use the plans from Selusky Electric and they will prepare a bid package and get it out for bid. Also met with them regarding putting together a bid package for the electric work at the Waterway Project. The Borough received a grant for the electric at the Waterway Project.
- Borough Manager Lesko stated that we need to decide whether or not we will be cutting the grass for the Little League at Willows Park. The quote from Silvis Landscaping is \$260.00 per cut and how often will it be cut. If cut 4 times per month, it will be \$1,040.00 for that area. The Borough has not paid for this. The Little League has always cut the grass previously. Councilwoman Lasko and Councilman Phillabaum stated that they thought this was previously approved. Borough Manager Lesko stated that the bid was separate and we were to decide if the Borough was willing to pay. Councilwoman Lasko stated that she believed we had agreed to it. Borough Manager Lesko stated that it was not and that there were several discussions with Silvis Landscaping about keeping that bid separate since we did not know if the Borough was going to pay for it or not. Councilwoman Wojnar stated that we wanted a cost before we agreed to anything. Councilwoman Lasko and Councilman Phillabaum said that they believed we had voted on the cutting the grass there. Councilman Davis and Councilman Barrick said that we are talking about \$6000.00 to \$8000.00 for grass cutting in that area. Councilman Davis stated that it is a lot of money and Councilman Barrick stated that it is for the outside area of the ballfield. That did not include the any area on the inside of the ballfield. The Little League would cut the infield area on the inside of the fence. Councilwoman Lasko asked what was approved at the last meeting regarding the grass cutting and she did not hear anybody at any point say that we are not paying for the outside area of the Little League field and she assumed that the motion included the exterior parts of the Little League field. Borough Manager Lesko stated that you voted on the snow removal and grass cutting and that area was an optional item. Councilwoman Lasko stated she understands the cost but it was her understanding that what was voted on included the Little League field. Borough Manager Lesko stated that Council asked her to have Silvis provide a separate cost for the Little League field. Silvis Landscaping sent that information when they submitted the bid package; however, they were aware that the Borough wanted a separate quote for this area and was not guaranteed to be awarded with the bid package. Councilwoman Lasko asked to check back to the December minutes to see what was stated.

Councilwoman Barnes stated that the motion in December read as follows: ‘

“A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to accept the bid from Silvis Landscaping Service for the 2024 Grass Cutting and Snow Removal Contract from December 7, 2023 through December 7, 2024. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 8-0.”

Councilman Barrick stated it is a non-priority area for mowing, and if it is parking area, maybe it could be cut once every 2 to 3 weeks. It is either we do it or we don't do it.

Mayor Bailey stated that there was discussion after the motion was made stating that:

“Councilwoman Wojnar asked if we have decided if we were going to mow the little league area by Willows Park. Borough Manager Lesko stated that there was a separate quote given for that area and that Council will need to decide how they would like to handle it. The cost will be \$260.00 per week/per cut.”

Council President Ruszkowski reminded Council that this was always cut by parents of the Little League. Councilman Phillabaum stated that the waste water treatment plant cut the soccer fields. Borough Manager Lesko stated that is incorrect and they never cut the soccer fields. The soccer parents cut the soccer fields while utilizing it. Once they left the Borough cut the fields since it was ours. The street department cut the fields, the waste water treatment plant cut around the treatment plant and did the weed eating around the fence area of the fields. Councilman Barrick confirmed that the soccer team cut the soccer fields and surrounding area. Councilwoman Lasko

stated the Little League cannot seem to get the parental support in cutting the area.

Councilwoman Lasko said that since we are looking to build up that area with the dog park and there is the walking trail, why should we not be responsible for cutting that area. Mayor Bailey reiterated that the minutes from December 4, 2023 do reflect that there was discussion and that Council would need to decide if they are going to cut the Little League fields. Councilwoman Lasko asked the solicitor for input. Solicitor Mlakar stated that the intent was for it to be separate but the contract itself that was presented to the Borough had it in its major package; but there were never any contracts signed by the Borough. Since it was to be a separate item, you can exclude that item. Councilman Phillabaum stated that he believed they voted to pass it. Solicitor Mlakar stated that he was not here for the discussion then; however, based on the discussions now, it seems to be that this was to be considered separately by Council. Councilman Barrick stated that is the way the discussion was in September when the Little League was here was that we would include it in our bid package with the rights to turn it down. Solicitor Mlakar stated that he believes we are justified in excluding that at this point. Councilman Davis stated that this seems like a lot of money for grass cutting and asked if the street department had time to cut it. Borough Manager Lesko stated that the street department is spread thin as it is and they do not have the time to cut that area. Councilwoman Lasko agreed and stated that is the reason we did not go that direction with the street department.

