# November 23, 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, Cholock, Phillabaum, Lasko, Ruszkowski and Wojnar. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Istik were present. President Caruso stated that a quorum is present. Councilman Smetak arrived at 7:15pm.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the minutes of November 2, 2020 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 8-0.

## **Public Comment:**

Jim Rega, Jr. of Mullin Avenue, Mount Pleasant, PA thanked Mayor Lucia did something extremely nice for the Mount Pleasant Boys Soccer team that made the semi-finals in the WPIAL, which is the first time in history that the Boys Soccer team has made it that far into the playoff bracket. Mr. Rega stated that Mayor Lucia went above and beyond by organizing the fire department, sheriff's office and police department as a send-off for the boys giving them something that they will always remember. Mr. Rega is a police instructor at Westmoreland County Community College and thanked Council for the donation of the retired police car to the Westmoreland County Community College for the use of training of police officers.

Speakers: None.

## Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia gave the following report:

- Mayor Lucia asked if new Christmas lights for Main Street was being purchased this year. Councilwoman Bailey stated that there were discussions for new lights but due to the coronavirus it did not get to happen this year. Mayor Lucia suggested putting the lights on the poles on the inside of the pole over the sidewalks instead of on the outside of the pole towards the street.
- Mayor Lucia asked Council to encourage citizens to shop in the Borough to help the local businesses during the pandemic. The local merchants are struggling and can use the business.
- Police Department has been running smoothly. Medic 10 has been very busy; and, the Fire Department has been having calls outside the Borough.

## Solicitor's Report:

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

A Motion was made by Councilman Cholock to hold an Executive Session. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Cholock to reconvene. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 9-0.

Council President Caruso announced that the Executive Session was held from 7:11pm - 7:14pm to discuss legal issues.

## **Treasurer's Report:**

Borough Manager Landy read the following Treasurer's Report for the month of October 2020:

Mt. Pleasant Borough Treas	-	Oct-20			
General Fund Checking	Scottdale Bank 19069335	<b>Prev Bal</b> 1,050,957.29	<b>Deposits</b> 62,599.92	<b>Disbursements</b> 101,174.43	Balance 2020 1,012,382.78
**Town Clock	619.92				
**Holiday Lighting	1812.51				
General Fund Budgetary	Standard Bank	771,417.31	124.50	0.00	771,541.81
Reserve **Police	321615				
**Streets	47,619.03 147,131.00				
**Contingency Fund	287,994.78				
**Infrastructure	171,588.62				
**BOMP Gas Wells	22,311.99				
** Frick Park Gas Well	23,611.10				
**Levins **Fire	970.06 35,000.00				
**K-9	13,828.76				
**Marcellus Impact Fee	21,486.47				
Act 13 Police Parking Tickets &	Scottdale Bank	25,070.64	0.89	572.08	24,499.45
Meters Escrow Account	1026616 Scottdale Bank	8,373.34	2.75	0.00	8,376.09
Liquid Fuels PLGIT	19069343 PLGIT 56980126	143,520.92	1.47	0.00	143,522.39
Monument CD	Standard Bank 446635	7,286.68	0.00	0.00	7,286.68
Payroll Fund	Scottdale Bank 19069350	6,684.28	42,814.18	48,554.94	943.52
Veterans Park Fund	Somerset Trust Co 2003058309	22,244.96	0.18	0.00	22,245.14
Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	19069368	1,216.03	0.40	0.00	1,216.43
Turn Back Account	Scottdale Bank 19069384	69,282.85	21.51	6,443.76	62,860.60
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	318007294	50,983.85	0.00	0.00	50,983.85
<b>Total General Fund Balance</b>					2,366,855.58
Medic 10 Checking	Scottdale Bank 19069533	51,334.66	31,050.42	38,325.17	44,059.91
Medic 10 Savings	Scottdale Bank 19069723	122,708.93	1,040.67	0.00	123,749.60
Medic 10 Money Market	Scottdale Bank 19069376	5,988.46	1.97	0.00	5,990.43
Medic 10 Pittsburgh	Standard Bank	7,546.94	0.00	0.00	7,546.94
Foundation Medic 10 CD	0000358253 Standard Bank	18,992.22	0.00	0.00	18,992.22
	371917				
Medic 10 CD	Standard Bank 410053	5,199.37	0.00	0.00	5,199.37
Total Medic 10 Fund Balance		756 741 50	574 004 50	4 (70 2)	205,538.47
WWT Operational Acct	Standard Bank 0010175932 Standard Bank	756,741.52	574,224.52	4,672.36	1,326,293.68 0.00
WWT Savings	Standard Bank 0050021008 Standard Bank	184,036.21	7.66	184,043.87	0.00
WWT Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 0000287245 0.00	141,343.51	5.89	141,349.40	0.00
**Contingency **Infrastructure	0.00				
WWT Bio-Tower	Standard Bank 10127923	248,116.09	21.75	248,137.84	0.00
Capital Reserve M. A. Account	Somerset Trust Co 2004129745	0.00	69,587.64	0.00	69,587.64
Standard Bank CD (Partial MAWC)	Standard Bank 446593	1,500,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,500,000.00
MAWC) Scottdale Bank /MidPenn CD (MAWC Final)	Scottdale Bank 318011768	1,500,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,500,000.00
Total WWT Balance Total Borough funds					4,395,881.32 6,968,275.37
Councilwoman Susan Ruszko	wski / Secretary Sha	ron Lesko			

