

Minutes of City Council
April 16, 2019
Regular Session

The Council of the City of Lewisburg met in regular session on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 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 Beatty; Council members, Heather Blake, Mark Etten, Joseph Lutz, Arron Seams and Beverly White,; Treasurer Susan Honaker, City Administrator Jacy Faulkner, Director of Public Works Roger Pence, Police Chief Chris Teubert, Fire Chief Joseph Thomas, Police Sergeant Jeff Vance, and Zoning Officer Gary Ford.

VISITORS: Reporters Peggy Mackenzie with the Mountain Messenger; Leann Tuckwiller with the West Virginia Daily News and Tina Alvey with the Register Herald; John Tuggle with Region IV; Rod Lowe, Greg Belcher, Donette Mizia, Lexie Mizia, Jim Moore, Chuck and Debbie Smith, Alex Brand, Martha Hilton, Debbie Echols, Jamie & Brody Hughes, John Stump, Todd Williams, Robbie & Myka Crone, Nikki Smith, Belinda Smith, Katie Smith, Jonathon Hughes and Ed Johns.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Recorder Beatty presented the invocation and Council member White led the Pledge of Allegiance.

VISITORS REPORT:

No reports were given.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

March 19, 2019

Councilmember Lutz made a motion to approve the March 19, 2019 as presented. Councilmember White seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

Approval of election officials for the June 11, 2019 municipal election

Councilmember White made a motion to approve the list of election officials for the June 11, 2019 City election, giving Recorder Beatty permission to fill any vacant seats. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Laying of the Levy (public hearing)

Mayor Manchester announced the levy rates and opened the floor for comment and discussion from the public during the public hearing. Hearing no comment from the public, the hearing was closed.

Councilmember Blake made a motion to officially lay the levy for the General Fund. The rates are as follows:

Regular current levy rates:

Class I \$0.125/\$100 valuation

Class II \$0.250/\$100 valuation

Class IV \$0.500/\$100 valuation

Excess current levy rates:

Class I \$.0625/\$100 valuation

Class II \$0.125/\$100 valuation

Class IV \$0.25/\$100 valuation

Councilmember Etten seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

*Agreement for project coordination & technical services with Region IV
Planning & Development Council*

John Tuggle, the executive director of Region IV Planning and Development Council, explained why hiring Region IV to administer the water plant upgrade project would be more efficient for the City.

He noted the project is expected to cost nearly \$31.7 million, and involves moving the city-run regional water system's intake to a point above the county landfill along the Greenbrier River and increasing the processing capacity and efficiency of the plant.

Tuggle said that along with the upgrades expected to increase the plant's capacity, the project includes construction of an additional large water tank to provide storage of emergency water supplies and installation of a backup generator. Bond counsel John Stump stated financing for

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the project will primarily arise from federal and state loans, with just under \$1.6 million coming from city coffers. Stump said the 3.25% interest rate for the 40 year loan by the U.S. Department of Agriculture yields a better financing picture than can be gotten from the public market.

Tuggle stated that the agreement under which Region 4 will administer the project is at a cost not to exceed \$175,000.

Mayor Manchester pointed out that very little grant money is available from the State of WV, saying the city is looking for the most favorable interest rates possible for the loans that will be necessary to bring the water project to fruition.

Councilmember Etten made a motion to authorize Mayor John Manchester to enter into a contract with Region IV Planning and Development Council for project coordination & technical services to administer the water plant upgrade project. Councilmember Lutz seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

City Manager Jacy Faulkner stated that approval of this agreement negates the previous 2014 agreement with Region IV.

Councilmember Etten made a motion to state this 2019 agreement for project coordination & technical services with Region IV Planning and Development council for the water plant upgrades negates the previous 2014 agreement with Region IV Planning and Development council. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Promotion of a sergeant and two corporals in the Police Department

Public Safety Committee Chair Joseph Lutz stated the Public Safety Committee recommended the promotion of three members of the Lewisburg Police Department as recommended by Police Chief Teubert to fill the required positions within the Department.--Patrolman Jonathon Hughes to Sergeant, Robbie Crone and Jeffrey Williams to the position of Corporal.

Councilmember Lutz made a motion to promote Jonathon Hughes to Sergeant, Councilmember Etten seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Councilmember Lutz made a motion to promoted Robbie Crone and Jeffrey Williams to the position of Corporal. Councilmember Etten seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Video Lottery Funding Request-Greenbrier East High School Project Graduation

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Finance Chair Mark Etten stated the Project Graduation Committee from Greenbrier East High School had approached the Finance Committee with a request for \$1,000 to help with the food project for Project Graduation. The Finance Committee recommended approval to donate \$4,000 for the food budget for the event.

Councilmember Etten made a motion to donate \$4,000 from the City's Video Lottery Fund to Project Graduation at Greenbrier East High School. Councilmember White seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

PROCLAMATIONS:

Children's Memorial Flag Day

Councilmember Blake read a proclamation designating April 26th, 2019, as Children's Memorial Flag Day in Lewisburg.

Shepherd's Center Volunteers of the Year

Recorder Beatty read a proclamation celebrating Brenda and Linda Spencer as the Shepherd's Center Volunteers of the year for 2019.

ORDINANCES:

Ordinance 279 an ordinance to amend the City Code of the City of Lewisburg
2nd reading and public hearing

Recorder Beatty read the following ordinance by title for second reading:

“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF LEWISBURG AS FOLLOWS:”

Mayor John Manchester called a public hearing to order regarding Ordinance 279 at 8:08 pm. Hearing no comments from the public, Mayor Manchester closed the public hearing at 8:09 pm.

