

August 14, 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, Scott Gutshall, Robert Barlett and Matt Moore were all present.

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. 10 July 2024
- B. Approval of Treasurer's Report. As 01 August 2024
- C. Approval of Schedule of Bills. \$517,714.45
- D. Facility Use Requests:
 - 1. Community Center Wedding in October (alcohol)
 - 2. Salvation Army Block Party
 - 3. Goose Day 5K
- 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. Moore and seconded by Mrs. Knudson, Council voted 7-0 to approve the consent agenda.

Borough Manager:

1. CDBG Options:

Mr. Zimmerman stated that the Borough has approximately \$125,000 this year and about \$125,000 next year in CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funds for a total of approximately \$250,000 in CDBG funds to use on CDBG eligible projects.

a. Virginia Ave Stormwater Sewer Management

Mr. Zimmerman stated that rain causes stones and debris to wash down and in the winter the water pools and causes ice problems.

b. Mifflin County Housing Authority

Mr. Zimmerman stated MC Housing Authority reached out to SEDA-COG (Susquehanna Economic Development Association-Council of Governments) with a request to use CDBG funds to help with roof replacement, smoke detectors and GFI outlets. Jamie, with SEDA-COG, stated the request was sent to the County and they brought it to the Borough as a request since the houses in need of work are in the Borough. They are requesting about \$175,000.00.

c. Victory Park Boat Dock Area Upgrade

Upgrading Victory Park and the Boat access. It would utilize funds from a grant through the Fish and Boat Commission that opens in September and matching funds from CDBG. It would not take all the money for this project.

d. Rec Park Upgrade/ Handicapped Access/ Equipment/ Paving

Mr. Zimmerman stated this would be to make the park handicap accessible, repair fencing, and paving.

e. East Side Paving/ Alley Paving

Mr. Zimmerman stated CDBG and State Liquid Fuel funds could be used for this project.

Mr. Moore asked if Council needed to make a decision tonight on what projects the Borough would be interested in. Mr. Zimmerman referred the question to Jamie, with SEDA-COG. Jamie stated the plan was originally to get this decision tonight, but more investigation would be needed to determine eligibility on the Virginia Ave or East Side Paving projects to determine if they fall within the guidelines of CDBG guidelines. Jamie felt like the two park projects would qualify since they are Borough owned parks and are operated for the residents of the Borough, of which 51% meet the LMI (Low to Moderate Income) standards. She stated the MC Housing Authority is getting their own funding in place at the County level. Mr. Zimmerman stated the Boat grant opens in September and the Rec Park grant opens in January. Both of those grants would involve EADS. Mr. Gutshall asked if the project chosen didn't use all the funds, would the remaining funds roll over to the next year? Jamie said they would. CDBG funds are received every year. Jamie recommended putting the money into 1 project instead of 2.

On a motion by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Gutshall, Council voted 7-0 to use CDBG funds towards the Rec Park Upgrade.

2. Digester #1 Repair Status: EADS

Tom Kakabar, with EADS, stated the repairs are going great but due to flooding the contractor has pulled out for the week to help with emergencies elsewhere. Mr. Gutshall asked what the time frame for the roof to be quoted out would be. Mr. Kakabar hoped to bring the bids to the next council meeting to award the contract. Mr. Gutshall asked for an estimate of the cost and Mr. Kakabar stated

he expected the cost to be around \$500,000. Mr. Gutshall asked what the build time is for the roof and Mr. Kakabar stated it would be late February or early March.

3. I & I Status/ DEP Consent Order Semi-Annual Report Submitted

DEP confirmed receipt of the report and didn't have any questions. Mr. Zimmerman stated Derry and Granville Townships were submitted as well.

4. Military Banners

Mr. Zimmerman stated the second round of the military banners is starting. He stated the Borough will be using the UPS Store in State College. This is the same business that is used for the pool advertising banners.

*****Since the Council meeting on the 14th of August, an order form for military banners is available on the Borough website [Military Banner Program - Borough of Lewistown \(lewistownborough.com\)](http://www.lewistownborough.com) and the cost is \$90.00 per banner. The cost includes a double-sided banner, mounting hardware, and installation of the banner.*****

5. GSL Consulting

This company helps with procuring grant money from the state. Mr. Zimmerman stated he did not like the contract and that he sent it to Mr. Remy, and he didn't like the contract either. Mr. Gutshall asked what exactly wasn't liked about the contract. Mr. Zimmerman stated he didn't like the fee (12% paid out of the general fund for any money awarded) and legal language. Mr. Remy stated there was indemnification language that was broad.

