

BOROUGH OF MT. OLIVER

COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES – APRIL 16, 2018

7:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL-COUNCIL:

PRESENT: Reft, Keener, Viale-Vice President,
Beltz, Lowe, McGough-President

ABSENT: Viglione

OFFICIALS:

PRESENT: Secretary, Asst. Secretary/Treasurer,
Solicitor Kate Diersen, Borough Manager, Mayor
Bernardini, Chief Juzwick, Code Enforcer, Fire Chief,
Fran Kestner

ABSENT: Mrs. Wuenschel-Planning

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

McGough – Has everyone read last month's minutes? Any questions? I need a motion to approve last month's Council Minutes, March 19, 2018. Can I have a motion? **Lowe** - So moved. **McGough** - Second? **Keener** - Second. **McGough** - All those in favor? **Council** - Aye. **McGough** - Any nays? Motion approved.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

It's good to see a packed house tonight. There were a total of 505 calls for service for the month of March. There were 32 Narcotics arrests for seizure of Marijuana, Crack Cocaine, Heroin, and Drug Paraphernalia. There was two burglaries, one on Locust Street and one on William Street. There were two DUI arrests for the month of March. The K-9 Unit's training and certifications are ongoing. The K-9 Unit was used 27 times during the month of March. There were five arrest warrants served by the Mt. Oliver Police. There was one apprehension, one building search, six drug searches, one park & walk, six targeted patrols, one traffic stop, one track, and five warrants served. The Police responded to one Commercial Alarm and eight Residential Alarms during the month of March. There were twenty-one abandoned vehicles posted for the month of March. Parking Enforcement wrote 118 Borough tags during the month of March. The Police Dept. wrote 31 tags. There were 54 State citations issued for parking violations. \$1,875 was collected in fines for tickets. On this subject, there is no parking on the sidewalks. It makes it difficult for those in a wheelchair to maneuver. The Police are only doing their job. It is dangerous to walk in the street because the sidewalk space is taken up by a parked vehicle. \$100.00 was paid to the Magistrate for ordered fines. There were zero Nuisance Properties under investigation. We are going to get this Nuisance Property Ordinance up and running. The landlords and the absent landlords will be held responsible for their property. All Protection from Abuse orders are on file and currently active. All evidence and cases are being reviewed and destruction orders are being obtained for closed cases from the District Attorney's Office. There was a total of 3,952 miles on the Police vehicles during the month of March. A total of \$774.65 was used on Vehicle Maintenance and Repair. All Firearms qualifications and training were completed this month and all officers passed their certifications. Supervisors and OIC's will be attending Basic Crisis Negotiation Training during the months of April and May. Tac Officer and the Chief will be attending required J-net Training. An Officer will attend Defensive Tactics Training during the month of April. Mt. Oliver Police assisted the City Police with a homicide investigation. Mt. Oliver Police arrested two males in possession of a stolen firearm in a stolen vehicle. A new Part-Time Officer was hired this month and the start date is April 2, 2018. End of Mayor's Report.

ENGINEER REPORT:

McGough – There is one motion to award the 2018 Paving Program Bid to Mele & Mele and Sons, in the amount of \$78,847.40. Can I have a motion? **Keener** - So moved. **McGough** - Second? **Lowe** - Second. **McGough** - All those in favor? **Council** - Aye. **McGough** - Any nays? Motion approved. End of Engineer’s Report.

FIRE REPORT:

Fire Chief, Fran Kestner - There were a total of 38 calls during the month of February. Eleven were fire related and twenty-seven were EMS calls. There were a total of 53 calls during the month of March. Twenty-one were fire related and thirty-two were EMS calls. The Fish Fry this year was a big success. This past Sunday was a success because of the Craft Vendor Show. During the past two months we brought in five new members. End of Fire Report.

PLANNING REPORT:

None. End of Planning Report.

TREASURER REPORT:

Holzer – Everyone should have a copy of the March report. If you have any questions, just let me know. The taxes at face value in 2017 were \$877,000.00 and we collected \$748,000.00 which is about 85%. This year, we have just started, the face value for 2018 is \$873,000.00 and so far we have collected \$258,600.00 which is about 29% collected. End of Treasurer Report.