Councilwoman Susan Ruszkowski / Secretary Sharon Lesko

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 9-0.

# **Borough Manager's Report:**

Borough Manager gave the following report:

- Borough Manager Landy reminded everyone to take a look at the Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual. He stated that the although the report is done a year in advance, it actually looks like income and expenses are on track. Any remaining income will be reviewed between January and March, 2021 and then will be transferred to Budgetary Reserve.
- Council has received a proposal for the 2021 Capital Reserve Distribution Plan showing the monies received from the sale of the Waste Water Treatment Plant and the plan for the monies. The account was set up and named Capital Reserve from the advisement of our auditor.
- Christmas Parade and Candlelight Procession has been cancelled. There have been suggestions for Santa for the light up night. Councilman Wojnar suggested having Santa ride on a firetruck throughout the town. Borough Manager Landy stated that we had an email suggesting having Santa in a location and do a drive through. Borough Manager Landy stated that if we state an area and time where Santa would be, the responsibility would be on the people to come to Santa that way no one can say that they were missed or a street was missed if they would do Santa on a firetruck. Borough Manager Landy suggested having Santa at the Borough Building and cars could line up through the alley and parking lot. Mayor Lucia suggested riding Santa on the firetruck to the designated location that he will be seeing the kids. Councilwoman Lasko stated that she believes treats should not be handed out due to COVID-19 Coronavirus. Councilwoman Bailey agreed that treats should not be handed out. Councilwoman Bailey suggested Santa be on the Gazebo and wave as cars passed by. Councilwoman Bailey reported that the tree at the Gazebo is ready other than the tree skirt, which will be there tomorrow. All lights have been placed on a timer. No one will need to turn on and off the lights. Only thing left is for Street Department to string the lights on the tree at Veterans Park. Once that is completed light up night will be ready. Councilwoman Ruszkowski asked Councilwoman Bailey to pick a night. Councilwoman Bailey stated that they should keep it the same as we always do. Light up night will be on Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at 5:30pm and Santa will be at the Gazebo. Councilwoman Lasko reiterated Santa will only be waving and not handing out treats. Cars can drive by with their family and see Santa waving.
- The Director of the Library resigned. The Library has a new Director. It is a team of people and the library will be open more often now.
- Borough Manager Landy reported that he was approached by a property owner on the East End of town who would like to purchase the Arevalo property. They would like to make it a parking lot. Mr. Landy stated that when the Landbank owned the property, it was to be sold for redevelopment. Now that they Landbank has given the property to the Borough, the Borough does not have that requirement and it could be sold for a parking lot. Borough Manager Landy asked Council if they would be interested in selling the property for a parking lot. Council agreed to sell the property.

## **President's Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilman Cholock to extend residential garbage collection with Republic Services for one (1) year as an option year from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Wojnar to approve the 2021 Council Meeting Schedule. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 9-0. A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to approve the 2021 Holiday Schedule. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Cholock to appoint Susan Stripay to the Mount Pleasant Business District Authority to fill the vacancy of Dale Walker's term expiring on December 31, 2021. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 9-0.

