

Meeting May 2, 2016

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Wagner 7:05pm 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 directed Borough Manager Landy to take roll. Councilpersons present included Bailey, Caruso, Pritts, Rogacki (via conference call), Ruszkowski. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Liptak were present. President Wagner stated that a quorum is present. Councilwoman Barnes arrived at 7:39pm.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve the minutes of April 18, 2016 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 6-0.

Public Comment:

Ira Bennett, Mount Pleasant Borough Code Enforcement Officer spoke to Council about his new position and that he is looking forward to working with Council, Mayor Lucia and Borough Manager Landy. Mr. Bennett said that he is in the process of reviewing borough ordinances and will work to make the Borough a better place to live.

Members of the Ministerium, Father Rick Kosisko, St. Pius X and Visitation Churches, Pastor Randy Landman, Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church and Pastor Randy Landman, St. Johns Union Church attended the council meeting to bless and present the Borough with a Bible to be used for future swearing-in ceremonies. Council thanked the members of the Ministerium for their support of Mount Pleasant and Borough Manager Landy for suggesting it.

Mayor Lucia swore in Ira Bennett as Mount Pleasant Borough Code Enforcement Officer.

Ms. Deborah Salopek, 6961 State Route 819 Mount Pleasant PA spoke on behalf of the Tylka Family who are requesting that Council allow them to hold a 5k walk through Mount Pleasant on June 4, 2016 beginning at 9am in honor of their mother Kathy Tylka.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to amend the agenda. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to allow a 5k walk through Mount Pleasant on June 4, 2015 beginning at 9am and provide police support. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 6-0.

Mr. Ed Christophano, Hayden's Pharmacy, 535 W. Main Street Mount Pleasant PA requested that Council allow him to hold a car cruise on Main Street on Saturday June 18, 2016 and allow them to bag the parking meters on Main Street from 2pm to 6pm on that date. Proceeds from the car cruise will go toward the July 3rd fireworks expense.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to amend the agenda. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to allow Hayden's Pharmacy to bag the parking meters on Main Street from 2pm to 6pm from CoGo's to the Mount Pleasant VFW on June 18, 2016 for their annual car cruise. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 6-0.

Mayor Lucia spoke on behalf of the P.T.A. and requested that they be allowed to hold a walk on May 21, 2016 beginning at Ramsey football field from 9am to 1pm.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to amend the agenda. Motion seconded by Councilman Caruso. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to allow the P.T.A. to hold a walk on May 21, 2016 from 9am to 1pm beginning at Ramsay football field. Motion seconded by Councilman Caruso. Motion carried 6-0.

Speakers: None

Reading of Communications:

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- A letter from Attorney Liptak stating that she is no longer employed by Davis & Davis, but would like to continue to represent the Borough.
- A letter from McClure & Wolf requesting permission to access borough files for the 2015 Audit.
- The Mount Pleasant Area Historical Society has requested the annual \$50 donation for the Community Picnic.

Council agreed to donate \$50 to the Mount Pleasant Area Historical Society for the 2016 Community Picnic and to approve amounts under \$100 without a motion in the future.

- Ms. Jane Altman is requesting Council support to hold an indoor farmers market and cafe in the space below McCalie Manor. Ms. Altman would like a letter of support from Council in order to apply for grant funds.

A discussion ensued and it was agreed that a number of questions would have to be answered by Ms. Altman before support is given. Parking issues were discussed by Council. President Wagner said that the BDA has discussed moving their Farmer Market closer to Veterans Park. Borough Manager Landy said that the Mount Pleasant Parking Authority will have to give the BDA permission to use their parking lot across from the Gazebo if that is what they want to do. If the BDA would like to close a portion of S. Diamond Street they would have to get permission from Penn Dot.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia read the following Fire Report for the Month of April 2016:

Total Calls – 39
 10-45's – 8
 10-45's W/Entrapment – 1
 Fires – 16
 AFA's – 9
 Public Service Calls – 3
 Standbys – 2
 Drills – 1
 Turnpike Calls – 1
 Total Members Answering – 587
 Avg. Member Per Call – 15
 Total Staff Hours – 383

Mayor Lucia reported that the Mount Pleasant VFD responded to a structure fire at Dr. Anderson's location on Main Street last week and there was structural damage to the building. Dr. Anderson said that he will be rebuilding that office and operate out of a temporary office in the meantime.

