

**Minutes of City Council**  
**February 25, 2020**  
**Regular Session**

The Council of the City of Lewisburg met in regular session on Tuesday, February 25, 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, 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, Planning & Zoning Clerk Marsha Cunningham and Police Chief Chris Teubert.

**ABSENT:** City Councilmember Heather Blake

**VISITORS:** Reporters Peggy Mackenzie with the Mountain Messenger, Bobby Bordelon with the West Virginia Daily News and Tina Alvey with the Beckley Register Herald; Tim Stover, Bill Dyer, Jan Long, Heather Gillian, Danny Boone and Jacob Teubert.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Honoring the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Women's Suffrage, Mayor White offered an invocation/prayer that she had given at the WV House of Delegates on Monday, February 17. 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:**

*Candidate for Magistrate*

Tim Stover, former Lewisburg Police Chief introduced himself as a Candidate for Greenbrier County Magistrate.

*Greenbrier County Library annual report*

Danny Boone, board member of the Greenbrier County Library presented the annual report of the library's activities to City Council. He noted that 64,000 patrons had used the library last year. He stated the library was open the only library in Greenbrier County to remain open seven days a week. He informed City Council the library has started issuing passports. He said that 115 participated in the summer reading program and 132 children had participated in the fall reading program. He stated 12 computers were used by 12,987 patrons.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

*January 21, 2020*

Councilmember Etten made a motion to approve the January 21, 2020 regular session minutes as presented. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

**PROCLAMATION:**

*National African American History Month*

Mayor White read a proclamation honoring African American History Month in Lewisburg.

**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.
- City Departments are busy preparing for the new fiscal year budget.
- Reviewed the expenses for the past 10 years at the water plant when she met with a Region IV representative regarding the USDA water project. Still working to finalize training for the project with John Stump.
- Emrie Pentek has been at City Hall working on the City Financials.
- Thanked the Public Works crews which have been painting the interior of City Hall.
- Thanked the Police Department for the quick response with the bomb threat the city received.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:**

*Appointment to Fire Service Appeals Board*

Mayor White offered the name of John Carroll for appointment to the Fire Service Appeals Board.

Councilmember Edwards made a motion to appoint John Carroll (Benedict Lane) to the Lewisburg Fire Service Appeals Board. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion.

*Appointment to Audit Committee*

Mayor White offered the name of John Dietz to serve on the Audit Committee. With five in favor and one (1) absent (Blake) the motion carried.

Councilmember Etten made a motion to appoint John Dietz to the Audit Committee. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion. With five in favor and one (1) absent (Blake) the motion carried.

**PROCLAMATIONS:**

*National African American History Month*

Mayor Beverly White read a proclamation naming March as National African American History Month in Lewisburg.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Councilmembers Edwards and Elkins thanked the Police Department for the quick and efficient way they handled the bomb threat at City Hall on February 18. Edwards also thanked the Public Works Department for the way they handled the detour at Greenbrier Avenue because of the Lee Street Road Closure. The Osteopathic School has been rebuilding the wall in front on the school on Lee Street and it has been closed since November.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

Chief Teubert reported on the following events:

- The Police Department answered 200 calls for service over the last month.
- After completing his DARE Instructor training, Sgt. Hughes is now the new DARE Instructor for the Police Department. He received a Distinguished DARE Award.
- The Police Department handled one special event in January with the Martin Luther King, Jr. march.
- The City received a bomb threat on February 18 from Michael J. Neely from Cleveland, Ohio. Teubert noted that Neely had ties to the local area. He stated Neely was in custody awaiting extradition to WV for two felonies. He noted the Lewisburg Police Department worked with the FBI and State Police on this case.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

Chief Thomas distributed the following report:

Lewisburg Fire Department Calls for January 2020

We responded to 104 emergency calls in January  
66 calls were inside the city limits (63%)  
31 calls were in our first due area outside the city limits (30%)  
4 calls were automatic mutual aid calls to Fairlea Fire (4%)  
3 call was requested mutual aid call (3%)

