

Minutes of City Council
July 17, 2018
Regular Session

The Council of the City of Lewisburg met in regular session on Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. in the Paul R. Cooley Council Chambers at 942 Washington St. West, Lewisburg, WV.

PRESENT: Mayor John Manchester; Recorder Shannon Patrick-Beatty; Council members, Heather Blake, Arron Seams, Beverly White; Director of Public Works Roger Pence, Police Chief Tim Stover, Treasurer Susan Honaker, Fire Chief Joseph Thomas, and Zoning Officer Charles Smith.

ABSENT: Councilmember Mark Etten and Joseph Lutz

VISITORS: Reporters Peggy Mackenzie with the Mountain Messenger; Robert Bordelon with the West Virginia Daily News and Tina Alvey with the Beckley Register Herald; Donna Johns; Jacy Faulkner, Ken & Emily Santmyer, Misty Hill, Lance Synor and DeEtta Hunter.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Manchester called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Seams gave the invocation and Councilmember White led the Pledge of Allegiance.

VISITORS REPORTS:

Petition "Greenspace Go Green"

No presentation was given.

Santmeyer request

Lewisburg residents Ken and Emily Santmeyer approached City Council with a request to consider changing or modifying a state law that prohibits a business from serving alcohol within 300 feet of a church entrance. Ken Santmeyer stated they have purchased the former "Stella's" restaurant on Washington Street West. He noted his new restaurant has been approved by the State of WV ABC office. He said he hopes to open the restaurant by October. As part of their renovation the couple wishes to install a short flight of steps from the sidewalk directly to the porch, which is where access to the building was originally located. However, state code prohibits there being an entrance within 300 feet of the adjacent Shuck Memorial Baptist Church. Santmyer cited a few examples of other cities in the State of WV being able to waive the 300 feet restriction because of changes they made as part of the Home Rule Pilot program. Mayor Manchester stated he would put the request before the City Attorney for review.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Session June 19, 2018

Councilmember Blake made a motion to approve the June 19, 2018 regular session minutes as presented. Councilmember White seconded the motion. With three (3) in favor and two (2) absent (Etten and Lutz) the motion carried.

Special Session June 12, 2018

Councilmember White made a motion to approve the June 12, 2018 Special Session minutes as presented. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With three (3) in favor and two (2) absent (Etten and Lutz) the motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 460, Support for Land, Water, Conservation Fund

Recorder Beatty read the following resolution for passage:

“Whereas, Since 1964 the Land and Water Conservation Fund has helped West Virginia acquire and improve public land across the state. In total West Virginia has received nearly \$240 million dollars for over 500 recreation, access, and conservation projects in 54 of our 55 counties; and,

Whereas, The Land and Water Conservation Fund has supported “wild and wonderful” icons of West Virginia like the New River Gorge National River, Harpers Ferry National Historic Park, Monongahela National Forest, and Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge. But it also helps fund local projects that contribute to our everyday quality of life in the Mountain State; and,

Whereas, The City of Lewisburg has received \$144,000 from the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Most recently, the City of Lewisburg was granted \$60,000 in 2015 to provide lights for the ball fields in Hollowell and Dorie Miller Parks. Our students in Greenbrier County Schools have received \$56,000 from the Land and Water Conservation Fund; and,

Whereas, The future of this funding is critical for additional projects in Lewisburg and other municipalities. West Virginians are counting on the Land and Water Conservation Fund not expiring on September 30.

Whereas, The City of Lewisburg supports permanent reauthorization for the Land and Water Conservation Fund and working towards solutions that ensure full and reliable funding for the program year after year; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THE CITY OF LEWISBURG ANNOUNCES SUPPORT FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND.

SO APPROVED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE LEWISBURG CITY COUNCIL, THIS THE 17TH DAY OF JULY, 2018.”

Councilmember Seams made a motion to pass resolution 460. Councilmember Blake seconded the motion. With three (3) in favor and two (2) absent (Etten and Lutz) the motion carried.

