

**Minutes of City Council
December 17, 2024
Regular Session**

The Council of the City of Lewisburg met in special session on Tuesday, December 17, 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:

Firefighter Matthew Peltier, Sarah Richardson, reporter for Mountaineer Messenger (ZOOM), Michael Beck, Nickie Tremann, Adriene French, George Chesebro with Harvia US, Inc.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor White called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 572: City of Lewisburg Water System Improvement Project Pay Request #31

Mayor White read the title of Resolution 572 for passage:

“RESOLUTION 572 – CITY OF LEWISBURG WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
PAY REQUEST #31”

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve Resolution 572 as presented and recommended by the Finance Committee. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Resolution 573: Lewisburg Feamster Road Sidewalk Funding Match Agreement Approval

Mayor White read the title of Resolution 573 for passage:

“RESOLUTION 573 – LEWISBURG FEAMSTER ROAD SIDEWALK FUNDING MATCH
AGREEMENT APPROVAL”

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve Resolution 573 as presented and recommended by the Finance Committee. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

- Wished all within the City of Lewisburg a Happy and Safe Holiday season
- Read a letter written to the Mayor's office regarding City of Lewisburg Police
- Announced that 100+ letters from Santa's Elf has been written back to the children who left letters for Santa

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER:

- Requested a motion from Council to approve an "as needed" employment contract with retired Chief Operator to assist with the operation of the Water Plant.
 - Councilmember Little made a motion to approve the "as needed" employment contract with retired Chief Operator. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.
- Discussed opening bids for the South Lafayette/Randolph Street Stormwater Project in partnership with Chapman Technical Group. Bids from Midkiff Construction at \$378,770.00 and Lynch Construction at \$329,570.00. Requested approval for Lynch Construction bid of \$329,570.00 with a contingency, including the Task Order, not to exceed a cost of \$462,326.00
 - Councilmember Little made a motion to approve bid from Lynch Construction bid for the South Lafayette/Randolph Street Stormwater Project in the amount of \$329,570.00 with contingency, including the Task Order, not to exceed a cost of \$462,326.00. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.
- Wayfinding is in the final stages of mapping and making all necessary adjustments. A proposal for the invoice from the Mills Group has been requested to outline the cost of the Kiosk. Phase I is employees of Public Works will form the base of the kiosk, located outside of City Hall near the public piano. CityNeon will finalize the installation of the Kiosk. Phase II will include street signage.
 - Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the proposal from CityNeon in the amount of \$7,053.24, contingent on the approval from City Attorney Tom White. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.
- Department of Highways Sidewalk Grants approved for an ADA compliant sidewalk from Court Street to Washington Street to Stratton Alley. Approval was for \$75,000.00 with a 20% match.
- Reminder of Water Plant meeting rescheduled for Wednesday, December 18, 2024
- Cameras in downtown are operational
- Discussed a year in review will be presented to Council in January
- Recapped Employee End of the Year Celebration
- Reminder that the final weekend of the Magic of Christmas will take place December 20th – 22nd
- Project Graduation parents will be selling baked goods and hot chocolate in the public piano area

COMMUNICATIONS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Mayor White called Public Hearing to Order at 7:22 p.m. for Harvia US, Inc. 3567 Jefferson Street North site plan approval.

- Councilmember Little explained the site plan for expansion and stormwater drainage plan of the former ABB Building following the purchase of Almost Heaven Saunas. Site plan expansion includes a parking lot on the left of the building, on existing property. The new parking lot will hold some stormwater concerns for the City of Lewisburg. In the existing parking lot, a building for shipping and handling will be added. No additional stormwater will be added to the existing parking lot. Greg Belcher, Chapman Technical, listed four (4) contingencies to consider with the expansion of the new parking lot.

Mayor White closed the Public Hearing at 7:28 p.m.

Councilmember Little made a motion to approve the stormwater drainage plan of Harvia US, Inc, as discussed in the public hearing and on behalf of the Planning Commission, contingent on the upon the four (4) items outlined by Greg Belcher, Chapman Technical and the site plan approval. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Report on time change for meetings from 7:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. beginning February.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCILMEMBERS:

- Councilmember Johnson thanked Public Works, Police, Fire, Council, City Manager and Mayor for the service to the City of Lewisburg.
- Councilmember Little mentioned the city decorations this holiday season look fabulous and how much he appreciated attending the Employee End of the Year Celebration.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT:

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

- Chief Teubert gave a brief overview of the November Report and thanked the Council and Administration for their support.

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.

- Chief Thomas gave an update on the acquisition of a new fire engine. Rosenbauer updated from 735-day build to a 900-day build. Sutphen bid has several items that need to be addressed. Chief Thomas stated that at this time he is unsure which company he feels comfortable recommending.
 - Councilmember Little made a motion that the purchase of a Pumper Truck not to exceed \$935,879.30 and contingent upon approval of the Corporation recommendations. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Councilmember Seams report on the following action taken during the meeting of Finance Committee on December 10, 2024:

- Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve \$15,563.00 for Generator service contract for the Water Plant and new Intakes, as presented and recommended by the Finance Committee. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.
- Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve \$6,514.00 to Lost Trail Studio for a Belt Training video, as presented and recommended by the Finance Committee. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.
- Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve \$10,915.00 to Lost Trail Studio for Water Plant Transformation video, as presented and recommended by the Finance Committee. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) opposed (Councilmember Little) the motion carried.
- Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the bid from Custom Design and Painting in the amount of \$28,900, with total project cost not to exceed \$40,000, for the painting of the Greenbrier County Library, as presented and recommended by the Finance Committee. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.
- Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the pay scale update for Chief Operator of the Water Plant, as presented and recommended by Finance Committee. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.
- Councilmember Seams made a motion to promote Interim Water Plant Chief Operator Aaron Brown with related salary increase, as presented and recommended by the Finance Committee. 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.

Director Legg gave a brief update on the status of the new Public Works building heating issue.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilmember Little made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Session November 19, 2024, as presented. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

ADJURNMENT: Councilmember Pritt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.