

**July 10, 2024**

## **LEWISTOWN MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

The Council meeting opened at 5:30 PM with Borough Council President James Steele presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

### **Prayer**

### **Roll Call**

Steve Knudson, Jim Steele, Lisa Knudson, Larry Searer, and Matt Moore were present. Bob Barlett and Scott Gutshall were absent.

### **Hearing of Person's Present:**

1. **Thomas Ross**, a resident of Valley Street, stated the new Valley Street project is causing the rain to run down Central Avenue and wash his driveway out. Mr. Zimmerman stated he would have the Streets department investigate the issue and try to produce a solution to the problem.
2. **Steve Arentz**, a Lewistown resident, made comments regarding the paving and sidewalks on Valley Street and spoke about the height of curbs and sidewalks stating they are too high for older residents. Mr. Arentz gave comments directed to the police chief and spoke in inappropriate language that resulted in Council President Steele calling for a recess to restore order to the meeting.
3. **David Aldez**, owner of a multi-family home on Main Street, stated he has rented a dumpster for his renters to put their garbage in but now he is getting hit with "bags without tags" charges on top of paying for the dumpster. He asked for the bill to be forgiven since he is paying for the dumpster. He stated he feels like he is paying twice for the same service because he must purchase stickers for the bags and being charged for the dumpster rental. His business partner, Fred, stated the "Bags without Tags" issue concerns all residents, not just their property. Kim Zimmerman stated it was his opinion that this issue merits further discussion.

### **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. 19 June 2024
- B. Approval of Treasurer's Report. As 01 July 2024
- C. Approval of Schedule of Bills. \$832,158.16
- D. Facility Use Requests: October 4-6th, 2024 (wedding, alcohol) (Postpone)
- E. Acknowledge receipt of Fame Meeting Minutes. N/A
- F. Acknowledge receipt of Tax Collector's Report.
- G. Acknowledge receipt of Codes Enforcement Report.

**On a motion by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mrs. Knudson, Council voted 5-0 to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Barlett and Mr. Gutshall were absent.**

**Borough Manager:**

**1. Digester #1 Repair Status: EADS**

Mr. Zimmerman stated the Digester project is coming along. The roof is off the building and approximately 20 feet of liquid has been pumped out of the digester. Zeke Phillips stated they are down to about 3 and a half feet and then it will be down to the cone portion of the digester. Mr. Zimmerman stated that once it is emptied and the repairs are made, the digester will be pressure washed. Mr. Zimmerman stated the loan from the County can be used for Sewer infrastructure and he recommended using any leftover money to service the other two digesters since they have not been serviced in 20 years. Zeke Phillips shared pictures of the dry beds stating that some of the cost has been saved by using the dry beds instead of hauling the waste away.

**2. Military Banners Installed**

Mr. Zimmerman stated the banners have been installed. We are waiting for 2 banners (one for the Fire Department logo and the other is for the Police Department logo) that will have 2 people on each banner. Banners with misspelled names have been addressed with the company and they are going to try and replace those banners. Mr. Zimmerman said he has a meeting with the VFW to discuss military banners for 2025. Mrs. Knudson asked if that would be advertised and Mr. Zimmerman stated it would be advertised, will be through a different company, and should be cheaper in cost.

**3. Infiltration & Inflow (I & I) Update/ "Smoke Testing" for I & I weeks of July 15 and July 22<sup>nd</sup>)**

Lucas Parkes, with EADS stated they will be on the west side of town. Mr. Zimmerman stated this will be advertised. Mr. Zimmerman stated it is already posted on social media.

**4. July 12 Employee Appreciation Day**

**5. Borough Hall Closing at 12:00 on July 12<sup>th</sup>**

**6. PennDOT Winter Road Maintenance Agreement**

Mr. Zimmerman stated he has received the PennDOT Winter Road Maintenance Agreement to pay the Borough for maintaining the stated owned streets in town. Mr. Zimmerman stated the contract they proposed is for 5 years and reimbursed the Borough \$8,000 per year. Mr. Zimmerman stated that would not cover the Borough expenses and reached out to PennDOT to negotiate the contract. After 2 weeks he received a response from PennDOT asking if the Borough would be interested in agreeing to a one-year contract and having further discussions in the future regarding the reimbursement amount. Mr. Zimmerman asked if Council wanted to accept the 1-year offer.

