COUNCIL MEETING

July 19, 2021, AT 5:30 P.M.

LEWISTOWN MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Council meeting opened at 5:30 p.m. with Borough Council President Venus Shade presiding.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

**ROLL CALL**

Ms. Shade (President), Ms. Goss (Councilperson), Mr. Larry Searer (Councilperson)*,* Mr. A Wilson (Councilperson), and Mr. B Wilson (Councilperson) were present. Mr. Campbell (Vice-President) and Mr. Terry (Councilperson) were absent.

**\*\*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.

1. \*\*Approval of Minutes:
   1. Council Meeting- June 14, 2021
   2. Special Meeting – June 28, 2021
2. \*\*Approval of Treasurer’s Report
3. \*\*Approval of Schedule of Bills
4. \*\*Facility Use Request:
5. Stoltzfus Facility Use
6. Mifflin County Soccer Facility Use
7. Acknowledge receipt of Fame Meeting Minutes & Stats
8. Acknowledge receipt of Tax Collector’s Report
9. Acknowledge receipt of Codes Enforcement Report
10. Acknowledge letter from Mifflin County Planning & Development
11. Acknowledge letter from PA DEP – Denial Letter
12. Acknowledge letters from PA Department of Transportation
13. Acknowledge letter from Tax Claim Bureau

Larry Searer inquires about the denial letter from the Department of Environmental Protection. Mr. Remy states that it was in regard to a subdivision plan that required an additional sewer hookup, the DEP denied the additional hookup.

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

**BOROUGH MANAGER**

Mr. Zimmerman states that the County accepted Lewistown’s $1.00 bid for the Valley Street property.

Ms. Miller states that the annual Day of Caring is Wednesday, September 15th. Ms. Miller states that she has discussed potential improvements to be made prior to the date, such as refreshment of benches and parking meters. Ms. Miller was unsure whether signing up for the Day of Caring needed approval from Council. Ms. Shade states that Ms. Miller is free to register for the event.

**FIRE CHIEF**

Chief Barlett states that the Fire Department responded to 39 alarms in the last month. There were 3 building fires, 1 cooking fire, 13 medical assists, 3 vehicle accidents with injury, 1 vehicle accident without injury, 1 extrication, 1 high-angle rescue, 3 gas leaks, 1 carbon monoxide incident, 1 lockout, 3 downed power lines, 1 police assist, 1 lockout, 2 smoke/odor checks, and 4 automatic alarms.

The Fire Department also completed the 26-hour water rescue program that was provided from the Borough’s training package. In addition to this, the 40-hour vehicle rescue class is going to begin tonight, July 19th.

**MAYOR**

Mayor Bargo presents her quarterly wedding report. Mayor Bargo also thanks Chief Barlett for his efforts regarding the recent parade.

**POLICE CHIEF**

Chief Clemens states that there were 541 calls for service during the month of June. There were 30 traffic citations, 22 non-traffic citations, 33 written warnings, 291 parking tickets, and 182 street maintenance tickets. The current grant for the mental health correspondent program the Police are utilizing expires in September. The County applied for a 1-year extension of the current grant; Chief Clemens is hopeful that the extension will be granted. Chief Clemens states that there is interest in expanding the program to other jurisdictions as well as applying for a three-year grant that will cover most of the expenses. Chief Clemens requests a letter of support for the application for the three-year grant. Ms. Shade inquires about the public’s response to the program. Chief Clemens states that the correspondent has had 206 referrals so far this year; there are very few people that have refused the correspondent’s help.

**On a motion by Larry Searer and seconded by Ms. Goss, Council unanimously agrees to allow the drafting of a letter of support for the mental-health correspondent program.**

Chief Clemens states that the National Night Out will take place August 3rd at Kish Park, from 6pm to 9pm. This year the event will be a combined event with Regional and Granville police.

**BOROUGH SOLICITOR**

Mr. Remy states that Skills of Pennsylvania has group homes in 4 municipalities throughout Mifflin County. A tax appeal was filed for these group homes; as an institution of purely public charity, these properties should be exempt from paying property tax. Through negotiations with the County and School District, Skills of Pennsylvania has agreed to voluntary payments in lieu of taxes equal to 50% of the assessed value. Ms. Shade inquires about the length of the agreement. Mr. Remy states that the agreement is for 20 years. They are requesting that the Borough of Lewistown sign their support for the voluntary payments in lieu of taxes. Larry Searer inquires about the Borough’s options in this scenario. Mr. Remy states that there could be litigation if Council believes the taxes should be paid, however there is precedence to maintain as some properties have been exempted in the past.

