

## Meeting May 19, 2014

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

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to dispense with the reading of the minutes of April 21, 2014 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

**Public Comment:** None

### **Speakers:**

Mr. Joe Dietrick, Markosky Engineering, Jacobs Creek Watershed spoke to Council about some projects being done in Mount Pleasant Township that will impact the Borough. The first project is the Maruka Trailer Park. The asphalt parking pads in the trailer park will be changed to pervious concrete which will allow for better drainage. Jacobs Creek Watershed will also install inlets and a 6' detention tank. This project will significantly reduce runoff from the trailer park onto properties on N. Geary Street. This project will be funded by a grant from the EPA. The project will depend on an easement being signed for a property on N. Geary Street. Mr. Dietrick said they are working on getting that easement.

Mr. Dietrick said that the other project will be at the Polish Falcons Club. In the upper parking lot of the club some parking spaces will be removed and a rain garden will be installed. A paved section of the street will be removed and a vegetative swale will be installed and in front of the building pervious concrete will be installed. At the very bottom of the parking lot, parking spaces will be removed to install a retention basin.

Mr. Dietrick said there is also money available from the EPA for design work at the plaza by the railroad tracks and for Main Street. Inlets will be installed on Main Street. This project will depend on a partnership with PennDot, who would administer the project. Mr. Dietrick said he would also like to see pervious sidewalks on Main Street.

Suzanne Chybrzynski and Tom Ohls, HDH Group Inc., spoke to Council about the June 1, 2014 insurance renewal through MRM Liability Trust. The renewal this year was complicated by the WWT Plant claim for the collapse of the bio-tower. At this point there has been no determination on whether the claim is a covered claim. When MRM was informed of the impending claim they informed HDH that the Borough's insurance premium would be raised by 30%. HDH negotiated with MRM and the increase for the Borough will actually be 11%. This year's premium will be \$48,586.00 which includes the increase. The deductible for property loss will also be increased to \$5,000. The increase is strictly because of property loss claims. It also reflects the removal of the In-Town Shops and the Parking Authority. Each year the Borough receives a dividend check from MRM based solely on the dividend year.

Borough Manager Landy said that this is the last meeting before the June 1<sup>st</sup> deadline to renew our insurance with HDH Group Inc. Therefore, Council will have to make a decision tonight on whether to renew. A discussion ensued.

### **Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Lucia asked Council if they have made a decision regarding hiring a Zoning Ordinance Officer for the Borough or to continue to use Officer Grippo. Officer Grippo cites for high grass and abandoned vehicles, but a Zoning Ordinance Officer could also keep an eye out for blighted or abandoned properties. Mayor Lucia said that when Officer Grippo was on vacation Police Chief Ober and Officer Zilli drove around the Borough and discovered 27 properties that have high grass.

A discussion ensued regarding different properties in the Borough that have high grass or are blighted. Council also discussed the end results of placing a lien on a property. Councilman Tate suggested contacting the banks or lien holder of the abandoned properties with a name of a person from the Borough that they can hire to cut the grass.

Mayor Lucia said that he feels a person who lives in the Borough could do a better job as Zoning Ordinance Officer for high grass because they are able to see which properties need to be cited. Council would have to determine how the Zoning Ordinance Officer would be paid.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to suspend the rules for a motion to close the streets for Memorial Day. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to close Main Street from Braddock Road Avenue to Hitchman on Memorial Day May 26, 2014 from 10:15am to 11:00am for the Memorial Day Parade and Diamond Street from Washington Street to Smithfield Street for Memorial Day ceremonies. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to suspend the rules for a motion to close Main Street for the Firemen’s Parade. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to close Main Street from Braddock Road Avenue to Kennedy Avenue on June 24, 2014 from 6:15pm to 8:30pm for the Firemen’s Parade. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 8-0.

Mayor Lucia said that since Council has decided to close the basketball courts at 11pm the young men who use the court for their league play have raised objections. Mayor Lucia said that any organized league that wants to use borough facilities must come before Council to ask permission. This is done by the Soccer League, Girls Softball League etc. This is something that has never changed. The Basketball League has not done that. Council agreed that the Police Department should stop any basketball league activity.

Borough Manager Landy said that Mr. Tony Splendore is interested in organizing a basketball league, but he would like pads on the poles of the court and he would like someone to look at the cracks on the court. President Bauer instructed Borough Manager Landy to order pads for the poles.

