

## Meeting March 5, 2012

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Bauer at 7:01pm in Council Chambers at 1 Etze Avenue, Mount Pleasant, PA 15666. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and there was a moment of silence for our deployed troops. President Bauer directed Borough Manager Landy to take roll. Councilmen Beranek, Crivella, McCloy, McFeaters, Pritts and Councilwomen Stevenson and Ruszkowski were present. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Robb were present. President Bauer stated we have a quorum.

### Reading of the Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to dispense with the reading of the minutes of February 20, 2012 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

### Public Comment:

Melissa Buschell addressed Council with a request to hold a Zombie Walk on March 17<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Buschell gave Council a list of rules for the walk along with a print-out from the CDC Emergency page that uses a zombie invasion as the example for an emergency. There would also be a donations box and proceeds from the donations could be used to raise money for the Borough. President Bauer said that Council will review her request and make a decision at the work session on March 19<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Buschell said that she could reschedule the walk for after March 19<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Ed Malone, MPIAA Girls Softball League asked Council to approve the league schedule for this year and extended an invitation to Council to attend opening day of the league on April 21, 2012 at 9:00am.

**Speakers:** None

### Mayors Report:

Report of the Mt Pleasant Police Department for the month of February 2012

The Department answered 321 calls during the month as follows:

Complaints	60
Requests for assistance	2
Assist Other Departments	2
Accidents investigated	7
Calls Returned	18
Assist Medic 10	6
Assist Mutual Aid	0

The Department made 27 arrests during the month as follows:

Vehicle Code	17
Crimes Code	10
Borough Ordinance	0
Warning Issued	2

Parking Tickets issued are as follows:

\$4.00 Meter Tickets	72
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets	1
Void / Excused	2

\$2.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$	-
\$4.00 Parking Tickets Paid	13	\$	52.00
\$5.00 Parking Tickets Paid	2	\$	10.00
\$10.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$	-
\$15.00 Parking Tickets Paid	4	\$	60.00
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets Pd	3	\$	30.00
\$1.00 Meter Tickets Pd	1	\$	1.00
\$20.00 Parking Tickets Pd	0	\$	-

Return from Magistrate Eckels	\$	920.18
Return from Clerk of Courts	\$	381.02

Return from Report Fees	\$ 45.00
Return from Parking Permits	\$ 15.00
Return from Soliciting Permits	\$ -
Return from Restitution	\$ -
 Total	 \$1,514.20
 1 Meter Collection	 \$1,262.05
 Total Receipts for the month	 \$2,776.25

Mayor Lucia said that the Fire Department is still working on purchasing and installing an emergency warning siren for the Borough. It is important for the residents of the Borough to have a warning system in place in case of a weather or other emergency. The Borough has \$5,000 in grant funds for the siren and the cost will be more than that amount. President Bauer said that money may have to be taken from the Borough's emergency reserve. Mayor Lucia said that he should have firm cost numbers for the next meeting.

**Solicitors Report:**

Solicitor Robb reported to Council that his firm has obtained a favorable settlement for the property damage that was done to the traffic light and pole at the Diamond in December of 2010.

**Tax Collectors Report:**

Tax Collector Yancosky read the following report for the month of February 2012:

Per Capita Tax = \$126.50

Total Collected = \$126.50

Ms. Yancosky reported that the County and Borough taxes have been mailed and reminded residents that if they would like a receipt they must include a self-addressed stamped envelope with their payment.

**Presidents Report:**

President Bauer discussed openings on some of the Borough's boards and authorities and candidates to fill them.

President Bauer said he spoke with the owner of the property on Church Street that has some property maintenance issues and repairs are being scheduled.

President Bauer announced that the Night At The Races will be held on March 31, 2012 at the Mount Pleasant VFW on Main Street. Proceeds from the event will benefit the July 3<sup>rd</sup> fireworks. Volunteers are still needed for the event.

