

**City of Lewisburg  
City Council Minutes  
Tuesday January 20, 2026  
Regular Session**

The City of Lewisburg, City Council met in regular session on Tuesday January 20, 2026, 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.

**COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor Beverly White, Councilmembers Franklin Johnson, John Little, and Arron Seams, City Manager Misty Hill, City Clerk Crystal Ratliff, Police Chief Christopher Teubert, Fire Chief Joseph Thomas, Director of Public Works Tony Legg and Treasurer Susan Honaker, Lieutenant Robbie Crone

**ABSENT:** Valerie Pritt

**VISITORS:** Mountain Messenger Representative Sarah Richardson (Zoom), Jay Brook Insurance Representative Bill Dyer, Richard Dulee, Gloria Martin, Bill Martin, Joe Lutz, Alex Brand, Robert Shaw, Florian Schleiff, Bill Wolf, Bonnie Brooks, and Zachary Drennen

**CALL TO ORDER** Mayor White called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**VISITOR'S REPORTS**

Mayor White acknowledged and welcomed visitors reminding visitors they have a 3-minute time limit to address Council with question or concerns.

Resident Richard Dulee thanked the Mayor for the opportunity to address Her and Council. Mr. Dulee stated he was concerned with the City Police Department recent acceptance of a grant and it being used for tactical gear for the police. He stated this is a small community and does not feel the Police Department needs to have a present of such force. Mayor White acknowledge Mr. Dulee's concern and ask Police Chief Teubert to speak on the issue. Chief Teubert acknowledge his concerns and stated the tactical gear is not for everyday use it will be used by the newly formed City of Lewisburg S.W.A.T. Team when they are needed for a situation within the city. Chief Teubert stated he could not in good conscious put his officers in situations without the proper gear to protect them. Mr. Dulee thanked the Mayor and Chief Teubert for the information and all they do to protect the citizens of Lewisburg.

Resident Florian Schleiff informed City Council of resent changes to the Farmers Market. He stated the weekly event will now be located at the WVSOM Clingman Center at Montwell Commons starting in the Spring of 2026. Mr. Schleiff stated they are excited for the new venue and hope to grow the event throughout the year with the support of the city and community.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Councilmember Johnson made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Seams to go into executive session with City Manager Hill, Treasurer Honaker, and Jay Brook Insurance Representative Bill Dyer at 7:30 p.m. No further discussion. With all in favor motion carried. Councilmember Seams made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to return from executive session at 8:02 p.m. No further discussion. With all in favor motion carried.

Chairperson Seams noted no decisions were made in executive session.

Councilmember Little made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to resume the City Council meeting at 8:03 p.m. No further discussion. With all in favor motion carried.

Councilmember Seams made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Little to approved the Employee Health Insurance with Signa as presented. No further discussion. With all in favor motion carried.

## **ORDINANCE**

### *Ordinance-326*

Mayor White opened the public hearing for Ordinance 326, at 8:08 p.m.

With no comments from the public Mayor White closed the public hearing at 8:09 p.m.

Councilmember Little made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Seams to accept Ordinance 326 as presented. No further discussion. With all in favor motion carried.

## **ORDINANCE 326**

Councilmember Little introduced the following Ordinance and moved for its adoption, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Seams. The Ordinance being in the following words and figures:

“AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING MAP CLASSIFICATION FROM R1 (LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT) TO OR (OFFICE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT) FOR THAT CERTAIN PARCEL OF REAL ESTATE DESIGNATED AS GREENBRIER COUNTY TAX MAP PARCEL NO. 10-20-61, LOCATED AT 1269 AND 1271 JEFFERSON STREET NORTH, LEWISBURG, WEST VIRGINIA.”

WHEREAS, Walter H. Wingo, Inc., the record owner of that certain tract or parcel of real property designated as Greenbrier County Tax Map Parcel No. 10-20-61, situate at 1269 Jefferson Street North, Lewisburg, West Virginia, has filed an application requesting that the zoning map classification for the aforesaid property be changed from R1 (Low Density Residential District) to OR (Office Residential District); and

WHEREAS, after a properly noticed public hearing, the City of Lewisburg Planning Commission has recommended to the Council of the City of Lewisburg that the aforesaid application for zoning map reclassification be granted; and

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of City of Lewisburg Planning Commission, and upon finding that the proposed zoning map reclassification is consistent with the City of Lewisburg’s adopted comprehensive plan, pursuant to the authority granted by W. Va. Code §§ 8-11-1, et seq., W. Va. Code § 8A-7-8, Article 1373.13 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Lewisburg, and the Amended Charter of the City of Lewisburg, the Council of the City of Lewisburg desires to grant the aforesaid application for zoning map reclassification.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of Lewisburg, Greenbrier County, West Virginia, that zoning map classification for that certain tract or parcel of real property designated as Greenbrier County Tax Map Parcel No. 10-20-61, situate at 1269 and 1271 Jefferson Street North, Lewisburg, West Virginia, be, and it is, hereby changed from R1 (Low Density Residential District) to OR (Office Residential District).