Types of calls for the month of January

2 Structure Fire

12 Motor Vehicle Accidents  
59 Medical Calls  
11 Automatic Fire Alarms  
1 Carbon Monoxide Alarm with No CO Found  
1 Carbon Monoxide Alarm with CO present  
7 Public Service Calls  
3 No incident found on arrival  
1 Possible Natural Gas Leaks  
3 Cancelled Enroute  
1 Standby  
2 Smoke Scare/Odor of Smoke  
1 Oil spill on roadway

- On February 1<sup>st</sup> Lewisburg Fire Department held a 4-hour SOG review for members in the morning and held a 4-hour Bomb making awareness class in the afternoon. Members learned to recognize suspicious activity and purchases that citizens could be making with ill intent. We had 15 members present for training.
- On February 2<sup>nd</sup> Lewisburg Fire Department assisted West Virginia Public Service Training Agency with a Firefighter 1&2 skills check off at Lewisburg Station 2. We assisted in the instruction of 31 students from many different counties in WV. We had 17 members from Lewisburg who received 8 hours of training for the day.
- 5 members of the department will be traveling to South Dakota March 1-4 for final inspection of the new tanker. We expect delivery of the truck a few weeks after inspection.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:**

##### *Planning Commission Report*

Planning and Zoning Clerk Marsha Cunningham reported on the following events of the February 7, 2020 meeting:

- A minor subdivision for Joshua Adamo at 1505 Washington Street East was approved.
- A site plan review specifically for a parking lot was approved at 3413 Oak Street for the Greenbrier Community School.
- A Zoning Ordinance working session for the Planning Commission was held to discuss signage on January 29.

##### *Parks Commission Report*

Councilmember Elkins reported on the following events of the February 4, 2020 Parks Commission meeting:

- Parks project updates were discussed including lighting upgrades at both parks.
- A lengthy discussion was held regarding erecting a plaque at Dorie Miller Park to honor Dorie Miller.

### **COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES:**

#### *Finance Committee Report*

Councilmember Etten reported on the following events of the February 11, 2020 Finance Committee meeting:

- The Finance Committee recommended approval of a Video Lottery Funding request from the Greenbrier East High School Project Graduation project in the amount of \$2,500.

Councilmember Etten made a motion to approve a Video Lottery Funding request from the Greenbrier East High School Project Graduation in the amount of \$2,500. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With five in favor and one (1) absent (Blake) the motion carried.

- The Finance Committee recommended approval to renew the City employees' health insurance to Certus Sirius America for the total maximum liability of \$932,187.52.

Councilmember Etten made a motion to renew the City employees' health insurance to Certus Sirius America for the total maximum liability of \$932,187.52. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With five in favor and one (1) absent (Blake) the motion carried.

#### *Public Works Committee Report*

Director of Public Works Pence reported on the following events of the February 11, 2020 Public Works Committee meeting:

- An unaccounted for water report was not given because the Chief Water Operator was on leave.
- Public Works projects were reviewed.
- A plaque announcing the PSC rules needs to be set up at City Hall for review by the public along with a water meter display. This is a new requirement of the Consumer Confidence Report.
- A new water plant operator began working for the City on February 10.

#### *Public Safety Committee Report*

Councilmember Seams reported on the following events of the February 12, 2020 Public Safety Committee meeting:

- Three Police Department Standard Operating Guidelines were reviewed and recommended for approval by the Public Safety Committee.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the Use of Force, Less Lethal Impact and Munitions/Bean Bag Shotgun and Standard Operating Guidelines for the Police Department. Councilmember Etten seconded the motion. Councilmember Etten pointed out the SOGs had been reviewed by the City Attorney. With five in favor and one (1) absent (Blake) the motion carried.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the Child Abuse Standard Operating Guideline for the Police Department. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion. With five in favor and one (1) absent (Blake) the motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilmember Seams made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:18p.m. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.