Solicitor Mlakar had asked Borough Manager Lesko about some of the records that we have and said that a big problem that the Borough has is that you don't have any written leases with any of these organizations which is a bad way to operate. Solicitor Mlakar said in his past experiences, we have negotiated leases with little league teams, softball teams, soccer teams and that lease sets forth what each parties responsibilities are to be. It is rare that you see a municipality cutting the grass if they are using the fields. That has always fallen upon the associations to get that done. Solicitor Mlakar said that there is nothing to say that the Borough can't pay for it; but typically, you are leasing the fields to them for \$1.00 which is nothing, they should have some responsibility for maintenance and repair.

Councilwoman Stevenson asked if we are setting a bad precedence if we do this? Solicitor Mlakar said yes, he thinks we are. Councilman Barrick stated that our street department had to go and remove trees that fell onto the fence at the little league field. Councilwoman Wojnar asked if it is too late to create a lease for them? Councilman Barrick stated that they have not come to us this year. Councilwoman Lasko stated that they never do and that we have to chase them down.

Solicitor Mlakar said that you check around all of the surrounding municipalities that have fields, they all have written leases setting forth who's responsibilities certain things are and every lease that he has ever done in 40 some years, the association was responsible for the grass cutting since you are not charging them anything.

Council President Ruszkowski stated that the little league needs to have more communication with the Borough and that she saw that they were tearing down a dugout and did not ask or come to us so the Borough was not aware. Again, there was no communication of what is going on. Councilman Davis stated that this is where a lease agreement would come in and state that they could not do anything without permission from the Borough first. Solicitor Mlakar said that the lease would state what they would do and what the Borough and if they wanted to do something else, they would have to come and get permission. Solicitor Mlakar stated that this will be the same for all other organizations such as the fire department, Medic 10, the same rule applies that there should be written leases for all of these organizations and that you could run into some legal problems if you don't have one. Councilman Phillabaum asked what happens if they decide to leave. Borough Manager Lesko stated that it would be the same as when the soccer organization left. It is borough property. Solicitor Mlakar stated that Norvelt wouldn't be an option because the school district owns the fields and the Township can't even negotiate an agreement for use of the fields.

Solicitor Mlakar said that he intends to prepare the lease agreements with recommendations from each of the committees and go through the provisions of the lease to see what you want in and what you want out.

Councilwoman Stevenson asked if this is something we leave on hold for now. Borough Manager Lesko said it does not need to be decided today.

- The Borough Auditor that conducts the annual audit was in today. He will be coming back.

Councilman Phillabaum said that he saw that the house on Braddock Street was torn down and asked if the Borough Manager had any contact with them. Borough Manager Lesko stated she knew they were coming and that all permits were in place and she believed that the land bank had sent out an email to all of Council. Council President Ruszkowski and Councilman Barrick confirmed that they did send out an

email regarding the property. Councilman Phillabaum asked about the house on Howard Street. Borough Manager Lesko was unsure of when that would begin but there is an email regarding it also. Borough Manager Lesko stated that all permits have been acquired for McCali Manor and demolition should be starting anytime. Councilwoman Stevenson reported that she does have a video of the Braddock Street home being torn down.

