

**Minutes of City Council
November 19, 2024
Regular Session**

The Council of the City of Lewisburg met in regular session on Tuesday, November 19, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Paul R. Cooley Council Chambers at 942 Washington St. West, Lewisburg, WV.

PRESENT: Mayor Beverly White, Councilmembers: Franklin Johnson, John Little, Valerie Pritt, Arron Seams, Sarah Elkins, City Manager Misty Hill, Public Works Director Tony Legg, Treasurer Susan Honaker, Police Chief Chris Teubert, Fire Chief Joseph Thomas, and Planning & Zoning Officer Nicholas Sloan

VISITORS: Jennifer Williams, Todd Williams I, Jeffery Todd Williams II, Jackie Williams, Karli Williams; Adrienne French and Reporter Sara Richardson with the Mountain Messenger via (ZOOM)

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor White called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

PROMOTIONS: Officer Jeffery T. Williams II promoted to Sergeant, night shift Supervisor.

ORDINANCE:

Ordinance 322, Vehicular Travel in Turn Lanes Article 337.09, second reading

Mayor White read the following ordinance by title for the second reading:

“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND MODIFY ARTICLE 337.09 OF THE TRAFFIC OFFENSES CODE OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LEWISBURG, GREENBRIER COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA, REGARDING VEHICULAR TRAVEL IN TURNING LANES.”

Mayor White called the public hearing at 7:04 p.m., no comment the public hearing was closed at 7:05 p.m.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve Ordinance 322 as presented on the second reading. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 568 – City of Lewisburg Stormwater Study (CDBG-MIT Funds) Pay Request 11

Mayor White read the title of Resolution 568 for passage:

“RESOLUTION 568 – CITY OF LEWISBURG STORMWATER STUDY PAY REQUEST #11”

Councilmember Little made a motion to approve Resolution 568 as presented, in the amount of \$86,397.85, as recommended by the Finance Committee. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Resolution 570 – Water System Improvement Project Pay Request 30

Mayor White read the title of Resolution 570 for passage:

“RESOLUTION 570 – WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PAY REQUEST #30”

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve Resolution 570 as presented and recommended by the Finance Committee in the amount of \$1,595,891.81. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Resolution 571 – Public Works Building Construction Pay Request 17 and final.

Mayor White read the title of Resolution 571 for passage:

“RESOLUTION 571 – PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING CONSTRUCTION PAY REQUEST 17 AND FINAL”

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve Resolution 571 as presented and recommended by the Building Commission and Finance Committee in the amount of \$424,941.26. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

City Manager Misty Hill made comment that Resolution 571 will be the final payment in the construction of the Public Works building. The building is ready for occupancy and the building construction has been completed under budget. Budget set for \$5,000,000.00, with a completed cost of \$4,249,612.49. City Manager Hill thanked Chapman Technical Group and Public Works Director Tony Legg for going above and beyond and on the completion of the Public Works Building.

PROCLAMATION:

Mayor White read a Proclamation recognizing November 1, 2024, as Extra Mile Day within the City of Lewisburg.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

- Mayor White acknowledged and thanked the Blue Bell Garden Club for their time and effort in placing greenery in planters around town.
- Mayor White puts forth the name Andrea Izzo for appointment to the Historic Landmarks Commission. Councilmember Little made a motion to approve the appointment of Andrea Lizzo to HLC. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.
- Mayor White read a card from the Seams family thanking the City of Lewisburg Police Department and the Mayor for the organization and safety of traffic on Foster St. during their father’s memorial service.
- Mayor White received an email from Gail LeNeck thanking the City of Lewisburg and Public Works Department for painting yellow lines on the steps going down Lafayette St. in front of Warner Music School.