Mayor Lucia said that he would like a letter put together outlining what is expected from any sports league using borough property and if there is league activity on the basketball court a police officer can present them with the letter and the requirements and tell them that until the requirements are met they are not allowed to use the courts.

**Solicitor’s Report:**

Borough Manager Landy said that Solicitor Wolfe told him that we are waiting for Honeywell to forward contracts for review.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Borough Manager read the following Treasurer’s Report for the month of April 2014:

		Previous Balance	Deposits	Disbursements	Balance 2014
General Fund Checking	PNC 00-0122-3513	73,296.00	411,324.39	425,185.39	59,435.00
General Fund Sweep	PNC 10-1149-3394	787,497.37	186,307.58	202,273.83	771,531.12
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	PNC 102-457-4388	43,396.99	1.79	0.00	43,398.78
**Fire	30,000.00				
**Police	0.00				
**Streets	10,000.00				
**Contingency Fund	3,398.78				
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 321615	393,230.73	77,038.54	0.00	470,269.27
**Police	33,127.60				
**Streets	90,000.00				
**Contingency Fund	180,350.88				
**Infrastructure	100,000.00				
**BOMP1 Gas Well	9,250.00				
**BOMP2 Gas Well	4,572.81				
**Frick Park Gas Well	24,408.36				
**Levins	970.06				
**Surveillance Cameras	160.00				
**Early Warning Siren Grant	1,300.00				
**Fire	15,000.00				
**K-9	11,129.56				

Escrow Account	PNC Bank 10-2912-6867	27,323.81	0.00	2,000.00	25,323.81
Liquid Fuels PLGIT	PLGIT 56980126	134,262.41	3.34	4,626.15	129,639.60
Monument CD	Standard Bank 328188	5,950.65	0.00	0.00	5,950.65
Holiday Lighting Fund	Standard Bank 050004849	1,802.97	0.07	0.00	1,803.04
Payroll Fund	PNC 00-0122-6415	661.52	61,235.17	61,235.18	661.51
Veterans Park Fund	First Niagara 981293700	811.49	120.00	0.00	931.49
Veterans Park Fund	PLGIT 5698025	5,548.44	0.14	0.00	5,548.58
Town Clock Fund	Standard Bank 0010038847	613.67	0.03	0.00	613.70
Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	PNC Bank 10-3888-4556	3,042.21	0.00	0.00	3,042.21
<b>Total General Fund Balance</b>					<b>1,518,148.76</b>
Medic 10 Checking	Standard Bank 0010107643	105,784.78	107,972.31	77,558.07	136,199.02
Medic 10 Savings	Standard Bank 0310000238	142,969.58	1,011.83	0.00	143,981.41
Medic 10 Money Market	PNC Bank 10-1516-8804	5,881.55	0.25	0.00	5,881.80
Medic 10 Community Trust	Standard Bank 0000358253	3,336.26	0.00	0.00	3,336.26
<b>Total Medic 10 Fund Balance</b>					<b>289,398.49</b>
WWT Operational Acct	Standard Bank 0320012280	245,337.26	85,132.02	60,783.49	269,685.79
WWT Savings	Standard Bank 0050021008	95,569.00	1,512.12	0.00	97,081.12
WWT Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 0000287245	168,306.90	10,014.22	0.00	178,321.12
**Contingency		108,321.12			
**Infrastructure		60,000.00			
<b>Total WWT Balance</b>					<b>545,088.03</b>
<b>Total Borough funds</b>					<b>2,352,635.28</b>
Councilwoman Susan Ruszkowski					
Secretary Beverly Fedorchak					

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to approve the Treasurers Report as read. Motion seconded by Councilman Wagner. Motion carried 8-0.

**President's Report:** None

**Borough Manager's Report:**

Borough Manager Landy said that there will be a meeting tomorrow with Industry Weapon to go over the problems at the Veterans Park Digital Wall.

Mr. Landy said that signs have been put up around town advertising all June events.

Mr. Landy said that he met with representatives from Penn Dot and discussed the Agility Agreement. Mr. Landy explained that Agility Agreements allow for shared resources between the Borough and Penn Dot.

Borough Manager Landy said that he represented the Borough as a speaker at the Building 1 Southwestern Forum. There were 10 speakers and will be shown on PCNC if anyone wants to hear what was said.

Borough Manager Landy said that he has the council sign-up sheet for Concert In The Park. Council members can sign up to help at the concert they will be available for.