6. Utility Delinquency Letters

Mr. Zimmerman stated Somer Weiss, and her staff are working on the letters to get them mailed out this month.

7. DCNR Pool Study Report Received

Mr. Zimmerman stated everything has been submitted to DCNR and they are looking for one more document. He stated they (He and Somer) will work on that document and get it submitted so that we can get a portion of the cost for the study back from DCNR.

8. Teamsters Update

Mr. Zimmerman stated we are still working on the contract. He stated the biggest issues at this point are raises, healthcare, and stipends.

9. Bags Without Tags

Mr. Zimmerman stated his phone rings non-stop about this issue. Howard Everly of 124 N. Grand Street in Lewistown spoke about the cost of refuse, water, and sewer for single people. He stated he doesn't use the amount of garbage that the lowest tier allows and thinks there should be a different rate for single persons or retired people that don't create as much garbage. Mr. Zimmerman stated he felt this issue should go to the law and ordinance and finance committees for further discussion.

10. Heritage Fire Truck

Mr. Zimmerman stated the fire tax was raised to 3 mills (approximately \$300,000 a year) by the previous council to pay for the new fire truck. Mr. Zimmerman stated the Borough would get a loan for the fire truck and use the money from the fire tax to pay for the loan. Mr. Barlett asked how long we have to pay for the fire truck after it passes inspection. Mr. Zimmerman stated 7 days.

11. Parking Meters

Mr. Zimmerman stated he has reached out to various parking meter companies, and no one gets back to him because they want the Borough to purchase new meters not refurbish the existing ones, which is what the plan is currently. Mr. Zimmerman stated he felt that the Borough should place the project out for bid for exactly what the Borough wants. Mr. Gutshall asked for a breakdown of the meters we currently have.

12. Police Station

Larry Searer stated he felt Council needed to decide one way or the other on the need for a Borough owned police station. He also asked if we knew the value of the MCMA building. Mr. Zimmerman stated they would not give out that information at this time.

13. Refuse Office Closed Friday, August 16, 2024

Fire Chief

Sean Markley filled in for Chief Douglas to give the fire department report. Mr. Markley stated that City Hook & Ladder handled 16 calls for service and Heritage handled 19. He stated there was a department training session targeting vehicle rescue. Mr. Zimmerman asked if the new tools were used during the training and Mr. Markley confirmed that they were. Mr. Markley also stated that City Hook & Ladder took delivery of their new boat.

Mayor

Did not attend the meeting.

Police Chief

Chief Clemens stated the police had 406 calls for service in July. They had 114 traffic citations, 32 non-traffic citations, 47 warnings, 4 DUI arrests, 339 parking meter tickets, and 633 street maintenance tickets. Revenue ticketed was \$13,165.00 and the amount collected in July was \$9,230. The Narcotics Investigator had 5 active investigations, 5 new investigations, 3 controlled buys, 6 felony arrests, 4 search warrants, approximately 15 grams of heroin and fentanyl, 35 grams methamphetamine, 9 grams of crack cocaine and about a pound of marijuana was seized. He also stated 5 firearms and \$10,119 were seized.

Chief Clemens stated National Night out was August 6th. Chief Clemens thanked all the volunteers, sponsors and organizations involved and participated in the event.

Recreation Board

Rec Board meeting was cancelled.

1. Pool Attendance for the year: 5051 people in 69 days. Average of 73 per day.
2. Pool is closing for the season on August 24th.

Borough Solicitor

1. Bellefonte Ordinance

Mr. Remy asked if Council had a chance to look over the ordinance and whether they were interested in something similar being adopted in Lewistown. The ordinance outlines public comments at Council meetings. Mr. Gutshall asked for clarification on some of the specifics regarding time limits and identification of speakers. Mr. Remy stated that people wishing to comment would be limited to Borough residents and taxpayers, limit their time to speak and they would need to identify themselves. Mr. Remy stated he would bring something to Law and Ordinance so it can be discussed further.

UNFINISHED & NEW BUSINESS

1. Move \$500,000 from general fund to money market.

Mr. Zimmerman stated the Finance committee wanted to bring this to Council. It is their recommendation to move \$500,000 to a money market account. Mr. Zimmerman showed a list of interest rates at the local banks. Mr. Gutshall asked if there were any penalties for withdrawing the money early. Somer Weiss stated she wasn't aware of any penalties and that money could be removed at any time. She stated money in the general checking account receives an interest rate of 2.57%.