This Ordinance shall be effective upon passage.

I, the undersigned City Manager of the City of Lewisburg, State of West Virginia, do hereby certify that the foregoing amendment to an Ordinance was duly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Lewisburg, and that the proposed Ordinance was read by title at not less than two (2) meetings of the City Council with at least one (1) week intervening between each meeting, and that the Ordinance is now in full force and effect.

December 16, 2025  
Passed First Reading

January 20, 2026  
Passed Second Reading

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Misty Hill, City Manager

## **PROCLAMATIONS**

### *Volunteer of the Year 2025*

Mayor White recognized Bill and Gloria Martin as the 2025 Volunteer of the Year for the City of Lewisburg and read a proclamation in their honor.

**2025**  
***VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR***

## *PROCLAMATION*

- WHEREAS,** The City of Lewisburg is fortunate to have citizens who actively volunteer their time and effort in our community, and
- WHEREAS,** Sometimes the services these volunteers provide are not highly visible but greatly enhance the quality of life in our community, and
- WHEREAS,** these volunteers often receive little recognition for their valuable service, and
- WHEREAS,** Each year the City of Lewisburg recognizes an individual or individuals nominated by City Council to be named Volunteers of the Year for their generous contribution of time and service, and
- WHEREAS,** The City of Lewisburg recognizes the Volunteer of the Year by proclaiming Volunteer of the Year Day in Lewisburg, and
- WHEREAS,** Bill and Gloria Martin have been chosen as the Volunteer of the Year for 2025, and
- WHEREAS,** Bill and Gloria assumed the leadership as coordinators of the Lewisburg/Fairlea Food Locker upon their respective retirements, Bill from WVSOM in 2006 and Gloria from the Family Refuge Center in 2008. Having prior helped as volunteers with the Food Locker, and
- WHEREAS,** Bill and Gloria have recruited and trained volunteers that assist with the organizing and distributing food once a month at Old Stone Presbyterian Church, which for the calendar year of 2025 provided 2,975 bags of food to 2,099 families with a total of 3,220 men, women and children being served, and
- WHEREAS,** Bill and Gloria have increased the amount of food available for distribution by becoming involved in the Mountaineer Food Bank, and
- WHEREAS,** Bill and Gloria have coordinated to add meat, fresh produce, paper products, cleaning supplies, and personal hygiene products to be distributed, and
- WHEREAS,** Bill and Gloria have developed working relationships with local churches - Clifton Presbyterian, Edgewood Presbyterian, John Wesley Methodist, Old Stone Presbyterian, St. James Episcopal, Rhema Christian Center, Shuck Baptist, Fairlea Baptist and Lewisburg United Methodist – whose volunteers help by delivering food on a monthly basis to the elderly and disabled residents at Tabor Towers, Morgan Manor and Lewisburg Manor, and
- WHEREAS,** Bill and Gloria have helped organize and provide food for those in the community who were in need because of homelessness, an emergency or a disaster, and
- WHEREAS,** Bill and Gloria have done fundraising in the community with groups, organizations and individuals and encouraged food drives to supplement food available for distribution, and
- WHEREAS,** Bill and Gloria have developed relationships with other food pantries and organization in Greenbrier County who provide aid to those in need in the County, and
- WHEREAS,** Bill and Gloria have developed and encouraged an open, friendly and respectful attitude towards all involved whether it be from receiving assistance, to volunteering or the community in general.

**NOW THEREFORE, I**, Beverly White, Mayor of the City of Lewisburg, by the authority vested in me, do hereby recognize Bill and Gloria Martin as the Volunteer of the Year for the year 2025 and in conjunction proclaim January 1, 2026, to be

***BILL AND GLORIA MARTIN  
VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR DAY IN LEWISBURG***

To be observed and recognized in and about the **CITY OF LEWISBURG** by all citizens, residents and organizations for the promotion of volunteerism.

