

Minutes of City Council
August 20, 2024
Regular Session

The Council of the City of Lewisburg met in regular session on Tuesday, August 20, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Paul R. Cooley Council Chambers at 942 Washington St. West. Lewisburg, WV. available VIA a Zoom Teleconference call.

PRESENT: Mayor Beverly White. City Manager Misty Hill. Councilmembers, Sarah Elkins, Arron Seams and Valerie Pritt; City Clerk Shannon Beatty; Fire Chief Joseph Thomas, Police Chief Christopher Teubert, Director of Public Works Tony Legg and Treasurer Susan Honaker

ABSENT: Councilmember Franklin Johnson and John Little.

VISITORS: Adrienne French, James Knapp, Greg Johnson and Josh Baldwin; reporter Sarah Richardson with the Mountain Messenger (ZOOM).

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

ORDINANCES:

Ordinance 320, Updating the Codified Ordinances, first reading

City Clerk Shannon Beatty read the following ordinance by title for first reading:

“AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEWISBURG APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE AUGUST 2024 REPLACEMENT PAGES TO THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LEWISBURG.”

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve Ordinance 320 as presented. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With Four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

Ordinance 321, Stormwater Drainage, second reading & public hearing

City Clerk Shannon Beatty read the following ordinance by title for second reading:

“AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY LEWISBURG, WEST VIRGINIA, TO RECODIFY AND RECODIFY CURRENT PART THIRTEEN, CHAPTER THREE, ARTICLE 1371 OF THE CITY CODE AS PART THIRTEEN, CHAPTER ONE, ARTICLE 1326 OF THE LEWISBURG CITY CODE”

Mayor White opened the floor for public comment during the public hearing at 7:07 pm. Hearing no comment from the public. She closed the hearing.

Councilmember Pritt made a motion to approve Ordinance 321 as presented for second reading. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With Four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 559, General Fund Budget Revision #1 Fiscal Year 2025

City Clerk Shannon Beatty read the title of Resolution 559 for passage:

“General Fund Budget Fiscal Year 2024 Revision Number One.”

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve Resolution 559 as presented. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With Four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

Resolution 560, Water Treatment Plant Improvement Project Pay Request #27

City Clerk Shannon Beatty read the title of Resolution 560 for passage:

“RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LEWISBURG APPROVING INVOICES RELATING TO SERVICES FOR THE WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING PAYMENT THEREOF.”

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve Resolution 560 in the amount of \$398,722.63 for passage. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. With Four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

Resolution 561, Stormwater Project Pay Request #9

City Clerk Shannon Beatty read the title of Resolution 561 for passage:

“RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LEWISBURG APPROVING INVOICES RELATING TO ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF LEWISBURG STORMWATER ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT STUDY AND AUTHORIZING PAYMENT THEREOF.”

Councilmember Elkins made a motion to approve Resolution 561 in the amount of \$ 41,666.80 as presented. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With Four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

- Stated that City Manager Misty Hill had been named the President of the West Virginia Municipal League City Manager Association. She also noted that City Treasurer Susan Honaker had been named the President of the WV Finance Officer Association.
- The City received a thank you note from the PSD#1 for help with the sewer project on Brush Road and Rolling Hills.

- The City received a thank you note from GVT, Carnegie Hall and the Greenbrier Valley Choral for the production of the Hunchback of Notre Dame. Noting that Mayor White was a surprise guest star in the production.
- The City received a letter from the Lewisburg Fire Department announcing the election of their corporate officers and the endorsement of Joseph Thomas as Fire Chief.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER:

- City Manager Hill stated crews are slowly beginning to put equipment online at the water plant. She noted the plant has gone from having 3 filters to 6 filters. She stated the plant will not be fully until the new intake is completed. She said that could take several months. She stated that during Fair Week the water plant experienced a electricity outage. Crews worked hard to keep the water plant going using a small generator. Hill stated completing this water plant upgrade is going to be a big thing for the community.
- City Attorney Tom White is currently reviewing the Mon Power easement agreement for lot 40 on Wildwood Avenue.