General Funds – NWB	23,719.06
MOB - CD Activity Checking – NWB	29,123.02
Parking Lot Account – NWB	111.00
Sanitary Authority Checking – NWB	113,462.81
Sanitary Authority MM Savings – NWB	165,486.56
MOB Anthony Street Watershed Sanitary Sewer System – NWB	3,550.24
MOB Anthony Street Storm water Sewer System – NWB	20,836.51
MOB Anthony Street Storm Sewer Phase II – NWB	15,031.63
MOB Consent Decree Sewer Repair I- NWB	6,898.77
MOB Consent Decree Sewer Repair II- NWB	6,762.09
Special Highway MM Account – NWB	15,027.16
Road Program MM – NWB	65,450.92
Delinquent Tax MM Account – NWB	51,157.89
MED Account (Health Coverage HRA) – NWB	2,327.53
Park Facility Checking Account – NWB	244.80
MOB Volunteer Fire Dept. – NWB	997.89
MOB Refuse Account – NWB	---
MOB Property Tax – NWB	125,613.53
Capital Reserve Checking – NWB	9,094.65
Mt. Oliver Ambulance Service – NWB Checking	2,028.29
Mt. Oliver Ambulance Service – NWB – Money Market	34,986.66
Mt. Oliver Boro Police K-9 – New Account	4,400.97

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE:

Reft – The month of March we deposited \$163,078.03. Out of that amount, we paid \$107,000.00 in bills. The total of Payroll was \$60,000.00. At the end of March, we were in the good \$24,000.00. An unusual purchase this time of year was a snow blower which we bought at a 20% discount. That was about \$650.00. Other than that, nothing out of the ordinary was submitted for payment. The bills have been reviewed and signed, we need a motion to have all bills approved and paid this month. **McGough** - Can I have a motion? **Keener** - So moved. **McGough** - Second? **Viale** - Second. **McGough** - All in favor? **Council** - Aye. **McGough** - Any nays? End of Administration & Finance Report.

CODE ENFORCEMENT/PLANNING & ZONING:

Beltz - I have a Status Report from Code Enforcement Officer, Tom McAllister for the period of March 1, 2018 through March 31, 2018. There were 36 Violations which included: early trash, pet waste, debris, and storage of trash. There were 23 Notices sent out, 13 Citations issued, and two Legals heard. One case heard in front of Magistrate King was the dangerous structure at 141-143 Brownsville Road. This has been continued to April 12, 2018 where the owner is required to submit plans, permit applications, and start work by the court date. The other case was heard in front of the Court of Common Pleas Appeals Division regarding 119 Ormsby Avenue. The owner appealed prior conviction of \$300.00 for graffiti. This case was won in Appeals Court for \$300.00 plus cost. During the month of March, there were 41 Rental Applications and Notices mailed out. There were fourteen applications denied due to municipal claims owed. \$27,310.88 has been collected year to date in municipal claims from denials. There were two Occupancy Inspections. I want to remind everyone that Tuesday morning is the new trash day. You may put your trash out after 6:00pm Monday evening. There are some residents that are still putting their trash out Sunday evening. Tom and I rode around the Borough and there will be 120 citable violations issued. Tom took 90 photographs. **Hopkinson** - This is the year for change in Mt. Oliver regarding citations. End of Code Enforcement/Planning & Zoning Report.

PUBLIC SAFETY/RISK MANAGEMENT:

Viale - The Police Department has a Facebook page which highlights what goes on with the Police in Mt. Oliver. One of the items is a current rash in vehicle break-ins. Please make sure you lock your car and remove any valuables. The Department has started an in-house Detective Unit with two Officers. Officer Candioto will be attending a Less Lethal Class and will be able to train his fellow Officers regarding this. Our Officers will be able to use equipment without getting assistance from the SWAT Team, etc. if needed. **Mayor** - How far along are we with the Nuisance Ordinance, we have to move on it. **Beltz** - We will be getting a committee together soon to discuss this and put an ordinance together. **Mayor** - I've made this comment before, the Police need your help, if you see anything suspicious, call 911, you can remain anonymous. End of Public Safety/Risk Management Report.