## **Property Report:**

Councilman Smetak gave the following report:

 Met with Borough Manager Landy and Councilwoman Barnes regarding the gazebo restoration. Also discussed taking a fieldtrip to Ligonier to look at their gazebo to possibly get some ideas as far as refurbishing our gazebo. Would like to have the gazebo completed next year by Memorial Day and July 4<sup>th</sup> at the latest. Councilman Smetak would like to have the gazebo as a focal point in the Borough. Councilman Smetak would like to go on a Sunday.

## Stormwater Report: None.

#### **Streets Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to approve the 2021 Paving Project which includes the following streets: a portion of Kennedy Avenue; North Geary Street; Warden Street; Quarry Street; Silver Street; Vine Street and St. Clair Street; Cherry Avenue; Hitchman Street; Vine Street Hill; Washington Street; and, all of James Way; Mt. Joy Alley; Satcho Park parking pad. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilwoman Bailey reported that the intersection of Vine Street and St. Clair Street; possibly Cherry Avenue; Washington Street; and, Mt. Joy Alley will be an overlay or skim coat. The others may be a milling and paving or tar and chip.

Borough Manager Landy asked if the alleyway below Harmon House was going to be one of the streets to be paved. Councilwoman Bailey stated that the alleyway was repaired by hand and people seemed to be happy with it. It was not on the list of streets. Mayor Lucia asked if they did on the side of the cemetery also. Councilwoman Bailey said that it was and the residents there seem to be content with it at this point. Councilwoman Bailey stated that the cost should come in at around \$130,000.00. Liquid Fuels monies are at around \$122,000.00 and the balance will come from general fund.

Borough Manager Landy asked if this will also fix the water problem on Kennedy Avenue. Councilwoman Bailey stated that it will include the water issue.

Mayor Lucia asked if we heard anything regarding the grant money for the Fire Department apron. Borough Manager Landy stated that nothing has been heard but he believes it should be in December.

## Parks & Recreation:

Councilwoman Lasko gave the following report:

• Met with Jeff and representative from Silvis Landscaping today; and, on Friday they will be planting 8 trees. There will be 5 planted at Satcho and 3 at JackBobs. One tree was donated by Silvis Landscaping.

## **Public Safety Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilman Cholock to approve the Agreement with Sable Kennels for animal control, costs remaining the same as previous contract. Motion seconded by Councilman Wojnar. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilman Cholock discussed how payroll is handled for Medic 10. Medic 10 payroll is handled through Allegheny Health Network. Medic 10 personnel are considered employees of Allegheny Health Network. The Borough of Mount Pleasant reimburses Allegheny Health Network for Medic 10 payroll from the Medic 10 budget. For the last few years when Medic 10 gets tight with money, the payment is sometimes held to Allegheny Health Network for payroll until funds increase.

A Motion to amend the agenda was made by Councilman Cholock to hold an executive session regarding personnel issues Medic 10. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Cholock to hold an executive session regarding Medic 10 personnel. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Cholock to reconvene. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

Council President Caruso announced that the Executive Session was held from 7:59pm – 8:02pm to discuss Medic 10 personnel issues.

