

Meeting February 1, 2010

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, Slater, Tabita, Tate, and Councilwomen Stevenson and Ruszkowski were present. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Wolfe, Tucker/Arensberg were present. President Bauer stated we have a quorum.

Reading of Previous Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to dispense with the reading of the minutes of January 19, 2010. Motion seconded by Councilman Tate. Motion carried 8-0.

Public Comment:

Scott Salavatore, 119 Hazelnut Drive, Mount Pleasant as representative for the Mount Pleasant Little League updated Council on the progress of the T-Ball Field at Willows Park. The league has received bids on removing the large maple tree and for the relocation of the monument. This work should be done this week. The Borough has begun removing the playground equipment. The league has received bids on fencing and that should be done in March. The last step would be to lay down some dirt for the field. The T-Ball season starts on May 1, 2010.

Speakers:

Mr. Robert Gumbita, President, Mount Pleasant School Board spoke to Council about the closing of Ramsay Elementary School in Mount Pleasant. The School Board decided not to close any of the elementary schools. The decision of the feasibility study was for the Board to look into prioritizing work that needs to be done at the elementary schools. The Property Committee will look at that and report back to the Board. Mr. Gumbita said that Ramsay School was built in 1931 and the last renovation was done in 1981. It will need major renovations. Mr. Gumbita said he is in favor of renovating the elementary schools. There is a lot of public support for the local schools. The PTO does an outstanding job raising money, providing playground equipment, etc. Mr. Gumbita said he feels the School District is moving in the right direction.

Mr. Jim Pillsbury, Westmoreland Conservation District spoke to Council regarding the Storm Water Retrofit Project in the Borough. Work on Phase I of the project should begin soon. Mr. Pillsbury said that the Westmoreland Conservation District has reviewed the bids for Phase I of the project and they feel that W.G. Land Company is a qualified bidder and they would be in favor of awarding the bid to this company. Phase I will be to construct four rain gardens in parking lots in the Borough with the awarded DEP Grant. Mr. Pillsbury explained the rain gardens are small retention ponds. Phase II would be to put rain gardens in the lawns of homes in the Borough and to do some storm water remedial work at Frick Hospital. Ramsey Terrace will be the first area to have rain gardens constructed because it is an area that receives a lot of flooding during rainstorms. There will be a meeting held on February 25, 2010, 6:30pm at the VFW on Main Street Mount Pleasant. The meeting will be to inform people and to engage interest in the project.

Councilman Beranek asked if there would be an insect problem with these rain gardens. Mr. Pillsbury said that there would be no standing water to attract insects.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia read the following Police Report for the month of January 2010:

Report of the Mount Pleasant Police Dept for the month of January 2010

The Department answered 284 Calls during the month as follows:

Complaints	80
Requests for assistance	5
Assist Other Departments	5
Accidents investigated	8
Calls Returned	40
Assist Medic 10	13

The Department made 25 arrests during the month as follows:

Vehicle Code	20
Crimes Code	5
Borough Ordinance	0
Warnings Issued	0

Parking Tickets issued are as follows:

\$1.00 Meter Tickets	102
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets	2
Void / Excused	4

\$1.00 Parking Tickets Paid	66	\$	66.00
\$5.00 Parking Tickets Paid	2	\$	10.00
\$10.00 Parking Tickets Paid	3	\$	30.00

Return from Magistrate Eckels	\$1,957.95
Return from Clerk of Courts	\$ 750.89
Return from Report Fees	\$ 90.00
Return from Parking Permits	\$ -
Return from Soliciting Permits	\$ -
Return from Restitution	\$ -

Total \$2,904.84

Meter Receipts 2 Collections \$ 862.23

Total Receipts for the month \$3,767.07

Mayor Lucia pointed out that in an amendment to our ordinance, parking tickets will now be \$3.00.

Mayor Lucia said that Senator Kim Ward is holding a meeting on Thursday February 4, 2010 at 10:00am at the Courtyard By Marriott on Route 30 to discuss State Police coverage for Townships in the state of Pennsylvania and how it will affect municipalities like ours who have their own Police Department. Anyone from Council who can attend should do so. Right now Mount Pleasant Borough residents and residents of other municipalities who have their own Police Department are paying for their local Police and then being taxed by the State for State Police protection.

Mayor Lucia asked every citizen in the Borough who has special needs to fill out the Special Needs Questionnaire and return it to the borough office so that in case of an emergency situation, emergency personnel know who needs help and what they need.

Mayor Lucia reminded everyone that the upcoming census is very important. There has been a good response from Mount Pleasant residents who will be census takers. Any monies that the Borough receives through the state or federal government are determined by the census. If people don't cooperate with the census takers and our census drops, we will receive less money from the state and federal government.

