

Meeting October 3, 2016

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

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruskowski to approve the minutes of September 19, 2016 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 8-0.

Public Comment: None

Speakers:

Clayton Gregg, McClure & Wolfe LLP gave Council a report on the 2015 Audit. Mr. Gregg reported that the General Fund had a surplus to of \$168,000 that will be used fund some unexpected projects, but is not enough to consider lowering taxes. WWT had a surplus at the end of 2015 of \$62,000 which can be used to supplement the upcoming projects. Medic 10 generated an operating loss and used previously accrued fund balance to offset the loss. Mr. Gregg reported that the Uniform and Non-Uniform Pension funds are in healthy positions. The only significant finding referred to the fact that the Mount Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival, although personnel did a good job of maintaining the records, they were not maintained in the borough office and were not subject to the same type of internal control structure as the other funds. Since the Glass Festival now has its own EIN Number, in the future it will not be necessary.

Reading of Communications:

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- The October meeting of the Westmoreland County Boroughs Association will be held on October 27, 2016 at the Westmoreland Conservation District Office on Donohoe Road in Greensburg beginning at 7pm.
- There will be a workshop in Armstrong County on Salt and Stone Management on October 13, 2015 from 8am to 3pm.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia reported that Brook White Insurance Agency is celebrating its 50th Anniversary as a Mount Pleasant business this month.

Mayor Lucia said that the 2016 Halloween Parade will be on October 26th at 7pm and he requested with the current problems that no one wear a clown costume. Trick or Treat in the Borough will be on October 30th from 2pm to 4pm.

Mayor Lucia said that the 5K Race in honor of Police Officer Dan Zilli will take place on Sunday October 9th. Registration will be at Frick Park from 8am to 9am. The opening ceremony will be at 9am in front of the Municipal Building.

Mayor Lucia reported that the Mount Pleasant Area Reality Tour will be held on Thursday October 6, 2016 at 6:30 and the Mayor encourages parents to bring their young adults to Rumbaugh Elementary School to participate. There is no charge for the presentation.

Mayor Lucia said that the Mount Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival was a great success this year and the local vendors and churches did very well.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy said that work on the 2017 Budget will begin in October and any budget requests should be given to Councilwoman Bailey. Mr. Landy said that Council has to look at revenues as well as expenses.

Mr. Landy said he has asked the Borough's hospitalization broker to look for a less expensive plan for borough employees. Hospitalization and Liability Insurance are the Borough's biggest expenses after the Police budget.

Borough Manager Landy said that the opening of Penn Park is close with only some minor things to be completed. Mr. Landy said that the electric box at Veterans Park needs to be upgraded and is a project that may be able to be funded through a CDBG Grant along with the fence at Frick Park. Councilman Rogacki said that the Veterans Park Committee is looking into getting quotes for the electric upgrade at Veterans Park.

Mr. Landy said that he met with county officials regarding the old R & R Station Restaurant and the County has agreed to aggressively market the property.

Tax Collector's Report:

Tax Collector Carol Yancosky read the following report for the month of September 2016:

Property Taxes = \$1,791.51
Per Capita Taxes = \$2,131.50

Total Collected = \$3,923.01

Solicitor's Report:

Solicitor Deanna Liptak reported that the insurance company was unable to find any comparable vehicles to the 2013 Ford Taurus police vehicle so they are looking at new SUV's at this time. Attorney Liptak said she still needs a list of all police parts that are on the 2016 Ford Taurus that can be removed.

President's Report:

Attorney Randy Klimchok, Solicitor, Mount Pleasant Planning Commission addressed Council to explain the subdivision request by Dennis and Linda Poorbaugh. The property in question is at the intersection of Center Avenue and Hickory Street. There are two houses on the lot, one facing Center Avenue and the other facing Hickory Street. The Poorbaughs would like to change the one lot into three lots. There would be a single family home on each lot with a small remaining section to be deeded to the adjoining land owner. There are no structures or utilities that will be affected by the subdivision.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to accept the recommendation of the Mount Pleasant Borough Planning Commission approving the Poorbaugh Subdivision Plan dated August 2016 and to authorize the Borough Council President and Secretary to sign the said subdivision plan. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

President Wagner said that MAWC is overseeing the installation of new water lines on Main Street and the sewage line portion of the project will begin tomorrow on the lower part of Main Street. President Wagner pointed out how this Main Street Project will benefit the Borough such as better water pressure to the homes on Main Street and new fire hydrants. The contractors are doing the best they can to minimize disruption on Main Street and President Wagner thanked residents for their patience.

Waste Water Treatment Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Rogacki to pay all expenses as presented with the exception of one invoice that is being questioned. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

WWT Superintendent Larry Hague gave the following report:

- Semi- annual maintenance: change oil in communitor, primary clarifier drive, final clarifier drives #1, #2, #3, bio-tower arms, grease telescopic valves.
- Cut up limb and haul brush to street department from a down tree at Diamond Street pump station.
- Started the sewer line replacement behind 831 W. Main St.
- Larry and Andy attended a PA 1 Call safety days seminar in Monroeville
- Glass Festival setup and cleanup.
- New hand rails are in for around tank, started to install it.
- Met with Columbia Gas again they are to start televising, locating, and GIS mapping the sanitary and storm sewer systems in town in October. They are looking for potential gas line cross bores.
- Started installing the glass on the fence at Penn Park.
- Turned the fountain at Veteran's Park Pink in honor of breast cancer awareness Month.
- Switched the PA 1 Call delivery for the Wastewater Treatment plant from fax to email and mapped the system. Also started the process of setting up the Street Department with their own CDC code, email delivery, and mapping their system.
- Bar Screen Project: They moved equipment in but no work has started yet. All the submittals are back and approved. The equipment is to be delivered the week after Thanksgiving. The contractor wants to have all the cement work done prior to the equipment being delivered.
- Main St. Line replacement: They are starting the sewage line replacement end of the project tonight at 8:00 P.M. at the lower end of town by the railroad tracks. There will be two crews working now one on water and one on sewage.

