

**July 6, 2020**

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Caruso 7:00pm in Council Chambers at 1 Etze Avenue, Mount Pleasant, PA 15666. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and President Caruso asked for a moment of silence for our deployed troops. President Caruso asked Borough Manager Landy to take roll call. Councilpersons present included Barnes, Bailey, Phillabaum, Lasko, Ruszkowski and Wojnar. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Istik were present. President Caruso stated that a quorum is present.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the minutes of June 1, 2020 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilman Wojnar. Motion carried 7-0.

**Public Comment: None.**

**Speakers: None.**

**Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Lucia gave the following report:

- There were no fireworks incidents over the holiday.
- Police Department has been extremely busy. Had several arrests in one week which is very uncommon.
- Having several car break-ins and cars stolen. The cars were unlocked. Mayor Lucia stressed to lock your cars and don't leave your keys in it. If anyone sees anything suspicious to please call 911.
- One of the stolen cars was found with 4 juveniles in it in Greensburg. None of the juveniles were from Mount Pleasant or nearby.
- Fire Department has received their new fire engine. It replaced a truck that was 22years old.
- National Night Out would like to reschedule the event for October.

Councilwoman Barnes asked who all was permitted to drive the police vehicles. Mayor Lucia stated that the Police Officers were the only ones to drive the police vehicles. Councilwoman Barnes asked why Borough employees are then driving a police car. Mayor Lucia stated that there is an old police car that has been taken out of service approximately 5 or 6 years ago or maybe a little longer. Council at the time gave permission for the Borough Manager to use it for Borough business. Councilman Wojnar agreed and stated that it was done when he was on council previously before. Councilman Phillabaum asked if the car is uncommissioned and Mayor Lucia stated that it was. Councilwoman Barnes stated she was asked by at least 4 citizens and she will be able to now give them an answer.

**Solicitor's Report:**

Solicitor Istik gave the following report:

- Ryan Paust (sp), the adjuster for Michael Fauchiano Contracting, is submitting the bill for the parking meters in the amount of \$8,633.00 for reimbursement. We should be receiving that reimbursement soon.

Solicitor Istik stated that the balance of her report will be held during executive session.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Borough Manager Landy read the following Treasurer’s Report for the month of May 2020:

<b>Mt. Pleasant Borough Treasurer's Report</b>		<b>May-20</b>			
		<b>Prev Bal</b>	<b>Deposits</b>	<b>Disbursements</b>	<b>Balance 2020</b>
General Fund Checking	Scottdale Bank 19069335	986,549.52	227,814.29	163,794.30	1,050,569.51
**Town Clock	619.92				
**Holiday Lighting	1812.51				
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 321615	803,370.33	129.36	3,082.00	800,417.69
**Police	47,619.03				
**Streets	147,131.00				
**Contingency Fund	287,369.41				
**Infrastructure	171,588.62				
**BOMP Gas Wells	22,166.04				
** Frick Park Gas Well	23,258.30				
**Levins	970.06				
**Fire	65,000.00				
**K-9	13,828.76				
**Marcellus Impact Fee					
Act 13	21,486.47				
Police Parking Tickets & Meters	Scottdale Bank 1026616	25,482.34	0.88	572.08	24,911.14
Escrow Account	Scottdale Bank 19069343	8,354.14	4.31	0.00	8,358.45
Liquid Fuels PLGIT	PLGIT 56980126	351,983.10	134.47	333.71	351,783.86
Monument CD	Standard Bank 446635	7,286.68	0.00	0.00	7,286.68
Holiday Lighting Fund	Standard Bank 050004849	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Payroll Fund	Scottdale Bank 19069350	967.34	61,451.65	61,449.40	969.59
Veterans Park Fund	Somerset Trust Co 2003058309	21,494.96	50.00	0.00	21,544.96
Town Clock Fund	Standard Bank 0010038847	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	Scottdale Bank 19069368	1,213.23	0.63	0.00	1,213.86
Turn Back Account	Scottdale Bank 19069384	239,840.67	123.86	0.00	239,964.53
Standard Bank CD	Standard Bank	208,875.95	0.00	0.00	208,875.95
Standard Bank CD	Standard Bank 410571	52,120.89	0.00	0.00	52,120.89
Scottdale Bank /MidPenn CD	Scottdale Bank 318007294	50,983.85	0.00	0.00	50,983.85
<b>Total General Fund Balance</b>					<b>2,819,000.96</b>
Medic 10 Checking	Scottdale Bank 19069533	100,856.78	21,653.34	36,223.97	86,286.15
Medic 10 Savings	Scottdale Bank 19069723	117,432.35	1,061.16	0.00	118,493.51
Medic 10 Money Market	Scottdale Bank 19069376	5,974.72	3.09	0.00	5,977.81
Medic 10 Pittsburgh Foundation	Standard Bank 0000358253	7,539.75	0.00	0.00	7,539.75
Medic 10 CD	Standard Bank 371917	18,992.22	0.00	0.00	18,992.22
Medic 10 CD	Standard Bank 410053	5,199.37	0.00	0.00	5,199.37
<b>Total Medic 10 Fund Balance</b>					<b>242,488.81</b>
WWT Operational Acct	Standard Bank 0010175932	716,907.82	31,609.07	35,577.51	712,939.38
WWT Savings	Standard Bank 0050021008	183,889.70	29.67	0.00	183,919.37
WWT Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 0000287245	141,230.98	22.80	0.00	141,253.78

