

Meeting July 1, 2013

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Bauer at 7:02pm 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. Councilman McCloy, Pritts, Snyder, Tate and Councilwomen Bailey, and Ruszkowski and Stevenson were present. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Wolfe 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 June 17, 2013 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

Public Comment:

Patrick Brien 206 College Avenue proposed to Council that a Homeowners Committee be formed of Mount Pleasant homeowners who will volunteer and work in conjunction with Council. The purpose of the Committee will be to serve as a central voice to protect the interests of Mount Pleasant Borough homeowners in the community. The mission of the Committee will be to protect our homes from the loss of value, blight and crime. Any homeowner who is interested in being involved with the Committee may contact Mr. Brien at 724-542-4420.

President Bauer said he feels that such a committee would be of great value to the community and could provide Council with feedback when decisions need to be made. Councilman Tate said that he would like to hold the first meeting of the Committee on July 16, 2013 at 7:00pm at the Mount Pleasant VFW and asked the newspaper to advertise the meeting. Mr. Brien said he would attend the meeting.

Solicitor Wolfe reported that the Westmoreland County Redevelopment Authority will be holding a seminar on September 25, 2013 addressing community blight and what steps you can take to prevent it. Solicitor Wolfe said that he will be speaking at the seminar regarding steps Mount Pleasant Borough has taken regarding these issues. Borough Manager Landy said that the location of the seminar will be provided at a later date and all of Council is invited to attend.

Mr. Michael Quigg 140 Center Avenue, requested that a stop sign be installed at the intersection of Center and Terrace Avenues. Mr. Quigg said that there are a lot of kids in the area and there is a big problem with motorists speeding. Mr. Quigg presented Council with an aerial view of where he would like to see the stop sign installed. President Bauer said that the request will be turned over to the Public Safety Committee and Police Chief Ober for consideration.

Mr. Michael Rosensteel 1323 Ashland Street, Greensburg PA 15601 representing the Westmoreland County ATV Search and Rescue Team spoke to Council about trees they removed from the railroad tracks near the Soccer Field at Willows Park. Mr. Rosensteel thanked Council for the opportunity to use this removal as a training exercise for members of the team.

Speakers:

Jainey Peticca, Membership Manager, Girl Scouts of Western PA spoke to Council about grant funded outreach programs the Girls Scout Council is offering. These outreach programs give girls who are not able to participate in a Girl Scout Troop and attend regular meetings the ability to still be a Girl Scout. Any girls participating in the outreach programs will be a registered Girl Scout and able to participate in all Girl Scout activities. Ms. Peticca proposed a Healthy Living Program for the Borough and asked Council's approval. This program would provide a free lunch in partnership with the Southmoreland Free Lunch Program as well as the Girl Scouting Program. The program would run one day per week for three or six weeks. President Bauer said that the Recreation Committee would have to coordinate any Girl Scout program with the existing YMCA Summer Program and the Southmoreland Food Program.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia read the following Police Report for the month of June 2013:

Report of the Mount Pleasant Police Department for the month of June 2013

The Department answered 94 calls during the month as follows

Complaints	64
Requests for assistance	6
Assist Other Departments	6
Accidents investigated	5
Calls Returned	10
Assist Medic 10	3

the Department made 49 arrests during the month as follows

Vehicle Code	41
Crimes Code	8
Borough Ordinance	0
Warning Issued	0

Parking Tickets issued are as follows:

\$4.00 Meter Tickets	29
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets	8
Void / Excused	0

\$1.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$	-
\$2.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$	-
\$3.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$	-
		\$	
\$4.00 Parking Tickets Paid	27	108.00	
		\$	
\$5.00 Parking Tickets Paid	2	10.00	
		\$	
\$10.00 Parking Tickets Paid	2	20.00	
\$15.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$	-
		\$	
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets Pd	3	30.00	

	\$
Return from Magistrate Eckels	1,256.51
Return from Clerk of Courts	\$ -
	\$
Return from Report Fees	210.00
Return from Parking Permits	\$ -
Return from Restitution	\$ -

	\$
Total	1,634.51

	\$
1 Meter Collection	1,202.83

	\$
Total Receipts for the month	2,837.34

Mayor Lucia said that there are still individuals selling door to door in the Borough without a permit. Residents should call the borough office or police department when someone comes to their door without a permit. People should also keep their eyes open for any unusual activity in their neighborhoods. When you see any strange activity, call the police and report it.