Mayor Lucia said that he was in Rostraver Township on Route 51 and saw a large billboard advertising West Newton listing businesses and asking people to come and shop in town. Mayor Lucia suggested that the BDA look into something similar on Route 119 for Mount Pleasant.

Mayor Lucia reminded citizens to call the Police to report people selling door to door without a permit.

Solicitor's Report:

Attorney Fred Wolfe, Tucker Arensberg, said that in January he met with Borough Manager Landy to go over issues that are pending. Mr. Wolfe said he will prepare a monthly written communication that will summarize what his firm is working on and the status of each issue. One thing he is working on is a Police Procedures Manual and he will discuss it with Police Chief Ober. His firm is also working on finishing the Employee Handbook for the Borough.

Tax Collector Report:

Tax Collector Carol Yancosky gave the following report for the month of January 2010. Ms. Yancosky said that during the months of January and February only Per Capita Tax is being collected.

Per Capita Tax = \$77.00

Total \$77.00

President's Report:

President Bauer presented Councilman Tabita with a plaque commemorating his years of service as Mount Pleasant Council President.

A motion was made by Councilman Crivella to approve Mount Pleasant as part of the G3 Conference with Connellsville and Scottsdale to be held May 17th and May 21st 2010. Motion seconded by Councilman McCloy. Motion carried 8-0.

President Bauer reported that before the council meeting this evening Mayor Lucia swore in these newly elected board members:

- Dale Walker, BDA and Parking Authority
- Bill George, BDA
- Nino Barsotti, BDA
- Randy Klimchock, Planning Commission Solicitor
- Bill Steiner, Zoning Board
- Edmund Davis, Civil Service Board
- George Wood, Planning Commission

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy asked Council to look at the up to date Profit and Loss Budget Vs. Actual report for 2010. Mr. Landy said that some of the money in Line Item #325.20 Reimbursements/Refunds is from unclaimed property that we were able to claim and be reimbursed for.

Mr. Landy said he spoke to the County and the bike trail crossing at the Bridgeport Street property is moving forward. This means that we will be able to extend the bike trail to Main Street and probably put in a parking lot for bike trail users.

Mr. Landy said he had a meeting with the CEO of Frick Hospital, Jeff Ziwee regarding the proposed rain garden at Frick Hospital. Mr. Landy said President Bauer has a list of dates and we will be scheduling meetings in the future. Mr. Ziwee said he would like to meet approximately every two months.

Mr. Landy said that the planning for the G3 Conference is going well and the Conference has generated a lot of publicity. The President of the Pennsylvania State Borough's Association said he would like to speak at the conference.

Mr. Landy asked Council to look at a list of notes on the Ordinance Re-Codification. He asked Council to especially look at the notes on Budgetary Reserve Accounts, Yard Sale permits, the increase in the parking ticket fee and the one on fences.

Waste Water Treatment Report:

Councilman Tate said he would like Council to waive the sewage fee for the new bathrooms at the Little League Field.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to suspend the rules for the purpose of a motion to waive the sewage fee for the Little League. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to waive the sewage fees for the Mount Pleasant Little League. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 8-0.

Public Safety Report:

Councilman Beranek read the following Fire Report for the month of January 2010:

Total Calls	53
In Town	5
Out of Town	38
10-45's	27
Fires	10
AFA's	3
Public Service	8
Stand-Bys	3
Total Men Answering	771
Avg. Member Per Call	14
Total Hours	422

Councilman Beranek read the following Medic 10 Report for the month of January 2010:

Total Calls For The Month	167
Medical	127
Fire	8
Transfers	0
Standby	13
In Town	85
Out Of Town	82
Members Per Call	3.0

Councilman Beranek said he received a letter from Diamond Pharmacy, Mount Pleasant requesting a 20-minute loading zone parking spot on Main Street in front of the building. Councilman Beranek would like Council to take the request into consideration.

Zoning & Ordinance Report: None

President Bauer said he spoke with Keystate Publishing and they will be sending the ordinance re-codification on 12 CD's and 12 loose-leaf binders.

Street/Parks & Recreation Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Slater to award the bid for Phase I of the Storm Water Retrofit Project to W.G. Land Company, Champion, PA in the amount of \$73,055.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Tabita. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilman Slater said that he and Borough Manager Landy met with Randy Christman of the Mount Pleasant Softball League regarding the floor plan for the concession stand at Frick Park.

Councilman Tate said that Scott Salvatore, Mount Pleasant Little League requested that Council look into allocating some of the gas well income to help with the expenses they are incurring at the Little League Field.

Councilman Bauer asked whether the Midget Football League is eligible for funding. The request was handed over to the Recreation Committee for discussion.