Councilmember Pritt made a motion to table approval of the Mon Power easement agreement for lot 40 on Wildwood Avenue until the September City Council meeting. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With Four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

- Rock for the landscape wall beside the municipal parking lot on Lafayette Street has been delivered.
- New signs and poles for the historic district have been ordered.
- Is working on the wayfinding project with the Mills Group.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

No communication was provided.

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 Councilmembers had any questions for Chief Teubert.

WVSOM security contract

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the WVSOM Security Contract between the Police Department and the WV School of Osteopathic Medicine as presented. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With Four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT:

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

Chief Thomas noted the Fire Department had received a grant for the emergency bail out kits.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Finance Committee Report

Councilmember Seams reported on the following events of the August 13, 2024 Finance Committee meeting:

- The Finance Committee recommended approval of an Arts & Humanities funding request in the amount of \$3,600 to publicize a living history event commemorating the 250th anniversary of Lord Dunmore's War.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve an Arts & Humanities funding request in the amount of \$3,600 to publicize a living history event commemorating the 250th anniversary of Lord Dunmore's War. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With Four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

- The Finance Committee recommended approval of the Water Treatment Plant Improvement Project with Contractor Pro Contracting for Change Order 10-2 in the amount of \$ 69,180.00.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the Water Treatment Plant Improvement Project with Contractor Pro Contracting for Change Order 10-2 in the amount of \$ 69,180.00. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With Four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

- The Finance Committee recommended approval of the Water Treatment Plant Improvement Project with Contractor Empire Salvage & Recycling for Change Order #1 in the amount of \$61,825.80.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the Water Treatment Plant Improvement Project with Contractor Empire Salvage & Recycling for Change Order #1 in the amount of \$61,825.80. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With Four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

- The Finance Committee recommended approval of the fund paid on the USDA loan interest reimbursement in the amount of \$348,000 that will remain. The payment was made in advance and will stay in the account.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the fund paid on the USDA loan interest in the amount of \$348,000 that will remain in the account. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With Four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

- The Finance Committee recommended approval of a contract with Jared Terry for a water plant operator in training with the WV Rural Water Association.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve a contract with Jared Terry for a water plant operator in a training agreement with the WV Rural Water Association. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With Four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried

- The Finance Committee made a motion to approve the Public Works Building Change Order #5 with a decrease in the amount of \$9,512.67 with DCI Shires.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the Public Works Building Change Order #5 with a decrease in the amount of \$9,512.67 with DCI Shires. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion.

- The Finance Committee recommended approval of adding the position of a third sergeant to the Police Department with a pay increase of \$1,200.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve adding the position of a third sergeant to the Police Department with a pay increase of \$1,200. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion.

With Four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried

- The Finance Committee recommended approval to pay \$5,000 for carriage rides for the Magic of Christmas to Carola and Sons.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to pay \$5,000 for carriage rides for the Magic of Christmas to Carola and Sons. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With Four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried

Public Safety Committee Report

Councilmember Seams reported on the following events of August 13, 2024, Public Safety Committee meeting:

- The Public Safety Committee recommended approval of adding the position of a third sergeant to the Police Department with a pay increase of \$1,200.
- The Public Safety Committee recommended approval of the WVSOM Security Contract between the Police Department, and the WV School of Osteopathic Medicine as presented.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Session, July 16, 2024

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the Regular Session July 16, 2024, minutes. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With Four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

Special Session, August 13, 2024

Councilmember Pritt made a motion to approve the Special Session August 13, 2024, minutes. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With Four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

VISITOR'S REPORTS:

James Knapp, a resident of Rolling Hills approached City Council with concerns he had about road upkeep, signage, street paving, wildlife and code enforcement regarding high grass and the maintenance of premises in the Rolling Hills Subdivision.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Seams made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With Four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.