

October 12, 2022

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, Aaron Wilson, Robert Hammond, and William Wilson were present. Venus Shade was absent.

Hearing of Persons Present

N/A

CONSENT AGENDA

The following are routine, procedural, and informational non-controversial items and do not appear to require discussion or explanation prior to the 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 of 14 September 2022

B. Approval of Treasurer's Report: As of 30 September 2022

C. Approval of Schedule of Bills

D. Facility Use Request: see below

E. Acknowledge receipt of Fame Meeting Minutes

F. Acknowledge receipt of Tax Collector's Report

G. Acknowledge receipt of Codes Enforcement Report

On a motion by Mr. A. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Steele, Council votes unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda

Borough Manager

Mr. Kim Zimmerman, Borough Manager, spoke about the following items:

1. 22 Ridge Street Demolition Bid Opening

One bid was received for the 22 Ridge Street Demolition. G & R Excavating submitted the lone bid, and it was broken down as follows:

Demolition \$47,115.00

Reconstruct the wall next door \$18,722.00

Purchase insulation for \$1,030.00 and that will be reimbursed by the homeowner.

The county will reimburse the borough for a little over \$23,000 and the borough will be responsible for the rest.

On a motion by Mr. Rieffannacht and seconded by Mr. A. Wilson, Council votes unanimously to continue with the demolition of 22 Ridge Street based on the bid from G&R Excavating.

2. Bingaman Property Demolition Update

There will be a final walkthrough with the vendor and EADS along with Borough Manager Zimmerman. Codes officers Rex Fink and Katelyn Rauch will also attend. The vendor is still working on some additional grading and seeding because of the Lerch Furniture property next door. The sidewalk is completed. Once all work is complete the paperwork will be organized and sent to the state for reimbursement.

3. Future Police Station.

There are currently two options. The first one is the MCMA building. On October 19th, MCMA will meet to discuss building a new MCMA building and to sale the current MCMA building. There is also a building down the street that was walked thru. The asking price for that building is \$1.1 million.

4. County ARPA Decision

Mr. Zimmerman has emailed and visited the County trying to get answers to his questions about their plan for spending the \$9 million in ARPA funds they received. The county has not responded.

5. DCED-Pick-Up Event from September 1 thru November 30, 2022

DCED will be conducting a litter pick up event and the Public Works Department will participate since the Borough owns some riverfront property and has the dock.

6. HR/CCC Resignation

Sophia Aurand has resigned her position as the HR Benefits Coordinator and the Community Center Coordinator effective 10/20/2022. Her husband is in the Marines, and she will be relocating with him at his next post.

7. Townhall Meeting

The first annual townhall meeting will be the 26th of January at the Community Center. Details are not finalized. Mr. Zimmerman has had a walkthrough with our IT person to see what equipment will be needed.

Fire Chief

Chief Barlett stated the fire department responded to 24 incidents in September. They consisted of 1 miscellaneous fire, 1 building fire, 1 cooking fire, 1 outside storage fire, 2 medical assists, 5 motor vehicle accidents, 1 vehicle accident where the driver needed to be extricated from the vehicle, 1 water rescue, 3 reported gas leaks, 1 carbon monoxide incident, 1 electrical fire, 1 lockout, smoke removal, and a couple reports of smoke in the area that turned out to be false alarms. They also responded to 3 automatic alarms. The month of October is Fire Prevention Month. All three stations are participating. The department will also be participating in the Borough Halloween events.

Mayor

Mayor Bargo stated that FAME EMS will be celebrating their 30th Anniversary. Mayor Bargo emphasized their importance not just to Lewistown but to the surrounding communities as well. Fame EMS averages between 1,100 and 1,300 calls per month. Mayor Bargo also emphasized the shortage of EMT's across the state. Mayor Bargo mentioned Trunk or Treat on the 15th, the parade on the 26th, the 28th is Safe Night Trick or Treat, and the 31st is the regular Trick or Treat.

Police Chief

Chief Clemens stated that in September the police had 563 calls for service, 26 traffic citations, 16 non-traffic, 48 warnings, 487 parking meter tickets and 204 street maintenance tickets. Trunk or Treat for first responders is scheduled for October 15th at Rec Park. The police will be applying for a Local Law Enforcement Support Grant. The application is due on October 13th. Chief Clemens is requesting a letter of support from the Borough. The grant is for \$348,942.00 with no matching funds. The majority is to cover a new record management system. The current system is outdated and will need to be upgraded or the department will not be eligible for Federal funding. The letter of support is for the reoccurring charges with the new system. The reoccurring costs are for software updates \$18,700 and the LPR (License Plate Reader) at \$2,600. The costs will take effect in 2025. The grant covers 2023 and 2024.