Councilmember Lutz made a motion to approved Ordinance 279 on second reading. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion.

Councilmember Etten stated he still saw references to an elected “recorder” within the ordinance document. He noted that during the first reading of the ordinance council had asked to have all references to recorder changed to city clerk.

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Councilmember Lutz and Councilmember Seams withdrew their motion to approve Ordinance 279.

Councilmember Etten made a motion to table Ordinance 279 until references to a recorder could be changed to a city clerk. Councilmember Blake seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Ordinance 282, energy code standards, first reading

Recorder Beatty read the title of the following ordinance for first reading:

“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE PRESENT BUILDING CODE OF THE CITY OF LEWISBURG FOUND IN CHAPTER 17 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LEWISBURG”

Ray Still, City Building Inspector, stated the City had received a letter from the State Fire Marshall indicating the City needed to update the City Codified Ordinances to be in line with State Code.

Councilmember Etten made a motion to approved Ordinance 282 as presented. Councilmember White seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Ordinance 280, recycling services, first reading

Recorder Beatty read the following ordinance by title for first reading:

“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 945.11(c)(1) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LEWISBURG.”

City Manager Jacy Faulkner stated it was time to renew the contract with Greenworks Recycling. She noted the City needed to amend the pickup schedule with Greenworks to every other week instead of the first and third weeks. She noted the changes had to be codified within the City Code. She stated the agreement with Greenworks would be approved at the May 2019 City Council meeting.

Councilmember White made a motion to approved Ordinance 280 on first reading. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

There were no communications.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

Planning Commission

Zoning Officer Gary Ford reported on the following events of the April 4, 2019 Planning Commission meeting:

- A sketch plan was presented by Andrea Karrs for a business to be named Bodies in Motion at 102 LaFayette Street.
- The next meeting will be held on May 2, 2019.

Parks Commission Report

City Manager Jacy Faulkner reported on the following events of the April 2, 2019 Parks Commission meeting:

- The Parks Commission held the meeting at Dorie Miller Park for an on-site review of improvements going on at the park.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Police Chief Teubert stated the department had received 570 calls in the first quarter of which 49 were traffic related.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT:

- Fire Chief Thomas distributed and reviewed the monthly activity report for the Fire Department noting they had received 94 calls for emergency services.
- Thomas stated the Department had participated in a rope training drill in March.
- The April 3 fire at Greenbrier Motors was determined to have been an accident caused by a DOH Truck that was parked in a maintenance building.
- All 102 occupants at Lewisburg Manor had to be evacuated during the April 4 fire at Lewisburg Manor. He noted that as of Friday, April 12, 74 residents have been allowed to move back into their apartments after fire restoration work at the facility had been completed. One occupant is still in critical condition at Cabell Huntington Hospital in Huntington and is being treated for burns.
- A fire in a mobile home in the first due area on Benedict Lane on April 9 was a complete loss.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Finance Committee

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Finance Chairperson Etten reported the following events of the March 12, 2019 Finance Committee meeting:

- The Finance Committee recommended approval to transfer \$200,000 in funds to the Fire Station Construction Fund.

Councilmember Etten made a motion to transfer \$200,000 in funds to the Fire Station Construction Fund to be used for a new building site and fire station. Councilmember White seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

- The Finance Committee recommended approval of the JDL Contracting, LLC bid in the amount of \$5,265 to upgrade the septic system at Hollowell Park.

Councilmember Etten made a motion to award a bid in the amount of \$5,265 to JDL to upgrade the septic system at Hollowell Park. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

- The Finance Committee recommended approval of a bid from HAJOCA in the amount of \$3,184.00 for a grinder pump for the bathroom at Dorie Miller Park.

Councilmember Etten made a motion to approve a bid of \$3,184 from HAJOCA for a grinder pump at the bathroom at Dorie Miller Park. Councilmember White seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

- The Finance Committee recommended approval of a bid from Electro-Mech in the amount of \$3,971 for purchase of a scoreboard for Dorie Miller ball field.

Councilmember Etten made a motion to approve a bid from Electro-Mech in the amount of \$3,971 for purchase of a scoreboard for Dorie Miller ball field. With all in favor the motion carried.

Lewisburg resident and Rotary member Martha Hilton stated the Rotary club was looking for a way to donate to a project in the City. She asked if the Rotary Club could sponsor the purchase of the scoreboard. Roger Pence asked her to get in contact with him about the donation.

- The Finance Committee recommended approval to proceed with the advertisement for the hiring of a custodian for twenty-hours per week.

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Councilmember Etten made a motion to proceed with the advertisement for the hiring of a custodian for a twenty hour work week. Councilmember Lutz seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Public Works Committee Report

Director of Public Works Roger Pence reported on the following events of the April 9, 2019 Public Works Committee meeting:

- Public Works project updates were presented.
- The Public Works Department continues to do testing with organic herbicide for weeds. The crews are working with new recipes trying to find one that works to kill woody plants.
- Downtown street light bulbs are being replaced with new LED bulbs.
- The crews hope to have the play fountain in the Center Green space turned on in May.

Public Safety Committee

Public Safety Chair Lutz reported the following events from the April 5, 2019 Public Safety Committee meeting:

- Promotions for the Police Department were discussed.

ADJOURNMENT:

Council member Lutz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 p.m. Council member Etten seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

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