

**Minutes of City Council
January 21, 2020
Regular Session**

The Council of the City of Lewisburg met in regular session on Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. in the Paul R Cooley Council Chambers at 942 Washington St West, Lewisburg, WV.

PRESENT: Mayor Beverly White, Recorder Shannon Beatty; Council members, Heather Blake, Sarah Elkins, Mark Etten, and Arron Seams. Treasurer Susan Honaker, City Manager Jacy Faulkner, Director of Public Works Roger Pence, Deputy Chief Vance; Fire Chief Joseph Thomas, Zoning Officer Gary Ford and Police Chief Chris Teubert.

VISITORS: Reporters Peggy Mackenzie with the Mountain Messenger and Bobby Bordelon with the West Virginia Daily News.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

CALL TO ORDER:

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

VISITORS REPORT:

No reports were given.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

December 17, 2019

Councilmember Etten made a motion to approve the December 17, 2019 regular session minutes as presented. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER:

Monthly City Manager's Report

City Manager Jacy Faulkner reported on the following events:

- Participated in a progress call regarding the water system upgrades.
- Will attend the West Virginia Municipal League Conference in Charleston, WV January 26-28.
- Reminded citizens that the water rate increase goes into effect on January 11 but that citizens would not see this reflected until their late February invoice.

- The Greenbrier County Library will give their annual report at the February City Council meeting.
- City administration is currently reviewing the City Code with City Attorney Tom White to make small revisions that need to be made. She noted it was a “catch all” update and that she was hoping to get a draft to Council in February for review.
- Water plant employee Alan Bowes is retiring soon after 40 years.
- Thanked City Council for approving the pay increase for water plant employees. She noted the increase in that salary was instrumental in being able to make the latest hire at the water plant.

Appointment of poll workers for excess levy election

Councilmember Elkins made a motion to approve the list of poll workers for the February 29, 2020 excess levy election and to allow the City Recorder to appoint new poll workers as needed. Councilmember Blake seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

PROCLAMATIONS:

Martin Luther King, Jr Day

Mayor White read the following proclamation in support of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day:

“Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Week

Proclamation for 2020

As we celebrate Dr. King’s life, we are at once emboldened and challenged by his words. ***“Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend.”*** Let us reflect upon Dr. King’s words and attempt to understand their full meaning to which he dedicated and sacrificed his life.

Dr. King did not claim that “Love will transform an enemy into a friend.” He described love as quote a “force capable of transforming”, and he used the unequivocal phrase “the only force”.

When one’s cause is just and one’s actions do not inflict harm, even the most obstinate opponent may be disarmed. The force of love acts not by coercion, but rather through persuasion, by kindling that spark of humanity that resides within your enemy’s heart. Implicit in an action of love force or soul force, as it was described by Dr. King’s mentor Mahatma Gandhi, is the belief that all people are children of God, and that most share a common core of love for justice and respect for one another that can be accessed by nonviolent, yet persistent, interaction.

Even in the midst of intense conflict, nonviolent action relies upon faith in humanity and requires the resolve to put oneself and one’s just cause in vulnerable opposition to injustice. Nonviolence

always promotes communication, never resorts to coercion and allows for the transformation of an enemy into a friend, the resurrection of justice, and the triumph of love over hatred.

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. transformed the racial landscape of America by applying nonviolent force in the form of peaceful protest and noncooperation, and

WHEREAS, from 1957 until 1968 he led a movement which attained profound advancements in civil rights for African Americans, despite the risk of personal injury at the hands of both racial bigots and law enforcement officers armed with water hoses and clubs, and

WHEREAS, he persisted because he believed that “love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend”, and because he never wavered from his belief in the power of nonviolence and the primacy of love which are core to Dr. King’s philosophy and central to his enduring legacy, and

NOW, THEREFORE, I Beverly White, Mayor of the City of Lewisburg proclaim the week of January 20-27, 2020 to be

Lewisburg’s Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Week

Beverly White, Mayor

Attest:

Shannon Beatty, CMC, Recorder”

Volunteer of the Year 2019

Recorder Beatty read a portion of a proclamation celebration January 1, 2020 as the Cliff Baker Volunteer of the Year Day in Lewisburg.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

None were given.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Teubert reported on the following events:

- The Police Department answered 243 calls for service over the last month.
- The Police Department oversaw three special events, the Jingle Bell Jog, a rally in the Greenspace and the Lewisburg Christmas Parade.
- Sgt. Hughes of the Lewisburg Police Department received the distinguished graduate award at the DARE instructor program in Ohio County, WV.
- Officers have been fitted for new bullet proof vest.
- The new garage door was installed on December 30.