On a motion by Mr. Hammond and seconded by Mr. Steele, Council votes unanimously to approve the authoring of the letter to show support for the Police department and the reoccurring costs for software and LPR after 2025.

Recreation Board no meeting

Borough Solicitor

Borough Solicitor Mark Remy stated the ordinance change for the Parking Courtesy ticket was properly advertised and is ready for approval.

On a motion by Mr. A. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Steele, Council votes unanimously to approve the new Parking Ordinance with the cost of the courtesy ticket to be raised to \$10.00.

UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

1. 2022 Festival of Ice

The 2022 Festival of Ice is scheduled for December 2nd from 4pm to 9pm. Mr. Zimmerman stated the event was approved in the consent agenda, but he wanted to make sure it was properly informed to all in attendance.

2. Fire Department Air Pack System

The air pack system for the fire department was approved with ARPA funds for \$40,000. The cost has gone up because of shipping and other items. It is now \$47,829.03.

On a motion by Mr. Steele and seconded by Mr. A. Wilson, Council votes unanimously to approve the purchase out of ARPA funds a new Air Pack System for the Fire Department at a cost of \$47,829.03.

3. LPD Records Management System was discussed and approved during Chief Clemens time.

4. Kiwanis Book Club Share Box

Kiwanis would like to put up a box by Dorcas Street at the bridge at Rec Park. Kiwanis would be responsible for filling the box with books. The borough would be responsible for all maintenance of the box.

Roll call vote was taken on a motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Hammond, Council voted 4-2 to allow the Kiwanis Book Club Box to be hung near Rec. Park.

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

5. 2020 CDBG-CV Fair Share

This is a bill for \$162.70 for ongoing fair share projects in the surrounding communities.

On a motion by Mr. Steele and seconded by Mr. A. Wilson, Council votes unanimously to approve paying the 2020 CDBG-CV Fair Share cost of \$162.70

6. Police MMO Obligation

The police pension MMO is \$47,879.00. Side note, the audit will be done within the week.

On a motion by Mr. A. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Steele, Council votes unanimously to approve the Police Pension MMO of \$47,879.00

7. 322 Bratton Avenue Handicap Parking Space Request

Mr. Zimmerman stated the person at 322 Bratton Avenue submitted a request for a handicap parking spot. Mr. Zimmerman stated the fee is \$25.00 but the cost to install a handicap parking spot is approximately \$500.00 for the borough. After some back-and-forth discussion, a vote was taken.

Roll call vote was taken on a motion by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Hammond, Council voted 4-3 to approve the handicap parking spot at 322 Bratton Avenue.

Bobby Hammond	Yes
Nelson Rieffannacht	No
Larry Searer	No
Venus Shade	Absent
Jim Steele	Yes
Aaron Wilson	Yes
Bill Wilson	No
Mayor Deb Bargo	Yes

8. Little League Season Rental Request for 8 months

Mr. Zimmerman stated the facility use request to reserve the little league fields for next year was received. Mr. Zimmerman stated this will be looked at in the future.

9. Community Center Coordinator Position

In order to discuss the CC coordinator, position it needs to be added to the agenda.

On a motion by Mr. Hammond and seconded by Mr. A, Wilson, Council votes unanimously to add the Community Center Coordinator position to the agenda.

Council President Searer stated he saw in the newspaper about the City Fire Company getting a new license to separate the social club from the fire department. Chief Barlett stated that was done mainly for insurance purposes to insulate the fire department from the social club from liability.

Council entered executive session at 6:02 PM

Council exited executive session at 6:14 PM

Roll call vote was taken on a motion by Mr. A. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Hammond, Council voted 4-2 to approve authorizing legal council the authority to provide information to the PA Human Relations regarding a personnel investigation.

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

On a motion by Mr. Hammond and seconded by Mr. Steele, Council votes unanimously to approve the hiring of the person discussed in Executive session to the soon to be vacant Community Center Coordinator position.

Council ended at 6:16

(Vice) President, Lewistown Borough Council

(Seal)

ATTEST:

(Asst.) Borough Secretary