**Contingency		113,783.96			
**Infrastructure		27,469.82			
	Standard Bank				
WWT Bio-Tower	10127923	218,605.82	1,017.93	0.00	219,623.75
<b>Total WWT Balance</b>					<b>1,257,736.28</b>
<b>Total Borough funds</b>					<b>4,319,226.05</b>

Councilwoman Susan Ruszkowski / Secretary  
Sharon Lesko

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 7-0.

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

Borough Manager Landy read the following report for the month of June 2020:

Property Taxes	\$16,532.40
Supplemental Taxes	\$ 00
Per Capita Taxes	\$ 00
Total Collected	\$16,532.40

Due to people out of work because of the COVID-19 Coronavirus, we are down on collections by \$32,677.87 compared to last year at this time. This is why we will need to watch spending and try to save money. Council President Caruso asked which budget we should be watching to save this money. Borough Manager stated that public safety would be one by not hiring a new police officer.

Mr. Landy reminded Borough taxpayers that the County and Borough real estate taxes are being collected at a 2% discount until August 31, 2020. The face amount is extended through December 31, 2020. The Tax Office will be closed August 20 through August 24, 2020.

A Motion was made by Councilman Wojnar to hold an Executive Session regarding legal and real estate with guest Bernard Matthews, Esquire. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made to reconvene by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 7-0.

Council President Caruso announced that the Executive Session was held from 7:19pm – 8:22pm to discuss legal issues, personnel and real estate.

### **Borough Manager's Report:**

Borough Manager gave the following report:

- Borough Manager Landy asked Council to review the profit and loss budget vs. actual. Mr. Landy asks that everyone review the report and if they have any questions or need to correct anything now is the time instead of waiting until the end of the year.
- Had several conversations and meetings with Industry Weapons regarding the digital wall at Veterans Park.
- Conference calls with Councilwoman Bailey and A. Liberoni Construction regarding construction. Project is nearing the end. Eagle Street water issue has been corrected. South Church Street is completed. Bridgeport Street will be tarred and chipped later this summer.
- Held meetings with Councilman Phillabaum and Councilman Wojnar regarding issues at waste water treatment and with human resources.
- Dedicated the driveway to the street department as Fontanazza Way for Mario Fontanazza, former street department supervisor.

- Hired new public works person, Rick Mognet. He has been doing very well. Never says no and always stays busy. Spoke with him about refurbishing the gazebo. He gave prices on what should be done at the gazebo and said that he would be able to do the work. Borough Manager Landy said that they should sit down with the committee and go over what work needs done. Committee would be public safety due to Medic 10 having the gazebo fund. Veterans Park Committee if they are putting any money toward it; and, Council would have to give the final approval.
- Councilwoman Barnes had previously suggested that the base of the clock in Veterans Park be painted. Borough Manager met with A&M Painting regarding painting the lamp posts and clock in Veterans Park. They provided a proposal in the amount of \$750.00 for painting all 8 light poles, sand all rust spots and prime, apply 2 coats of oil gloss black to all light poles and will do the same to the clock in Veterans Park.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to amend the agenda to approve A&M Painting to paint the lamp posts and clock in Veterans Park. Motion was seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to approve A&M Painting to paint all lamp posts and the clock in Veterans Park for a total cost of \$750.00. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 7-0.

