

# COUNCIL MEETING

December 13, 2021, at 5:30 PM

## LEWISTOWN MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Council meeting opened at 5:30 PM with Borough Council President Larry Searer presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

### Roll Call

Mr. Larry Searer (President), Mr. Aaron Wilson (Vice President), Mr. Bill Wilson (Councilperson), Ms. Venus Shade (Councilperson), and Mr. Marc Terry (Councilperson) were present. Mr. Dave Campbell (Councilperson) and Ms. Casey Goss (Councilperson) were absent.

### HEARING OF PERSONS PRESENT

**Gary Gill** stated he works with two other people to plant trees in Mifflin County. Mr. Gill stated it is a volunteer project that works in conjunction with the Keystone 10 million Trees Partnership (<http://www.tenmilliontrees.org/>). Mr. Gill stated to please contact him if you are interested in helping or getting trees planted and they would coordinate with a conservation service to make sure the proper trees get planted for that area. Mr. Gill stated it is free.

**Bob Lepley, FAME** spoke about Chief Barlett and the fantastic job all the first responders did at the Kish Apartment building fire. Mr. Lepley then displayed one of seven heart monitors that FAME purchased at \$40,000 apiece. Mr. Lepley thanked the borough for all the financial help they have received over the years but asked for an additional \$45,000 from the funds the borough received from the Cares Act.

### **\*\*CONSENT AGENDA\*\***

The following are routine, procedural, and informational non-controversial items and do not appear to require discussion or explanation prior to Council's action. These items will be acted upon by one motion unless any member of Council desires to move an item to the Regular Agenda for further discussion.

- A. **\*\*Approval of Minutes: Council Meeting- November 8, 2021**
- B. **\*\*Approval of Treasurer's Report**
- C. **\*\*Approval of Schedule of Bills**
- D. **\*\*Facility Use Request**
- E. Acknowledge receipt of Fame Meeting Minutes (10 NOV) & Stats
- F. Acknowledge receipt of Tax Collector's Report
- G. Acknowledge receipt of Codes Enforcement Report
- H. Acknowledge Mifflin County Board of Assessment Appeals, ref: Per Capita Exoneration
- I. Acknowledge receipt of Pennsylvania Compensation Rating Board (PCRB), ref: file numbers 3385946 (VFD) and 0114755 (VAC)

**On a motion by Ms. Shade and seconded by Mr. A Wilson, Council unanimously moved to accept the consent agenda.**

## **BOROUGH MANAGER**

**Mr. Kim Zimmerman** started with an update on the Victory Park Steps. Mr. Zimmerman stated it would take approximately \$17,000 to repair them, utilizing inhouse labor. The historical department and Chamber of Commerce found no historical reference to those steps. The steps have been blocked off since they are unsafe, and the borough would be liable. Council requested other quotes and options be considered (cement, wood). Mr. Zimmerman then talked about the EADS RFP for the building demolition. Mr. Zimmerman stated the borough will meet with Lucas from EADS after the new year to get the RFP out to bid. The EADS RFP for the Rec Park Pool study draft was received back from DCNR with suggestions they would like to see changed in the RFP. There is a meeting scheduled for the beginning of January to discuss those changes. Mr. Zimmerman stated Comcast will be raising their rates in the new year. Notices will be sent to customers. Council originally approved upwards of \$175,000 to replace Truck 109 and the new truck will be picked up on Wednesday, December 15, 2021. The final cost was \$157,000.

## **TAX CLAIM BUREAU**

Mr. Zimmerman stated the reports were received and placed online for council to review.

