Town of Mount Pleasant
Board of Commissioners
Town Board Meeting
Town Hall – Commissioners Meeting Room
Monday, August 30, 2010
7:00 P.M.

Attendance:
Mayor Del Eudy
Commissioner Warren Chapman
Commissioner Maura Eberhardt
Commissioner Rick Burleyson
Commissioner Scott Barringer
Town Administrator Adrian Cox
Town Clerk Cathy Whittington
Town Attorney Christy Wilhelm
Fire Chief Chris Honeycutt
Public Works Director Dave Fargo

Also Present: Pastor Roland Jordan, Troy Barnhardt, Jim Johnson, Rev. Mitch Wilson, Mike Metcalf, Don Scott, Kay Scott, Sharon Senecal, James Senecal, Samantha Moose, Steve Ashby, Chris Measimer

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Eudy called the meeting to order

INVOCATION

Rev. Tom Fleming led in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Eudy led in the Pledge of Allegiance.
PUBLIC FORUM

Pastor Roland Jordan spoke in the public forum. He repeated an earlier request that was made regarding a street designation in Mt. Pleasant for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Jim Johnson, 8808 Oldenburg Drive, wanted to commend the Board for the job they are doing and looks forward to the appointment that is to be made for the vacant seat on the Town Board.

APPROVE AGENDA

With a change under Miscellaneous to move number 3 to number 4 and number 4 to number 3, Commissioner Barringer made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Chapman seconded the motion with all board members in favor. (4-0)

PUBLIC HEARINGS/DECISIONS

No public hearing.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

The consent agenda consist of the minutes of the (1) August 2, 2010 Regular Board Meeting and (2) Budget Ordinance Amendment #0P001 Remaining 2009 AFG Grant. Commissioner Eberhardt made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Chapman seconded the motion with all board members in favor. (4-0)

REPORTS

(1) Police – Written

(2) Fire Chief- Fire Chief Chris Honeycutt reported that the Fire Department had responded to 606 calls to date. They were still waiting on some grant purchases to come in. All equipment has been pumped tested and passed. Engine 2 has some transmission problems but was able to pass. It will need to be repaired to stay in service. The Fire Department has been approached by Rocky River Vineyards for permission to use a picture of the antique truck on a collector’s edition label for one of their bottles of wine this year. Commissioner Barringer made a motion to allow Rocky River Vineyards to do this. Commissioner Chapman seconded the motion with all board members in favor. (4-0) Commissioner Eberhardt asked a question about the transmission problems and the cost to repair. Fire Chief Honeycutt stated that the cost would not be known until they found out what was wrong with the transmission.
(3) Town Administrator- (1) Town Administrator Adrian Cox reported that he has worked with Fire Chief Chris Honeycutt and the membership to prepare draft incorporation documents that could be used to establish a non-profit for the betterment of the Fire Department. If incorporated, such an organization could solicit and spend tax deductible donations. A non-profit established for this purpose would function completely separate from the Town. (2) The surplus police car sold on GovDeals for $4,050.00 and the surplus server sold for $172.55. (3) The Town has received its joint permit for the gravity line connecting Mount Pleasant High School to the sewer system. Mount Pleasant High School is expected to have the connection completed prior to the Northwest Area Sewer Extension coming online.

(4) Finance- Written report
(5) Public Works- Written report
(6) Planning and Zoning- Written report
(7) Town Attorney- No report

OLD BUSINESS

1. Appointment of Mayor Pro Tem

On July 7, 2010, the Board of Commissioner appointed Del Eudy to serve as Mayor of the Town of Mt. Pleasant. Mayor Eudy previously held the seat of Town Commissioner serving as Mayor Pro Tem.

Article A Section 2-1002, of the Mount Pleasant Code of Ordinances, states that “The Town Board shall designate a Board member as Mayor Pro Tem, to serve at the pleasure of the Board.” Therefore, the Board must designate one of its current members to serve as Mayor Pro Tem.

Commissioner Barringer stated that he would like to be considered as Mayor Pro Tem.

Commissioner Chapman nominated Commissioner Burleyson to serve as Mayor Pro Tem. Commissioner Barringer seconded the motion with all board members in favor. (4-0)

2. Board of Commissioner Appointment

On July 7, 2010, the Board accepted the resignation of Mayor Troy Barnhardt and appointed Commissioner W. Del Eudy as Mayor of Mount Pleasant. The appointment to the remaining term of Mayor Eudy was advertised from July 7th until August 20th. There were 5 applicants as follows: Michael Metcalf, Kay Scott, Joy Simpson, Sharon Senecal and Steve Ashby. All applicants except Joy Simpson were present at the meeting. Each was asked to tell why they were interested in being on the Board of Commissioner.
Kay Scott stated that she has lived in Mount Pleasant all of her life. She served on the Board of Commissioner for 22 consecutive years. She stated that the Town if continuing to grow and she would like to be a voice for the citizens.

