

**City of Lewisburg
Finance Committee Meeting
Paul R. Cooley Council Chamber
942 Washington Street, West
Lewisburg, West Virginia 24901
Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2024**

PRESENT: Mayor Beverly White, Councilmembers: Arron Seams, Franklin Johnson, Sarah Elkins, John Little, Valerie Pritt; City Manager Misty Hill, Treasurer Susan Honaker, Police Chief Chris Teubert and Fire Chief Joey Thomas.

VISITORS: No visitors were present.

CALL TO ORDER: Finance Chairman Arron Seams called the Finance Committee meeting of the City of Lewisburg to order at 8:34 am.

Longevity Pay

City Manager Hill explained that the Police Department has offered longevity pay to its officers since 2008. She stated that the biggest request she gets from other departments is for longevity pay. She stated she would like to mend the current longevity pay policy to include all full-time employees beginning after five years of service and capping out at 25 years of service. A discussion ensued between City Manager Hill and Council regarding using funds from the 1% sales tax to pay for this.

Councilmember Little made a motion to recommend approval of the longevity pay proposal as presented. Council member Johnson seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Mayor White) the motion carried.

Department Heads Capital Budget Request Fiscal Year 2025

City Council reviewed the following capital budget request for fiscal year 2025 from Department Heads:

Community Development	\$35,000
Planning and Zoning	
Comprehensive Plan Update	\$31,00 split between two years at \$15,500 each year
City Hall	
Renovations	\$40,000
HVAC (Maximum)	\$1,000,000
Document Scanning	\$0 (placeholder)
Server room organization	\$5,200

Police

Vehicle replacement	\$80,000 (will be opioid money)
Office expansion	

Fire Department

Roof	\$56,000
HVAC	\$40,000

Street Department

Streets signs and post replacement	\$40,000
------------------------------------	----------

Snow Removal

Electric Spreader	\$8,500
-------------------	---------

Storm Water

Lafayette Street Area

Sidewalks

Repairs/demotion

Parks

Greenspace stage	\$80,000
Dog Park	\$30,000
Kayak Launch (construction) DNR	

Library

Painting interior	\$40,000
-------------------	----------

Total	\$1,470,200
-------	-------------

Councilmember Pritt stated she would like to see the group that originally approached City Council about building a greenspace stage help to pay for the stage.

Councilmember Little made a motion to recommend approval of the Department Heads Capital Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2025. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (White) the motion carried.

Coal Severance Budget Fiscal Year 2025

Councilmember Seams noted the Coal Severance Budget is distributed to the Parks Department.

Councilmember Little made a motion to recommend approval of the Coal Severance Budget for Fiscal Year 2025. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (White) the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM MEMBERS:

Finance Committee members discussed the possibility of implementing an across the board B & O Tax in the City at some point in the future. City Manager Hill stated she felt like it would be good to wait until next year to look at this because the City implemented a 1% sales tax last summer.

Fire Chief Thomas approached City Council to state he would like to see a rental property registry developed in the City. He stated that a registry would give the Fire Department access to be sure that properties were in compliance with Building and Fire Safety Codes.

COMMUNICATONS FROM CITY MANAGER:

City Manager Hill stated she had received a letter from Greg Johnson with the Litarary Festival regarding wanting to hang banners for the annual Literary Festival. He indicated that he was willing to come to discuss this with City Council in person.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

February 13, 2024

Mayor Little made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2024 Finance Committee meeting. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Elkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:50 p.m. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.