PUBLIC WORKS/HEALTH & MAINTENANCE CONTROL:

Viale - I have the report highlights from Public Works Supervisor, John Michener for the month of March. Public Works picked up tires on Ottilia. They updated the "No Parking" signs on Fremont & Mary for the new trash day. They installed "No Parking" signs on Walnut in response to a new ordinance, one side no parking. They responded to 28 PA #1 calls. They did four dye tests during the month of March. They patched pot holes on ten streets in the Borough. Public Works repaired an old utility hole on John Street. They removed a fallen tree at Transverse Park. They were called out four times during the month of March to salt the streets and sidewalks. **Keener** - I would like to request a trash can down on Hays, people come from Family Dollar and throw trash all over the street. End of Public Works/Health & Maintenance Control.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:

Reft - I have a list of upcoming events for Mt. Oliver. Mt. Oliver Day will be on June 23. The Fall Festival will be on September 22, 2018. Up on the Hilltop will be on December 1, 2018. A Gun Bash Fundraiser sponsored by the Police Dept. and the Fire Dept. will be held on September 8, 2018 at the Sokol Club on the South Side. On Wednesday night we have a Property Stabilization Meeting at 167 Penn Avenue to do some community service (cleanup) from 6:00pm-7:00pm. Please come and join us. End of Economic Development/Community Affairs.

SOLICITOR REPORT:

Kate Diersen - Nothing to report. End of Solicitor's Report.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS:

Cathi Blanchard - On my street there are rentals and Section 8. The tenants put their trash out two to three days early. I'm afraid during the summer rats and crows will start appearing. **McGough** - Property owners will be issued citations for early trash. Fines will increase for repeat offenders. **Beltz** - We have a new tracking system and fines will go up for those who continually set out early trash. **McAllister** - I can't cite the tenants. The property owner is the sole person responsible for the trash. **Blanchard** - The tractor trailer of wood that was delivered is a mess. They burn anything. **Hopkinson** - We set out burning regulations from The Allegheny County. If you don't think they are obeying the burning regulations, call 911. **Mr. Heckmann** - A school bus is parked on the sidewalk for at least one hour on Ormsby/Ottillia. There is also a large pothole on Ormsby/Ottillia. **Hopkinson** - We'll try and do some hot patch, square it off. **Resident** - I don't understand why I got ticketed for having my vehicle on my own property. Vandals had flattened my tires. **Chief Juzwick** - According to Mt. Oliver's Ordinance, an abandoned vehicle must have a four foot fence around it or it is in violation. **Resident** - I should have been given a notice prior to action being taken. **Past Council Member Pete Talak** - I want to congratulate Treasurer, Diane Holzer and Auditor Ron Stadler for their finance work and expertise. I also want to know why the Emergency Medical Service vehicles can park on yellow lines and do not pay the meters during the union meetings. Residents are tagged who have to park on side streets because of the EMS vehicles. **McGough** - We will discuss this parking issue and the Post Office parking at our next Agenda meeting. **Paul Doyle** - The barricade that closes the sidewalk in front of 141-143 Brownsville is turning into a play area. This area is condemned and pieces of the building have already fallen. There needs to be a sign, "Sidewalk Closed Ahead." **Hopkinson** - We will add a "Sidewalk Closed" sign but the barricades must remain to keep the pedestrians safe until the building is repaired. **Aaron Graham** - The residents need a way to know what is happening in Mt. Oliver. Perhaps you could publish a monthly mailer for the residents. **Hopkinson** - It is a costly process. We could put out a quarterly newsletter for the residents. This will go in front of Council for discussion.

ADJOURNMENT: **McGough** – This meeting is adjourned until next month.

Next Council meeting – May 21, 2018.

Respectfully submitted
Kathy L. Connolly, Borough of Mt. Oliver Secretary