

# **Borough Council Meeting Minutes**

**January 5th, 2026**

## **LEWISTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER**

The Council meeting opened at 4:30 PM with Mayor Deb Bargo presiding, President Pro Tempore. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present. Prayer was recited by Lisa Knudson.

### **MEETING PURPOSE**

Mayor Bargo stated the purpose of the meeting was for the reorganization of Council and to welcome the new Council Member Jacob Flood and reelected Council Members Lisa Knudson and Scott Gutshall.

### **NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT**

Mayor Bargo asked for nominations for Vice President of Borough Council. Matt Moore nominated Bob Barlett. Nominations were accepted and approved by all.

Mayor Bargo asked for nominations for President of Borough Council. Scott Gutshall nominated Matt Moore. Nomination was approved by all. At this time Matt Moore took presiding over the meeting.

### **ROLL CALL**

Matt Moore, Robert Barlett, Scott Gutshall, Lisa Knudson, and Jacob “Jake” Flood were present. Larry “Heavy” Searer and Stephen Knudson were absent. Mayor Deb Bargo and Police Chief Dave Clemens were present.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

***On a motion made by Scott Gutshall and seconded by Lisa Knudson, Council unanimously voted to reappoint Jim Fosselman as Interim Borough Secretary.***

***On a motion made by Bob Barlett and seconded by Scott Gutshall, Council unanimously voted to reappoint Somer Weiss as Borough Treasurer.***

*On a motion made by Scott Gutshall and seconded by Lisa Knudson, Council unanimously voted to reappoint Mark Remy as Borough Solicitor.*

*On a motion made by Bob Barlett and seconded by Lisa Knudson, Council unanimously voted to reappoint The EADS Group as Borough Engineer.*

#### **COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

Matt Moore stated that he did not intend to appoint committee at this meeting but would have them out to Council this week.

#### **COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETING DATES AND TIMES**

Matt Moore stated that Personnel Committee will follow Finance.

#### **AMENDMENTS TO THE COUNCIL AGENDA**

Resignation of Councilman Stephen Knudson.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Bob Barlett wanted to thank Jim Zubler on behalf of City Hook and Ladder and Borough Council for all the work he did for the LSA Grant.

#### **REGULAR MEETING**

##### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The following are routine, procedural, and informational non-controversial items and do not appear to require discussion or explanation before 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
  - 1. Council Meeting – December 29, 2025
- B. Approval of Schedule of Bills
- C. Approval of Treasurer Reports
- D. Approval of Tax Collector Reports

***On a motion made by Scott Gutshall and seconded by Lisa Knudson,  
Council unanimously voted to approve the Consent Agenda.***

## **REPORTS**

### **A. Fire Chief Report**

1. Matt Moore in Chief Douglas's absence reported that for the month of December City Hook and Ladder had 40 calls: 27 in the Borough and 13 out of the Borough. Heritage had 24 calls: 20 in the Borough and 4 out of the Borough. Chief Douglas had a call with Fireline about the leak on the ladder truck. Fireline tore the truck apart, did not find any cracks. They put it back together and tested the lines. Issue is still present. Fireline will dismantle it again to check the seals. Matt reiterated that this piece of equipment has never attended a fire since purchased and more will be discussed at the next Finance meeting.

### **B. Mayor Report**

1. Mayor Bargo stated that Chip Drop was a success bringing in approximately 300 people. Katelyn stated that we gave away hot chocolate and chips. There were no issues at the event. Mayor Bargo wanted to thank the Sentinel and Fire Departments for all their help. Mayor Bargo looks forward to doing it again next year.

### **C. Police Chief**

1. Chief Clemens stated that in the month of December, the Lewistown Police had 254 calls for service, 37 citations issued for traffic, 11 citations for non-traffic and 8 DUI arrests.
2. Chief Clemens gave a progress update on the new Police Building. Hoping they can stay on schedule and be in by the end of February. Scott Gutshall took a moment to commend Police Officers and Streets Personnel on going above and beyond to get the building ready and that it is much appreciated.

**D. Borough Solicitor**

1. Nothing to report.

**E. Borough Manager Report**

1. Jim Fosselman stated that it was great Board to work with.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Somer Weiss opened all IT Bids. The names were given and packets were passed around for Council to review.

***On a motion made by Scott Gutshall and seconded by Lisa Knudson, Council by unanimous vote approved that information will be reviewed and a decision will be made at a later meeting.***

- B. Somer Weiss opened the equipment Bids. She stated that there was one bid for each item.

***On a motion made by Bob Barlett and seconded by Scott Gutshall, Council by unanimous vote approved to accept the bid for the Sterlin Garbage truck in the amount of \$2,837.***

***On a motion made by Bob Barlett and seconded by Scott Gutshall, Council by unanimous vote approved to accept the bid for the Chevy Dump Truck in the amount of \$1,718.***

***On a motion made by Scott Gutshall and seconded by Bob Barlett, Council by unanimous vote approved to reject the bid for the Falcon 2-Ton Hotbox in the amount of \$6,517.***

- C. Matt Moore stated that they need to appoint a representative to the Fame Board of Directors. Previously it was Mayor Bargo.

