

September 13th, 2023

LEWISTOWN MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Council meeting opened at 5:30 PM with Borough Council Vice President, Aaron Wilson presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Roll call Robert Hammond, Larry Searer, Nelson Rieffannacht, Bill Wilson, Aaron Wilson (Vice President), Jim Steele (President) was all present. Venus Shade was absent.

Hearing of Person's Present:

Mr. Aaron Wilson gave a brief statement congratulating both Ethan Ross from Heritage Fire Department who won the 2023 Central District Joseph Whiteford Memorial Junior Firefighter award and Kylie Strawser who won the Humanitarian Award. Both awards were the first for Mifflin County to win those awards.

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: July and August 2023
- B. Approval of Treasurer's Report: End of August 2023
- C. Approval of Schedule of Bills:
- D. Facility Use Requests:
 - Granville Fire Company (9/29 to 10/1),
 - Mifflin County Soccer Club (8/23 to 11/19)
 - Goose Day 5K
 - Drone Show,
 - Salvation Army Event
 - Trunk or Treat
- 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. Hammond and seconded by Mr. A. Wilson , Council voted 6-0 to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Shade was absent.

Borough Manager:

1. United Way Day of Caring (September 20, 2023)

They will be working with the Streets department in the park on benches and other items.

2. Digester DCED ARPA Grant (September 18, 2023)

It has been moved back to September 18, 2023. The cost was originally \$2,000,000 but we don't know what the cost will be now.

3. Tire Day (September 16, 2023 from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM)

This will be located down at the warehouse. Mr. Rieffannacht asked if there was a cost and Mr. Zimmerman stated it was free. Mr. Searer asked if he was sure there was no charge. He stated he thought there was a charge in the past. Mr. Zimmerman stated he would do some research on that question.

4. DCED Workshop (October 4, 2023, at 6:00 PM at the County Annex)

This is something Jim Zubler, Downtown Lewistown Inc., is working on with the County planning department. It is a discussion about what money is available for municipalities.

5. DEP Inflow & Infiltration Violations Meeting in Harrisburg (October 5, 2023, at 10:00 AM)

Mr. Zimmerman, Don Dippery and Lucas Parkes with EADS will attend a hearing in Harrisburg regarding I & I violations.

6. Streets-Parking Board/Parking Authority

a. Parking Authority Meeting (September 28, 2023 at 10:00 AM)

The meeting is to discuss the validity of the Parking Authority.

b. Parking Authority Audit is completed.

7. Police Station Building Renovation (\$185,000)

There are approximately 2.5 years left on the lease and we are looking at the possibility of renovating the station in the future.

8. Goose Day (September 29, 2023)

9. Goose Day Drone Light Show (September 29, 2023, at 9:30 PM)

Goose Day and the Drone Show were approved by PennDOT, and they were listed above with the consent agenda. Mayor Bargo stated someone called her and stated the drone show is unbelievable.

10. 2nd Annual Town Hall Meeting (January 24, 2024)

The format will be like the first one.

11. Employee Christmas Party (December 22, 2023)

The employee party will take place at the Community Center. Mr. Zimmerman stated the hours of the party will be discussed in the future.

12. MABL Payment (\$306,000)

Payment should be received towards the end of September. The money will be set aside and used at Council's discretion.

13. Breast Cancer Awareness Connection (Pink Ribbons in October)

Pink ribbons will be hung on Market Street in October.

14. Domestic Violence Awareness Month (Purple lighting in the fountain in October)

Fire Chief

Chief Barlett took a moment to recognize Larry Carter and Joe Maroney for their work on the firemen's convention. Chief Barlett stated there were no incidents that he was aware of. Chief Barlett stated that during the month of August 2023, the Fire Department responded to 17 alarms; 1 unknown fire (nothing found), 1 building fire, 1 vehicle fire, 2 medical assists with an ambulance, a motor vehicle accident with injuries, a vehicle/pedestrian accident that resulted in the death of the pedestrian, 1 water rescue, 1 gas leak, 1 carbon monoxide incident, 1 public service, a standby assignment for another department, and four automatic alarms.