Councilwoman Bailey reported that she had a meeting with Council President Grippo, Borough Manager Landy and Police Chief Grippo regarding parking issues and the safety that goes along with the parking issues. Police have noticed that we have more and more parking problems that we have had in the past and would like to issue more tickets but they hold back a little because they are unsure that everyone on Council supports them 100%. Councilwoman Bailey went on to say that the Police are asking that when they put a ticket on a vehicle and if the owner approaches a Councilperson to ask what they can do about it, we as a Council need to say if you have an issue you need to talk to the Police Department and talk with Police Chief Grippo to discuss their concerns of how they feel they were wronged. Councilwoman Bailey said that it was decided it would only be fair to the citizens that the Police Department and the Borough would post on their Facebook pages and website that the Police will be a little more diligent with parking violations, yellow line parking, fire hydrant parking and parking against traffic. Councilwoman Bailey stated that the Police will not be going out to "hammer" everybody but they will be more aware now that citizens have been warned. Police want the guarantee that they will have 100% of Council support for this if someone has a problem with a ticket, that Council says that is not an issue for Council or Public Officials to take care of and that it has to be handled through the Police Department. Council President Caruso stated that he believes everyone on Council supports the Police 100%. Councilwoman Bailey agreed and asked Councilman Phillabaum if he agreed that he could tell someone to take it up with the Police if they approached him about a ticket. Councilman Phillabaum stated that he would tell them he has nothing to do with it and take it to the Police Department. Councilman Phillabaum stated that he has never been in this situation or approached. Councilwoman Bailey asked Councilman Cholock said he has never been approached either. Councilwoman Bailey asked Councilman Cholock again if he would be willing to say that they need to take it up with the Police Department because he has no authority. Councilman Cholock said yes, he definitely would be willing to let them know that it is a police issue. Councilwoman Bailey asked Councilwoman Barnes. Councilwoman Barnes said yes; that is exactly what the way it should be done. Councilwoman Bailey asked Mayor Lucia. Mayor Lucia said he does have a problem with it sometimes; and, as an example, approximately a month ago, the Police ticketed approximately ten (10) cars on College Avenue that should not have been ticketed there. There was not one (1) sign that said No Parking. Councilwoman Bailey stated that Police Chief Grippo did tell her of that issue; and, that the Police Officers that had given the tickets were unaware that only a portion of College Avenue had parking permits. Mayor Lucia stated that the residents that had come to him regarding this, he did take the tickets and give them to the Police Chief since he knew they should not have gotten tickets. Councilwoman Bailey suggested that maybe from now on that you would really like to help you out but you need to take it to the Police Department. Mayor Lucia asked who chairs the Police Department and Councilwoman Bailey stated that Mayor Lucia does. Mayor Lucia stated if he had discussed this problem with his department then why could he not have taken the ticket and given it to the Police Department. Mayor Lucia stated that there were five (5) tickets from College Avenue given to him and that he also had three (3) from Center Avenue that was given to him from someone that purchased a house; moved in and has a stop sign in front of his home. Mayor Lucia stated that there are probably ten (10) cars a day on Center Avenue, they received tickets on Center Avenue and tht

this resident received a ticket three (3) days in a row because they were parked near the stop sign. Mayor Lucia asked Police Chief Grippo to go down and inspect it to see if there was something to be done to correct it. Councilman Phillabaum asked if the parking tickets would eventually end up at the Magistrates Office if they don't pay. Mayor Lucia stated that they would in due time. Councilman Phillabaum stated that these courts are flooded with cases; and, don't feel we need to add to the courts and waste the magistrates time with a ticket that is the Borough's mistake and should not have been written in the first place. Councilwoman Bailey suggested that instead of taking the ticket that should not have been written and giving it to the Police, that they should send the resident to the Police Department to handle it themselves. Mayor Lucia said he would gladly welcome that. Mayor Lucia asked if anyone in the room got told to go take care of a ticket. All said no except Councilwoman Bailey; and, she advised them that she could not do anything with it and they would need to take it to the Police. Mayor Lucia stated that if someone approached him and had an issue with a ticket, he would take the ticket and give it to the Police Chief to investigate it. Council President Caruso stated that the bottom line is we need to support our Police Department. Councilwoman Bailey asked Council President Caruso if he is willing to do that. Council President Caruso stated absolutely and he stated he isn't speaking for the Mayor; but he knows that he supports that also. Councilwoman Bailey agreed. Councilwoman Bailey said that her point is, and she believes that the Police's point is, that the individual who got the ticket should come to the Police Department because what happens, she is assuming and she reiterated that she is assuming, that when someone sees the Mayor coming with somebody else's ticket that they automatically assume it is to be taken care of. Councilwoman Bailey asked Borough Manager Landy if he would be willing to say that they need to go see the Police Department. Borough Manager Landy replied yes. Councilwoman Bailey asked Councilman Smetak if someone comes to him with a ticket would he be willing to send them to the Police Department. Councilman Smetak responded yes. Councilwoman Bailey asked Councilwoman Lasko if someone comes to her with a ticket would she be willing to send them to the Police Department. Councilwoman Lasko responded absolutely. Councilwoman Bailey asked Councilwoman Ruszkowski if someone comes to her with a ticket would she be willing to send them to the Police Department. Councilwoman Ruszkowski said yes. Councilwoman Bailey asked Councilman Wojnar if someone comes to him with a ticket would he be willing to send them to the Police Department. Councilman Wojnar replied absolutely. Councilman Cholock asked Councilwoman Bailey that she said people are coming to her. Councilwoman Bailey replied no she did not state that people are coming to her. Ms. Bailey stated that there is feedback coming that when we want to do something, the Police Department hesitates a bit. Councilman Cholock asked Councilwoman Bailey if the feedback is from constituents or the Police Department. Councilwoman Bailey stated that some people say that public officials take the tickets to the Police Department and they are dismissed and some people say that they take them there themselves. Councilwoman Bailey said what she is trying to avoid is that we don't want to as a whole look like we are doing work for people who is getting tickets. Councilman Cholock stated that he is then confused because if everyone on Council is stating that they have had no one give them tickets then who is it that is saying that they are getting tickets fixed. Councilwoman Lasko responded that this is a small town, the hearsay and add on to that, social media, everything gets mushroomed. Councilman Wojnar stated if you have one person say something, you know how it grow from there. Mayor Lucia stated that everyone should look at their report and see how many tickets are issued in Mount Pleasant Borough and then say we are overloading tickets in the Borough. Councilwoman Bailey stated that they are not. Mayor Lucia also said to Council President Caruso that he would like an audit for the last five (5) years of how many tickets were excused. Councilman Phillabaum stated that Mayor Lucia is more visible than the Police are at times and Jerry is likely easier to get a hold of. Council Phillabaum said he had no one reach out to him; however, he knows that if it were his next-door neighbor and that was the situation, his neighbor would most likely knock on his door. Councilwoman Bailey agreed and said that was what happened to her. Council President Caruso stated that he believes everyone understand. Councilwoman Bailey stated that all she needs to do is tell the Police Department that Council and Borough Officials support the Police Department 100% and that they will make sure that if someone brings a ticket to one of them that they will send them to the Police Department.