Dated this 20<sup>th</sup> day of January 2026.  
Beverly White, Mayor

Attest  
Crystal Ratliff, City Clerk

*Martin Luther King, Jr*

Mayor White read a proclamation in recognition the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. and his impact for peace and equality in our nation. Mayor White then proclaimed the week of January 18, 2026, to January 24, 2026, to be the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. week in the City of Lewisburg.

**City of Lewisburg  
MLK Proclamation 2026**

**Whereas**, in 1956 at the young age of 27 years, Martin Luther King, Jr. preached a sermon at the Dexter Ave Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama, making the case for applying Christian love to the struggle for racial justice. And

**Whereas**, this sermon contained a warning, setting the tone for the civil rights movement going forward. “Let no man pull you so low as to hate him. Always avoid violence. If you succumb to the temptation of using violence in your struggle.... your chief legacy to the future will be an endless reign of meaningless chaos.” And

**Whereas**, Dr. King always upheld the dignity of every individual, friend, and foe alike.

He was consistent and unwavering in his spiritual belief and moral philosophy. Thus, he preached respect for fundamental human rights, even

for those who deny rights and violate dignity. In this context Dr. King quoted

the gospel of John. "He who loves is a participant in the being of God. He who hates does not know God."

**Therefore**, as I, **Beverly White, Mayor of the City of Lewisburg** hereby **Proclaim the**

**Dr. Week of January 18, 2026, to January 24, 2026, to be the Reverend**

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Week**, and even while the forces of egotism, chaos, and division weigh heavily upon us, let us keep in the forefront of our minds

Dr. King's instructive words. ***"Hate cannot drive out hate. Only love can***

***do that."*** ***"Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend."***

Dr. King, the young preacher, recognized that the pitfall of hating others was a moral failing, while Dr. King, the intrepid warrior for racial justice and the master strategist for negro equality, recognized hatred as the potential nemesis for the entire national civil rights campaign. His sermon from 1956 resonates in our struggles today and illuminates our path to victory tomorrow. Hold fast to your own personal and spiritual integrity in the presence of those entangled in lies and prejudice, those who threaten and those who bully. Multiply your power of persuasion through the example of honorable behavior toward opponents with whom you profoundly disagree. Let no man pull you so low as to hate him, or to hate his followers, for they are, after all, our fellow Americans with whom we will ultimately experience a common destiny. ***"Together we shall overcome."***

Mayor Beverly White

Attest  
Crystal Ratliff, City Clerk

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER**

### *WV PBM Litigation – dismiss claim*

Councilmember Seams made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to dismiss claim in the WV PBM litigation as presented. No further discussion. With all in favor motion carried.

### *Salary increase – Aaron Brown Chief Water Plant Operator*

City Manager Hill requested to move Aaron Brown from Interim Chief Water Plant Operator to Chief Water Plant Operator with a salary increase of \$6.00 an hour from \$29.00 to \$35.00 and to note he is not eligible to receive the \$2.00 an hour night differential pay. This increase would reflect the importance of the role and help ensure continued retention of a highly skilled and dependable employee.

Councilmember Seams made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Little to approve the appointment of Aaron Brown as the Chief Water Plant Operator with the salary increase as presented. No further discussion. With all in favor motion carried.

### *Labor III Water Distribution*

City Manager Hill is requesting to add a Water Distribution Labor III position to the Water Plant. Manager Hill stated the additional manpower is needed with the acquisition of the Renick water system.

Councilmember Seams made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to add a Water Distribution Labor III to the Water Plant as presented. No further discussion. With all in favor motion carried.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Councilmember Little made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Seams to go into executive session with City Manager Hill, Treasurer Honaker, Fire Chief Thomas, and Public Works Director Legg at 8:17 p.m. No further discussion. With all in favor motion carried.

Councilmember Little made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to return from executive session at 9:14 p.m. No further discussion. With all in favor motion carried.

Councilmember Seams noted no decisions were made during executive session.

Councilmember Little made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Seams to resume City Council meeting at 9:15 p.m. No further discussion. With all in favor motion carried.

### *Consideration of employment contract*

Councilmember Johnson made a motion to consider an employment contract the Lyon Group, with a lack of a second motion failed.

Consideration of purchase of public utility

Councilmember Seams made a motion, seconded by Johnson to table the purchase of a public utility at this time. No further discussion. With all in favor motion carried.

City Manager Hill stated the City has been awarded a grant to update the boundaries of the Historical District of the City of Lewisburg and acknowledge that Mayor White had received a letter approving the Historical District updates on the National Registry as of December 17, 2025.