**Borough Managers Report:**

Borough Manager Landy asked Council to let the borough office know who will be attending the PSAB Annual Conference at Seven Springs April 29<sup>th</sup> to May 2<sup>nd</sup> at Seven Springs.

Mr. Landy asked Council to look at the Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual Report. There is still enough room in the 2012 budget to do some projects in the Borough and Council should continue to be progressive in their plans for the Borough.

Mr. Landy said he spoke to April Kopas from Westmoreland County about the planned community redevelopment project in the east end of town. This project will further Council's commitment for the east end. The County feels confident that it is a good project. We may be able to use the coke oven that was donated to the Borough in this project.

Mr. Landy said that the Borough has satisfied our commitment for salt purchases. The money saved on salt this year can be used to offset the rising cost of gasoline.

Mr. Landy said that Penn Dot has provided Council with a traffic study in the Borough. The study shows approximately 16,000 vehicles use the intersection at the Doughboy each day. Penn Dot will be doing another study in June 2012.

Mr. Landy told Council that looking back on taxes collected by the Borough shows property tax income lower in 2011 than in 2010. But delinquent real estate tax collection is higher as well as EIT tax. The average of all taxes shows that the amount collected by the Borough was up \$16,000 from 2010 to 2011.

Mr. Landy said that he attended a seminar on the new energy requirements. He has had two companies look at borough properties to see what needs to be done. The reports should be back in two weeks. Another study was done on what the cost will be to upgrade borough property and that report should be ready in two weeks also. It is a costly job, but we will be eligible for about a 40% rebate for anything we get done before 2013. Council may have to look at using money from the reserve accounts to do the upgrades necessary.

Mr. Landy said that the Westmoreland County Conservation District has sent letters to St. Pius Church and Harmon House to see if they would be interested in putting rain gardens in their parking lots. We are waiting to hear back from them. The project at Frick Hospital is still in progress and should be done by the end of this year.

Mr. Landy gave Council the agenda for the G-5 Conference. Mr. Landy requested Council to participate in as many seminars as possible to make the conference a success.

Councilman Crivella requested that Council be provided a Profit & Loss Budget Vs. Actual Report on Mount Pleasant EMS.

**Public Works Report:**

Mr. Landy said that Councilman Tate is getting prices for a new roller for the Street Department. This roller will allow us to tar and chip some of our streets which could delay paving. The cost of the roller will be approximately \$5,500. There are enough funds in the line item for new equipment to purchase the roller.

**Public Safety Report:**

Councilman Beranek read the following Fire Report for the month of February 2012:

Total calls	34
In Town	10
Out of town	24
10-45's	11
Fires	12
Public Service	5
Stand-By's	1
AFA's	5
Turnpike calls	3
Total men answering	436
Avg. member per call	12
Total Hrs	258

Councilman Beranek read the following Mount Pleasant EMS Report for January and February 2012:

**January**

Total calls	135
Medical calls	93
Trauma calls	15
Motor vehicle crashes	4
Fire standbys	12
Ambulance standbys	11
Borough calls	94
Mount Pleasant Twp calls	24
Scottdale calls	1
E Huntingdon Twp calls	4
Bullskin Twp calls	12

**February**

Total calls	161
Medical calls	117

Trauma calls	19
Motor vehicle crashes	12
Fire standbys	10
Ambulance standbys	3
Borough calls	114
Mount Pleasant Twp calls	25
Scottsdale calls	2
E Huntingdon Twp calls	8
Bullskin Twp calls	12

Councilman Beranek said that this report was generated by Brian Shrum, Mount Pleasant EMS.

A motion was made by Councilman Beranek to suspend the rules for the purpose of hiring two part-time police officers. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Beranek to hire James Kowalczyk, Jeannette PA and Derek Manley, Greensburg PA as part-time police officers. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Beranek to trade ambulance #423 for \$25,000 and #422 for \$30,000 and to purchase a 2012 F450 6.7L ambulance for \$148,000 through the Costar program. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Beranek to add the following volunteers to Mount Pleasant EMS:

- Dan Sirianni
- Zach Eicher
- Jason Frazier
- Shawn Penzera

Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilman Crivella asked that two 15mph speed limit signs be placed on Eagle Street to slow down traffic.