Borough Manager Landy said that the Borough will be picking up the newly purchased police vehicle on Monday May 9, 2016 and the vehicle will be up-fitted by Force One.

Borough Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy said that Council has been provided with a Budget Vs. Actual Report that reflects budget number through the end of April 2016.

Mr. Landy said that the list of customers who would like a smaller recycling container has been sent to Republic Services.

Borough Manager Landy said that work on Penn Park continues and should be completed before the deadline of July 2016. Mr. Landy thanked the Mount Pleasant Borough Street Department and WWT employees for their support in providing in-kind services required by the CDBG Grant.

Mr. Landy said that he has been working with the owner of 344 Washington Street to convince him to turn the property over to the Westmoreland County Land Bank if they will accept it.

Borough Manager Landy said that he and Councilwoman Barnes are working on completing the open DCED Grants for the basketball court and Frick Park lighting. The Borough is working on moving the playground equipment from Frick Park to Willow Park.

Borough Manager Landy said that the bids for the Bar-Screen for WWT came in high and will have to be re-bid. Mr. Landy said that he and Councilman Rogacki discussed holding a pre-bid conference for any questions the bidders may have.

Mr. Landy said that he is attending on-going meetings with Penn Dot regarding the 2017 Main Street Project and coming up with a final design. Mr. Landy said that he has also had meetings with the engineering firm regarding the new traffic signals on Main Street. They are suggesting “adaptive” signals that would change based on Main Street traffic. If the traffic on Main Street is heavy, the lights would stay green longer etc. That would mean that side streets would have a longer red light. The possible cost would be \$3,000 per year. The Borough can also choose not to use this system.

Borough Manager Landy said that at the monthly Safety Committee Meeting in April Police Chief Sam discussed signs outside the Municipal Building banning weapons from the building as well as a safety door for the third floor of the Municipal Building.

Mr. Landy said that the MS4 Permit process will start soon and an MS4 Audit will be done in the near future.

Mr. Landy said that the union contract for our Street Department renews this year and we need to get some information to the Steel Workers Union before negotiations begin.

Tax Collector’s Report:

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

Property Tax = \$268,537.77
 Per Capita Tax = \$115.50
 Total = \$268,653.27

Solicitor’s Report:

Solicitor Liptak said that she has not received a response from Honeywell regarding the contract with the Borough. Solicitor Liptak said that in the letter she stated that if the Borough does not receive a response from Honeywell we will consider the contract terminated. Therefore, Solicitor Liptak said that Council can consider it finished business, mark it as discharged debt and money allocated for that project can be used at the discretion of Council.

President’s Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to discharge Davis & Davis Law as Borough Solicitor and retain Attorney Deanna Liptak as Borough Solicitor. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 7-0.

President Wagner said that he will look back at 2015 minutes to determine if more unfinished business should be added to the 2016 workshop agendas.

Borough Manager Landy said that he and Mayor Lucia and Police Chief Sam attended a “Mothers Against Drunk Drivers” meeting in Oakmont PA. While in Oakmont Mr. Landy said that they drove around and met the Mayor who welcomed the idea of giving Mount Pleasant Borough Council a tour of Oakmont.

President Wagner said that he would like the work sessions to be an informal discussion with council members discussing ideas and solutions for the Borough. Progress can be reported at future meetings.

President Wagner said that he will schedule a meeting with the department chairmen and employees to discuss his vision for the Borough and what his expectations are.

Councilman Pritts said that at a recent meeting he and Borough Manager Landy met the Ligonier Borough Manager and were told that Ligonier Borough sends a representative to the Ligonier Township meetings so that ideas and information can be exchanged. Councilman Pritts said that may be something Mount Pleasant should consider.

