

October 11th, 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, Nelson Rieffannacht, Venus Shade, Jim Steele (President), and Aaron Wilson (Vice-President) were all present. Larry Searer called into the meeting. Bill Wilson was absent.

Hearing of Person's 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: September 13, 2023

B. Approval of Treasurer's Report: End of September 2023

C. Approval of Schedule of Bills:

D. Facility Use Requests:

Sip and Shop (November 18)

Halloween Parade (October 25)

Festival of ice (November 30 thru December 1st, pending insurance forms and PennDOT approval)

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 Ms. Shade and seconded by Mr. A. Wilson, Council voted 5-1 to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Searer voted against the consent agenda. Bill Wilson was absent.

Borough Manager:

1. Digester DCED ARPA Grant (November CFA Meeting)

The last two Commonwealth Finance meetings have been delayed. The next one is scheduled for November 21st.

2. DEP I & I Violations meeting in Harrisburg on October 5th at 10:00 AM

Since January of 2015 the Borough of Lewistown has been under a Corrective Action Plan with DEP to fix our I & I issue. The Borough has been working on those problems, but it has not been completely corrected. DEP is going to fine us for every discharge of the manholes that is in effect (mostly ones by Victory Park)

- a. **Fines**
To be determined.
 - b. **Corrective Action Plan (CAP), Chapter 94, 2015**
A new CAP needs to be formulated by November.
 - c. **Corrective Action Plan to be formed into a consent order.**
The new CAP will need to be agreed upon by both the Borough and DEP. It will need to be followed to avoid further action by DEP.
3. **Streets-Parking Board//Parking Authority**
There is no requirement to have a Parking Authority anymore. Discussions have started to dissolve the Parking Authority and create a new Streets-Parking Board that would have 3 council members and 4 local business owners.
4. **Employee Christmas Party**
- a. **December 22, 2023**
 - b. **Borough Hall Closure at Noon**

On a motion by Mr. Hammond and seconded by Mr. A. Wilson, Council voted 6-0 to approve closing Borough Hall on December 22nd, 2023, at Noon. Bill Wilson was absent.

5. **2nd Annual Town Hall Meeting**
The meeting will have the same agenda as the first one.
- a. **Lewistown Community Center**
 - b. **January 24, 2024, at 6:00 PM**
6. **22 Ridge Road Lot Sale**
The sale will require an appraisal of the property. The appraisal could cost more than the actual sale of the property. **Mr. Hammond** stated he knew a person who could appraise it and that he would reach out to that person.
7. **Open Positions: Clerk/Secretary and Deputy Director of Public Works**
8. **Refuse Office will be closed from October 20th through October 25th.**
9. **Important Dates:**
- a. **October 21st is Trunk or Treat**
 - b. **October 25th is the Halloween Parade**
 - c. **October 27th is Safe Night Trick or Treat**
 - d. **October 31st is Trick or Treat**
 - e. **November 9th the new police RMS system will go live.**
 - f. **November 11th is Veteran's Day**
 - g. **November 23rd is Thanksgiving.**
 - h. **November 24th Municipal Hall will be closed.**

On a motion by Ms. Shade and seconded by Mr. A. Wilson, Council voted 6-0 to approve closing Borough Hall on November 24, 2023. Bill Wilson was absent.

- i. **November 30th and December 1st is the Festival of Ice event.**

10. WWTP Sludge Removal Contract increases by 39-50%

a. Researching for other vendors

The current contract expires on December 31, 2023. Ms. Shade asked why the increase and Mr. Zimmerman stated cost of fuel, CPI, surcharges. Don Dippery is working to get bids from other vendors, including one the borough used in the past.

b. Sludge removal cost could increase from \$750,000 to \$1,125,000.

Fire Chief

Chief Barlett stated that the fire department responded to 13 incidents in September; 1 building fire, 3 medical assists, 3 vehicle accidents with injuries, 1 natural gas leak, 2 police assists, 2 smoke/odor investigations, and 1 automatic alarm. The water rescue team has been assisting with various criminal investigations. Chief Barlett stated some of the equipment that was purchased with the ARPA money that the Borough gave them has started to arrive. Chief Barlett invited Borough Council members to City Hook and Ladder to see what exactly was purchased and for a demonstration on how this equipment works. Chief Barlett stated around 600 fire alarms were installed during the Red Cross event.

Mayor

Mayor Bargo was invited along with Acting Sargeant Lynch and Commissioner Postal to a private ceremony for Trooper Rougeau. Mayor Bargo stated there were approximately 200 people present. The family that owns the land where the shooting took place donated the land to the memorial and the exit at Arch Rock is to be renamed after Trooper Rougeau.

Mayor Bargo stated that FAME EMS was awarded the 2023 Lifeline Gold Award by the American Heart Association.

Mayor Bargo stated the Property Maintenance meetings will be starting back up. This committee deals with abandoned properties.

Mayor Bargo also passed out her 3rd quarter marriage report.

Police Chief

Chief Clemens stated the police department had 516 calls for service in September, 41 traffic citations, 19 non-traffic, 44 warnings issued, and issued 545 parking tickets, 5 active drug investigations, 4 new investigations, 1 misdemeanor arrest, 1 search warrant, 2 grams of fentanyl seized, and 30 grams of methamphetamine for the month of September.

The new RMS system will be live on November 9th. The new system and the new laptops and printers in each vehicle will allow tickets to be printed out and e-file citations.

Recreation Board

No meeting.

Borough Solicitor

No updates to provide council.

UNFINISHED & NEW BUSINESS

1. CDBG Southside ADA Ramp Approval (\$179,100)

On a motion by Ms. Shade and seconded by Mr. A. Wilson, Council voted 6-0 to approve the CDBG Southside ADA Ramp payment by the County. Bill Wilson was absent.

2. Mifflin County Library Board

On a motion by Mr. A. Wilson and seconded by Ms. Shade, Council voted 6-0 to approve appointing Shelby Liebegott to the Mifflin County Library Board for a term of 2024 through 2026. Bill Wilson was absent.

3. Public Bid Authorization to Advertise 5 vehicles and 1 truck engine.

Mr. Zimmerman explained that at this council meeting they would authorize to advertise and then in November they would need to approve the resolution and then they would open the bids.

On a motion by Mr. Rieffannacht and seconded by Mr. A. Wilson, Council voted 6-0 to approve the public bid advertising for 5 vehicles and a truck engine. Bill Wilson was absent.

Public Comments

No comments

Executive Session Started: 5:56 PM

Executive Session Ended: 6:03 PM

On a motion by Ms. Shade and seconded by Mr. A. Wilson, Council voted 5-1 to accept the termination of the employee that was discussed in the executive session. Mr. Searer voted against. Bill Wilson was absent.

On a motion by Ms. Shade and seconded by Mr. A. Wilson, Council voted 5-1 to terminate the employee that was discussed in the executive session. Mr. Searer voted against. Bill Wilson was absent.

Council ended at 7:04 PM



President, Lewistown Borough Council

(Vice)

(Seal)

ATTEST:



(Asst.) Borough Secretary