President's Report:

Council President Ruszkowski gave the following report:

- Has prepared the Committees and will be handing that out today.
- Asked Council if you were not at the meet-n-greet with the new solicitors, there was an email that went out and recapped that meeting to please read it before coming to the next meeting.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to appoint Mark Cypher as the Zoning Officer. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to appoint Pamela DePalma to the Mount Pleasant Business District Authority to fill the vacancy of the three-year term of Heidi Leeper expiring on December 31, 2024. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to approve the solicitor to dissolve the Mount Pleasant Borough Parking Authority. Motion seconded by Councilman Barrick. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilman Phillabaum stated that the Parking Authority thought that they were already dissolved. Solicitor Mlakar stated that it is not yet and he had to look up some additional information. Solicitor Mlakar said that the Parking Authority will have to adopt a Resolution and a certificate requesting the Borough to dissolve them. Councilman Phillabaum stated that they are not actively doing any business or taking any money in. They are completing their audit.

Property Report:

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to approve Jonesy Home Improvement to purchase and install laminate flooring in the new addition at the police station at a cost of \$3,371.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to approve proposal from Kostyo Heating and Air for the installation of a high efficiency tankless water heater at the Central Fire station in the amount of 1,425.00. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to approve proposal from Kostyo Heating and Air for the installation of a 110,000 BTU Gas Furnace, ductwork, and removal of old furnace in the amount of \$3,250.00 in the Synagogue building. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilman Barrick gave the following report:

- Met with Gibson Thomas and they will use the documentation from Steve Selusky to prepare the bid package for the lights at the Veterans wall, the pump at the fountain and the electrical panel box behind the rock at the Gazebo.
- Would like to discuss with the committee regarding the gazebo and how to come up with additional funding by possibly looking into a grant and maybe match our funds.

Councilwoman Stevenson reported that the carpet installation for the 3rd floor will begin tomorrow morning.

Councilwoman Barnes asked Councilman Barrick to clarify the lighting for Veterans Park that it includes the Veterans Wall and the Digital Wall area as well. Councilman Barrick stated that yes it does and it is for the cans that are in the ground and that they are full of water and the new cans will have a different type of seal to them that they won't get water in them. If he remembers correctly, it is 5 or 6 lights in front of the wall and 3 lights in front of the digital wall. It is all the lights that are in the concrete.

Streets / Stormwater Report:

Councilman Davis asked if the trailer that is being bought for the street department a necessity. Borough Manager Lesko stated that they cannot haul the new excavator with the trailer that they have due to the weight of the equipment.

A Motion was made by Councilman Davis to approve the purchase of a 2024 Rice 7' x 22' equipment lowboy trailer from Best Choice Trailers in the amount of \$7,304.00 (includes plates and title fees) using funds from the streets reserve in the general fund budgetary reserve account. Motion seconded by Councilman Barrick. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilwoman Barnes reported that someone had placed a 50-gallon drum on the sidewalk near the Second Baptist Church on Washington Street. The church does not know who put it there and it is filling with water. They would like to know if the Borough can remove it.

Councilwoman Czekanski reported that a resident has called her about garbage that is sitting on the street where the former PJ's Pizza used to be. Borough Manager Lesko said if someone would call her and make her aware, she can inform the code officer. Council President Ruszkowski said to have them call the Borough office. Borough Manager Lesko said that this goes back to the meeting with the solicitors that Council should be directing all calls and/or complaints to the Borough office.

Councilwoman Lasko asked about the handicap spot that Twila Guidas mentioned in public comment that was removed a few years ago during the Main Street project and asked why it would not have been put back up. Council President Ruszkowski was unsure why and we will have the street department look into it.

Parks & Recreation:

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to approve the purchase of playground equipment for Jack Bobbs Park, Medic 10 Park and Satcho Park from WillyGoat LLC in the amount of \$22,574.00 paid from the Capital Reserve WWT account as approved in the 2021 Capital Reserve Distribution Plan. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Wojnar. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to approve the Solicitor to prepare lease agreements for the Girls Softball Team for use of Frick Park Ballfield and for the Mt. Pleasant Little League for the use of the Howard Levin Field and the Gerecter Field along Clay Avenue and the T-ball field next to Willows Park. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilwoman Lasko said that she will probably get some questions regarding the lease agreement and she will direct them to call the Borough Manager. Borough Manager Lesko said that there will be meetings as to who is responsible for what before it will be complete.

Councilwoman Lasko also stated that she will let the Little League know that the bid was not included in the vote and it is a separate bid.

