

## Meeting February 3, 2014

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. Councilman Caruso, Pritts, Tate, Wagner, and Councilwomen Bailey, Ruszkowski and Stevenson were present. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Wolfe were present. President Bauer stated we have a quorum.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to accept the minutes of January 21, 2014 after a correction is made stating that Solicitor Wolfe was not present at that meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

**Public Comment:** None

Mayor Lucia swore in new members of Mount Pleasant Boards and Authorities as follows:

Richard Pologruto, Municipal Authority  
Kathleen Ceroni-Poleshko, Planning Commission  
Vincent Zaccaria, Business District Authority  
Kim Giles, Business District Authority  
Deborah Ann Salopek, Business District Authority  
George Wood, Planning Commission  
Al Maida, Parking Authority  
Phyllis Newell, Zoning Hearing Board  
Michael Ruszkowski, Vacancy Board Chairman

### Speakers:

Rick Meason, President of the Mount Pleasant Historical Society spoke to Council about twenty year old Mount Pleasant Chief of Police Denver Braden Pore who lost his life in the line of duty on April 7, 1906 from an incident that occurred on April 5, 1906. Mr. Meason proposed that a monument be erected outside the Mount Pleasant Municipal Building, giving Chief Poor the recognition he deserves. Mr. Meason proposed that a committee be formed to come up with fundraising strategies. Councilman Tate said that he would like to see something on the Veterans Park Digital Wall about Chief Poor's life and the events of April 5, 1906. Councilwoman Stevenson said that Mr. Meason has been a great asset to the Historical Society and to the Borough and looks forward to working with him in the future. Councilman Tate said that he would like to see something outside the Municipal Building that also includes past Mayors Sam Etze and William Potoka.

### Mayor's Report:

Report of the Mount Pleasant Police Department for the month of January 2014:

The Department answered 308 calls during the month as follows

Complaints	76
Requests for assistance	9
Assist Other Departments	9
Accidents investigated	7
Calls Returned	15
Assist Medic 10	9
Assist Mutual Aid	1

The Department made 35 Arrests during the month as follows:

Vehicle Code	30
Crimes Code	5
Borough Ordinance	0
Warning Issued	0

Parking Tickets issued are as follows:

\$4.00 Meter Tickets	37		
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets	0		
Void / Excused	0		
\$4.00 Parking Tickets Paid	28	\$	112.00

\$5.00 Parking Tickets Paid	1	\$	5.00
\$10.00 Parking Tickets Paid	2	\$	20.00
\$15.00 Parking Tickets Paid	0	\$	-
\$10.00 No Parking Tickets Pd	1	\$	10.00
Return from Magistrate Eckels		\$	1,027.44
Return from Clerk of Courts		\$	70.00
Return from Report Fees		\$	60.00
Return from Parking Permits		\$	-
Return from Restitution		\$	-
Total		\$	1,304.44
1 Meter Collection		\$	356.49
Total Receipts for the month		\$	1,660.93

Mayor Lucia said that reports attached to the Police Report document the times Mount Pleasant Police left the Borough to assist other police departments. President Bauer questioned the report of our Police leaving the Borough to assist a Constable. President Bauer said it was his understanding that our Officers are covered by our liability insurance if they leave the Borough to assist the State Police via 911 or a Police Department covered under a mutual aid agreement and asked if our insurance would cover our Officers assisting a Constable.

Mayor Lucia reminded residents to make sure that anyone soliciting door to door has a permit issued from the Borough. Borough Manager Landy said that right now anyone soliciting will have a paper permit issued by the borough office and soon will have a lanyard visible showing their picture and permit dates.

Mayor Lucia said that borough residents should be diligent about removing snow from sidewalks on their property. The borough ordinance states that sidewalks must be cleared within 24 hours after a snowfall.

**Solicitor's Report:** None

**Tax Collector's Report:**

Councilwoman Stevenson read the following Tax Report prepared by Tax Collector Carol Yancosky for the month of January 2014:

Per Capita Tax = \$71.50

Councilwoman Stevenson said that Ms. Yancosky reminded tax payers that during the month of January and February she only collects Per Capita Taxes.

**President's Report:**

President Bauer said that he has assigned committee chairmen and committee members. President Bauer said he tried to assign experienced members of council to committees that have projects in the works and if any of the appointments don't work out they can be changed.

President Bauer said that there was a meeting with State Pipe regarding the project on N. Geary Street about an issue with a buried manhole cover that they discovered when they cameraed the line. The pipe after the manhole goes from 36 inches to 30 inches. This means that the pipe that was ordered will not work. A plan was put into place and it will cost the Borough an additional \$10,000. The plan is to put a sock in the pipe that will expand with hot water when it is cured. President Bauer said that they will not return the pipe that was originally ordered until State Pipe cameras the lines on S. Geary Street and we know if it can be used for a possible project in that area.

President Bauer said that the borough office received complaints last week from two tenants regarding damage to the properties they rent. President Bauer said that one problem was solved with the help of Gerard Rendine and the other one has since been resolved also.

### **Borough Manager's Report:**

Borough Manager Landy asked Council to look at the current Budget Vs. Actual report for the first month on 2014.

Mr. Landy said that he attended the recent School Board Meeting with April Kopas from Westmoreland County Redevelopment to discuss land banking. The School Board will vote at their next meeting whether they will agree to the terms the County presented.

Mr. Landy said he has a Conflict of Interest Abstention form Council will complete when they abstain from a council vote that will explain the reason for their abstention.

Borough Manager Landy said that the Street Department has done a good job during the recent bad weather and our salt supply is still good. There is still a problem with homeowners who have discharge from their sump pumps running onto borough streets causing ice problems and safety issues.