On September 20th, the Red Cross will be furnishing smoke alarms (including batteries and installation) for anyone that needs them.

Mayor

Mayor Bargo asked for approval for trick or treat. Mayor Bargo stated that the Halloween parade would be October 25th, the Safe Night Trick or Treat would be October 27th, and the regular trick or treat night will be October 31st.

On a motion by Mr. Rieffannacht and seconded by Mr. A. Wilson, Council votes 6-0 to approve the Halloween Parade for October 25th, Safe Night Trick or Treat for October 27th and Trick or Treat for October 31st from 6 to 8 PM in accordance with other municipalities. Ms. Shade was absent.

Police Chief

Chief Clemens stated the police department had 493 calls for service, 50 traffic citations, 18 non-traffic, 52 warnings issued, 5 active drug investigations, 5 new investigations, 1 felony arrest, 5 misdemeanor arrests, 3 search warrants, 2 grams of fentanyl seized, and 10 grams of methamphetamine and 7 grams of cocaine or crack in the month of August.

The department has started the administrative training for the new RMS system. The officers will be in October and the tentative date to go live with the new RMS system is November 9th.

Every officer now has their own laptop. Mouse and printers are installed in every vehicle.

Officer Leight is getting familiar with the new drone.

Trunk or Treat will be on October 21st at Rec. Park and if there is inclement weather it will be in the Community Center.

Recreation Board

No quorum.

Borough Solicitor

No updates to provide council.

UNFINISHED & NEW BUSINESS

1. Fame Allocation Increase (\$21,000)

Mike passed out some articles to council. Fame is requesting the remainder of their initial \$45,000 request for this year, which is \$21,000.00. The finance committee requested it be referred to council for discussion. The \$21,000.00 would go towards general expenditure (personnel, equipment). The current tax rate for the specialty tax is .121 mills. \$45,000 represents approximately .45 mills. Mike also extended an invitation to tour the EMS facilities.

On a motion by Mr. A. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Hammond, Council votes 4-2 to approve the remaining allocation of \$21,000.00 to FAME EMS. Mr. Searer and Mr. Rieffannacht voted against the allocation. Ms. Shade was absent.

2. Employee Handbook

The handbook is complete. The handbook does not supersede the AFSCME or Teamsters Police contracts. They still take precedence.

On a motion by Mr. Hammond and seconded by Mr. A. Wilson, Council votes 6-0 to approve the Employee Handbook as presented. Ms. Shade was absent.

3. COSTARS Code Enforcement Vehicle (\$39,332)

On a motion by Mr. Searer and seconded by Mr. A. Wilson, Council votes 6-0 to approve the purchase of a 2023 Ford Explorer from New Holland for \$39,332. Ms. Shade was absent.

4. 22 Ridge Road Lot Sale (already approved)

The sale has been approved. Mr. Rieffannacht asked what the borough had into the property. Katelyn Rauch stated we had approximately \$66,000.00 put into the property and half of what it is sold for will go to the County. Mr. Rieffannacht thought the sale shouldn't be for less than what we have in it. He requested a minimum bid of \$25,000.00.

On a motion by Mr. Hammond and seconded by Mr. A. Wilson, Council votes 6-0 to approve sending 22 Ridge Road out to bid. Ms. Shade was absent.

5. Minimal Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the Non-Uniform Pension Plan (\$187,556)

On a motion by Mr. Rieffannacht and seconded by Mr. A. Wilson, Council votes 6-0 to approve the Non-Union Pension Plan MMO for \$187,556. Ms. Shade was absent.

6. MMO for Police Pension Plan (\$64,682)

On a motion by Mr. Rieffannacht and seconded by Mr. A. Wilson, Council votes 6-0 to approve the Police Pension Plan MMO for \$64,682. Ms. Shade was absent.

7. Reimbursement Request for Valley Street Demo Costs (\$12,703.52)

This is a request to recover Valley Street Demo costs from the county in the amount of \$12,703.52.

On a motion by Mr. A. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Hammond, Council votes 6-0 to approve the reimbursement request for the Valley Street Demo costs from Mifflin County in the amount of \$12,703.52. Ms. Shade was absent.