#### Veterans Park Report:

Councilwoman Barnes gave the following report:

• Met with Borough Manager Landy and Councilman Smetak to discuss the two (2) bids that were received for the sound system for the Gazebo. Councilman Cholock stated that

he received a bid for the sound system also; however, he was unaware of the meeting. Councilwoman Barnes stated that the bid includes the capability of having sound along Main Street. Councilman Cholock reported that the bid he received did include that capability. Councilman Cholock asked how are we certain that the bid is apples to apple so to speak. Councilwoman Barnes said that they gave the bidders an opportunity to come to the park and show what their equipment would be like. Councilwoman Barnes stated that they can wait for the bid from the company that Councilman Cholock was getting a bid from. Borough Manager Landy asked if they wanted specs drawn up so they could bid. Councilman Smetak stated that he believes that they will have to do away with the bids that they received and begin again. Councilwoman Barnes stated that she spoke with each of the bidders personally and gave them specific information of what the Borough wanted for the sound system along with the capability to extend the sound system on to Main Street for the future. Councilman Cholock was given the information to relay to the bidder that he was dealing with. Borough Manager Landy stated that they can take the information from one of the specs that they received and take the name off of it and use it as the specifications for bidding. Council President Caruso asked Councilman Smetak to proceed with it. Councilman Smetak stated the Councilwoman Barnes had been handling it and believes that she should be the one to handle it. Council President Caruso stated that Councilman Smetak is the property chairman and should take the lead on it. Councilwoman Barnes stated that it should be under Veteran's Park since the gazebo is in Veteran's Park. Council President Caruso stated that the gazebo is not part of Veteran's Park. Borough Manager Landy stated that in the past the gazebo was separate from Veteran's Park. Councilman Smetak said that Veteran's Park is helping to purchase the sound system for the gazebo. Councilwoman Ruszkowski said she thought that Veteran's Park was purchasing a sound system just for the wall. Borough Manager Landy stated that the VFW purchased a podium that has a sound system built into it for the wall so when they need a sound system just for Veteran's wall, they have it. This sound system is in addition to that sound system. Councilman Cholock said it was previously discussed to put a sound system in the gazebo and Councilwoman Barnes said that Veteran's Park would be willing to help with the sound system. Councilman Cholock said there is \$7,500.00 in Medic 10 budget that can only be used for the gazebo. Councilman Smetak will take the lead on the sound system and work with Councilwoman Barnes and Councilman Cholock. Councilwoman Barnes stated that she does not want to work on this once again and then