- Borough Manager Landy and Mayor Lucia met with the Borough of New Stanton regarding purchasing 24 unused Christmas lights at a cost of \$500.00.
- Had many phone calls with Bernie Matthews, Esq. regarding the Waste Water Treatment Plant.
- New roof has been put on the Synagogue.
- Peaceful protest was held at the Diamond regarding Black Lives Matter.
- Spending additional time with Diana Lasko regarding the parks and COVID-19 rules and regulations.
- Nick Underwood of 26 Frick Avenue would like permission to cut the curb and put a driveway in. Borough Manager Landy stated that parking is very limited on Frick Avenue and by him putting in a driveway it would alleviate some parking issues. Mayor Lucia stated that approximately 3 or 4 other residents along there have also cut the curb and made a driveway. Council agreed that he can cut the curb for the driveway.
- The Mount Pleasant Glass and Ethnic Festival has cancelled their event this year due to the coronavirus COVID-19.
- The Stormwater Model Ordinance is complete and approved by DEP. Mr. Landy spoke with Councilman Wojnar regarding the Ordinance. Mr. Landy will be speaking with Kathy Hamilton of the Westmoreland Conservation District and try and change a few things so it specifically pertains to the Borough.
- Borough Manager Landy was looking at Shupes Run near Route 31 and Shop Demo Depot and it is not being well maintained. Mr. Landy would like to create an area called the Waterway. The area would not be a park but would be a place to look at the water, plant flowers on one side, put a trail and picnic benches on the other side. Councilman Wojnar asked if there is an opportunity for an amphitheater area possibly for movies in the park. Borough Manager Landy stated that there is. The license fee for movies is approximately \$175.00. Councilman Wojnar asked if there was opportunity for something else. Mayor Lucia said last year when the Borough did go in and clean it that there was backlash from the Westmoreland Conservation District and Jacobs Creek Watershed. The watershed now has money to do this. Mayor Lucia suggested letting them do this. Councilman Wojnar asked if there any commitment to maintain it. Mr. Landy said not on their part. The Borough would be required to maintain it. The

Westmoreland Conservation District and Jacobs Creek Watershed like the idea. Councilman Wojnar stated that then we have to look at maintaining it. Borough Manager said that there will be lighting and benches and he is looking at the County to pay for that. The electric, plants, walkway and fencing would be around \$120,000.00. There will be artists renderings in the near future. They would like to begin this year and finish it up next year. Councilman Wojnar asked if there is any idea of cost to maintain it since we are looking at tightening up the budget. Borough Manager Landy said that the Westmoreland Conservation District will help choose plants and things to help keep the maintenance at a minimum. Councilwoman Barnes asked who would be doing the work creating the area. Borough Manager Landy stated that it will not be us. It will be the Westmoreland Conservation District and contractors to do it.

### **President's Report:**

As of now, the community yard sale has been rescheduled to August 15, 2020. Norvelt will also be holding their yard sale the same day. The Historical Society will be handing maps out.

### **Property Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to sell 25 old unused lighted Christmas decorations for poles to New Stanton Borough in the amount of \$500.00. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to approve the Amendment to the Deed regarding the Bridgeport Street property to include the environmental covenant. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

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

A Motion was made by Councilman Phillabaum to approve Resolution No. 2020-06 approving the Assets Purchase Agreement between the Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County, Mount Pleasant Municipal Authority and the Borough of Mount Pleasant. Motion seconded by Councilman Wojnar. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Streets Report:**

Councilwoman Bailey gave the following report:

- A. Liberoni Construction has completed paving. There is an issue on S. Geary Street and Park Avenue where the wedge curb does not come up to meet with the bottom of the property owners' yards. Councilwoman Bailey has been in touch with the construction company. They come out and looked at it; and, will be getting back to her in the next day or two. The construction said that they could not have done it any other way. Councilwoman Bailey believes it was their error and they should make it right. Councilwoman Bailey stated that we have received several complaints and she is waiting for the construction company to come up with a solution. Borough Manager Landy asked Councilwoman Bailey what she felt it would cost for the Borough to fix it. She believes it would take approximately 5 ton of dirt and 8 hours of 2 street department employees and not seed it until after the drought and the cost would be approximately \$600.00. Councilwoman Ruszkowski stated that the construction company did walk along her street and speak to the residents there and told them that they have another crew that would be coming back with fill, grass and straw.
- A. Liberoni Construction replaced some sidewalks near the hospital. They still have sealing along curbs and lines that meet with existing streets and line painting.
- Spoke with Rick Skovensky from PennDOT regarding putting a weight limit on S. Church Street. He said that can be done; however, you would need to do a traffic study

before it can be posted. Councilwoman Bailey would be in favor of having the traffic study done.

- Councilwoman Bailey reported that there are a lot of bad sidewalks along Eagle Street that should be addressed by the Code Officer.

**Stormwater Management Report:**            **None.**

**Parks & Recreation:**

Councilwoman Lasko gave the following report:

- State Representative Eric Davanzo has requested to use Frick Park for a free Back to School Ice Cream Social on Wednesday, August 19, 2020 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. They will be following all CDC guidelines.