**On a motion by Mr. Searer and seconded by Mr. Moore, Council voted 5-0 to approve the PennDOT Winter Road Maintenance Agreement for one year. Mr. Barlett and Mr. Gutshall were absent.**

**7. CGI Videos (June 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024)**

Mr. Zimmerman stated CGI videos came in on the 25<sup>th</sup> and they were able to get some great shots for the tourism video.

#### 8. Kish Creek Debris Removal

Mr. Zimmerman showed pictures of the debris removal and stated they are working fast to remove that debris.

#### 9. Police Car Bid

Mr. Zimmerman stated the bid is out and being advertised. Any bids that are received will be opened at the August council meeting.

#### 10. Pool Briefing

Tyler Fink shared a Power Point presentation of pictures of the pool showing the improvements projects at the pool. Mr. Zimmerman stated the leak appears to be fixed. Tyler thanked all the sponsors, council members and community members that have helped with the improvements at the pool. Mr. Zimmerman asked Katelyn Rauch to have thank you letters drafted for the sponsors and signed by Council.

#### 11. CDBG Options

Mr. Zimmerman stated if we combine the funds from this year and next year, we will have about \$250,000 in CDBG funds. He stated two large projects that have been discussed are Rec Park and Storm Water I & I, which is a part of the DEP consent order. These projects will need to be discussed further at future committee meetings.

#### Fire Chief

Chief Douglas stated that City Hook and Ladder responded to 28 calls for service, 23 in town calls and 5 out of town calls in June. They responded to 2 fires, 3 gas leaks, 4 motor vehicle accidents, 1 brush fire, 5 automatic fire alarms, 8 medical assists, 2 local alarms, 1 police assist and 2 public service. Heritage responded to 16 calls for service, 16 in town calls and no out of town calls. They responded to 1 fire, 2 gas leaks, 1 medical assist, 2 local alarms, 4 automatic fire alarms, 1 police assist, 1 public service, and 4 motor vehicle accidents.

Chief Douglas stated there will be a department training next Tuesday.

#### Mayor

Mayor Bargo recognized four EMT's from FAME who responded to a high voltage accident. The four were Eric Howell, Matt Evans, Zach Leitzel, and Christiana Stauffer. The EMT's were given a Service Excellence Trauma Coin from Geisinger-Lewistown to recognize them for going above and beyond the call of duty.

Mayor Bargo stated she submitted an article for the PSAB Borough News, and it was published in the August issue highlighting the Geisinger School of Nursing.

#### Police Chief

Chief Clemens stated the police department had 469 calls for service in June. He stated they had 72 traffic citations, 12 non traffic citations, 22 warnings, 8 DUI arrests, 404 parking meters or other violations, and 537 street maintenance tickets were issued.

Chief Clemens stated he is seeking approval to purchase a new server with Accreditation Grant money for \$13,400.00 and a wireless router for the police vehicles from the Local Law Enforcement Grant money at a cost of \$11,445.00.

**On a motion by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Knudson, Council voted 5-0 to approve the purchases of the server for \$13,400.00 and the wireless router for \$11,445.00. Mr. Barlett and Mr. Gutshall were absent.**

**On a motion by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mrs. Knudson, Council voted 5-0 to approve the 2024-2025 SRO (School Resource Officer) Contract. Mr. Barlett and Mr. Gutshall were absent.**

#### **Recreation Board**

Rec Board meeting was postponed until the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July.

1. Donations: \$20,976.51
2. Pool Banners: 51
3. Attendance as of July 5, 2024: 1,323

#### **Borough Solicitor**

1. Blacks Hospital Lot Consolidation

**On a motion by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Searer, Council voted 5-0 to approve the Blacks Hospital Lot Consolidation. Mr. Barlett and Mr. Gutshall were absent.**

2. Delmark Investment Group Lot Consolidation

**On a motion by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Searer, Council voted 5-0 to approve the Delmark Investment Group Lot Consolidation. Mr. Barlett and Mr. Gutshall were absent.**

3. Ordinance Omnibus

Will be discussed at the next Law and Ordinance meeting.

4. County Resolution of Support

The County is pursuing funding for the project and needs a resolution and letter of support from the Borough. Mr. Searer asked if supporting this project would cost the Borough anything and Mr. Zimmerman stated it would not cost the Borough any money.

**On a motion by Mr. Searer and seconded by Mr. Moore, Council voted 5-0 to approve the County Library Resolution and letter of support. Mr. Barlett and Mr. Gutshall were absent.**

5. Parking Authority
6. Streets-Parking Board

Mr. Remy stated the Parking Authority abolishment, and the Streets-Parking Board establishment is being worked on and January 2025 is still the target date.