***On a motion made by Bob Barlett and seconded by Scott Gutshall, Council by unanimous vote to appoint Mayor Bargo.***

- D. Matt Moore stated that the Heritage Fire Department purchased a 200ft Solid Blue Life Safety Rope for \$239.60 used in training should be reimbursed to the Fire Department. The rope was lost in the transition of moving departments.

***On a motion made by Scott Gutshall and seconded by Bob Barlett, Council by unanimous vote to approve the purchase for \$239.60.***

- E. Matt Moore stated next on the agenda is the approval of the Digester #1 Project Expense Payment of \$879,416.15 to JP Environmental for work completed up to this point. Somer Weiss stated that this would be paid from Wastewater Treatment Plant, and \$433,700 would be reimbursed from the Mifflin County Loan.

***On a motion made by Scott Gutshall and seconded by Bob Barlett, Council by roll call vote unanimously approved payment.***

#### **Roll Call**

<b>Lisa Knudson</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Bob Barlett</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Jacob Flood</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Scott Gutshall</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Matt Moore</b>	<b>Yea</b>

- F. Matt Moore discussed the Digester #1 Project expense payment of \$25,443.90 to LEZ Electrical for work completed. Somer Weiss stated it would be paid out of Wastewater Treatment Plant.

***On a motion made by Scott Gutshall and seconded by Bob Barlett, Council by roll call vote unanimously approved payment.***

**Roll Call**

<b>Lisa Knudson</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Bob Barlett</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Jacob Flood</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Scott Gutshall</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Matt Moore</b>	<b>Yea</b>

- G. Matt stated next on the agenda was approval of Page SEO Inc as Septic Sewer Enforcement Officers for 2026.

***On a motion made by Scott Gutshall and seconded by Lisa Knudson, Council by unanimous vote approved Page SEO Inc as Septic Sewer Enforcement Officers for 2026.***

- H. The Approval of Task Order Phase II of the Sewer Rehabilitation Project was discussed in conjugation with J.
- I. Matt Moore turned the discussion over to The EADS Group for a more in-depth discussion of the Letter of Responsibility and submittal of the \$17,700,000 Pennvest application. Tom stated that the application is due February 5, 2026. Pennvest will award April/May timeframe and bids will be awarded July/August timeframe.

***On a motion made by Scott Gutshall and seconded by Lisa Knudson, Council by roll call vote unanimously approved Resolution 2026-1 and submittal of the Pennvest application.***

**Roll Call**

<b>Lisa Knudson</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Bob Barlett</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Jacob Flood</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Scott Gutshall</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Matt Moore</b>	<b>Yea</b>

- J. Chase from The EADS Group explained that Task Order #4 and Phase II Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project are the same as. It is the same scope of work as Phase I and it is going to focus on the Central Business District. Task Order #4 estimated cost is \$1,945,000.

***On a motion made by Scott Gutshall and seconded by Lisa Knudson, Council by roll call vote unanimously to approve Task Order #4.***

**Roll Call**

<b>Lisa Knudson</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Bob Barlett</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Jacob Flood</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Scott Gutshall</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Matt Moore</b>	<b>Yea</b>

- K. Matt Moore states that Council received a letter of Resignation from Stephen Knudson due to ongoing health issues.

***On a motion made by Bob Barlett and seconded by Scott Gutshall, Council by unanimous vote to accept the Resignation of Stephen Knudson.***

Matt Moore stated that there is now a vacant seat on Council that must be filled within 30 days.

***On a motion made by Scott Gutshall and seconded by Bob Barlett, Council by unanimous vote to advertise the open Council seat on the Borough website and will reconvene at the Council meeting on January 26, 2026 at 4:30 PM.***

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jim Zubler spoke up asking for clarification on the date of Council Meetings moving forward. Matt Moore stated that it's the second Monday of every month.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

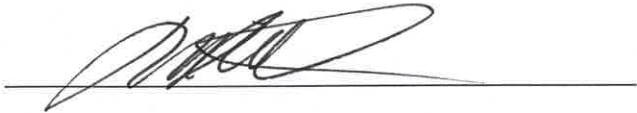
#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council went into an executive session at 5:32 PM to discuss Personnel.  
Council came out of executive session at 6:24 PM.

***On a motion made by Scott Gutshall and seconded by Bob Barlett, Council unanimously voted to add the reopening of the 2026 Budget to the agenda.***

***On a motion made by Bob Barlett and seconded by Scott Gutshall, Council unanimously voted to reopen the 2026 Budget for 30 days.***

Meeting was adjourned by Matt Moore at 6:26 PM.



(Vice) President, Lewistown Borough Council

(Seal)

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

(Asst.) Borough Secretary