have to start over again. She had asked a lot of questions, was told to proceed, called around and talked with companies for bids, had two (2) of them come to the park and look at the gazebo, the only that did not come was the bidder that Councilman Cholock was getting; and now, only to start over again. Councilwoman Barnes stated it was a lot of work and she does not want that to happen again. Councilwoman Barnes said that everyone needs to work together to get this done. Council President Caruso agreed.

Councilwoman Barnes asked about Medic 10 owning the gazebo; and, that a previous meeting, Borough Manager Landy had stated that the Borough owns the gazebo. Council President Caruso stated that the property is owned by the Borough. Councilwoman Barnes asked how it is then not part of Veterans Park. Borough Manager Landy stated that when the Veterans wall was built, there was a committee created and it only handled the Veterans wall from the alley to Main Street. That was the Veterans Park Committee. The Council at that time created that committee. The gazebo was on the Parks and Recreation Committee. The gazebo belongs to the Borough. Councilwoman Barnes stated that the gazebo should be part of Veterans Park Committee. Borough Manager Landy said that Council makes decisions different ways and at the time, Veterans Park was just from the alley to Main Street. Council President Caruso stated that he does not want it to change and to leave Veterans wall from the alley to Main Street as Veterans Park.

#### Human Resources/Ordinances Report:

Councilman Wojanr gave the following report:

• Has been working with Solicitor Istik regarding Ordinances

• Will need to discuss with Mayor Lucia and/or Councilwoman Bailey regarding extending the weight limit issues on St. Clair Street. Councilwoman Bailey stated that there is a state law setting weight limits. Councilman Wojnar said that maybe the answer will be signage. Councilwoman Ruszkowski asked if there was a specific reason that this is being addressed. Councilman Wojnar stated that it is regarding a triaxle on the street. Councilwoman Ruszkowski asked if it is a privately owned triaxle or owned by a company. Councilwoman Bailey said she was unsure if it was privately owned; however, she believes if it is privately owned, and their residence is within the Borough, the municipality has to leave the owner of that truck bring it home to his property. If the truck is owned by a company then the driver leaves the truck at the company.

## **Finance / Grants Report:**

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to invest monies from the Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County / MAWC in the amount of \$3,000,000.00 (Three Million Dollars) for sale of the sewage plant with Scottdale Bank & Trust, a division of MidPenn Bank with an interest rate of 2.95%. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilwoman Barnes asked how long is the investment. Borough Manager Landy stated that the investment is for seven (7) years and that the interest will go to general fund. It will be paid in one lump sum at the end of the first year and beginning the second year, the Borough will receive a check monthly every year after.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to adopt Ordinance No. 657 setting the 2021 millage rate at 17.5 mils. Motion seconded by Councilman Wojnar. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilwoman Ruszkowski stated that there is no increase in the millage rate.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve a bonus in the amount of \$5,944.00 for Jeff Landy and \$,1577.00 for Sharon Lesko, retroactive to November 8, 2020 pay period for their work regarding the sale of the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilman Wojnar stated that it should also say for the exemplary work during the pandemic.

Councilwoman Barnes asked what the percentage was for the bonus. Councilwoman Ruszkowski stated that it was ten (10%) percent of Borough Manager Landy salary and five (5%) percent of Sharon Lesko's salary.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the 2021 Capital Reserve Distribution Plan from monies received from the sale of the wastewater treatment plant with the following adjustments – Medic 10 \$200,000.00 and the Gazebo \$100,000.00. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 9-0.

Councilwoman Ruszkowski stated that everyone has received a copy of the 2021 Capital Reserve Distribution Plan. Borough Manager Landy stated that the plan was drawn up prior to the property committee holding a meeting discussing refurbishing the gazebo. Borough Manager Landy suggested amending the 2021 Capital Reserve Distribution Plan that they received be changed for Medic 10 from \$300,000.00 to \$200,000.00 and put the \$100,000.00 towards the gazebo refurbishment. Medic 10 would have \$200,000.00 and the Gazebo would be \$100,000.00. Council agreed to the changes.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to hire part time Police Officer Joseph VanOrd as a full time Police Officer effective January 4, 2021 at the rate of \$19.00 per hour. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 9-0.