Councilwoman Wojnar asked if there has been anything new on the playset that was damaged. Borough Manager Lesko stated that she has reached out several times and has finally heard back. The insurance adjuster sent the quote this past Friday and stated that there is a \$5000.00 deductible. The quote was approximately \$12,000.00, which includes installation. The quote is good for 30days. Councilwoman Lasko stated that we will be purchasing another piece of equipment to replace it.

Public Safety Report:

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to purchase a Toughbook computer, printer and paper for the 2023 police cruiser in the amount of \$1,036.59 using funds from police budgetary reserve. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to appoint Jeff McGuinness as the Emergency Management Coordinator. Motion seconded by Councilman Barrick. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilman Davis stated that he had spoke with Councilman Phillabaum regarding the Emergency Management Coordinator and whoever that person is has to be ready to go in the event of an emergency. Council President Ruszkowski stated that we did call the County 911 to get the information that is required for the Emergency Management Coordinator. Borough Manager Lesko stated that she spoke with Sydney Bacha of the County 911 and she stated that this position is a volunteer position and anyone can do it.

It does not have to be a first responder. She also informed us that you do not need any certifications and that Ligonier has their public works person doing theirs. Borough Manager Lesko said what better person than Jeff McGuinness to do this, that is here in the Borough on a daily basis if something happens, he knows every street in this Borough, he is familiar with it. As for Mr. Snyder, he works in Greensburg, if there is a disaster he would be coming from Greensburg or Norvelt area where he lives. Jeff McGuinness is a fireman; he is a street department employee and works from 7:00am – 3:00pm and is here every day. Councilwoman Lesko asked if Jeff had any emergency background. Borough Manager Lesko stated that he is a fireman for approximately 14 years. Councilman Davis asked if Jeff wanted the position. Borough Manager Lesko stated yes, he does. The Emergency Management Coordinator meetings are held bimonthly and Jeff is willing to attend the meetings. If by some chance you cannot attend you can do it virtually via zoom.

Mr. Pologruto, President of the Fire Department, said that he spoke with Chris Tantingler of the County 911 and he informed him that there are classes required.

Borough Manager Lesko stated that the Westmoreland County 911 would like to hold a meeting with Council to inform them of what their roles are in the event of a disaster. Borough Manager Lesko will set up a meeting and let Council know the date and time.

Councilman Davis asked if the fire department doesn't want Jeff to have it. Mr. Pologruto, President of the Fire Department, said that at the time they did not know that Jeff's name was thrown into the hat. He went on to say that it does not matter to them and the only reason that they had said Corey was because he had had the qualifications and took the classes. Mr. Pologruto stated that he spoke with Chris Tantingler again today. He went on to say that it does not matter to him who the Borough chooses. Councilman Phillabaum stated that he was under the impression that Paul Harenchar, Fire Chief, had still wanted it until he saw it on the agenda on Friday. Council President Ruskowski said this will not happen overnight because Mr. Harenchar's paperwork is at the state level and will need to be rescinded. Councilwoman Barnes said when we did the reorganization, Mr. Harenchar was appointed the Emergency Management Coordinator. Council President Ruskowski stated that he has changed his mind and does not want to hold the position.

Solicitor Mlakar stated that there are qualifications that are needed. The person should be professionally competent and capable of planning and effectively coordinating operating agencies, etc. After the person is appointed, they shall attend and successfully complete the first phase of career development program described by the agency within one year after the appointment, attendance and successfully complete the second phase in career development within a three-year period and attend basic and advanced seminar, workshops and training, conferences called by the state director and/or official having responsibility for providing the coordinator with in service training.

Councilwoman Barnes asked if the Borough had an Emergency Management Plan. Borough Manager Lesko stated that she knows that when the former Mayor Lucia was the Emergency Management Coordinator there was a plan; however, after that she is unaware. She stated that she does not know Mr. Snyder and has not heard anything from him in the two years he was coordinator.

Councilman Barrick asked if Jeff McGuinness has the time to take and put forth the effort for this coordinator position or is this something that Corey Snyder will do on our behalf. Borough Manager Lesko stated that she spoke with Jeff and he stated that he did have the time and it was something that he wanted to do. Councilman Barrick stated that it is something we will have to track to be sure that he is doing the training and certifications. Borough Manager Lesko stated that she has no idea if Mr. Snyder has any training and certifications and that she has seen nothing.

