

Minutes of City Council
November 15, 2022
Regular Session

The Council of the City of Lewisburg met in regular session on Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Paul R Cooley Council Chambers at 942 Washington St. West, Lewisburg, WV also available VIA a Zoom Teleconference call.

PRESENT: Mayor Beverly White, Councilmembers, Sarah Elkins, John Little, Franklin Johnson, Valerie Pritt & Arron Seams; City Manager Misty Hill, City Clerk Shannon Beatty, Treasurer Susan Honaker, Police Chief Chris Teubert, Director of Public Works Tony Legg, and Fire Chief Joey Thomas.

VISITORS: Reporter Carolyn Cleaton (ZOOM) with the WV Daily News and Sarah Richardson with the Mountain Messenger; Brent Burton, Elizabeth Clark, Todd Wagner, Bren Pittsenbarger, Joe Cochran, Carter Tolliver, Nick White, Dawson Trusty, Andrew Holt, Joanne Holt, Ryan Wagner, Noah Edwards, Ryde Wykle, Nixon Brown, Cristian Kanafany, Chris White, Chase Mizia, Lucas Lemine, Sophia Vecchio, Donna Toney, John Francis and Jeff Vickers.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor White called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PROCLAMATION:

Greenbrier East High School Men's 2022 AAA State Championship Soccer Team

Mayor White read the following proclamation in support of the Greenbrier East Men's Soccer Team:

Proclamation
*Honoring Greenbrier East High School Men's Soccer
2022 AAA West Virginia State Champions
November 10, 2022*

WHEREAS, the hard work, dedication, sportsmanship and exceptional talent of the 2022 Greenbrier East High School men's soccer team has enabled these student athletes to earn a State Championship title; and,

WHEREAS, winning the State Championship title brought honor to Greenbrier East High School and the City of Lewisburg on the local and state level; and,

WHEREAS, Head Coach Lucas Lemine, Assistant Coaches; Todd Wagner and Bren Pittsenbarger and the entire coaching staff, team parents, faculty, members of the community and student body at Greenbrier East High School were integral in guiding the team to victory through their unwavering support; and,

WHEREAS, this is the first time in school history the Greenbrier East High School Men's Soccer Team has competed in the State Tournament and won the State AAA Title; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Beverly White, Mayor of the City of Lewisburg, do hereby recognize, congratulate and hereby proclaim November 10, 2022, as

*The Greenbrier East High School 2022 Men's Soccer Team
AAA West Virginia State Champions Day*

in The City of Lewisburg and encourage all citizens to join in celebrating the Greenbrier East High School and the 2022 AAA State Championship Greenbrier Men's Soccer Team on its outstanding accomplishment.

ORDINANCES:

Ordinance 312, Altice/Cebridge agreement, first reading

City Clerk Shannon Beatty read the title of the following ordinance for first reading:

“An Ordinance of the City of Lewisburg, West Virginia
Granting a Franchise to Cebridge Acquisitions, LLC
for the Construction and Operation of a Cable System”

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve Ordinance 312 for first reading.
Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion.

City Manager Misty Hill stated City Attorney Tom White had reviewed the ordinance and had worked with Suddenlink to make changes amenable for the City of Lewisburg. City Councilmembers asked if this was the only option available for citizens to have cable and internet in a franchise agreement and Hill answered yes.

With all in favor the motion carried.

Ordinance 313, Decrease B & O Tax, 2nd reading and public hearing

City Clerk Shannon Beatty read the following ordinance by title for second reading:

“AN ORDINANCE TO REDUCE THE BUSINESS AND OCCUPATION TAX
IMPOSED BY ARTICLE 737.08 OF THE LEWISBURG CITY CODE.”

Mayor White opened the floor for a public hearing regarding Ordinance 313 at 7:12 p.m.
Hearing no comments from the public she closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approved Ordinance 313 on second reading. Councilmember Little seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Ordinance 314 Historic Landmark Commission guideline update, 1st reading

City Clerk Shannon Beatty read the title of the following ordinance for first reading:

“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE 141.11 OF THE LEWISBURG CITY CODE.”

Councilmember Little asked the administration to send City Council members an executive summary describing the changes and updates to the Historic Landmark Commission guidelines as presented in ordinance 314 before the second reading in December.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve Ordinance 314 on first reading. Council member Little seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Ordinance 315, Implementation of Sales & Use Tax, 2nd reading & public hearing

“AN ORDINANCE TO IMPLEMENT A MUNICIPAL SALES AND SERVICE TAX AND A MUNICIPAL USE TAX PURSUANT TO W. VA. CODE § 8-1-5a.”

