

## Minutes of City Council

August 15, 2023

Regular Session

The Council of the City of Lewisburg met in regular session on Tuesday, August 15, 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, Valerie Pritt (via Zoom) & Arron Seams; City Manager Misty Hill, City Clerk Shannon Beatty and Treasurer Susan Honaker

**ABSENT:** Councilmember John Little.

**VISITORS:** Reporter Carolyn Cleaton with the WV Daily News (ZOOM), Reporter Sarah Richardson with the Mountain Messenger; Sally Bray and Cathy Renard with Carnegie Hall,

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

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

### **RESOLUTION:**

#### *Resolution 528, Water System Improvement Project Pay Request #15*

City Clerk Beatty read the title of Resolution 528 for passage:

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

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve Resolution 528 in the amount of \$1,561,498.64. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion carried.

#### *Resolution 529, Public Works Building Pay Request #6*

City Clerk Beatty read the title of Resolution 529 for passage:

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

Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve Resolution 529 in the amount of \$231,621.75. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER:**

*Fire Station Construction – The Thrasher Group, Inc. Pay Request 7*

City Manager Hill stated that Pay Request 7 in the amount of \$8,925.00 was for the bidding phase and geotechnical services associated with the fire station construction with The Thrasher Group.

Councilmember Elkins made a motion to approve Pay Request 7 in the amount of \$8,925.00 with the Thrasher Group for the Fire Construction Project. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion carried.

*Water System Improvement Project Update*

City Manager Hill stated she would present the water system improvement project update at the September 19, 2023 City Council meeting.

*New Hire, Class III water plant operator Aaron Brown*

Councilmember Seams made a motion to hire Aaron Brown as a Class III water plant operator at the rate of \$22.20 an hour not including the night differential pay with a start date of September 12, 2023. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES:**

*Finance Committee report*

Councilmember Seams reported on the following events of the August 8, 2023 Finance Committee meeting:

- The Finance Committee recommended granting \$2,725.00 for the Arts & Humanities funding request from Carnegie Hall to cover artist fees and a “Kid’s Corner” for the Taste of Our Town festival in October.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to grant \$2,725.00 for the Arts & Humanities funding request from Carnegie Hall to cover artist fees and a “Kid’s Corner” for the Taste of Our Town festival in October. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent the motion carried.

- The Finance Committee recommended granting \$700.00 for the Arts & Humanities funding request from the WV Jazz Orchestra for a Labor Day Concert on Sunday, September 3, 2023 in the Center Green Space.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to grant \$700.00 for the Arts & Humanities funding request from the WV Jazz Orchestra for a Labor Day Concert on Sunday, September 3, 2023 in the Center Green Space. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion carried.

- The Finance Committee recommended entering into a water plant operator contract with Gary Mark Layman at a rate of \$30.00 an hour for one year beginning on August 18, 2023 and ending on August 18, 2024.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to enter into a water plant operator contract with Gary Mark Layman at a rate of \$30.00 an hour for one year beginning on August 18, 2023 and ending on August 18, 2024. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion carried.

- The Finance Committee recommended the initiation of a \$2.00 an hour water plant night shift pay differential for hours worked between 7 pm and 7 am effective on the next pay period August 31, 2023.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to initiate a \$2.00 an hour water plant night shift pay differential for hours worked between 7 pm until 7 am effective on the next pay period on August 31, 2023. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little)

- The Finance Committee recommended recommend making a pay scale adjustment of .25 cents an hour due to the completion of a three month probationary period in the position of crew leader for Jonathon Spence retroactive to July 18, 2023.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to make a pay scale adjustment of .25 cents an hour due to the completion of a three month probationary period in the position of crew leader for Jonathon Spence retroactive to July 18, 2023. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion carried.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

#### *PFAS Settlement*

Councilmember Johnson made a motion to enter into executive sessions to discuss a PFAS Settlement issue with City Attorney Tom White and City Manager Misty Hill at 7:14 pm. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion carried.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to reconvene into regular session at 7:24 pm Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion carried. Councilmember Seams stated no decisions were made in executive session.

Councilmember Elkins made a motion for the City of Lewisburg to agree to join the Class Action PFAS Settlement and to authorize Mayor White to sign the documents needed.

Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

*Regular Session, July 18, 2023*

Councilmember Elkins made a motion to approve the Regular Session July 18, 2023 minutes. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion carried.

**VISITOR'S REPORTS:**

No reports were given.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilmember Seams made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion carried.