## **FIRE CHIEF**

Chief Barlett stated the fire department ran 19 alarms in November. He did not go into specifics but stated he will provide specifics later. The report provided after the meeting showed 3 building fires, 6 medical assists, 3 motor vehicle accidents with injury, 2 gas leaks, 1 oil leak (home heating fuel), 1 standby, 1 call for smoke, and 2 alarm system activations. On December 7<sup>th</sup> there was a kitchen fire with considerable damage on Logan Street and then on December 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:25 AM the Lewistown Fire Department was dispatched to the Kish Apartments. Chief stated he could see fire from the building at Water Street. Kish Apartments is a 7-story building with 145 apartments and 185 residents, most of which are either aging, in need of physical assistance or both. Crews were assigned to teams to help search and rescue, assist with evacuation, search all apartments to make sure all residents were evacuated and continue to contain the fire. 45 people were originally displaced. The majority were given lodging at the Quality Inn, family members and others moved in with other residents that were allowed to go back into the apartment building. Chief Barlett stated that the fire originated on the seventh floor. Firefighters using water and the building sprinkler system both helped combat the fire but caused water to run down all seven floors inside the walls. The water damaged multiple electrical panels for multiple apartments on all seven floors.

## **MAYOR BARGO**

Mayor Bargo also spoke on the fire at Kish Apartments. She commended all the first responders, fire department, police department, codes department everyone that was on site to assist and have continued to be onsite and available to assist. Mayor Bargo also commended the community for asking what could be done to assist the residents.

## **POLICE CHIEF**

Chief Clemens stated they had 399 calls for service in November 12 traffic citations, 28 non traffic citations, 19 written warnings, 125 parking tickets, 568 street maintenance tickets. Chief Clemens stated they are accepting applications until January 5, 2022, for officer positions. The civil service test will take place January 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:00PM at the high school. The police have a shop with a cop event on December 15th where a child is given \$100.00 to shop with a police officer. This event is in conjunction with PSP, United Way, and other local police departments. Friday December 17<sup>th</sup> the police are participating in the Fill the Cruiser event held at the Giant Store from 9am to 4pm to collect goods for Mother Hubbard's Cupboard and the Lumina Center. Chief Clemens issued a reminder that the new parking ordinance will be enforced beginning on January 1, 2022. Chief Clemens also asked about replacing Car 45. The cruiser was involved in an accident in November and was deemed by the insurance company to be a total loss.

## **SOLICITOR**

Mr. Mark Remy stated that amending the ordinance for parking for street sweepers will be advertised in early 2022. Mr. Remy stated the River Lot property will be pushed back to early 2022 due to Mr. Remy being unavailable over the holiday season.

## **UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS**

**On a motion by Ms. Shade and seconded by Mr. A Wilson, Council votes unanimously to request the county approve the allocation of \$7,104.00 from the Liquid Fuels Fund.**

**On a motion by Mr. Terry and seconded by Mr. A Wilson, Council votes unanimously to approve \$545.60 of the CDBG-CV funds, our fair share, for a HVAC Study in the County.**

**On a motion by Mr. A Wilson and seconded by Ms. Shade, Council votes unanimously to reappoint Mayor Bargo to the EMS Board of Directors, as the elected official to represent the borough.**

**On a motion by Ms. Shade and seconded by Mr. A Wilson, Council votes unanimously to approve \$45,000 from the 2021 ARPA (Cares Act) funds to FAME.**

FAME's request for \$45,000 in 2022 was held pending approval of the 2022 Budget.

**On a motion by Ms. Shade and seconded by Mr. A Wilson, Council votes unanimously to approve a Handicap parking spot at 118 N. Walnut Street.**

**On a motion by Mr. Terry and seconded by Mr. A Wilson, Council votes unanimously to replace Police car #45 for \$34,571.47. After insurance claims are paid the borough will pay \$14,839.42.**

**On a motion by Ms. Shade and seconded by Mr. Terry, Council votes unanimously to appoint Mel Parker to a 5-year term to MCMA.**

**On a motion by Ms. Shade and Mr. A Wilson, Council votes unanimously to approve DCED Funds of \$85,187.69 for the West Water Street Project which is complete.**

**On a motion by Mr. A Wilson and seconded by Ms. Shade, Council votes unanimously to approve the Keystone Payroll contract for 2022.**

**Council entered executive session at approximately 6:30 PM.**

**Due to not enough Council members remaining, a quorum could not be conducted and the meeting was ended without the executive session ending.**

(Vice) President, Lewistown Borough Council

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ATTEST:

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(Asst.) Borough Secretary