Mr. Landy said that he has started making calls to solicit sponsorship money for the July 3<sup>rd</sup> Fireworks. As of right now we are in need of \$2,500 for cover the full cost of the fireworks.

Borough Manager Landy said that he received grant opportunities from FEMA and forwarded those to Councilman Wagner.

Mr. Landy said that MAWC has provided the Borough with the number of customers we are billing for sewage. There are two ways for the Borough to raise sewage income, by flow or by the flat fee. It has been recommended that the Borough raise the flat fee to cover the cost of the repair to the bio-tower. Mr. Landy suggested \$10 per quarter should cover the cost of the repair.

**Waste Water Treatment Report:**

Councilman Tate said that there was a meeting held with the Mount Pleasant Municipal Authority regarding the bio-tower at the WWT Plant. Councilman Tate reported that the Municipal Authority is reluctant to provide funds for the repair of the bio-tower, but they will hold a meeting to discuss the situation.

Councilman Tate agreed with Borough Manager Landy about raising the flat fee for Mount Pleasant sewage customers. Councilman Tate said that the Borough will try not to affect the elderly residents with this increase.

Councilman Tate said that a decision will be made when it is determined what the final cost will be for repair of the bio-tower. There is also the concern that the other bio-tower, which is the same age as the one that is damaged, will also collapse. Councilman Tate said that he would also like to meet with Mount Pleasant Township the first week of June because they use our WWT Plant.

#### **Veterans Park Report:**

Councilman Tate said that he notified Skowronek Landscaping to replace a shrub at Veterans Park. Councilman Tate also thanked the Garden Club for cleaning up Veterans Park and planting flowers again this year.

#### **Streets Report:**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Bailey to award the bid for the Ramsay Terrace paving project to Victor Paving of Monongahela, PA in the amount of \$42,632.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilwoman Bailey said that the bids came in significantly lower than the cost that was anticipated at the first meeting to look at the paving project. Councilwoman Bailey said that since the cost of paving in Ramsay Terrace is less, the Borough will advertise for bids to pave Braddock Road Avenue. Council discussed other streets that need attention.

Councilwoman Bailey said that Street Supervisor Mario Fontanazza looked at the catch basin at the corner of Eagle Street and Spence Way where a home owner is pumping water off of his property onto the alley and there is now a chemical odor. That has to be addressed because our MS4 Permit requires only clean water goes into our catch basins. If there is no other solution, the home owner will have to pump the water into the sanitary sewer. Councilman Tate said that he will have the WWT Plant test the water that is coming from the pump to see if chemicals are present.

#### **Public Safety Report:**

Councilwoman Stevenson said that she talked to several people regarding Mr. Soforic's request for permit parking on Church Street and everyone seems to think that it is not a good idea and will not accomplish what Mr. Soforic wants.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that she feels permit parking is not being monitored and she would like to make it mandatory to display the parking permit in the rear window of the vehicle.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that she has looked at the tree Mr. Soforic planted near the stop sign at Washington and Church Streets. Councilwoman Stevenson suggested that we allow Mr. Soforic to keep the tree, but that the Borough reserves the right to make him trim the tree when necessary.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that there has been a request for a handicap parking space on Washington Street up near Church Street. Police Chief Ober has approved the sign and Councilwoman Stevenson said that she explained to the requester that they will have to pay for the sign and nothing will stop someone else with a handicap parking permit to park in the spot.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that there is an issue with parking on Silver Street at the Village Restaurant. Councilman Tate said a solution to the problem would be to put up 15-minute parking signs on the first two parking spaces off of Main Street.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to suspend the rules for the purpose of a motion for 15-minute parking on Silver Street. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to put up 15-minute parking signs at the first two parking spaces on Silver Street north of Main Street. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Bailey. Motion carried 8-0.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that the Public Safety Committee looked at the possibility of an ordinance stating that all parking lots in the Borough must have a hard surface and decided against it at this time. Council discussed different problems associated with parking lots that do not have hard services. Council agreed that the run-off issue should be addressed in an ordinance somehow. Councilwoman Stevenson said that she will continue to look at a possible ordinance or amendment.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that the Police Department has suggested that the surveillance camera that monitors the bathrooms at Frick Park be adjusted to monitor the basketball courts. Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that there is a lot of vandalism at the restrooms and the camera monitoring is important.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that at the recent Medic 10 Board of Directors meeting it was reported that two vending machines were purchased for the station. Medic 10 personnel will provide maintenance on the machines.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that there will be an open house at Medic 10 sometime in June. It was suggested that they hold it on the same weekend of the community yard sale.

