

Minutes of City Council

June 12, 2023

Regular Session

The Council of the City of Lewisburg met in regular session on Monday, June 12, 2023 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, Franklin Johnson, John Little, Valerie Pritt & Arron Seams; City Manager Misty Hill, City Clerk Shannon Beatty, Treasurer Susan Honaker, Deputy Chief Jonathon Hughes, Director of Public Works Tony Legg and Fire Chief Joey Thomas.

VISITORS: Reporter Carolyn Cleaton with the WV Daily News (ZOOM), Reporter Adam Pack with the Mountain Messenger; Mardi Mcmillion, Peri Mickey and Bill Dyer.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Employee Insurance Benefits Update

Councilmember Elkins made a motion to enter into executive session at 7:01 pm. to discuss the employee insurance benefits. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to reconvene into regular session at 7:27 pm. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Councilmember Pritt stated that no decisions were made in executive session.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to amend the employee insurance benefit agreement to state that coverage begins for an employee on the first day of the month for all hires and coverage ends on the day of termination. Councilmember Little seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

RESOLUTION:

Resolution 512, City of Lewisburg Storm Water Study (CDBG-MIT funds) Pay Request #4

City Clerk Beatty read the title of Resolution 512 for passage:

“RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LEWISBURG APPROVING INVOICES RELATING TO ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF LEWISBURG STORMWATER ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT STUDY AND AUTHORIZING PAYMENT THEREOF.”

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve Resolution 512. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Resolution 515, Public Works Building – Pay Request #4

City Clerk Beatty read the title of Resolution 515 for passage:

“RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LEWISBURG APPROVING INVOICES RELATING TO SERVICES FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING CONSTRUCTION AND AUTHORIZING PAYMENT THEREOF”

Councilmember Pritt made a motion to approve Resolution 515 for passage. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Resolution 518, Water System Improvement Project Pay Request #12

City Clerk Beatty read the title of Resolution 518 for passage:

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

Councilmember Little made a motion to approve Resolution 518 for passage. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Resolution 519, Police Department Lease Purchase – 2023 Durango & related equipment

City Clerk Beatty read the title of Resolution 519 for passage:

“RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A MASTER EQUIPMENT LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT, AND REALATED INSTRUMENTS, AND DETERMINING OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.”

Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve Resolution 519. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Resolution 520, Water System Improvement Project Pay Request #13

City Clerk Beatty read the title of Resolution 520 for passage:

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

Councilmember Little made a motion to approve Resolution 520 for passage. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

PROCLAMATION:

Elder Abuse Awareness Day

Mayor White read a proclamation announcing June 15, 2023 as Elder Abuse Awareness Day in Lewisburg.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

Greenbrier County Library annual report

Greenbrier County Library Board member Mardi McMillion presented the annual report and budget for the Greenbrier County Library to City Council. She also approached City Council about the possibility of the City paying to have the interior of the library painted. She stated they had a quote in the amount of \$30,000 from contractor Charles Blankenship at \$2.40 per square foot to paint the interior. City Manager Hill stated that this was not a budgeted item. She also indicated that because the library is the City's library they would have to follow the City's procurement policy which would include putting the painting job out to bid. McMillion stated she would like to give Council members a tour of the library facility. She stated she would also contact the Greenbrier County Commission to see if they could give funds toward the cost of the interior painting.

Appointments to Boards and Commissions

Mayor White offered the followings names for appointment:

Planning Commission: three year terms, Davis Lewis and Dan Stevenson

Building Maintenance Board: serves at will and pleasure of Council, Danny Fairfax

Historic Landmark Commission: three year terms, Adrienne French and Clifford Gillilian

Parks Commission: five year term, Franklin Johnson

Greenbrier County Library Board of Directors: five year term, Mardi Mcmillion

Building Commission: five year term, Jason Long

Councilmember Little made a motion to approve the appointments to Boards and Commission as presented. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Planning Commission Report

- Councilmember Little stated the Planning Commission had recommended approval of conditional use permit for Byron and Julia Black at 372 Dwyer Lane for a three (3) plus bedroom Airbnb.