Mayor Lucia announced that the next meeting of the Mount Pleasant Area Reality Tour will be July 11, 2013 beginning at 6:00pm at Rumbaugh Elementary School. The public is encouraged to attend the meeting to see what the tour is all about and hopefully volunteer their services.

Mayor Lucia said that the Firemen's Fair was held last week. The weather kept attendance down, but everyone who came out had a great time. Mount Pleasant Volunteer Firemen will be selling raffle tickets at the Doughboy for anyone who wasn't able to attend the fair.

Solicitor's Report:

Solicitor Wolfe said that he has personnel issues to discuss with Council and suggested an Executive Session at the end of the regular meeting.

Tax Collector's Report:

Tax Collector Carol Yancosky read the following report for the month of June 2013:

Property Tax = \$42,614.96

Per Capita Tax = \$500.50

Total Collected = \$43,115.46

Ms. Yancosky reported that her office is done collecting 2012 Per Capita Tax and the 2013 statements will be mailed on August 1, 2013. The County and Borough taxes are now in penalty phase and the current School Tax statements will be mailed on August 1, 2013 also.

President's Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to advertise for sealed bids for the Diamond Street Rain Garden Project along the sidewalk adjacent to the parking lot at the corner of Diamond and Washington Streets. Bids will be accepted until 11:00am July 22nd and will be opened at 11:00am in Council Chambers. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

Borough Manager Landy said that this final phase of the Stormwater Retrofit Project is designed to solve the water problem in Union Alley.

President Bauer said that Dr. Alfonso Arevalo has expressed interest in donating the property owned by him at 107 Main Street, Mount Pleasant. President Bauer asked Mount Pleasant Borough Health Officer Rita Borenstein to explain the property issues with Council. Ms. Borenstein said that there are numerous code violations at the property and in April she gave Dr. Arevalo two months to either bring the property up to code or demolish it. He has not done either of those things and there is a hearing before Magistrate Eckels tomorrow morning at 9:30am. Council agreed to send a letter with Ms. Borenstein to the hearing tomorrow stating that the Borough is not interested in accepting ownership of the property.

President Bauer said that demolition of the Penn Theater at 100 W Main Street is complete and work is being done on the exposed wall of the adjoining property. Hopefully funds from the grant will be available by August so that work can begin on the proposed parklet and parking lot.

President Bauer said that he would like the Street Department to come and remove the shrubs and weeds from the side of the borough building, put some plastic down and cover it with river rock as soon as possible. President Bauer said he would also like to see something done with the area at the back door of the Municipal Building. Councilman Tate said that the Street Department is extremely busy and will not be able to find the time to do the work. President Bauer asked WWT Superintendent Norman Stout if his crew could do the work and Mr. Stout said he will look at what needs done.

President Bauer said that there are still issues to be resolved at Satcho Park. The four foot fence has been knocked down and graffiti has been painted on the playground equipment. Street Supervisor Mario Fontanazza said that he will have workers from his department try to remove the graffiti.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy said that he is attempting to set up a meeting with Senator Ward and Representative Kula to discuss repaving Main Street.

Mr. Landy said that the problem with the Veterans Park Digital Wall has been corrected and will be completely functional for the "Party In The Park" on July 3rd. Applications for the wall are available at Veterans Park, on the Mount Pleasant web site and at the borough office.

Mr. Landy said that he spoke with a civic group in town who may be interested in donating the money for a welcome to Mount Pleasant sign coming down Route 31 from the east. Mr. Landy said that he has confirmed the donation for the glass block for the sign and the Borough may be able to complete this sign with little funds from the Borough.