Councilman Tate said he would like to look into building a restroom at the lower part of Willows Park. The restrooms up on the hill are difficult for people to get to. Councilman Tate feels that the gas well revenues should pay for the restroom. Mayor Lucia said that the current restroom up on the hill will have to be renovated before it is opened in the spring because it was vandalized.

Veterans Park Report:

Councilman Tate said that the Veterans Park Committee will resume holding meetings on Saturday mornings at 10:00am after the weather warms up.

President Bauer said that the final paperwork for the first Veterans Park Grant was completed and there should be monies sent to the Borough for the remainder of the grant.

President Bauer said that he and Mr. Landy are working on resolving the fireworks issue. They are gathering information and will have more to report at the next council meeting.

Finance Report: None

Property Report: None

Sanitation & Recycling Report:

Councilwoman Stevenson said that the Borough is off to a good start with its curbside recycling program. There are a few residents who are not entirely happy with the program, but for the most part there has been a high level of participation. Councilwoman Stevenson said she would like to encourage the people who have not embraced the idea of recycling to start slowly. Maybe just decide to recycle paper. For the residents who shred their papers, they can still recycle by placing shredded paper in a clear plastic bag and put it in the recycling bin.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that she has observed while riding around that it may be difficult for Allied Waste to determine what is garbage and what is recycling. If the recycling bin provided by Allied Waste is not large enough residents can use another additional container as long as it is clearly marked RECYCLING. Also, if cardboard is not flattened out and broken down into pieces not more than 3 feet large it will end up in the garbage instead of recycling.

Councilwoman Stevenson said the Borough will be looking at statistics after six months to see how much is going to recycling versus how much is going to garbage. That will determine how successful the program is. Councilwoman Stevenson said that before curbside recycling, when citizens were using the dumpsters to recycle, the Borough recycled 111 tons of recyclable material.

Councilwoman Stevenson said she is going to do some research on recycling electronics. Allied Waste does not do any electronics recycling but she has found some web sites where we can find out how to recycle some of these electronics.

Councilwoman Stevenson said she is also working on obtaining a CD showing exactly what happens to the recyclables after they pick it up from you home. It may be interesting for people to see.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that the four recycling bins that were located at the municipal building, Willows Park, N & N Store and the borough shed have been removed

since every household now has a bin for curbside recycling. The dumpster that is still in front of the municipal building is a garbage dumpster and is strictly for borough use.

Community and Economic Development/Grants Report:

Councilman Tabita said that government funding for the Frick Communities is unlikely and they would like to ask each participating community to increase their contribution to \$10,000. Half of the Borough's allotment would be paid by the BDA and half by the Borough. We could approach Pittsburgh Historical Landmarks to see what they could offer us with that kind of a budget. There will be a meeting with Pittsburgh Historical Landmarks on February 25, 2010 at 3:00pm in Chambers. They will give us more information about finding funding. Councilman Tabita requested the borough office to send a letter to the BDA inviting them to the meeting and asking them to bring information on some projects that they would like to do.

Councilman Tabita said that he met with Kingfish Productions, the company working on the Mount Pleasant video. The Borough should have a completed video within a month. Councilman Tabita said that the voice-over for the video will cost \$100. This cost was not budgeted for. Borough Manager Landy said that there are funds in the Marketing line item that could be used for this purpose.

A motion was made by Councilman Tabita to suspend the rules to authorize payment for the video voice-over. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tabita to approve payment of \$100 to Kingfish Productions for the video voice-over. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilman Tabita said that after the video is complete Council can have some discussions regarding a 30 second spot on cable television to market the Borough. The video will go on the Borough website and local businesses could add a five second spot to the video on the website.

New Business: None

Reading of Communications: None

Discussion and Payment of Bills:

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

Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

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

Meeting Adjourned 7:58pm.

Motions from February 1, 2010 Meeting

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to dispense with the reading of the minutes of January 19, 2010. Motion seconded by Councilman Tate. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Crivella to approve Mount Pleasant as part of the G3 Conference with Connellsville and Scottdale to be held May 17th and May 21st 2010. Motion seconded by Councilman McCloy. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to suspend the rules for the purpose of a motion to waive the sewage fee for the Little League. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to waive the sewage fees for the Mount Pleasant Little League. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Slater to award the bid for Phase I of the Storm Water Retrofit Project to W.G. Land Company, Champion, PA in the amount of \$73,055.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Tabita. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tabita to suspend the rules to authorize payment for the video voice-over. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tabita to approve payment of \$100 to Kingfish Productions for the video voice-over. Motion seconded by Councilman Crivella. Motion carried 8-0.

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

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