Resolution 461, Coal Severance Revision #1 Fiscal Year 2019

Recorder Beatty read the following resolution for passage:

“Coal Severance Fund Budget Fiscal Year 2019 Revision Number 1”

At a regular session of the municipal council held July 17, 2018 the following order was made and entered.

SUBJECT: The revision of the Levy Estimate (Budget) for the Coal Severance Fund of the City of Lewisburg. The following resolution was offered:

RESOLVED: That subject to approval of the State Auditor as ex officio chief inspector of public office the municipal council does hereby direct the budget be revised PRIOR TO THE EXPENDITURE OR OBLIGATION OF FUNDS FOR WHICH NO APPROPRIATION OR INSUFFICIENT APPROPRIATION CURRENTLY EXISTS, as shown on budget revision number one, a copy of which is entered as part of this record.”

Councilmember Blake made a motion to pass resolution 460. Councilmember White seconded the motion. With three (3) in favor and two (2) absent (Etten and Lutz) the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

America in Bloom Judge's Visit

City Recorder and Lewisburg in Bloom Coordinator Shannon Beatty thanked Director of Public Works Roger Pence and the Public Works crews for their efforts in freshening the City's appearance in time for the America in Bloom judge's visit earlier in the month.

New Hire-Assistant City Administrator

Mayor John Manchester announced that Misty Hill had been hired as the successful candidate to replace Bonita Sienkiewicz as Lewisburg's Human Resources Director?Assistant City Administrator. He stated she would begin working for the City on August 1st.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM BOARD AND COMMISSIONS:

Planning Commission Report

Zoning Officer Chuck Smith reported the next Planning Commission meeting was scheduled for July 19, 2018.

Parks Commission Report

Parks Chairperson Beverly White reported the next Parks Commission meeting was scheduled for July 24, 2018.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Police Chief Tim Stover distributed and reviewed the quarterly activity report from the Police Department noting that 208 citations had been given. Stover announced that Cpl. Mike Arbaugh was set to retire from the Department soon.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Joey Thomas distributed and reviewed the monthly activity report for the Fire Department. He stated the Request for Proposals (RFPs) for a new tanker had been put out. The bids are due back by August 2nd.

Mutual Aid Agreements with the Greenbrier Valley Airport and Fairlea Fire Department

Councilmember White made a motion to approve the mutual aid agreements with the Greenbrier Valley Airport and the Fairlea Fire Department as presented. Councilmember Blake seconded the motion. With three (3) in favor and two (2) absent (Etten and Lutz) the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Finance Committee Report

Councilmember Beverly White reported on the following events of the July 10, 2018 Finance Committee meeting:

- The Finance Committee recommended approval of the 2018 street paving schedule.

Councilmember White made a motion to approve the 2018 street paving schedule as presented. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With three (3) in favor and two (2) absent (Etten and Lutz) the motion carried.

- The Finance Committee recommended approval of a sidewalk trip hazard repair program.

Councilmember White made a motion to approve a sidewalk trip hazard repair program as presented. Councilmember Blake seconded the motion. With three (3) in favor and two (2) absent (Etten and Lutz) the motion carried.

- The Finance Committee recommended approval of Pay Request #2 with Angelina Stone in the amount of \$41,442.25 for the City Hall Rear Façade Repointing project.

Councilmember White made a motion to approve Pay Request #2 with Angelina Stone in the amount of \$41,442.25 for the City Hall Rear Façade Repointing project. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With three (3) in favor and two (2) absent (Etten and Lutz) the motion carried.

Public Works Committee Report

Director of Public Works Pence reported on the following events of the July 10, 2018 Public Works Committee meeting:

- The Street paving schedule was reviewed and discussed.
- The sidewalk trip hazard repair proposal was reviewed.
- No report was given for the unaccounted for water report.
- The City Hall rear facade repointing project was discussed.
- The Stratton Alley project was discussed.
- The Parks Department completed many projects in preparation for the America in Bloom judges visit.

Public Safety Committee Report

No report was given.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember White made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With three (3) in favor and two (2) absent (Etten and Lutz) the motion carried.