**Public Safety Report:**

Councilwoman Ruszkowski read the following Fire Report for the month of June 2020:

Total Calls – 28  
10-45's – 9  
Fires – 7  
AFA's – 6  
Public Service Calls – 2  
Hazmat Calls – 3  
Standbys – 1  
Turnpike Calls – 3  
Total Members Answering - 532  
Avg. Member Per Call - 19

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to hire Mark Price as a part-time Police Officer at the part-time Officer rate pending physical, drug test and background check. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilman Wojnar asked if the officer that was to be trained for the DOT inspections was still in the process. Councilwoman Ruszkowski reported that that training was cancelled due to coronavirus COVID-19.

**Veterans Park Report:**

Councilwoman Barnes gave the following report:

- Everyone has received a copy of an email from Christian at Industry Weapons. Councilwoman Barnes stated that this is a breakdown of what was approved at the prior meeting. Councilwoman Ruszkowski stated that after reviewing the breakdown it does look like there could be significant additional costs. Councilman Wojnar asked if it was possible to put the information from the digital wall on the Borough website. Councilwoman Barnes don't think that everyone would have access to that and the other concern with the website was if someone could hack the information. Councilwoman Barnes stated that we have to decide whether the Borough wants to keep it and pay the money or are we not. There are now 5 in the country. Councilman Wojnar stated that their responsiveness is less than satisfactory.
- The Veterans Park Advisory Committee would like to be a part of helping with the upgrades to the Gazebo. They would like to help with the cost of installing a sound system.

### **Human Resources/Ordinances Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilman Wojnar to hire Richard Mognet as part-time Public Works employee at the rate of \$14.00 per hour effective start date being June 15, 2020. Background check, physical and drug test has been completed. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruskowski. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Wojnar to approve Resolution No. 2020-05 amending the fee schedule for Transient Retail Business Licenses. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilman Wojnar gave the following report:

- He will be talking to Jeff regarding the Stormwater Model Ordinance that the County has presented.
- Councilman Wojnar and Borough Manager Landy met with the Business District Authority regarding the digital sign ordinance. They do not have an issue with the current ordinance not allowing digital signs and they do not have an issue with the Borough having an ordinance permitting the Borough to have a digital sign. Councilman Wojnar asked the Business District Authority if they were aware of any businesses not wanting to move in to the Borough because we do not permit digital signs. The BDA said they were not aware of any.
- Spoke with Mr. Gumbita at Mt. Pleasant Area High School regarding the Junior Councilperson. They will revisit it once school is back in session.

### **Finance / Grants Report:**

Councilwoman Ruskowski reported that they will begin working on the budget around the end of September. Councilman Wojnar making the public aware that we will be having short falls with the budget this year due to the coronavirus COVID-19 and suggested having the public voice their concerns and give input on the budget.

Councilwoman Bailey asked if we know where we are at with the grant for the fire department apron. Borough Manager Landy stated that the indication from the County is that they put the money from CDBG in the budget and it is secured. The problem is due to the coronavirus COVID-19 it has not been released yet. The last Mr. Landy heard we were awarded the money; however, will not get the money until next year now.

### **New Business:**

Council President asked if Council would like to continue with one meeting a month through November 2, 2020.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruskowski to amend the agenda to extend Resolution No. 2020-03. Motion was seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruskowski to approve the extension of Resolution No. 2020-03 due to the state of emergency from COVID-19 until November 2, 2020. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Reading of Communications:**

- SPC Water Resource Center will be holding a couple of webinars regarding stormwater fees. They will be on July 14, 2020; July 30, 2020, August 13, 2020 and September 8, 2020.
- 2020 Patron Board Sponsors Mount Pleasant Viking Football Boosters is requesting donations.

- PSAB Fall Leadership Conference will be held October 16 – 18, 2020 at the Wyndham Gettysburg. Hotel registration deadline is September 11, 2020 or until sold out. Register by October 2, 2020.
- United Steelworkers has postponed the USW District 10 Golf Outing until Friday, September 11, 2020 and Saturday 12, 2020 at Linden Hall in Dawson, PA.

**Discussion and Payment of Bills:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to pay all authorized and approved bills. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruskowski. Motion carried 7-0.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Miscellaneous and Adjournment:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 7-0.

**Meeting Adjourned 9:27pm.**

Respectfully Submitted

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Jeffrey A. Landy,  
Borough Manager

BOROUGH OF MOUNT PLEASANT

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John H. Caruso, Jr., Council President



### **Motions from Meeting of July 6, 2020**

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