Mayor White opened the floor for a public hearing regarding Ordinance 315 at 7:23 p.m. Hearing no comments from the public she closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve Ordinance 315 on second reading as presented. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 501, Water Systems improvement project pay request #5

City Clerk Shannon Beatty read the following resolution by title for passage:

“RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LEWISBURG APPROVING INVOICE RELATED TO SERVICES FOR THE WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING PAYMENT THEREOF.”

Councilmember Elkins made a motion to approve Resolution 501. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

PROCLAMATIONS:

Mayor White read the Pregnancy and Child Loss Remembrance and Awareness Month proclamation and the Family Court Awareness Month Proclamation.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

Mayor White wished everyone present at the meeting a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving. She noted Lewisburg will celebrate the “Magic of Christmas” in downtown Lewisburg November 19, 2022 through December 24, 2022.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER:

- City Manager Hill stated the City was still under a Boil Water Advisory that was put into effect on November 13, 2022 because of turbidity and high water.
- The City awarded the bid for the new Public Works building to DCI Shires.
- Stated the Public Works crews had been working hard on getting the holiday decorations for the “Magic of Christmas.” She stated the new Santa mailbox would be ready to put onto the greenspace patio soon.
- Stated she has been in contact with Paula from the 911 Center and the Health Department and wanted to let City Council know that the 911 Center prefers the City use its “One Call” database system to send out notices regarding boil water advisories. “One Call” goes out to only City water customers whereas, Nixle sends out notices to every person who has registered within a zip code even if they are not a water customer.

Assured Partners, Liability and Cyber Security Insurance renewal

A lengthy discussion regarding the options for renewal were discussed.

Councilmember Little made a motion to approve the liability and cyber security insurance with the WV Corp risk pool as presented. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Operator in training employee contract

Councilmember Elkins made a motion to approve a water operator in training contract as presented between Travis Howard and the City of Lewisburg for a period of four (4) years beginning on January 1, 2023. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

U.S Department of Labor Apprenticeship Agreement, Water Plant Operator in Training apprenticeship

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the U.S Department of Labor apprenticeship agreement for a water plant operator in training apprenticeship for Travis Howard as presented. Councilmember Little seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

West Virginia Rural Water Association Workforce Development, iPad & Accessories equipment policy

Councilmember Elkins made a motion to approve the WV Rural Water Association Workforce Development iPad & Accessories equipment policy as presented. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Duane Heller, employment of Class III Water Plant Operator

Councilmember Pritt made a motion to hire Duane Heller as a Class III water plant operator. His starting salary would be \$26 an hour and starting date would be in May 2023. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried

Employee Incentive Pay

Councilmember Seams made a motion to grant an employee incentive pay to all full and part time employees as presented. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Councilmember Seams stated the holiday decorations downtown look nice. Councilmember Little stated he appreciated all of the hard work that goes into getting information packets ready for the City Council meetings. He also stated that Lewisburg citizens are fortunate to have so many employees that care about the City and the work they do.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

Planning Commission report

Councilmember Little stated the Planning Commission held a working session on November 3, 2022 meeting. He noted the Commission spent a lot of time discussing setbacks, temporary uses and permanent uses.

Parks Commission report

- Councilmember Sarah Elkins stated a Public Works project report was given.
- The Parks Commission decided not to take any action on revising a reservation fee policy for the pickle ball courts at this time.
- An update was given regarding the lights at Hollowell Park. Elkins noted the City is seeking reimbursement for faulty field lights that were purchased. The new adaptors still leaked after they were installed.
- Elkins stated the Parks Commission would not meet again until March of 2023.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Mayor White stated that a copy of Chief Teubert's report had been included in the information packet and asked if City Councilmembers had any questions for Chief Teubert.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Mayor White stated that a copy of Chief Thomas's report had been included in the information packet and asked if City Councilmembers had any questions for the Chief.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Mayor White stated that a copy of the Public Work's Director Legg's report had been included in the information packet and asked if City Councilmembers had any questions for the Director. Mayor White stated the holiday decorations downtown looked great.

VISITORS REPORT:

No reports were given.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

September 20, 2022

Councilmember Little made a motion To approve the September 20, 2022 regular Session City Council meeting minutes. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

October 18, 2022

Councilmember Little made a motion to approve the October 18, 2022 regular session minutes. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

October 25, 2022

Councilmember Pritt made a motion to approve the October 25, 2022 special session minutes. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

November 8, 2022

Councilmember Elkins made a motion to approve the November 8, 2022 special session minutes. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Seams made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.