## New Business:

Councilwoman Bailey stated she does not have new business but wanted to address some issues that was brought up at the previous meeting. Councilwoman Bailey said that Mayor Lucia asked about the lamp post lights. Councilwoman Bailey stated that they have been taken care of.

Council President Caruso said that there is a light burnt out in front of the old Ronnie's Discount on Main Street. Councilwoman Bailey said two (2) were fixed and she would make sure the one at Ronnie's Discount would be taken care of along with one located right behind the nativity scene.

Councilwoman Bailey said that Mayor Lucia had asked about the mulch grinder. Ms. Bailey said that there is something wrong with it but they do have an idea of how it will be repaired and will be working on it in the next few weeks.

Councilwoman Bailey reported that all work on Bridgeport Street is completed; and, that is all of the turnback work.

Councilwoman Ruszkowski reported that the sign coming into Mt. Pleasant that says Welcome to Mount Pleasant has a light that is burned out. Borough Manager Landy stated that the Business District Authority (BDA) is responsible for taking care of that sign. Borough Manager said that he will contact them.

## **Reading of Communications:**

• Jacobs Creek Watershed Association is having its Annual Meeting on December 1, 2021 at 5:30pm at Laurelville Mennonite Church Center, Large Dining Hall.

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

A Motion was made by Councilman Wojnar to pay all authorized and approved bills. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 9-0.

## Public Comment: None.

## Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

A Motion was made by Councilman Cholock to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 9-0.

## Meeting Adjourned 8:44pm.

**Respectfully Submitted** 

Jeffrey A. Landy, Borough Manager

# BOROUGH OF MOUNT PLEASANT

John H. Caruso, Jr., Council President

## Motions from Meeting of November 23, 2020

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the minutes of November 2, 2020 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 8-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Cholock to hold an Executive Session. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Cholock to reconvene. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Cholock to extend residential garbage collection with Republic Services for one (1) year as an option year from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Wojnar to approve the 2021 Council Meeting Schedule. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to approve the 2021 Holiday Schedule. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Cholock to appoint Susan Stripay to the Mount Pleasant Business District Authority to fill the vacancy of Dale Walker's term expiring on December 31, 2021. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to approve the 2021 Paving Project which includes the following streets: a portion of Kennedy Avenue; North Geary Street; Warden Street; Quarry Street; Silver Street; Vine Street and St. Clair Street; Cherry Avenue; Hitchman Street; Vine Street Hill; Washington Street; and, all of James Way; Mt. Joy Alley; Satcho Park parking pad. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Cholock to approve the Agreement with Sable Kennels for animal control, costs remaining the same as previous contract. Motion seconded by Councilman Wojnar. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion to amend the agenda was made by Councilman Cholock to hold an executive session regarding personnel issues Medic 10. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Cholock to hold an executive session regarding Medic 10 personnel. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Cholock to reconvene. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Lasko. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to invest monies from the Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County / MAWC in the amount of \$3,000,000.00 (Three Million Dollars) for sale of the sewage plant with Scottdale Bank & Trust, a division of MidPenn Bank with an interest rate of 2.95%. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to adopt Ordinance No. 657 setting the 2021 millage rate at 17.5 mils. Motion seconded by Councilman Wojnar. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve a bonus in the amount of \$5,944.00 for Jeff Landy and \$,1577.00 for Sharon Lesko, retroactive to November 8, 2020 pay period for their work regarding the sale of the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the 2021 Capital Reserve Distribution Plan from monies received from the sale of the wastewater treatment plant with the following adjustments – Medic 10 \$200,000.00 and the Gazebo \$100,000.00. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to hire part time Police Officer Joseph VanOrd as a full time Police Officer effective January 4, 2021 at the rate of \$19.00 per hour. Motion seconded by Councilman Cholock. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Wojnar to pay all authorized and approved bills. Motion seconded by Councilman Phillabaum. Motion carried 9-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Cholock to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 9-0.