

COUNCIL MEETING

March 9, 2022, 5:30PM

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 Larry Searer (President), James Steele (Vice-President), Nelson Rieffannacht, Robert Hammond, Venus Shade, and William Wilson were present. Aaron Wilson phoned in.

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 February 9th, 2022

B. Approval of Treasurer's Report: 01 March 2022

C. Approval of Schedule of Bills

D. Facility Use Request

1. Mifflin County Youth Baseball

E. Acknowledge receipt of Fame Meeting Minutes

F. Acknowledge receipt of Tax Collector's Report: N/A

G. Acknowledge receipt of Codes Enforcement Report

On a motion made by Mr. A Wilson and seconded by Mr. Steele, Council unanimously approved the consent agenda.

Roll call vote was taken on a motion by Nelson Rieffannacht, seconded by Robert Hammond: Resolution 2022-5 Liquor License Transfer for the Downtown OIP & Grille

Bobby Hammond	Yes
Nelson Rieffannacht	Yes
Larry Searer	Yes
Venus Shade	Yes
Jim Steele	Yes
Aaron Wilson	Yes
Bill Wilson	Yes

Hearing of Persons Present

No one spoke.

Borough Manager

Mr. **Kim Zimmerman, Borough Manager** introduced Erika Slocum as the Borough's new Treasurer and Deputy Borough Manager. The fire department audit is still ongoing. The AFSCME contract negotiation is scheduled for March 31st at 1:00 PM. The Deputy Director of Public Works position is advertised, and we have received applications. The mason/workman position is on hold until the person who vacated that position decides if he would like to keep the position he bid into, a final decision would be needed in approximately three weeks. The refuse position is open internally for bid, that process takes 7 days to finish. The HR Coordinator analysis is still ongoing, we are working with Thrive HR. Venus Shade requested to be added to the ad hoc fire committee as the alternate. Council President Searer approved that appointment. A resident requested to put ribbons on the parking meters in support of Ukraine. No action was taken on that request.

Fire Chief

Chief Barlett stated that in the month of February they had 27 alarms which consisted of 4 miscellaneous fires, 4 building fires, 1 cooking fire that was contained to the kitchen, 2 chimney fires, 1 brush fire, 4 medical assists, 3 motor vehicle accidents with injuries, 1 with entrapment, 1 gas leak (Actual leak on 3rd street called in by a passerby), an oil spill, 2 carbon monoxide incident, a cellar that needed pumped out, a police assist and 1 automatic alarms.

Mayor

Mayor Bargo stated most complaints she fields are about blighted properties. She asked if they could form an ad hoc committee to formulate ideas on how to combat the blighted property problem. President Searer asked Mayor Bargo to get a list of people to join the committee so it can be discussed further. Councilperson Venus Shade volunteered to be a part of the committee. President Searer approved her appointment. Mr. Zimmerman stated there is a list of properties already started with Rex Fink.

Police Chief

Chief Clemens stated there were 518 calls for service in February. 62 traffic citations, 11 non-traffic, and 59 written warnings. Chief Clemens stated the civil service testing for officer positions was completed and a list of eligible candidates was created. It needs to be certified by the Civil Service Commission. Chief Clemens stated the police department is applying for two different grants that are due by the end of March for \$250,000 with no matching funds. One item is a drug testing device called TruNarc. It uses laser technology to test the drugs. This grant is county wide. The second grant is for rugged laptops and upgraded hardware.

Recreation Board

Kim Zimmerman stated the Recreation Board meeting was cancelled so that he could attend the fire department meeting. Mr. Zimmerman brought up an issue with geese at Rec. Park. Mr. Zimmerman stated that after talking to the Game Commission, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the person that has the contract with Derry Township, there was a multi-step process enacted at Derry Township that allowed them to evict the geese out of their park. The process included an ordinance to ban the feeding of wild animals, signage was posted at their park prohibiting the feeding of wild animals and then they could be harassed off their property. Our Rec. Park problem may be the result of the geese being removed from Derry Township. Mr. Zimmerman stated more information and discussion would be needed before discussing any removal ideas.

Borough Solicitor

Mr. Mark Remy talked about the Sewer Rate Ordinance. The rate would go up to \$85.89 and \$2.17 for every 1,000 gallons.

Roll call vote was taken on a motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Hammond: Resolution 2022-4 Sewer Rents and Service Charges cost increase to \$85.89 flat rate plus \$2.17 for each 1,000 gallons of water used or part thereof.

Bobby Hammond	Yes
Nelson Rieffannacht	Yes
Larry Searer	Yes
Venus Shade	No
Jim Steele	Yes
Aaron Wilson	No
Bill Wilson	Yes

On a vote of 5-2 in favor, the ordinance passes.

Street sweeping will resume on April 17th this year.

After a back-and-forth discussion about the Street Sweeper schedule, the agreed upon schedule after this year is to have the Street Sweeping begin on the 1st Sunday in April and would be suspended the last Sunday before Thanksgiving. Mr. Remy stated he would advertise the ordinance change so that it can be voted on for the April meeting.

UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

On a motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. B Wilson, Council voted unanimously to appoint Lonnie Griffin to the vacant MCMA position.

On a motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Ms. Shade, Council voted unanimously to approve the purchase of the WWTP Water Sampler for \$8,996.96 to replace the broken one.

On a motion by Mr. Hammond, seconded by Ms. Shade, Council voted unanimously to approve the 6th Street Slip Line Project for \$150,000.

On a motion by Ms. Shade, seconded by Mr. Steele, Council voted unanimously to approve the CDBG-Southside Improvement Project for \$7,914.00.

On a motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Hammond, Council voted unanimously to approve advertising for Seasonal Employees for the Department of Public Works and the Recreation Department to advertise for Lifeguards and Front Desk/Pool employees.

Public Comments

None

Council entered executive session at 5:59 PM

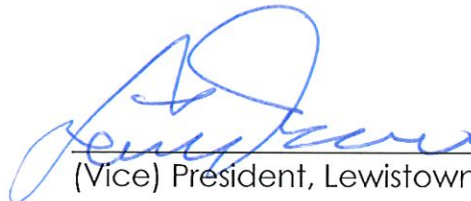
Council exited executive session at 6:35 PM

On a motion by Ms. Shade, seconded by Mr. A Wilson, Council voted unanimously to allow Chief Clemens to administer the agreed upon disciplinary actions.

On a motion by Ms. Shade, seconded by Mr. Steele, Council voted unanimously to hire the Street Sweeper/Workman candidate.

On a motion by Ms. Shade, seconded by Mr. Hammond, Council voted unanimously to approve the hiring of the WWTP Maintenance Technician candidate.

Council Ended at 6:37 PM



(Vice) President, Lewistown Borough Council

(Seal)

ATTEST:



(Asst.) Borough Secretary