Mayor Bailey stated that if the Borough would have some sort of an emergency here, we would need the Borough Manager in charge of things that Council or the Borough has to do, we would need Zach Gergas in charge of things that Medic 10 has to do, we would have to have Mr. Harenchar and Mr. Pologruto in charge of things that the Fire Department would have to do and she would assume that Jeff would be in charge of

things that the street department would have to do. Borough Manager Lesko stated if that is the case then why is Mr. Gergas the Deputy Coordinator. Councilman Phillabaum stated that if there is a fire call in town then Jeff can leave his shift for that call as long as it is in the Borough and turnpike calls. Mayor Bailey said that is what he was supposed to answer; however, that has changed since the fire department census went low.

Council President Ruszkowski stated that it is required by Council to take the NIMS (National Incident Management System) class. Borough Manager Lesko will send to you the information via email to take that class online. You will receive a certificate at the end. Please print it or email it to Borough Manager Lesko to have on file. Council President Ruszkowski stated that the link is in the Borough News Magazine this month.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to approve Resolution No. 2024-03 designating April 2024 as Pennsylvania 811 Safe Digging Month. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Wojnar. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to approve the request of the Business District Authority to utilize the Gazebo, close South Diamond Street between Washington Street and Main Street; close W. Main Street from the doughboy to Mullen Avenue for the Breast Saturday Ever 5k run/walk being held on Saturday, October 19, 2024 pending approval of the route by Police Chief Grippo and PennDOT. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to rescind Resolution 2011-02 suspending and revoking Medic 10 Bylaws and to approve the solicitor to make recommendations to Council and the Mayor the proposed changes to the Medic 10 Bylaws. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilman Phillabaum asked for the time being are we continuing to handle Medic 10 as we have been until the new bylaws are completed. Solicitor Mlakar stated that technically the Borough had no authority to suspend the bylaws in the first place because they are a separate incorporated organization. There are several problems with the bylaws one of them being that there are six (6) people on the board and you should never have an even number. Councilman Phillabaum stated that he understood it to be 3 from Medic 10, 3 from the public safety committee of the Borough and the last one was the Emergency Management Coordinator. Solicitor Mlakar said that is not what the bylaws state and that it states six people. Council President Ruszkowski stated that we will continue the way we are handling it now until the bylaws are completed. Solicitor Mlakar stated yes to continue as you are handling it now.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to approve the solicitor to prepare lease agreements for Medic 10 and the Mt. Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilman Phillabaum reported that the Mount Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department will be holding a gun bash next month and to reach out to the fire department for tickets.

Councilman Phillabaum read the following Fire Report for the month of January 2024:

Total Calls – 70
In Town – 23
Out of Town - 47
10-45's - 16
Entrapments – 2
Extrication - 0
Fires - 14
AFA's - 13
Hazardous Calls – 11
Public Service Calls – 11
Ambulance Assistance – 2
Standby's – 2
Turnpike Calls – 5
Landing Zones – 0

Drills – 0
Total Members Answering – 765
Avg. Member Per Call – 11

Councilman Phillabaum read the following Storm Report for January 9-10, 2024:

Total Calls – 25
In Town – 15
Mt. Pleasant Township - 7
East Huntingdon Township – 3
Trees and Wires - 12
Fires - 4
AFA's - 2
Roofs – 3
Flooding – 2
Total Manpower – 366
Avg. Member Per Call – 14

Veterans Park:

Councilwoman Barnes gave the following report:

- The digital wall was down and it is now back up. Someone removes the information and puts something else on it. Borough Manager Lesko has reached out to Spectrio and they are looking into it.
- Will be reaching out to ITSEnclosures where the touch screen for the digital wall was purchased regarding the initials or a name that was etched into the digital wall.
- Will continue to follow up on the railing for Veterans Park which will probably be in the spring.
- Will be meeting with the artists in April.
- Next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 29, 2024.

Ordinances: None.