Councilwoman Stevenson asked Mayor Lucia if there were any designated shelters in the Borough where residents should go if they hear the emergency siren. Mayor Lucia said that the shelters are the Fire Station on Church Street, Firemen's Club, Medic 10 and the Senior Center. Mayor Lucia said that he is looking into using the Church of God Hall. Residents should also have their own plan in case of emergency.

Councilwoman Stevenson said that the Community Yard Sale will be the second Saturday in June from now on. Councilwoman Stevenson said that some other communities charge \$5 to be part of a yard sale map and charge \$.25 for a copy of the map. Council agreed not to charge anything for the yard sale participation at this time.

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

Borough Manager Landy said that Councilman Wojnar asked him to report the following:

- All projects tied to the fencing at Frick Park and the Street Department are on hold.
- Councilman Wojnar is still investigating the basketball leagues.
- The first annual Clean Up Mount Pleasant Day was a successful first effort with participation from Reunion Presbyterian Church and UPS. And a special thanks to Councilman Wagner for his help .

President Bauer said that Bob Hudec has agreed to take the fence at Frick Park off of the poles and the Street Department will remove the poles.

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

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that letters have been sent out requesting donations for the July 3<sup>rd</sup> Fireworks.

Councilwoman Ruszkowski said that her committee is looking at fees to see if any can be increased.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to suspend the rules for a motion to accept the renewal from HDH Group Inc. for insurance renewal for the year June 1, 2014 to June 1, 2015. Motion seconded by Councilman Wagner. Motion carried 8-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to accept the renewal from HDH Group Inc. for insurance renewal for the year June 1, 2014 to June 1, 2015 in the amount of \$48,586. Motion seconded by Councilman Wagner. Motion carried 8-0.

President Bauer reported that a resident who lives on Sandhill Road before you get to Woodfield Estates would like a 25 mile per hour speed limit sign along with a watch children sign.

### **Property Report:**

Councilman Pritts said that he received quotes from Rampart for cameras in the Police Station and a server that would run all of the cameras in the Borough. Councilman Pritts said he will request a quote from Premier Audio Video as well.

Councilman Pritts said that he will schedule an electrical inspection for the Welcome to Mount Pleasant Sign.

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

Councilman Caruso said that Ellen Keefe, Westmoreland Cleanways will be a speaker at the next council meeting with a presentation of a grant to the Borough.

Councilman Caruso reported that he and Borough Manager Landy met with Mr. John McGoran, Allied Waste and talked about the pilot program for recycling on College, Walnut, Pine and S. Church Streets that will include 95 gallon recycling containers.

Councilman Tate left at 9:45pm.

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

Councilman Wagner said that he has not gotten a response regarding the application for a grant for LED traffic lights in the Borough.

Councilman Wagner said that he will schedule a committee meeting to discuss other grant opportunities including a FEMA grant.

Councilman Wagner said that the Business District Authority is still planning to hold a Cash Flow Presentation for local businesses in June. They are hoping to have approximately 15 businesses in attendance.

**New Business:**

President Bauer announced that the Memorial Day Parade begins at 10:30am and the services at the Gazebo will start at 11:00am and will last approximately ½ hour. Pat Brien, Retired Naval Senior Chief will be a speaker at the ceremony and a lunch will follow at the Firemen's Social Hall.

Councilwoman Bailey reported that she attended the Library Board meeting and they thanked the Borough for repairing the sidewalk at the back door of the Library. Councilwoman Bailey also said that the Library has pulled money from the trust fund to cover payroll and expenses. Also, the Library has received the life insurance and other money from the Will of Ms. Simon and they have placed that money in a trust that can be liquidated more quickly.

**Reading of Communications:**

Mr. Landy read the following communications:

- The Historical Society has requested a \$50 donation from the Borough for the Community Picnic.
- The Westmoreland Coalition on Housing will hold its annual meeting and luncheon on June 5, 2014 from 9am to 2:30pm at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg in the Hempfield Room.
- The monthly meeting of the Westmoreland County Borough Association will be on May 29, 2014 at the Westmoreland Conservation Donohoe Center Education Building at 7pm.

**Discussion and Payment of Bills:**

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

**Miscellaneous and Adjournment:**

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

**Meeting Adjourned 10:13pm**

### **Motions from Meeting of May 19, 2014**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to dispense with the reading of the minutes of April 21, 2014 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 8-0.

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