8. CDBG Resolution Approval (\$145,546)

This is a resolution to accept the CDBG funds in the amount of \$145,546.00.

On a motion by Mr. A. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Hammond, Council votes 6-0 to approve the CDBG Resolution for \$145,546.00. Ms. Shade was absent.

8a. Paving West 5th Street, West 4th Street, North Grand Street (\$527,192 and \$18,472)

\$527,192 will be funded through CDBG funds and State Liquid Fuel funds. The remaining \$18,472.00 will come from just SLF funds because a small portion of the proposed paving is not eligible for CDBG funds. Mayor Bargo asked if there was going to be any paving on Washington Avenue or Lindbergh Way. Chastity Fultz stated that side of town is not eligible for CDBG funds because of income guidelines. The Southside Paving project is slated to be completed this year.

9. Lewistown Fire Department Convention Resolution

This resolution is from Council to recognize the fire department for their hard work in organizing and running the convention.

On a motion by Mr. Searer and seconded by Mr. A. Wilson, Council votes 6-0 to approve the Lewistown Fire Department Convention Resolution. Ms. Shade was absent.

10. Police Car and Codes Van to Fire Department

The fire department would like to have both vehicles for use. Mr. Rieffannacht asked why they want these vehicles since they are in bad condition. Mr. Zimmerman stated they wanted them because they don't have any vehicles to transport members to training.

On a motion by Mr. Searer and seconded by Mr. Hammond, Council votes 6-0 to giving the police car and codes van to the fire department for their use. Ms. Shade was absent.

11. 2023 Chevy 3500 T-Tag Dump Truck for the streets department (\$107,607)

The 2023 Chevy 3500 would replace a 2001 with 120,000 miles on it. The truck is in poor shape. The 2023 Chevy has already been built and is currently being used at shows by the company. It has a salt spreader and plow already attached. It is in the 2023 budget and is being offered at a discount because they are using it.

On a motion by Mr. Searer and seconded by Mr. A. Wilson, Council votes 6-0 to approve the purchase of a 2023 Chevy 3500 T-Tag Dump truck for \$107,607.00. Ms. Shade was absent.

12. DLI Donation (\$5,000)

On a motion by Mr. Rieffannacht and seconded by Mr. A. Wilson, Council votes 6-0 to approve the \$5,000 donation to DLI. Ms. Shade was absent.

13. Replace WWTP Engineer Firm with EADS

On a motion by Mr. A. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Hammond, Council votes 6-0 to approve replacing our current WWTP engineering firm with EADS beginning on January 1, 2024. Ms. Shade was absent.

14. Open Positions:

- a. Refuse Collector**
- b. Street Sweeper Driver**
- c. Streets Workman**
- d. Deputy DPW**
- e. Deputy WWTP Superintendent**

Public Comments

Deb Peffer asked if the roof on the Community Center building has been replaced yet. **Mr. Zimmerman** stated we are waiting for more bids to come in before making any final decisions.

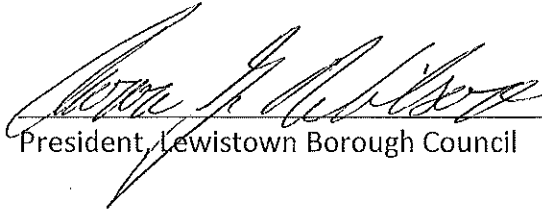
Executive Session Started: 6:15 PM

Executive Session Ended: 7:04 PM

On a motion by Mr. A. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Searer, Council votes 6-0 to approve the filling of the refuse collector, street sweeper driver and workman positions with the applicants that were discussed. Ms. Shade was absent.

On a motion by Mr. Rieffannacht and seconded by Mr. Hammond, Council votes 5-1 to rescind the termination and accept the resignation of the discussed employee. Mr. A. Wilson voted against the motion. Ms. Shade was absent.

Council ended at 7:06 PM

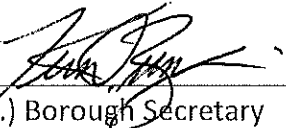


President, Lewistown Borough Council

(Vice)

(Seal)

ATTEST:



(Asst.) Borough Secretary