A motion was made by Councilman Beranek to put suspend the rules for the purpose of putting two 15mph speed limit signs on Eagle Street. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Beranek to install two 15mph speed limit signs on Eagle Street between Reservoir Street and Spring Street. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilman Beranek said that when people pick up children from after school programs after the crossing guards are off duty, they are blocking all four crosswalks and parking in front of fire hydrants. Councilman Beranek said he spoke to Police Chief Ober about it and Chief Ober said they will be ticketed.

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

Councilman McCloy said he has received complaints about dogs running loose at Borough playgrounds. There is an ordinance in the Borough stating that dogs must be on a leash at all times unless they are at the dog park. Councilman McCloy said the it is also important to clean up after your pets.

Councilman McCloy said that the Community Yard Sale in the Borough will be Saturday May 12, 2012 from 8am to 5pm. There is no permit required for this day only.

Borough Manager Landy said he received a call from April Kopas, Westmoreland County asking the Borough to host a seminar on our Landlord Ordinance. Westmoreland County would be willing to send someone to speak at the seminar.

President Bauer said that he would like to give B.I.U. the approval impose fines on landlords that have not registered their properties. President Bauer said it's not fair to the 70% of landlords who have registered to ignore those who haven't. Mayor Lucia said that he spoke with Magistrate Eckels who said it would be best to have our Police Department issue the first citation.

### **Community & Economic Development / Grants Report:**

Councilman McFeaters reported that he received a quote from Gulisek Construction to replace the cement apron at the Central Fire Station in the amount of \$34,656. Councilman McFeaters said that he is working on obtaining grant funds for the project.

### **Veterans Park Report:**

Borough Manager Landy said that a meeting of the Veterans Park Committee was held and it was decided to return to the original plans for the Video Wall at Veterans Park. The project should be completed this year.

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

A motion was made by Councilman Crivella to approve the following schedules for Frick Park and Willows Park:

Girls Softball League March 1, 2012 through July 26, 2012, Frick Park

Soccer League March 1, 2012 through November 17, 2012, Willows Park

Little League April 1, 2012 through July 18, 2012, Willows Park

Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilman Crivella said he will have a list of rules for the dog park at the next council meeting. He reminded residents that dogs must be kept on a leash unless they are at the dog park. Councilman Crivella said he is working with the Street Department to have a bench installed at the dog park and since there is a source of water, maybe a water trough in the future. A discussion ensued regarding how to make the dog park larger.

**Finance Report:** None

### **Property Report:**

Councilman Pritts thanked Bill Kelly of B&K Electric for repairing the light at Veterans Park.

### **Sanitation & Recycling Report:**

Councilwoman Stevenson reminded residents that recycling is not picked up every week, but every other week. Garbage is picked up every week, but recycling is every other week. The next recycling pick up date will be March 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that she applied for a small grant to purchase recycling containers to be used at the parks or special events.

### **New Business:**

President Bauer said that Council received a letter from a local business on Main Street complaining that they are receiving parking tickets unjustly. President Bauer said he will have the appropriate people look into the allegations.

### **Reading of Communications:**

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- The Westmoreland County Boroughs Association is holding their monthly meeting on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at the office of the Westmoreland Conservation District.
- The Westmoreland County Boroughs Association will hold its annual banquet on April 20<sup>th</sup> at Lakeview Lounge in Greensburg. Deadline for reservations is April 16<sup>th</sup>.
- The Mount Pleasant Rotary is holding its Citizen of the Year Banquet on April 15<sup>th</sup> at McCali Manor. This year they are honoring Dr. Keeler.

### **Discussion and Payment of Bills:**

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

### **Miscellaneous and Adjournment:**

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

**Meeting adjourned 8:20pm**

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