On a motion by Mr. Gutshall and seconded by Mr. Moore, Council voted 6-1 to move an additional \$500,000 into a money market account at Kish Bank at 5.33 %. Mr. Searer voted against the motion.

2. DLI Annual Support Pledge of \$5,000

On a motion by Mr. Gutshall and seconded by Mrs. Knudson, Council voted 7-0 to approve the \$5,000 annual pledge to DLI (Downtown Lewistown Incorporated).

3. Fire Department Quarterly Allocation of \$11,250 each.

On a motion by Mr. Gutshall and seconded by Mr. Barlett, Council voted 7-0 to approve the Fire Department quarterly allocation of \$11,250.00 for each Fire Station.

4. FAME 3rd Quarter Allocation of \$5,625

On a motion by Mr. Gutshall and seconded by Mr. Knudson, Council voted 7-0 to approve the 3rd quarter allocation of \$5,625.00 to FAME.

5. Bingaman Property Appraisal/Sale

Mr. Zimmerman stated there were parties interested in purchasing this property. Mr. Zimmerman stated that before the property can be sold it must be appraised first. He stated if it is appraised for more than \$6,000.00 then the property would need to be sent out to bid. Mr. Gutshall asked if the Borough had any money into the property and Mr. Zimmerman stated it was free and clear and the Borough could do what they wanted with it. He stated the demolition cost was funded through a grant that Jim Zubler, with DLI, helped obtain. Mr. Moore stated if we are going to appraise the Bingaman property then the Borough should appraise the Ridge Road property as well.

On a motion by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Gutshall, Council voted 7-0 to get the Bingaman and Ridge Road property appraised.

6. Police Car Bid

Mr. Zimmerman stated we received 3 bids for the 2005 Ford Crown Vic Police Cruiser.

- a. Daniel Bomberger \$769.00
- b. Rodney Hobbs \$915.00
- c. Ryan Hartley \$550.00

On a motion by Mr. Searer and seconded by Mr. Moore, Council voted 7-0 to accept bid #2 Rodney Hobbs for \$915.00.

7. Refuse Department Dumpster Quote of \$7,654

On a motion by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Gutshall, Council voted 7-0 to approve the purchase of dumpsters for the Refuse department for \$7,654.00.

8. Part 1—All 12 Borough owned loggers be upgraded to allow for internet access for a one-time lump sum fee of \$12,720.00.

On a motion by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Gutshall, Council voted 7-0 to upgrade the 12 Borough owned loggers for internet access for \$12,720.00.

9. Part 2—Complimenting the upgrade to the Borough equipment will be the rental of 12 “shark fins” or FloDAR (aka Doppler Radar Ultra-Sonic Sensor assemblies). The cost of Part 2 is \$400.00 per month x 12 sensors or \$4,800.00 per month for 5-years.

On a motion by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Gutshall, Council voted 7-0 to rent 12 “shark fins” or FloDAR for \$4,800.00 per month for 5 years.

10. Tire Recycling Event/ PA Cleanways

On a motion by Mr. Searer and seconded by Mr. Moore, Council voted 7-0 to approve the PA Cleanways tire recycling event on September 21, 2024.

11. ARPA Funding for City Rescue Boat (approximately \$37,000)

On a motion by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Gutshall, Council voted 6-1 to add ARPA Funding for City Hook & Ladder's Rescue Boat to the agenda. Mr. Searer voted against the motion.

On a motion by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Barlett, a roll call vote was taken, and Council Voted 6-1 to approve using all remaining ARPA funds (approximately \$37,000). Mr. Searer voted against the motion.

Bob Barlett Yes

Steve Knudson Yes

Mr. Moore Yes

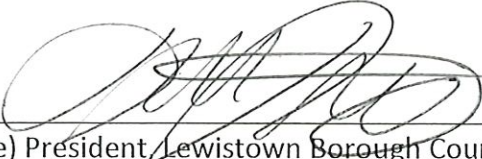
Larry Searer No

Jim Steele Yes

Scott Gutshall Yes

Lisa Knudson Yes

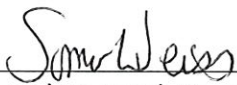
Council Ended: 6:27 PM



(Vice) President, Lewistown Borough Council

(Seal)

ATTEST:



(Asst.) Borough Secretary