**On a motion by Ms. Goss and seconded by Mr. A Wilson, Council unanimously agrees to accept the voluntary payments in lieu of taxes.**

**UNFINISHED & NEW BUSINESS**

**On a motion by Larry Searer and seconded by Ms. Goss, Council unanimously agrees to release the 2018 CDBG project bid notice in the amount of $1,038.08.**

**On a motion by Larry Searer and seconded by Ms. Goss, Council unanimously agrees to release the CDBG 1st quarter salary reimbursement in the amount of $3,943.04.**

**On a motion by Larry Searer and seconded by Ms. Goss, Council unanimously agrees to release the CDBG 2nd quarter salary reimbursement in the amount of $7,306.66.**

**On a motion by Larry Searer and seconded by Ms. Goss, Council unanimously agrees to allow the PA Cleanways Tire Recycle Challenge.**

Mr. Lucas begins discussion regarding the South Side Improvement Project. The project was broken into two contracts. Contract 2021-01 is for the ADA ramps. The bids received were within the budget, however no additional ramps were able to be pursued. The lowest bid for this contract was received from RC Bowman for the amount of $75,377.01. The next lowest bid was to the amount of $126,005.35

**On a motion by Larry Searer and seconded by Mr. A Wilson, Council unanimously agrees to accept the bid from RC bowman for contract 2021-01 for the amount of $75,377.01.**

There were 2 bids received for contract 2021-02, this contract was for the standard paving, there were also 5 alternates in addition. Alternates 1,2, and 3 were for the complete milling of the streets. Alternate 4 was for the addition of South Juniata Street. The 5th alternate was for the milling of South Juniata Street as well. The bids for the paving also came under budget, allowing all 5 alternates to be pursued. Glenn O Hawbaker submitted the lowest bid for the amount of $195,807.50. HRI submitted a bid of $221,078.75.

**On a motion by Larry Searer and seconded by Mr. A Wilson, Council unanimously agrees to accept the bid from Glenn O Hawbaker for contract 2021-02 for the amount of $195,807.50.**

Mr. Zimmerman states that RC Bowman submitted the lowest bid for the DLI Water Street Project at a value of $94,636 including alternates.

**On a motion by Larry Searer and seconded by Mr. A Wilson, Council unanimously agrees to award the DLI Water Street Project to RC Bowman for the amount of $94,636.**

Mr. Zimmerman states that the Borough periodically replaces the commercial dumpsters. There is money budgeted for this purpose, however the price of steel has increased since the budget was made. Mr. Zimmerman requests Council’s approval for the purchase of 10 dumpsters for the amount of $11,620.

**On a motion by Larry Searer and seconded by Ms. Goss, Council unanimously agrees to the purchase of 10 dumpsters for the amount of $11,620.**

***Council entered executive session at 5:56pm to discuss personnel matters.***

***Council exited executive session at 6:16pm.***

**On a motion by Ms. Goss and seconded by Mr. A Wilson, Council unanimously agrees to advertise the Secretary to the Borough Manager position as a full-time position.**

**On a motion by Mr. A Wilson and seconded by Larry Searer, Council unanimously agrees to keep the Parking Enforcement intern until November 19th, 2021.**

**On a motion by Ms. Goss and seconded by Larry Searer, Council unanimously agrees to accept the agreement with Cintas for uniforms within the Borough.**

**On a motion by Ms. Shade and seconded by Larry Searer, Council unanimously accepts the resignation of Ms. Shade as Council President.**

Mr. B Wilson nominates Larry Searer for the position of Council President.

**On a nomination by Mr. B Wilson, Council unanimously agrees to appoint Larry Searer as Borough Council President. Larry Searer abstained from the vote.**

Mayor Bargo requests nominations for Vice President of Council. Ms. Shade nominates Mr. Aaron Wilson. Larry Searer nominates Mr. William Wilson. Mr. B Wilson states that Mr. A Wilson can have the position if desired.

**On a nomination by Ms. Shade, Council unanimously agrees to appoint Mr. A Wilson as Borough Council Vice President. Mr. A Wilson abstained from the vote.**

***On a motion by Ms. Goss and seconded by Mr. A Wilson, Council adjourned at 6:24pm.***

(Vice) President, Lewistown Borough Council

(Seal)

ATTEST:

(Asst.) Borough Secretary