- Mayor White read a thank you letter from Tim Delp thanking the Mayor and the City of Lewisburg for our hospitality shown towards their family during their visit to Lewisburg during Halloween.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER:

- Introduction of the new Planning and Zoning Officer Nick Sloan
- A letter from Al Emch with the Greenbrier Historical Society, to thank Mayor White, City Manager Hill, Councilmembers, City of Lewisburg Police Department and City of Lewisburg Public Works Department for our contribution towards the 250th commemoration of the gathering of trooper by Col. Andrew Lewis during the Battle of Point Pleasant. The celebration was held from September 27 – 29, 2024.
- Reminder of the Christmas Tree lighting on Friday, November 22, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., with free hot chocolate and cookies to be given to the first three hundred visitors. Road closure will be from Court St to Washington St from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Reminder that the Christmas Parade is to be held on Thursday, December 5, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.
- First Friday “Lewis” and Mayor will be reading “Elf on the Shelf” at the Love Child and in the Green Space.
- Recap of Water Plant Meetings attended. The project is ending and a ribbon cutting ceremony will be held. There is also new software to be implemented at the Water Plant.
- Gave an updated report on the Kayak Launch. Geo Technical Drilling must be completed to move forward.
- Reported on the finalizing of Wayfinding with Michael Mills since business are moving and new businesses are coming in.
- Reported that the Health Insurance meeting was rescheduled from December 5th to December 12, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. Cigna will no longer be accepted by WVU so Health Insurance will be switching to HighMark, which results in a decrease in premium owed. The amount of decrease will only require administrative approval.
- Announcement that Randy Johnson will be officially retiring, with his last date of employment to be December 30, 2024.

Chapman Technical Group – Lafayette Street Storm Water Amendment #2 Task Order No. 32

Commitment of ARPA Funds for Lafayette Storm Water

Councilmember Pritt made a motion to approve Lafayette Street Storm Water Amendment #2 Task Order No. 32, as presented. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Chapman Technical Group – Water Improvement Project Amendment #2 Task Order No. 27

Transferring funds from the Inspection, RPR, in the amount of \$240,600.00 to Construction phase increase in the amount of \$240,600.00.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve Water Improvement Project Amendment #2 Task Order No. 27, as presented. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Councilmember Little discussed the recommendation for Plat review and re-approval of verbiage change for 4 Kids, LLC, Robert Vass, Ivy Terrace, and Silo Square. Plat must present stormwater plan if changes are made.

Councilmember Little made a motion to approve the Plat and verbiage as presented through discussion Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS:

City Manager Hill discussed Lewisburg Baptist Church, located at 277 Hilltop Dr, 3-plex studio by Board of Zoning Appeals approval with stipulations that all other conditions are met through in regarding to a minor subdivision through Planning and Zoning.

Public Hearing called at 7:39 p.m. The public hearing was closed at 7:40 p.m. with no comments.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the conditional use permit for Lewisburg Baptist Church 3-plex studio with the stipulation that all other conditions are met. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCILMEMBERS:

Councilmember Pritt stated that the town decorations were beautiful for the Fall season, and she is excited for the Christmas decorations.

City Manager Hill reminded Councilmembers of the Employee Christmas Dinner is being held on December 13th at 11 a.m.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Mayor White stated that a copy of Chief Teubert's report was included in their packet and asked if Councilmembers have any questions for Chief Teubert. Chief Teubert gave a brief overview of the October Report.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Mayor White stated that a copy of Chief Thomas' report had been included in the information packet and asked if City Councilmember's had any questions for Chief Thomas.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Councilmember Seams report on the following action taken during the meeting of Finance Committee on November 12, 2024:

- The Finance Committee recommended approval of Art's and Humanities funding request for the Shanghai Parade in the amount of \$1,200.00 to be paid directly to the vendors.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the Art's and Humanities funding in the amount of \$1,200.00, as requested. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

- The Finance Committee recommended approval of the Video Lottery funding request for Greenbrier East Project Graduation in the amount of \$4,000 for food.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the Video Lottery funding request in the amount of \$4,000.00, as requested. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

- The Finance Committee recommended the approval of a raise in the Building Inspector salary.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the raise in salary for the City Building Inspector as proposed. Councilmember Little seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

- The Finance Committee recommended the approval of a raise in the pay for the Water Plant Operator Jared Terry

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the pay increase for Water Plant Operator Jared Terry. Councilmember Little seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

- The Finance Committee recommended the approval of changes proposed in the Employee Handbook.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the proposed changes to the Employee Handbook. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

Mayor White stated that a copy of Director Legg's report had been included in the information packet and asked if City Councilmember's had any questions for Director Legg.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of Regular Session from September and Regular Session from October.

Councilmember Elkins made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Session September 17, 2024. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Session October 15, 2024. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Councilmember Seams made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.