

**Minutes of City Council
February 18, 2025
Regular Session**

The Council of the City of Lewisburg met in regular session on Tuesday February 18, 2025, 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.

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

ABSENT: Councilmember Franklin Johnson, Councilmember John Little

VISITORS: Larry Davis, Gibbs Kinderman, Jim Alder, Larry Baxter, Joe Lutz, Madeline Karrs, Adam Nelson, Adrienne French, Sarah Richardson with the Mountain Messenger (ZOOM)

CALL TO ORDER:

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

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 576

Water System Improvement Project Pay Request 34

“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, seconded by councilmember Pritt, to approve Resolution 576 in the amount of \$330,961.83. No further discussion. Voted and approved with four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

Mayor White read a poem, written by her, celebrating Black History Month.

The Greenbrier East Band has been invited to Hawaii in the fall for the Pearl Harbor Celebration. Gibbs Kinderman reviewed the history of Dorie Miller and his significant contributions to the USS West Virginia at Pearl Harbor.

Councilmember Seams made a motion, seconded by councilmember Elkins to appoint Crystal Ratliff as City Clerk. No further discussion. Voted and approved with four (4) in favor and (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER:

Councilmember Seams made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pritt, to approve the Derrick Morgan pay differential as described by the City Manager. No further discussion. Voted and approved with four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

US Cellular Fleet proposal will track when service and maintenance on city vehicles, this does not include police or fire vehicle. This will also give the city the capacity to track the vehicle's location and speed. Councilmember Elkins made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Seams, to approve the 2-year contract at \$3,146.00 for the first year and \$4,000.92 for the second year. Pending a budget review. No further discussion. Voted and approved with four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

City Manager Misty Hill requested to go into Executive session for personnel reasons, Councilmember Seams made a motion, Councilmember Pritt seconded, to go into executive session with City Manager Misty Hill and Police Chief Christopher Teubert. Moved and seconded Council in Executive Session at 7:22pm.

Councilmember Pritt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Elkins to return from executive sessions at 7:57pm. Mayor noted that no decisions were made during the Executive session.

City Manager Hill made note to the Council that the March 2025 meeting will have to be moved back one week to March 25, 2025, due to scheduling conflict with the Mayor, Treasurer Honaker, City Clerk Ratliff, and herself attending the Municipal League Conference in Charleston.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

Planning Commission

Councilmember Pritt reported that the Planning Commission did not meet at the beginning of February but will be meeting February 25, 2025. They will be meeting with WVU Law to begin comprehensive planning for the city. They are going to be doing a review of the plan from 10 years ago and working on a plan for the next 10 years.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Councilmember Seams noted that he was very impressed with how the Public Works Department managed the snow removal from the recent storm and being able to manage over a foot of snow.

Councilmember Elkins has had a couple of the Board Members from the Greenbrier Valley Pride group about returning the Pride event to Lewisburg, she advises them they would need to fill-out the special events form and that she would mention it at Council.

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.

Council had no questions or concerns at this time.

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.

Council had no questions or concerns at this time.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Finance Committee Report

Councilmember Seams report the finance committee meet on Tuesday February 11, 2025 (Virtually).

Councilmember Seams made a motion, seconded by councilmember Pritt to approve the recommendation from the Finance committee on the Water Improvement Project-Empire Salvage and Recycling, Inc contract 11 change order No.3 Maxwellton Overflow Discharge, this is an increase of \$33,763.98 and a 90-day extension for the project. No further discussion. Voted and approved with four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

Councilmember Seams made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pritt, to renew the contract with Greenbrier Valley Solid Waste as recommended by the Finance Committee. Mayor White wanted to point out that in the contract any city residents with an income less than \$15,000.00 can contact Greenbrier Valley Solid Waste for a possible reduced rate. No further discussion. Voted and approved with four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

Councilmember Seams made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Elkins, for a salary increase of \$.50 an hour for Rebecca White and Sara Jekins-Morgan for election training as recommended by the Finance Committee. No further discussion. Voted and approved with four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

Councilmember Seams Made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Elkins, for a salary increase of \$.50 an hour for Beverly Davis as recommended by the Finance Committee. No further discussion. Voted and approved with four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Mayor White noted that Bob Murphy, owner of Food & Friends was very complimentary of the work the department had done on the plowing of the streets during recent storms.

Councilmember Elkins had a complaint about the plowing of Greenbrier Ave, the road behind WVSOM. Director Legg will pass the complaint on to the crew.

Report from Director of Public Works Tony Legg, asked citizens to be mindful that when there is a need for plowing to please be diligent about having their vehicles off the road.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilmember Seams made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pritt to approve the Regular Session, January 21, 2025, minutes as presented. No further discussion. Voted and approved with four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

VISITOR'S REPORTS:

Nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Seams made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pritt to adjourn the meeting at 8:13p.m. Voted and approved with four (4) in favor and two (2) absent (Johnson and Little) the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted
City Clerk
Crystal Ratliff