Police Department Standard Operating Guidelines for CEW/Tasers

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the Standard Operating Guidelines for CEW/Tasers as presented with an effective date of February 1, 2020. Councilmember Etten seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Thomas distributed the following report:

Lewisburg Fire Department Calls for December 2019

We responded to 83 emergency calls in December
51 calls were inside the city limits (61%)
26 calls were in our first due area outside the city limits (31%)
4 calls were automatic mutual aid calls to Fairlea Fire (5%)
2 calls were requested mutual aid calls (3%)

Types of calls for the month of December

4 Structure Fires
1 Transport Vehicle Fire
14 Motor Vehicle Accidents
42 Medical Calls
9 Automatic Fire Alarms
3 Carbon Monoxide Alarm with No CO Found
3 Public Service Calls
1 Assist Police or Other Governmental Agencies
1 Possible Natural Gas Leaks
2 Cancelled en route
1 Standby
1 Smoke Scare/Odor of Smoke
1 Establish Landing Zone

- On January 11th and 12th Lewisburg Fire Department hosted a 16-hour Rapid Intervention Class. The old Reynolds house located on Jefferson Street was used for the class. This class is designed to help members learn how to rescue fire department personnel in the event of a firefighter may-day or lost situation. We had 16 members present for the training.
- We have received certifications for Eddie Brookman and Jacob Teubert for their 40-hour driver operator course. This certification comes with a 10 cent pay raise based off the fire department salary scale. Eddie Brookman's new salary will be \$10.45 and Jacob Teubert's new salary will be \$10.14.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Finance Committee Report

Councilmember Etten reported on the following events of the January 14, 2020 Finance Committee meeting:

- The Finance Committee recommend approval of an accounting services contract for services by Imre Pentek in the amount of \$7,995.

Councilmember Etten made a motion to approve an accounting services contract for services by Imre Pentek in the amount of \$7,995. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

- The Finance Committee recommended approval of a bid from Chojnacki Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$91,155 for the Fairlea waterline replacement project.

Councilmember Etten made a motion to approve a bid from Chojnacki Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$91,155 for the Fairlea waterline replacement project. Councilmember Blake seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

- The Finance Committee recommended approval to accept the single source bid from Engineered Fluid Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$8,000 for the Retreat water system improvement project.

Councilmember Etten made a motion to approve the single source bid from Engineered Fluid Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$8,000 for the Retreat water system improvement project. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

- The Finance Committee recommended approval to enter into a contract with former water plant employees Alan Bowes and Steve Quick for services at the Water Plant with

the following amendments to the contracts: to round time worked to the nearest 15 minutes rather than to the nearest hour and to clarify they are to maintain certification as Class III Operators.

Councilmember Etten made a motion to approve entering into a contract with former water plant employees Alan Bowes and Steve Quick for services at the Water Plant with the following amendments to the contracts: to round time worked to the nearest 15 minutes rather than to the nearest hour and to clarify they are to maintain certification as Class III Operators. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Public Works Committee Report

Director of Public Works Pence reported on the following events of the January 14, 2020 Public Works Committee meeting:

- A single source bid for the Retreat water system improvements projects were discussed.
- The Fairlea water line upgrade project was discussed.
- A contract with former water plant employees Alan Bowes and Steve Quick was discussed.
- The unaccounted for water loss report was 42.59%
- Public Works project updates were reviewed.
- Public Works employee Jason Hanna has developed an in-house tree survey phone application.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Seams made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:13p.m. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.