City Manager Hill stated the City of Lewisburg has been awarded a \$5.7 million grant for water line upgrades on Route 219 North.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Mayor White stated a copy of the report from Chief Teubert was included in Council's packet. Mayor White asked if anyone has any questions or concerns for Chief Teubert. Council had no questions or concerns at this time.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Mayor White stated a copy of the report from Chief Thomas has been included in Council's packet. Mayor White asked if anyone has any questions or concerns for Chief Thomas. Council had no questions or concerns at this time.

Chief Thomas stated they will be going to Ohio on Wednesday January 21, 2026, to do the prebuild on the truck approved in December 2024.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

Planning Commission

Councilmember Little stated during the Planning Commission meeting on January 8, 2026, they had denied a request for a minor subdivision due to it not following the City of Lewisburg ordinance for road frontage. Councilmember Little stated the site-plan West Parking lot was approved as presented pending approval from the Historic Landmark Commission in February 2026. Councilmember Little also stated that during the January 2026 meeting he had been elected as Chairperson for the Planning Commission and Councilmember Pritt as Vice-Chairperson for the 2026 year.

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

### **Finance Committee Report**

#### **Lafayette Street Stormwater Project Pay Request No. 5**

Councilmember Seams made a motion by recommendation from Finance, seconded by Councilmember Little to approve the Lafayette Street Stormwater project pay request No. 5 in the amount of \$147,210.35 as presented. No further discussion. With all in favor motion carried.

#### **Chapman Technical Group Task Order — Greenbrier County Library HVAC Replacement**

City Manager Hill stated the Greenbrier County Library has received a grant to replace the HVAC system. City Manager Hill stated with the City of Lewisburg owning the building they must follow government procurement regulations. City Manager Hill stated all fees incurred will be covered by the grant and there will be no cost to the City for the system.

Councilmember Seams made a motion by recommendation from Finance, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to approve the Chapman Technical Group Task Order No. 40 for the Greenbrier County Library HVAC system not to exceed \$37,000.00 as presented. No further discussion. With all in favor motion carried.

### **Public Works Building Bid approval**

#### **Garage door opener**

Councilmember Seams made a motion by recommendation from Finance and approval from the Building Commission, seconded by Councilmember Little to approve the bid from Garage Ops in the amount of \$8,700.00 for garage door openers and keypads for the Public Works Building as presented. No further discussion. With all in favor motion carried.

#### **Removal of one garage door**

Public Works Director Legg stated they will be removing one of the garage doors that is not being used and add an entry door to have better access to the building and use of the area behind the door. Director Legg stated Public Works will be doing the labor and the only cost is the materials.

Councilmember Seams made a motion by recommendation from Finance and approval from the Building Commission, seconded by Councilmember Little to approve the bid for materials from Neathawk's Lumber not to exceed \$2,000.00 for the Public Works Building as presented. No further discussion. With all in favor motion carried.

#### **Placement of canopies/awnings**

City of Lewisburg  
City Council  
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Councilmember Seams made a motion by recommendation from Finance and approval from the Building Commission, seconded by Councilmember Little to approve the bid from Bluefield Glass and Interiors not to exceed \$8,000.00 for materials and labor for awning installation for the Public Works Building as presented. No further discussion. With all in favor motion carried.

*Purchase of Washing Machine*

Councilmember Seams Made a motion by recommendation from the Building Commission, seconded by Councilmember Little to purchase a new heavy-duty washing machine for Public Works in the amount of \$1,578.45 as presented. No further discussion. With all in favor motion carried.

*Fire Department — Salary increase Wesley Williamson EMT Certification*

Councilmember Seams made a motion by recommendation from Finance, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to approve a \$0.20 an hour pay raise for Wesley Williamson for successful completion of the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) certification and for the increase to be effective as of January 1, 2026. No further discussion. With all in favor motion carried.

*Police Department Officers Proposed Pay Increase*

Councilmember Seams made a motion by recommendation from Finance, seconded by Councilmember Little to approve the Police Department Officer pay increase as of January 29, 2026, as presented. No further discussion. With all in favor motion carried.

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Mayor White stated that a copy of Public Works Director Legg’s report has been presented and asked if City Councilmembers had any questions for Director Legg. Council had no questions or concerns at this time.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Councilmember Seams made a motion seconded by Councilmember Johnson, to approve the minutes from the City Council meeting on December 16, 2026, as presented. No further discussion. With all in favor the motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilmember Seams made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to adjourn at 9:30 p.m. With all in favor the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted  
Crystal Ratliff

City of Lewisburg  
City Council  
Tuesday January 20, 2026, 7:00 p.m.

City Clerk