Human Resources:

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Czekanski to approve hiring of Lori Spangler as part-time secretary at a rate of \$15.00/hour with a starting date of February 12, 2024. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Wojnar. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilwoman Lasko asked why part-time. Borough Manager Lesko reported that Lori Spangler will be working three (3) full days, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 8:00am to 4:00pm and with our intern, Kenzi Whipkey, we have things pretty well caught up. Kenzi will be training Lori.

Councilwoman Wojnar asked if it would be possible to have another intern after Kenzi is finished to possibly clean up old records. Borough Manager Lesko stated that they would have to be supervised to be sure the proper records are being disposed of. Solicitor Mlakar stated that there is a records retention act that the Borough should have an Ordinance regarding records retention and when you destroy records you need to pass a resolution listing what you did.

Council President Ruszkowski stated that new employee Lori Spangler come in one day last week and observed. She did very well. Kenzi was a good teacher and believes she will do well.

Councilwoman Czekanski asked if she will have benefits like the full-time employees have. Borough Manager Lesko and President Ruszkowski said no she won't. Councilwoman Czekanski asked if we decided at a later date that we need a full-time secretary as time goes on, is it something that Council has to approve. Solicitor Mlakar said yes.

Solicitor Mlakar said to amend the motion to say it is \$15.00/per hour plus workers compensation and unemployment compensation benefits and no other benefits.

An amended Motion was made by Councilwoman Czekanski to approve hiring of Lori Spangler as part-time secretary at a rate of \$15.00/hour plus workers compensation and unemployment compensation benefits and with no other benefits with a starting date of February 12, 2024. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

Events Report:

Councilwoman Wojnar does not have anything at this time. She will create a list that would fall under our current list of events.

Councilwoman Wojnar would like to include employee recognition.

Finance / Grants Report: None.

New Business: None.

Reading of Communications:

Councilwoman Stevenson said that she had a citizen reach out to her with a variety of concerns, such as people parking in an alley to pick up a pizza, picking up a prescription or a to-go order. Solicitor Mlakar stated that they should fill out a complaint form at the Borough so it can be responded to. Solicitor Mlakar advised everyone that anyone that files a complaint, it is not disclosable under the right-to-know law. They are entitled to privacy.

Mayor Bailey said that she received a call regarding whether or not the Borough is going to have the annual yard sale. Councilwoman Wojnar will discuss dates with her events committee.

Councilman Phillabaum was approached by a resident regarding the annual sixth grade shaving cream event by the school. Solicitor Mlakar stated it is not a Borough event and we stay out of it; however, if they want to use Borough property, they must ask for approval. If it is done by the school, it should be done on school property.

Borough Manager Lesko has received a request from the Mount Pleasant Business District Authority to hold a Monday Munchies Food Truck Festival. It will take place once a month during the summer on the second Monday of every month from 4:00pm to 8:00pm. It will be held on Main Street beginning the second Monday in May. The event will consist of various food trucks parked on Main Street along with having the farmers market vendors set up outside the stores and they will encourage sidewalk sales for the community to browse.

Councilman Phillabaum stated that some of the restaurants have a working agreement as to one being open on Sunday and one being open on Monday, etc. By allowing this on Monday that will put a hurting on the restaurants that are open on Monday such as Lobingers, Alexanders, Fox's, Falbos. Borough Manager Lesko stated that the trucks will be lined on Main Street. Councilman Barrick asked if these places are members of the Business District Authority that they can voice their opinions to the BDA. The businesses are all assessed by the BDA. Solicitor Mlakar said to take this under advisement that food trucks are an issue. Most municipalities regulate food trucks. Borough Manager Lesko stated that a food truck does have to get a solicitation permit from the Borough. Solicitor Mlakar asked Council to let them review it because there could be some liability issues with this. Councilwoman Stevenson asked where they will park. Councilman Davis stated that anything new event wise would be great but maybe it can be held on a different day. Councilwoman Wojnar said that the events committee will discuss it further. Councilwoman Stevenson said that no one would want a food truck parked in front of their restaurant. Councilman Davis said that there aren't many restaurants right on Main Street open after 4:00pm. Mayor Bailey said that the BDA was hoping if they brought food trucks in that it would bring people in to shop. They have to coordinate with the business owner to make sure that they will stay open to benefit from it. Mayor Bailey stated that she attends the BDA meetings and has never seen any business owners at the meetings.