Waste Water Treatment Report:

WWT Superintendent Larry Hague made the following report for month of May 2016:

- Opened fountain at Veteran's Park
- Install conduit for the new chlorinators
- Numerous employee interviews and walk arounds at plant, but every person had an issue (no driver's license and or a criminal record)
- Larry had a continuing education class on Inflow and Infiltration
- Numerous walk arounds at plant to show contractors the Mechanical Bar Screen at the plant that was out for bid
- Set up IP address with Verizon for the flowmeter and dig up the manholes at the Quarry St. pumping station to install pipe for the overflow that is going to be tied into East Huntingdon Township's collection system
- Larry and Jeff attended a meeting at The Westmoreland Conservation District office concerning water
- Walked Gibson Thomas around the College Ave. project that we want surveyed to give a cost estimate to replace the sewer lines in that area
- Had a Chemist from Barber's Chemicals come out and we performed jar testing to look into using other polymers to possibly save money
- Meeting with Penn Dot concerning the Main Street utility replacement project which needs to be completed this year
- Larry and Jeff attended a FEMA meeting for the reimbursement for winter storm Jonas in January.

Mr. Hague said he is still in need of help at the plant, it is not possible to continue on the same path that they are on now with the limited staff. "We are falling behind with the day to day operations at the plant, and needless to say the extra projects that we try to do in house to save money are also not getting done. For example tying the overflow from the Quarry St. Pump station into East Huntingdon Township's line should have been done but with limited manpower it is not possible. We started it and it should have been done but is sitting waiting. We need to act on this staffing issue now and try to offer something better to draw in better applicants than what we have been. The last month of applicants have been a waste of time for myself and the council members performing the interviews".

President Wagner asked if the 2017 Main Street Project is on schedule. Superintendent Hague said that meetings are being held with Penn Dot. President Wagner said that the Mount Pleasant Municipal Authority is in charge of the sewer line portion of the project and are working to secure the funds needed and the Borough will pay the loan. Mr. Hague said that engineers are working on project design.

A motion was made by Councilman Caruso to approve payment of expenses as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 7-0.

Streets Report:

Councilman Caruso said that there will be a meeting with Gibson & Thomas Engineers regarding the 2016 MS4 Permit. Members of the Streets Committee and Street Supervisor Mario Fontanazza will attend the meeting.

Councilman Caruso said that Street Department personnel are removing fence panels from the Bridgeport Street property to be used at Penn Park. Councilman Caruso said that the rest of the fence will have to be taken down because it is unstable.

A motion was made by Councilman Caruso to close Route 31 Main Street on June 21, 2016 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm for the Firemen's Parade. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

A Motion was made by Councilman Caruso to close Smithfield Street from Church Street to Diamond Street from June 20, 2016 to June 25, 2016 for the Firemen's Fair. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Caruso to award the 2016 Paving Bid to Victor Paving, Monongahela PA in the amount of \$45,380.45. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilman Caruso said that an additional mile of borough streets will be tarred and chipped in 2016. Borough Manager Landy stated that it will require coordination between paving and tar and chip projects so that a detour is available for the 2017 Main Street Project.

A motion was made by Councilman Caruso to approve payment of expenses as presented. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 7-0.

Public Safety Zoning & Ordinance Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Caruso to approve payment for expenses as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 7-0.

Borough Manager discussed upgrading parking meters on Main Street and using the same ones at Penn Park. Mr. Landy said that he and Police Chief Sam are working on whether to try the new meters and where to test them.

Parks & Recreation Report:

Councilwoman Barnes thanked everyone who helped during Mount Pleasant Clean Up Day. There were 20 volunteers and a lot was accomplished.

Councilwoman Barnes said that she feels the other half of the basketball court is lifting up and she asked Borough Manager Landy to find out how soon it can be repaired. Borough Manager Landy said that if there is a water problem it needs to be fixed before the court is refinished.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Barnes to approve payment of expenses as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Caruso. Motion carried 7-0.

Borough Manager Landy said that there is a problem with four of the lights that shine on Veterans Wall. Other lights at the park have been fixed by sealing them and these will have to be repaired in the same way. Because of the expense they may have to be fixed one at a time. Money for the repairs may have to come out of the funds donated to the Borough by Congressman Murtha for Veterans Park.

Councilwoman Ruszkowski wanted to know who will be handling the food for the July 3rd Party In The Park. In The past the Glass Festival has set up a booth to sell hamburgers and hot dogs. Council agreed that the Glass Festival should handle the food again this year. Borough Manager Landy said that he will contact other vendors to supply other food items.