Mike Metcalf stated that he has lived in Mount Pleasant for 10 years and he looked forward to working with the Board again.

Sharon Senecal stated that she has lived in Mount Pleasant for 16 years. She has been attending the Board meetings regularly for the last 8-10 months. She thinks the board has been making good decisions and that change is coming and the Town needs to be prepared.

Steve Ashby stated that Mrs. Senecal stole everything out of his head. He stated that the Town could have a little more communication with the citizens to better serve them.

Commissioner Barringer stated that he had given a questionnaire to each candidate and that he had received some very good answers. He encouraged those that were not chosen to run for the Board at the next election. Commissioner Eberhardt stated that he appreciated the interest that was received and he did not have a problem appointing any of the applicants. Commissioner Burleyson also appreciated the interest and stated that one thing he saw was that everyone cared about the Town. Commissioner Chapman stated that everyone had good qualifications and would keep the Board on their toes.

*With no more discussion, Commissioner Burleyson made a motion to appoint Mike Metcalf to the unexpired term of Commission. Commissioner Chapman seconded the motion with all board members in favor. (4-0)*

3. Public Works Uniforms

At the August 2 meeting, the Board directed staff to provide uniform samples to the public works crew and solicit feedback regarding uniforms. Staff met with the crew and received feedback as follows: (1) Washing uniforms is not a problem, no need to rent (2) Prefer blue-jeans to any other type of pants (3) Opinions vary on material and length of sleeve (4) Would like to be reimbursed for two pairs of boots each years instead of one (5) Would like to be reimbursed for full cost of boots of their choosing (6) Wolverine boots are the best work boots (7) Need one pair of winter coveralls each year.

Based on the feedback, staff recommends purchasing uniforms to allow for greater variation. Renting is a more expensive option than purchasing when slight variation, such as material blend or sleeve length, are incorporated in the contract.
The Public Work employee’s preference is Option 2 which includes:
10 Work Shirts with sleeve and material of choosing
5 Blue Jeans
Winter Overalls (trash and brush crew only)
$25 Winter Coat Allowance
Boots of choosing up to $130 (1pair)

Commissioner Barringer made a motion to go with Option 2. Commissioner Eberhardt seconded the motion with all board members in favor. (4-0)

4. Service Brochure

At the August 2 meeting, staff provided the Board with a draft of a summer newsletter. Staff has revised the brochure as a fall newsletter and incorporated changes based on the input of Board members.

Commissioner Eberhardt stated that the brochure would be good for new residents moving into Town to let them know what is and what is not allowed.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Direct staff regarding Wade Street Lighting

At the August 2 meeting, the Board of Commissioner directed staff to examine the cost and feasibility of installing a new street light along Wade Street. Installing a new light on Wade Street will cost $10.68 a month, if located on an existing pole and $11.90 if a new pole is necessary. When a new pole is necessary some other construction costs may also be billed to the Town. Overall, a new street light will cost between $128 and $143 annually.

Commissioner Eberhardt made a motion to approve the additional street light on Wade Street. Commissioner Chapman seconded the motion with all board members in favor. (4-0)

A request had also been made about police presence in the Reidsville Community. This request has been referred to Sheriff Brad Riley’s Office.

2. Policy Regarding Appointment of Fire Chief

The Fire Department is in the process of revising and updating the department’s by-laws. At the membership meeting of August 5, 2010, the members voted unanimously to extend the term for Fire Chief appointments from 1 year to 3 years. The membership voted to utilize the following schedule:
*Membership votes on Chief recommendation-January
*Recommendation comes before the Town Board-February
*Appointed Chief takes office on March 1

The change in policy would go into effect for the Fire Chief appoint made on January 2011.

The Mount Pleasant Code of Ordinances states that “The Town Board shall appoint the Chief. The Department may from time to time adopt its own rules, regulations, policies and procedures governing the Department subject to the approval of the Town Board (Article A Section 3-2001)” Therefore, the Fire Department seeks final approval of this policy.

Commissioner Barringer asked who would become Chief if the Chief became incapacitated. The Deputy Chief would become Chief.

*Commissioner Barringer made a motion to approve the “Policy Regarding Appointment of Fire Chief”. Commissioner Eberhardt seconded the motion with all board members in favor. (4-0)*

3 General Engineering Service

General Engineering Services involves reviewing development plans that may impact the Town’s infrastructure, providing consultation for minor projects or capital improvement plans and inspection of developer installed utilities. Contracts for general engineering services help to prevent conflicts of interest with the clients that engineering firms represent.

Between July 6 and July 27 the Town solicited bids for qualifications for general engineering services and received four sets of qualification. These qualifications were evaluated by a review committee that included the Town Administrator and the Public Works Director. The firms were evaluated independently and the score sheets are available. Staff recommends Ally, William, Carmen & King for general engineering services.

Commissioner Barringer asked why no Board Member was on the review committee. He also asked what other engineering firms submitted bids.