Borough Manager Landy said that he spoke with the Mount Pleasant Parking Authority regarding their insurance coverage.

Mr. Landy said that the monthly Safety Committee meeting was held and no accidents were reported.

Mr. Landy said he provided Council with a current list of projects currently in progress in the Borough.

Mr. Landy asked Council Committee Chairmen to look at the Profit & Loss Budget Vs. Actual report. We are currently half way through the year and the report is a good indication of where we are for the year. Any council member who has questions can call the borough office.

Mr. Landy reported that the free lunch program sponsored by Southmoreland School District is going very well this summer, they are averaging thirty to forty young people per day and the parents are very appreciative.

Mr. Landy said that the Movies In The Park have been moved to Frick Park this year and the next movie will be on July 12th, the movie will be "Escape From Planet Earth". The Mount Pleasant Rotary provides free popcorn. The value of the program will be based on attendance. Mayor Lucia said that if it's raining the movie could be moved to Central Fire Station on Church Street.

Waste Water Treatment Report: None

Streets Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to renew the 2013-2014 Winter Municipal Agreement for Engineering District 12-0 at a reimbursement of \$9,960.39 for a total of 3.74 miles. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilman Tate reported that the Street Department is painting the word "stop" on the road at stop signs instead of just a white line. It seems to stand out much better, making drivers more aware. Street Department personnel will begin re-painting crosswalks when the school year approaches. Councilman Tate said that they will also begin repairing the wall at Frick Park.

Veterans Park: None

Public Safety Report:

Councilman Snyder read the following Fire Report for the month of June 2013:

Total Calls 39
In Town 10
Out Of Town 29
10-45's 17
10-45's W/Entrapment 2
Fires 10
AFA's 6
Public Service 4
Standbys 1
Turnpike Calls 4
Total Members Answering 740
Total Members Per Call 18
Total Staff Hours 522

Councilman Snyder said that K-9 Officer George Grippo is going to have a heavy duty alternator and LED lights installed in the visor area front and rear on the recently purchased Jeep Cherokee if Council has no objections. It is not possible to install a light bar on the roof because of the sunroof. No one from Council objected. The cost will be taken from the K-9 Fund. The Crown Victoria previously used as the K-9 vehicle will be used as a spare cruiser.

Zoning & Ordinance Report:

Councilman McCloy said that he attended the Medic 10 board meeting on Sunday evening and everything seems to be going very well in the department.

Councilman McCloy said that The Community Yard Sale was a great success and a lot of homeowners participated. Councilwoman Stevenson said that she met people from Uniontown and Belle Vernon who came to town for the community yard sale.

Community & Economic Development/Grants Report: None

Parks & Recreation Report: None

Finance & Human Resources: None

Property:

Councilman Pritts said that Warren Turner has agreed to donate lights for the Welcome To Mount Pleasant sign and the rest of the supplies should cost approximately \$250.00 and the monthly electric bill would be a separate account.

Borough Manager Landy said that he got quotes to clean the carpeting in Dr. Rinchuse Office on the first floor of the Municipal Building and he would like to get quotes to have the carpeting cleaned on the other floors. Councilman Pritts said to go ahead and get the quotes.

Sanitation & Recycling Report:

Councilwoman Stevenson said that Westmoreland Cleanways has produced a flyer about recycling and what can and cannot be recycled.

New Business: None

Reading of Communications:

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- A resident who lives on Center Avenue and who's garage is in the alley that goes to Willows Park expressed concern about the alley being open to two-way traffic. She said that after the Little League games traffic is very congestive and there is potential for an accident. A discussion ensued and Council agreed that it can remain as it is.

Discussion and Payment of Bills:

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

Meeting Adjourned 8:35pm

An Executive Session was held from 8:35pm to 8:50pm to discuss personnel issues.

Motions from July 1, 2013 Meeting

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