President Wagner said that the wooden fence at Frick Park should be removed because it could be a safety hazard. Council agreed that it should be removed. Councilman Caruso said that the Street Department will remove the fence.

President Wagner said that he would like to add moving the fence from the Volleyball Court to Jack Bobb's Park under Parks & Recreation Unfinished Business.

President Wagner said that the steps at Frick Park are unsafe and something needs to be done with the railroad ties that are rotting. President Wagner said that this issue will be added to Parks & Recreation Unfinished Business.

The work that needs done at the bridge at Willow Park will also be added to Parks & Recreation Unfinished Business. The Street Department and WWT should coordinate the repairs.

Finance & Human Resources Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to hire Larry Golobish as a Summer Help Borough employee at \$10 per hour with no benefits and Mr. Golobish will report to Councilman Caruso. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilwoman Bailey reported that the Borough received a dividend from MRM Insurance Company who handles the Borough's liability insurance in the amount of \$6,175.34. The Borough has been part of the dividend program for 4 years and every year we are in the program the dividend increases.

Councilwoman Bailey said that she is meeting with another insurance company in the next week or so who will present a proposal for liability insurance.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to approve payment of all approved expenses. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Barnes. Motion carried 7-0.

President Wagner said that supervisor contracts should be added to Finance & Human Resources Unfinished Business.

Property Report:

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that the company who is handling the flow meters will start at the Street Department and Medic 10 this week.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to approve payment of all expenses as read. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that she received a quote for the eight windows that need replaced at Central Fire Station and has requested quotes from two other companies.

Sanitation & Recycling Report:

Councilman Pritts made an announcement that any resident who want to switch from the 65 gallon recycling container to the 35 gallon container should call the borough office and they will contact Republic Services with the list. The tubs can no longer be used and they cannot be recycled.

Community & Economic Development/Grants Report: None

New Business:

Borough Manager Landy discussed the upcoming G-13 Conference on May 19, 20 and 21, 2016. Mr. Landy requested permission to allow department supervisors to attend the daytime G-13 meetings. Council G-13 meetings will be held on Saturday and council members are urged to attend. The keynote speaker this year will be Lt. Governor Mike Stack.

Councilwoman Ruszkowski discussed the 2016 Christmas Ornament. The proceeds from the sale go toward holiday lighting. Councilwoman Ruszkowski asked Council if they wanted to sell an ornament again this year and if they would agree to feature Veterans Wall on this year's ornament. Council agreed to move forward with a 2016 Christmas Ornament. The artwork for the ornament will be pulled from Marie Dawson's stock of pictures.

Councilwoman Bailey said that she has list of requests from the Mount Pleasant Glass & Ethnic Festival as follows:

- Use of the WWT gray water tank, WWT truck and trailer to haul picnic tables back and forth to the Festival location, the Emergency Management Trailer, the Festival office on the 2nd floor of the Municipal Building and the Gazebo Area. Council agreed to allow the festival to use the requested equipment and the Gazebo Area.
- Closing of S Diamond Street from Main Street to Silver Street and Washington Street from College Avenue to Hitchman Street as well as Main Street from 1pm to 4pm for the Festival Parade. Council agreed to allow the streets to be closed during the Festival and the Festival Parade.
- The use of one Street Department employees and two WWT employees for setup on Thursday and two WWT employees to help tear down on Monday. Council agreed to allow borough personnel to help with the Festival. President Wagner said that he would like to see a partnership between the Glass Festival and the Borough. President Wagner suggested that the Glass Festival maintain Washington Street from Church Street to Hitchman Street. Borough Manager Landy said that there have been tangible donations from the Festival to the Borough. President Wagner said that he would like to be able to tell the taxpayers what the Glass Festival is doing for the Borough. Councilman Pritts said that

he appreciates the flexibility the Glass Festival has that the Borough doesn't in providing funds to certain causes. Council agreed to allow use of the borough employees to help with the Festival.

Mayor Lucia said that if residents receive solicitation calls from someone who they feel is not legitimate they should call 911 so that the Police can respond immediately.

Public Comment: None

Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

A motion was made by Councilman Rogacki to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Caruso. Motion carried 7-0.

Meeting Adjourned 10:09pm

Motion From Meeting of May 2, 2016

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