Council President Ruszkowski said to let the solicitor look into it and we can go from there. It is a lot because it also talks about including the farmers market with it. Councilwoman Wojnar said that we need to speak with the BDA about what businesses have thought about it.

Westmoreland Conservation District will be holding its Municipal Roundtable on Friday, February 23, 2024 from 12:00pm – 3:00pm at the J. Roy Houston Conservation Center, 218 Donohoe Road, Greensburg, PA. Cost is \$15.00 per person.

Discussion and Payment of Bills:

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to pay all authorized and approved bills. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Czekanski. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilman Phillabaum asked if Council is willing to do a letter of support. Solicitor Mlakar said that as long as you state in the letter that because it is a possible expenditure of funds, this letter should say we support it but it does not represent a contribution of money or any in-kind services.

Public Comment: None.

Solicitor Mlakar asked to make a comment regarding the discussion from speaker, Doug Siler. The Borough is past the time period that we are to comply with the MS4 requirements. DEP and EPA are now dinging municipalities. Solicitor Mlakar said that Mr. Siler said you will probably get a letter. Solicitor Mlakar said he would be surprised if you just got a letter if you don't show any progress quickly because they will come out with a consent order and it will not only have a time frame, it will consist of penalties and fines and if you don't comply there will be a daily fine. Solicitor Mlakar advised Council to be very careful with this. EPA is bypassing DEP and going directly to municipalities, they aren't giving consent orders, they are fining them. Solicitor Mlakar stated that the Borough should get moving on this and it should not have dragged out for four or five years. Solicitor Mlakar said he knows that the Borough doesn't have money to fund these things but the penalties and fines are going to be high and you are still going to have to spend the money. Mr. Siler stated the EPA is currently going after communities in the east in the Chesapeake Bay area. They have started there and are making their way this way. The daily fine begins at \$500.00.

Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Wojnar to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

Meeting Adjourned 9:24pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Lesko
Borough Manager

BOROUGH OF MOUNT PLEASANT

Susan Ruszkowski, Council President

Motions from Meeting of February 5, 2024

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to approve the reorganization minutes and regular meeting minutes of January 2, 2024 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Lasko to accept the December 2023 Treasurer's Report. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Czekanski. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to appoint Mark Cypher as the Zoning Officer. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to appoint Pamela DePalma to the Mount Pleasant Business District Authority to fill the vacancy of the three-year term of Heidi Leeper expiring on December 31, 2024. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to approve the solicitor to dissolve the Mount Pleasant Borough Parking Authority. Motion seconded by Councilman Barrick. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to approve Jonesy Home Improvement to purchase and install laminate flooring in the new addition at the police station at a cost of \$3,371.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Barrick to approve proposal from Kostyo Heating and Air for the installation of a high efficiency tankless water heater at the Central Fire station in the amount of 1,425.00. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

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A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to approve the request of the Business District Authority to utilize the Gazebo, close South Diamond Street between Washington Street and Main Street; close W. Main Street from the doughboy to Mullen Avenue for the Breast Saturday Ever 5k run/walk being held on Saturday, October 19, 2024 pending approval of the route by Police Chief Grippo and PennDOT. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to rescind Resolution 2011-02 suspending and revoking Medic 10 Bylaws and to approve the solicitor to make recommendations to Council and the Mayor the proposed changes to the Medic 10 Bylaws. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to approve the solicitor to prepare lease agreements for Medic 10 and the Mt. Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Czekanski to approve hiring of Lori Spangler as part-time secretary at a rate of \$15.00/hour with a starting date of February 12, 2024. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Wojnar. Motion carried 9-0.

An amended Motion was made by Councilwoman Czekanski to approve hiring of Lori Spangler as part-time secretary at a rate of \$15.00/hour plus workers compensation and unemployment compensation benefits and with no other benefits with a starting date of February 12, 2024, which. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to pay all authorized and approved bills. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Czekanski. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Wojnar to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.