*Commissioner Barringer made a motion to table the general engineering services until they are reviewed by Mayor Eudy and Commissioner Barringer. Commissioner Burleyson seconded the motion with all board members in favor. (4-0) This is tabled until the October 4, 2010 meeting.*
3. Façade Improvement Grant

One of the core goals adopted in the Town’s Statement of Vision, Mission, and Goals is to establish the downtown area as a thriving destination of business and community. A small façade improvement grant is a strategy that could help to achieve this goal, and was discussed by the Board during the budget workshop. The FY 2010-2011 budget allocates $3,500 to a façade improvement grant.

The proposed façade improvement program would establish the Planning Board as the committee responsible for the review and award of façade improvement grants.

Commissioner Barringer asked if the Planning Board had been asked about administering this grant. They have not. Commissioner Burleyson stated that he could see the benefits of this grant but he thought the Planning Board should be contacted to see if they are interested. Commissioner Eberhardt also thought the Planning Board should be contacted.

*Commissioner Burleyson made a motion to table this issue until the October 4, 2010 meeting. Commissioner Barringer seconded the motion with all board members in favor. (4-0)*

**MISCELLANEOUS**

1. Report on NCDOT Hwy. 73 Repair

NCDOT and construction contractors have worked diligently to reopen highway 73 within the six week time frame. There are several construction items that remain to be completed that include; an additional layer of asphalt, work in the intersection, milling and repaving remaining sections of highway 73, pavement markings and other miscellaneous items. There were questions asked about the entrance to Buddy’s and Moose Pharmacy.

2. Event Coordinating Committee Discussion

The Independence Celebration and Christmas events are coordinated by a group of citizen volunteers. These volunteers solicit donations on behalf of the Town, plan the events, advertise to the community and work as supervisors at each event. The majority of expenses for events are covered by donations from businesses and community groups. Funds are allocated in the Town’s annual budget.

The volunteer group seeks direction from the Board regarding the following items:

1. The group wishes to change the name to the Events Coordinating Committee
2. The group needs more volunteers to continue events and is considering downsizing the Independence Day Celebration
3. E-mails have been copies to all Stakeholders. Do Board Members wish to receive broadcasted e-mails?

Town Attorney Christy Wilhelm stated that some kind of structure needs to be in place for the committee and there needs to be some kind of guidelines on terms.

The Christmas Parade has been planned for the second Saturday in December and a Fall Festival has been suggested. Steve Ashby suggested that a Fall Festival would be good the Saturday after Homecoming at the high school. It could be announced at the ballgame.

Town Administrator Adrian Cox stated that he would get something together and come back to the Board with it.

3. Monthly Board Meeting Time

Mayor Eudy asked the Board if there was any interest in moving the meeting time of the Board to an earlier time. Commissioner Burleyson stated that the citizens may have issues with a time change. Commissioner Eberhardt stated that an earlier time would push him. It was the consensus of the Board to leave the meeting time at 7:00 pm.

4. Schedule Utility Workshop

Staff is in the process of developing a Customer Service Policy as a guide for how the Town relates with water and sewer customers. This policy will serve as a guide for employees and customers and give employees a tool to provide a high level of customer service.

Commissioner Burleyson made a motion to set the Utility Workshop on October 4, at 6:00 pm. Commissioner Chapman seconded the motion with all board members in favor. (4-0)

5. Set Date and Time to Hear Zoning Appeal

On June 30th, the Town of Mt. Pleasant, by mean of voluntary petition, Annexed the property located at 6300 NC Highway 49 North owned by GMST Holdings LLC. The Mt. Pleasant Planning and Zoning Board established a zoning designation of C-2 for the property on August 9, 2010. An appeal to the decision was submitted to the Town by an adjacent property owner on August 23, 2010. The Town Board must hold a hearing to review the Planning Board’s decision, within 60 days of August 23, 2010. Due to advertising requirements, the earliest date and time this hearing could occur is September 13, 2010 prior to the regular scheduled Planning Board Meeting.
Commissioner Burleyson made a motion to hold the public hearing on October 4, 2010. Commissioner Eberhardt seconded the motion with all board members in favor. (4-0)

MAYOR’S & COMMISSIONER’S COMMENTS

Commissioner Eberhardt wanted to thank the Town for help with cutting the trees at the cemetery. Commissioner Chapman stated that he had been supervising the road improvements and he wanted to thank the Town guys for working in the heat this year.

Mayor Eudy reported on the meetings that he attended during the past month. Mayor Eudy asked the Board if they wanted a report of all the meeting. They stated that it was not necessary.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Chapman made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Barringer seconded the motion with all board members in favor. (4-0)

By our signatures the following minutes were approved as submitted and amended on Monday, October 4, 2010 in the Regular Meeting.

_________________________________  __________________
Town Clerk Cathy Whittington        Mayor Del Eudy

SEAL