Mr. Landy said that he, President Bauer and Mayor Lucia met with one of the local banks regarding a loan for the energy upgrade project on borough buildings and will be talking to other banks. The loan will be for approximately \$300,000 and will guarantee energy savings of at least that amount.

Mr. Landy said that Police Chief Ober has gotten many of the borough's parking meters repaired and Westmoreland County has done the five-year inspection of Borough and Parking Authority meters.

**Waste Water Treatment Report:** None

**Veterans Park Report:** None

### **Streets Report:**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to appoint McCormick Taylor Engineering to apply for the 2014 MS4 Permit. Motion seconded by Councilman Wagner. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilwoman Bailey reported that during snow events the Street Department will clear the main roadways first followed by secondary streets and then alleys. After the streets and alleys are cleared they will plow parking lots. Councilwoman Bailey asked residents to abide by the posted Snow Emergency Route signs. President Bauer said that he feels the Street Department did a very good job during the recent snow storm. WWT Treatment workers were a great help assisting in plowing some of the secondary roads. Councilwoman Bailey said that Street Department personnel should be commended because there was a plow damaged and they had the plow repaired and back on the street very quickly.

President Bauer said that since we were not able to get CDBG funds to pave Braddock Road Avenue that we may be able to borrow equipment from a member of the 2014 G11 Conference and pave the street ourselves. President Bauer said that N. Geary Street is also badly in need of paving as well as S. Geary and Anne Streets. Borough Manager Landy said that he can get an estimated cost from Penn Dot Municipal Services for block bids for designated areas.

Councilman Pritts said he would like Penn Dot to come in and reassess our streets with our Street Department to determine priorities after this hard winter.

### **Public Safety Zoning & Ordinance Report:**

Councilwoman Stevenson asked for some clarification before making the motion for a Mutual Aid Agreement with Kecksburg. Mayor Lucia explained that when Frick Hospital 930 Unit went out of commission on December 1, 2013 Kecksburg and Norvelt requested that Medic 10 provide a primary paramedic backup.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to ratify a Mutual Aid Agreement with Kecksburg Rescue Squad and Norvelt EMS allowing Medic 10 to be primary paramedic backup due to the Frick Hospital 930 Unit going out of service. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilwoman Stevenson reported that there was an accident with the 2013 police vehicle that will require the front bumper to be replaced. The Borough received one estimate to replace the bumper and will get at least two

more. Borough Manager Landy said that after he receives a report of the accident he will forward the report and estimates to our insurance carrier. The policy does have a \$1,000 deductible.

Mayor Lucia said he received a call from the owners of Saloom Rega Funeral Home who have a problem with their rear garage door opening directly onto Coppula Drive. Mayor Lucia said that speed bumps and a stop sign may be solutions. Other possibilities were discussed and the Public Safety Committee will review them.

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

Councilman Wagner said he received grant application paperwork from Police Officer Dan Zilli. Councilman Wagner said he has spoken with Councilwoman Bailey and will meet with Officer Zilli and Police Chief Ober to determine what our Police Department would like to purchase with funds from this grant. Councilman Wagner said that he will first determine whether we are eligible for the grant.

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

Councilwoman Bailey said that Councilman Wojnar asked her to relay the message to Council that he was grateful to be able to attend the Newly Elected Municipal Officials Training and he looks forward to using the information he was given.

#### **Finance & Human Resources Report:**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to transfer \$3,395.00 from Levin line item in Standard Bank Budgetary Reserve the PNC General fund to reimburse for payment to RTR Landscaping. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to transfer \$600.01 from the K-9 line item in Standard Bank Budgetary Reserve to PNC General Fund to cover 2013 expenses. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

#### **Property Report:**

Councilman Pritts reported that the new wall at Frick Park was completed by the Street Department.

Councilman Pritts talked about the energy savings program that the Borough is borrowing money to do. This is a project through Honeywell that has been in the works for a couple of years. Honeywell has almost completed the study of borough properties and electric usage. Council will approve the study after it is complete and that study will be used to advertise for RFP's. This project has a guaranteed electric savings that will offset the loan payment.

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

Councilman Caruso reported that he received an email today that Allied Waste will not be picking up garbage today due to the weather and will be picking up tomorrow.

Councilman Caruso said he will meet with Councilwoman Stevenson to discuss the Sanitation & Recycling committee and the garbage contract etc. President Bauer said that he will let Councilman Caruso know when John McGoran, Allied Waste Manager of Municipal Services will be coming into Mount Pleasant so that a meeting can be planned.

#### **New Business:**

Councilman Tate said that as president of the Assunta Club, that is also a landlord, he will write a letter to Gerard Rendine, President of the Landlord Association, to tell him that he would like to become a member of the Landlord Association and attend meetings.

#### **Reading of Communications:**

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- A form to join the C.O.G. President Bauer said that he doesn't feel the C.O.G. is a benefit to the Borough.

- An invitation to the Fourth Annual Roundtable Discussion hosted by the Westmoreland County Conservation District on February 14th. Borough Manager Landy said that he will attend.
- Information on a Job Expo sponsored by Westmoreland Assists Native Talent at The Ramada Inn, Greensburg PA February 21, 2014 from 9am to 1pm.

**Discussion and Payment of Bills:**

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to pay all approved and authorized bills. Motion seconded Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Councilwoman Bailey abstained from signing an invoice because it is for her husband's company. Motion carried 8-0.

**Miscellaneous and Adjournment:**

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

**Meeting adjourned 8:30pm**

### **Motions from February 3, 2014 Meeting**

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