7. PennDOT Resolution

**On a motion by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mrs. Knudson, Council voted 5-0 to approve the PennDOT Winterization Resolution. Mr. Barlett and Mr. Gutshall were absent.**

8. Lake Car Wash

**On a motion by Mr. Searer and seconded by Mr. Moore, Council voted 5-0 to approve the Lake Car Wash Land Development project contingent on the Highway Occupancy Permit. Mr. Barlett and Mr. Gutshall were absent.**

## **UNFINISHED & NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. USG Digester Invoice (\$80,000)**

This invoice is for the removal of the roof at the digester.

**On a motion by Mr. Searer and seconded by Mr. Moore, Council voted 5-0 to approve the USG Digester invoice for removing the roof. Mr. Barlett and Mr. Gutshall were absent.**

### **2. MechTech I & I Wireless Upgrade (\$9,540)**

See #3.

### **3. MechTech I & I Wireless Ultrasonic Sensor (\$3,600 per month rental fee for 60 months-\$216,000 total)**

Lucas Parkes stated items 2 and 3 do not need to be acted on tonight. He stated they can be discussed further at the upcoming sewer meeting.

### **4. Center Street I & I Slip-lining (\$21,886.85)**

**On a motion by Mr. Searer and seconded by Mr. Moore, Council voted 5-0 to approve the Center Street I & I Sliplining bid from Mr. Rehab for \$21,886.85. Mr. Barlett and Mr. Gutshall were absent.**

### **5. County Letter of Support for Library Project**

Addressed earlier in the meeting.

### **6. 7 Chestnut Street Extended Handicapped Parking Spot Request**

**On a motion by Mr. Searer and seconded by Mr. Moore, Council voted 4-1 to approve the Handicap Parking spot at 7 Chestnut Street Extended contingent on the applicant paying the full \$50.00 fee. Mr. Moore voted against the motion. Mr. Barlett and Mr. Gutshall were absent.**

### **7. School Resource Officer MCSD Contract for School Year 2024-2025**

Addressed earlier in the meeting.

### **8. Wireless Router LLE Grant (\$11,445)**

Addressed earlier in the meeting.

### **9. Bags w/o Tags (314 Valley Street, \$300.00)**

**On a motion by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mrs. Knudson, Council voted 5-0 to approve adding Bags w/o Tags to the agenda. Mr. Barlett and Mr. Gutshall were absent.**

Mr. Zimmerman showed an email regarding the refuse bill at 314 Valley Street. Mr. Zimmerman stated a neighbor is putting their garbage in front this address.

David Aldez asked council to absolve him of the \$1,600.00 in bags w/o tags.

**On a motion by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mrs. Knudson, Council voted 5-0 to absolve the \$300.00 and \$1,600.00 in Bags w/o Tags. Mr. Barlett and Mr. Gutshall were absent.**

Mr. Moore asked what the status of the intersection of Shaw and S. Pine Road was. Mr. Zimmerman stated they are going to try and get our paving machine out to correct the issue. He stated it was material failure. Mr. Moore stated he thinks it might be caused by the oil truck coming through town. .

**Public Comment**

Steve Arentz thanked Council for enforcing street parking rules along Market Street. He stated the enforcement has opened parking spaces to allow people to park near the Courthouse and the Post Office.

**Executive Session Started: 6:49 PM**

**Executive Session Ended: 7:14 PM**

**10. Parental Leave and Social Media Policy Letters**

On a motion by Mr. Searer and seconded by Mrs. Knudson, Council voted 4-1 to approve adding the Parental Leave and Social Media Policy Letters to the agenda. Mr. Moore voted against the motion. Mr. Barlett and Mr. Gutshall were absent.

On a motion by Mr. Searer and seconded by Mrs. Knudson, a roll call vote was taken, and Council Voted 4-1 to approve the Parental Leave and Social Media Policy Letters. Mr. Moore voted against the motion. Mr. Barlett and Mr. Gutshall were absent.

Bob Barlett            Absent

Steve Knudson        Yes

Mr. Moore            No

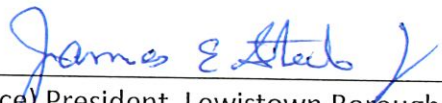
Larry Searer          Yes

Jim Steele            Yes

Scott Gutshall        Absent

Lisa Knudson          Yes

**Council Ended: 8:15 PM**

  
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(Vice) President, Lewistown Borough Council

(Seal)

ATTEST:

  
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(Asst.) Borough Secretary