Mayor White opened the floor for a public hearing regarding the conditional use permit at 372 Dwyer Lane for a three (3) plus bedroom Airbnb at 8:05 pm. Hearing no comments from the public she closed the hearing at 8:06 pm.

Councilmember Little made a motion to approve a conditional use permit for Byron and Julia Black at 372 Dwyer Lane for a three (3) plus bedroom Airbnb. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

- The Planning Commission approved a storm water plan for the Gardens at Blackbird Village subject to contingencies being met: confirmation of the drainage slope and affirmation of the existence of an underground detention area at the site and that the engineer fees for Chapman Technical group are paid by the applicant. Little stated the Lewisburg storm water ordinance states that these fees will be paid by the applicant.
- The applicant has made confirmation of the drainage slope and affirmation of the existence of an underground detention area at the site.

Councilmember Little made a motion to approve the storm water plan as presented for the Gardens at Blackbird Village pending payment of fees to Chapman Technical group by the applicant for reviewing the storm water plan. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

- The Planning Commission approved a site plan review for the Gardens at Blackbird Village as presented.

Councilmember Little made a motion to approve the site plan review for the Gardens at Blackbird Village as presented. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER:

Hudnall Wildlife Services contract for skunk removal

Councilmember Little made a motion to approve the skunk removal contract with Hudnall Wildlife Services as presented. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Wildlife Control Specialties contract for deer removal

Councilmember Little made a motion to approve the deer removal contract with Wildlife Control Specialties as presented. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Mills Group, LLC contract for Historic Landmarks Commission Consultant

Councilmember Pritt made a motion to approve a contract with the Mills Group, LLC for a consultant to the Historic Landmark Commission. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Chapman Technical Group LLC Task Order #37 – City Hall HVAC System Replacement

Councilmember Elkins made a motion to approve Task Order #37 with Chapman Technical Group in the amount of \$30,000 for engineering services related to the replacement of the HVAC system replacement at City Hall. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Lafayette Sidewalk

City Manager Hill stated that because the City had only received one bid for the Lafayette Sidewalk project the City was able to void the first bid and seek a second set of bids. The City held a second bid process and received a bid of \$463,934.04 for the 40 yard long section of sidewalk. City Manager Hill stated the City would pay \$63,967.31 for the 20% DOH grant match. Despite the high cost of the bid City Manager Hill recommended the City continue with the project. Hill noted the sidewalk was in poor condition and there had been a few accidents on the sidewalk.

Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve the Lafayette Sidewalk bid in the amount of \$63,967.31 with a 20% DOH Grant match of \$63,967.31. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Change Order 8A-6, Water plant upgrade (raw intake)

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve change order 8A-6 for the water plant upgrade of the raw water intake. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

City Manager Report

- City Manager Hill stated she had met with City Attorney White, Director of Public Works Legg and President of the Lewisburg Foundation Tag Galyean regarding the Greenspace addition. City National Bank has agreed to allow the City to use one parking space beside the Greenspace to build a stage and have donated \$5,000 to the project.

- City Manager Hill stated the City can now decide where to place the wayfinding kiosk as the Greenspace project is designed.
- Stated she has received a lot of positive feedback about the section of the Greenbrier River Trail between Caldwell and Harper Road being opened earlier than expected because of the work on the Water System upgrade project.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

Parks Commission Report

Parks Commission Chair Elkins reported on the following events of the Parks Commission meeting:

- Extended baseball fly nets on the Senior League field are now in place.
- A fence has been erected around the end of the basketball court at Dorie Miller Park.
- Other project updates were given.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Councilmember Elkins stated that a citizen had asked her if anything could be done about speeding on Washington Street. She asked if the Police Department could conduct a ticketing spree to deter speeders. Deputy Chief Hughes stated he could move the speed radar sign to Washington Street as well.

Councilmember Pritt thanked Greg Belcher with Chapman Technical for the tour of the Greenbrier River Trail after the trail was re-opened after the water system construction project was completed on the River Trail.

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 Deputy Chief Hughes.

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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

May 16, 2023 Regular Session City Council Meeting Minutes

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the May 16, 2023 regular session City Council meeting minutes. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

VISITOR'S REPORTS:

No reports were given.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Seams made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.