

# **Borough Council Meeting Minutes**

**April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025**

## **LEWISTOWN MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**The Council meeting opened at 4:30 PM with Borough Council President Matthew Moore presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.**

### **Prayer**

### **Roll Call**

Robert Barlett, Scott Gutshall, Lisa Knudson, Stephen Knudson, Matt Moore, Jim Steele and Larry “Heavy” Searer were all present. Mayor Deb Bargo was also present.

### **Committee Work Session:**

#### **1. Finance Discussion – N/A**

#### **2. Street/Parking Discussion – N/A**

#### **3. Law & Ordinance Discussion –**

- Mr. Fink has Kately Rauch to step to the podium to further discuss the ordinances that were before Council for discussion. Mrs. Rauch brought forth additional information regarding adding max/min fines to several ordinances to help and become more consistent with all ordinances within the Borough. These again were asked by the magistrates to help with consistency between any judges on rulings when they end up in court. Mrs. Rauch stated that they had max fines and not a min so the bottom number could vary between them. Mr. Remy stated that he would look into the fine amounts based on the law and what is permitted.
- Discussion then occurred around Sidewalk Trough Drain Ordinance (212-30) stating that the current ordinance has that they need to have their downspouts to the drain to the street. It states that it has to go under the sidewalk currently. This change would allow them put in a trough drain through the sidewalk to get that water to the street. This would allow cuts to be done in the sidewalk for those drains to go through instead of under the sidewalk.
- There was discussion around parking on the sidewalk and how cars within the borough are parking on the sidewalk/grass area. Mr. Remy was working on writing up an ordinance that he would share to help alleviate this/allow for enforcement of it within the Borough. Mr. Remy was going to look into this further and provide an

update with council. There was discussion of this happening on the south end of town as well.

- Mrs. Rauch shared that Chapter 236 Water Connection needed to be updated from Municipal Authority to the Borough of Lewistown stating that water connection is required.
- Heavy Searer asked about invalid inspections on cars that are parked within the borough. Chief Clemens stated that a new ordinance may need to be enacted. Mr. Remy would look further into invalid inspections on cars within the Borough.

**Amendments to the Council Agenda: NONE AT THIS TIME**

**Hearing of Person's Present: Agenda Related Items: NONE**

**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: N/A**

**b. Approval of Treasurer's Report: N/A**

**c. Approval of Schedule of Bills: N/A**

**d. Facilities Use Requests:**

Calvary Bible Church – Community Church Cookout

**e. Acknowledge receipt of Fame Meeting Minutes: N/A**

**f. Acknowledge receipt of Tax Collector's Report: N/A**

**g. Acknowledge receipt of Department Reports: N/A**

*On a motion by Mr. Gutshall and seconded by Mrs. Knudson, Council voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda.*

**Fire Chief Report:** No Report for this meeting.

**Mayor Report:** Mayor Bargo mentioned about PSAB Resolutions that is discussed each year within PSAB. Borough's send in ordinances that they feel would help the residents are submitted and the lobbyist for PSAB then take it to the legislature to try and get these added into law. There are many ordinances that are submitted, this year there is a about a 3 inch high stack of them this year. Mayor Bargo stated about her wedding's for the year and asked if anyone would be in attendance at the Mayor Association's dinner at the Community Center.

**Police Chief:** Chief Clemens presented the stats for the month of April. He stated that a few officers attended some trainings and these were paid for out of the grant along with their wages. Chief Clemens stated they had a few drug buys and have confiscated some items during those drug buys.

**Borough Solicitor:** Mr. Remy stated he had nothing to discuss.

**Borough Manager:**

- Sealed Bid Opening: We had two bids for the property at Bingaman property on Third/Valley Street.
  - Bid 1: Zane Swanger – Bid Amount: \$25,111
  - Bid 2: Steve Watson – Bid Amount: \$10,600

*On a motion by Heavy Searer and seconded by Mr. Barlett, council voted 5-2 to approve the sale of the property.*

- Mr. Fink shared that this property has drawn a lot of interest from the community and many want to make sure this property is utilized properly as this is the Gateway to the North. Mr. Fink stated that since the County help with the demo of the building, some of the proceeds would go back to the County to reimburse them per the signed contract from when it was originally torn down.
- Mr. Fink shared that FSL Public Finance who is a partner of GSL had reached out about working with them moving forward. We would be talking with PFM to see what their rates are in comparison with FSL and would report back once we have talked PFM. Mr. Remy shared that when a Penn Vest Loan is needed, you will need an interim financing to help while you get that loan.

**New Business: Consideration of Approvals**

**1. Recommend approval of Resolution 2025-5 for the finalization of paperwork for Leasing2.**

*On a motion by Mr. Gutshall and seconded by Mr. Steele, council voted 5-2 to approve.*

**2. Recommend approval to purchase 8 – 3 yard dumpsters at a cost of \$7,982.00 to be paid out of the Refuse account.**

*On a motion by Heavy Searer and seconded by Mrs. Knudson, council voted unanimously to approve.*

**Public Comment: Non-Agenda Items - NONE**

**Executive Session Started: 5:15 PM**

**Executive Session Ended: 5:49 PM**

**Unfinished Business:**

**a. Motion to add: Recommending approval to hire a Pool Manager Kylie Strawser at \$16.00 per hour and Assistant Pool Manager Ella Knepp at \$14.00 per hour.**

*On a motion by Mrs. Knudson and seconded by Mr. Gutshall, council voted 6-1 to approve adding this to the agenda.*

**b. Motion to add: Recommending approval to give LES a discount for their PBIS Pool Party.**

*On a motion by Mrs. Knudson and seconded by Mr. Gutshall, council voted 6-1 to approve adding this to the agenda.*

**c. Motion to add: Recommending approval to accept the Deed for the W. 3rd Street Building.**

*On a motion by Mrs. Knudson and seconded by Mr. Gutshall, council voted unanimously to approve adding this to the agenda.*

**d. Recommend approval to hire a Pool Manager Kylie Strawser at \$16.00 per hour and Assistant Pool Manager Ella Knepp at \$14.00 per hour.**

*On a motion by Mr. Gutshall and seconded by Mrs Knudson, council voted 6-1 to approve.*

**e. Recommend approval to give LES a discount for their PBIS Pool Party.**

*On a motion by Mr. Gutshall and seconded by Mrs Knudson, council voted 6-1 to approve.*

**f. Recommend approval to vote to accept the Deed for the W. 3rd Street Building.**

*On a motion by Mr. Gutshall and seconded by Mrs Knudson, council voted unanimously to approve.*

**Council Ended: 6:01 PM**

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(Vice) President, Lewistown Borough Council

(Seal)

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

(Asst.) Borough Secretary