## Mount Joy Borough Council Special Meeting Minutes for Monday, February 23, 2015

The Mount Joy Borough Council held a special meeting as part of the Borough Council Public Safety Committee meeting on February 23, 2015, at the Mount Joy Borough Office.

President Gohn called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM, and announced that following the public input period, the Council would be going into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters and that decisions were possible following the Executive Session.

Roll Call - Present were: Councilors Bower, Deering, Metzler, Mowrer, Reese, Seidel, Council President Gohn, and Mayor Bradley. Councilor Youngerman arrived at 6:40 PM. Councilor Glessner was unable to attend.

Also present were Borough Manager, Scott Hershey and Interim Police Chief, Luis Mendez.

## **Public Input Period**

Councilor Seidel requested that members of the Mount Joy Borough Police Department be permitted to speak during the public input period. President Gohn agreed. Sergeant Scott Drexel shared concerns about staffing levels in the police department and encouraged Council to continue to move forward with the hiring process to restore staffing levels to 10 patrol officers including sergeants. There are multiple officers out sick or injured further lowering staffing levels. Officer Tyson Woods and Sergeant Jose Ortiz also encouraged Council to restore staffing levels. Mayor Bradley reminded Council that the 2015 budget includes funding for 10 officers, one detective and one chief. President Gohn shared that the hiring process has been moving forward with one officer recently joining the department and another expected within the next week or two. Gohn thanked the officers for persevering through the current staffing challenges. Kim Brewer, Main Street Manager also encouraged Council to continue moving forward with hiring police officers.

Council went into Executive Session at 6:20 PM and came out of Executive Session at 7:30 PM.

On a **MOTION** by Bower and second by Metzler, the Council approved accepting the resignation of Luis Mendez Jr., from the position of Mount Joy Borough Interim Police Chief. *Motion carries unanimously* 

On a **MOTION** by Metzler and second by Reese, the Council approved reinstating Officer Luis Mendez, Jr. to his former position of part-time patrol officer with the Mount Joy Borough Police Department. *Motion carries unanimously* 

On a **MOTION** by Bower and second by Metzler, the Council approved appointing Maurice M. Williams, Jr., Interim Police Chief of the Mount Joy Borough Police Department at conditioned upon the Borough receiving acceptable results of pre-employment testing. The Council authorized Borough Manager Hershey to work with Borough Labor Counsel to draft the employment agreement. *Motion carries unanimously* 

Councilor Seidel encouraged moving forward with budgeted improvements in the police department. Mayor Bradley responded that most of his and Interim Chief Mendez' time has been dedicated to keeping the hiring process moving, but when time permits, the improvements will be moved forward.

Hershey reported that earlier in the day, he and Public Works Director, Dennis Nissley attended the County MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization) meeting where the MPO took action to remove the Marietta Avenue Pedestrian Improvements Project funding from the County TIP (Transportation Improvement Program). There was additional discussion about other possible funding sources.

Hershey also reported that a roof leak caused water damage to electronic equipment on the receptionist's desk in the Borough Office. Phones were not working properly until approximately 10:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott Hershey, Borough Manager/Secretary