Streets Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Caruso to amend the agenda. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Caruso to sign the Agility Agreement with Penn Dot. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 8-0.

Jeffrey McGuinness, Street Department gave the following report:

- Willow Park playground equipment is completely installed and the pea gravel has been put under the equipment. Mr. McGuinness said that the gravel will be raked on a daily basis.
- Frick Park playground equipment project will begin in November 2016.
- The recycled artificial turf that will be used at Frick Park will have to be painted to remove the lines already on it.
- The Street Department has started repairing pot holes.
- Work has started on redoing street signs to bring them up to regulation.
- Signs that were leaning have been straightened.
- Residential Leaf pick-up will begin soon.

A motion was made by Councilman Caruso to pay all expenses as presented. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

Public Safety Report:

Councilman Cholock read the following Fire Report for the month of September 2016:

Total Calls - 46
10-45's - 13
Fires - 7
AFA's - 18
Public Service Calls - 7
Total Members Answering - 720

Average Member Per Call - 15

Total Staff Hours – 1, 180

Councilman Cholock said that he and Mayor Lucia will be meeting with a potential part-time police officer this week to replace Jake Cavanaugh who took a full-time position in South Connellsville.

A motion was made by Councilman Cholock to pay all expenses as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Caruso. Motion carried 8-0.

Zoning & Ordinance Report:

Councilwoman Stevenson said that her committee is working with Mayor Lucia on amendments to various ordinances.

Parks & Recreation (General) Report:

Councilwoman Barnes said that the Veterans Park Advisory Committee will be meeting on the fourth Thursday of October 2016 at 10am in chambers.

Councilman Rogacki said that the committee will be looking at lighting at Veterans Park and there is some cement work that needs to be done. Council discussed how to prevent the granite from cracking. President Wagner said that Councilman Rogacki should talk to WWT and Street Department personnel regarding the caulking that needs to be replaced.

Councilwoman Barnes reported that the last round of bids to reseal and resurface the Frick Park Basketball Court were too high and her committee will be calling the Mount Pleasant Area High School for information about having someone repair the court instead of a complete resurfacing. A decision needs to be made before the CDBG Grant expires.

Councilwoman Barnes said that she will meet with Mr. Gustafson regarding what kind of sign he would like to see at the Frick Basketball Court to name the court in honor of his son.

Council discussed vandalism at borough parks and President Wagner asked the public to please call the Police Department if they see anyone vandalizing our parks.

Councilwoman Barnes said that she would like to find grant funds for outdoor gym equipment to be used by children too old for convention park equipment.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to pay all expenses as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilwoman Barnes said the Recreation Advisory Committee will be meeting on October 20th. President Wagner said that moving park equipment around to use available space has been discussed and perhaps that can be done before the end of 2016.

Finance & Human Resources Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to advertise for a full-time Street Department working Crew Leader. Motion seconded by Councilman Caruso. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to approve all expenses as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 8-0.

Borough Manager Landy reported that 2017 Liquid Fuels allocation will be \$127,329.25 and Pension State Aid will be \$52,617.73.

Negotiations:

Councilwoman Bailey reported that a counter proposal has been sent to the United Steel Workers Union for our Street Department and a contract extension has been signed to extend the current deadline of September 30, 2016. All decisions in the new contract will be retroactive to October 1, 2016.

Property Report:

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that the backflow valve at the Municipal Building will be installed as soon as the correct part is ordered. The contractor came to do the installation and a larger valve is required.

Councilwoman Bailey said that the contractor has finished replacing the curb in front of the Municipal Building and the Borough will pay his invoice and then be reimbursed by the insurance company of the driver who did the damage.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to pay all expenses as presented. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 8-0.

Sanitation & Recycling Report:

Councilman Rogacki reported that Republic Services has replaced recycling bins with smaller ones that some customers requested.

Borough Manager Landy said that there are still reports of residents putting their garbage out on Saturday morning to be picked up on Tuesday. The ordinance states that garbage cannot be put until 24 hours before pickup. Mr. Landy suggested that our Zoning Officer issue warnings to these residents.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that Council received a letter from Westmoreland Cleanways announcing that their annual Hazardous Household Waste Collection will be held on Saturday November 19, 2016 from 9am to 1pm at the Cleanways Recycling Center. Pre-registration is required. The cost is \$.65 per pound for borough residents.

Community & Economic Development/Grants Report:

Councilwoman Stevenson reported that the EADS Group will submit a grant application on behalf of the Borough. They are looking for letters of support for the grant and Councilwoman Stevenson and WWT Superintendent Larry Hague are getting those letters.

New Business:

Councilwoman Bailey said that the Mount Pleasant Public Library is accepting applications for a Library Director at the library.

Councilwoman Stevenson thanked the Mount Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival on behalf of the non-profit organizations that participated in the Festival. The event was very successful.

Public Comment: None

Miscellaneous & Adjournment:

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

Meeting adjourned 9:31pm.

Motions From Meeting of October 3, 2016

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