

**Minutes of City Council**  
**Tuesday July 15, 2025**  
**Regular Session**

The City of Lewisburg, City Council met in regular session on Tuesday July 15, 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.

**COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor Beverly White, Councilmembers, Sarah Elkins, Franklin Johnson, John Little and Valerie Pritt; City Manager Misty Hill, City Clerk Crystal Ratliff, Police Chief Christopher Teubert, Fire Chief Joseph Thomas, Director of Public Works Tony Legg and Treasurer Susan Honaker

**ABSENT:** Arron Seams

**VISITORS:** Don Smith WVSOM; Sarah Richardson (Zoom), The Mountain Messenger; Josh Lambert(Zoom), WV Daily News

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**ORDINANCE**

*Ordinance 324, Removal of Dog Waste from Private and Public Property; Animals Prohibited in the Center Green Space*

City Clerk Ratliff read by title Ordinance 324, Removal of Dog Waste from Private and Public Property; Animals Prohibited in the Center Green Space, for the first reading.

Councilmember Little made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pritt to accept Ordinance 324, Removal of Dog Waste from Private and Public Property; Animals Prohibited in the Center Green Space as presented. No further discussion. With all in favor, 5 for 1 absent (Seams) motion carried.

**RESOLUTIONS**

*Resolution 584 Water Treatment Plant Improvement Project Pay Request 41*

Councilmember Pritt made a motion by recommendation from Finance, seconded by Councilmember Little to approve Resolution 584, Water Treatment Plant Improvement Project Pay Request 41 in the amount of \$114,593.95 as presented. Councilmember Little expressed his appreciation for the update from Greg Belcher with The Chapman Technical Group on the project. No further discussion. With all in favor, 5 for 1 absent (Seams) motion carried.

### **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

Mayor White would like to offer congratulation to the Councilmembers who were recently re-elected and sworn in and thank them for their commitment to serve the City of Lewisburg.

#### **Appointments**

Mayor White would like to present the following people for appointment;

Planning Commission, Helen Harless and Margaret Gossard for terms ending June 30, 2028  
Historic Landmark Commission, W. Stephen McBride with a term ending June 30, 2028  
Library Board, Jim Rowe and Theresa Thompson for terms ending June 30, 2030

Councilmember Elkins made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to approve the appointments as presented. No further discussion. With all in favor, 5 for 1 absent (Seams) motion carried.

### **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER:**

City Manager Hill introduced Don Smith with WVSOM(West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine) for a presentation of the year in review of WVSOM. Mr. Smith thanked the Mayor and Council for the opportunity to give a few highlights of the previous year at WVSOM and the impact the School has on the community and the City of Lewisburg. He stated the school is very thankful for all the collaboration between them and the City on events and activities.

City Manager Hill stated she sat on the MTA Board, and they have recently had their year in review and showed a tremendous increase in boardings over the last year. They showed an increase of 19,675 more riders from 2024 to 2025 in this region.

City Manager Hill stated the stormwater project on Lafayette St in the Montwell Commons area has begun and ask that residents and visitors please be patient and mindful of the crews working in the area.

The WayFinding Kiosk has been placed. The city understands there are some issues and changes that need to be addressed, and the city is working with business and organizations to correct any issues. City Manager Hill stated that without participation from business and organizations in planning meetings some projects end up working on a trial-and-error basis.

City Manager Hill stated the Monday Mashup event has kicked off and we are currently taking applications and hope to start having food trucks on Church Street as soon as possible. She stated that the event will not impede traffic in any way and is excited to offer this opportunity to offer food truck businesses in the area.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Councilmember Little stated he and his wife had been on the river trail over the weekend and had encountered an individual in need of emergency services and he wanted to commend the services and action of the emergency personnel, and all involved on their quick action and professionalism.

Councilmember Elkins stated her appreciation to Chief Teubert and his department for their actions when contacted about an abandoned backpack on a sidewalk in the city.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

Mayor White stated that a copy of Chief Teubert's report has been presented and asked if City Councilmembers had any questions for Chief Teubert.

Chief Teubert stated the Lewisburg Police Department was awarded a \$6,000 Local Economic Development Assistance Grant by the West Virginia Senate to help with the purchase and training of an explosive detection and tracking K-9-unit Szebi. We would like to thank Senators Vince Deeds and Jack Woodrum and Governor Patrick Morrissey for their help and support in receiving this grant. This specialized unit will not only support the City of Lewisburg but will also be available to the surrounding area.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

Mayor White stated that a copy of Chief Thomas' report has been presented and asked if City Councilmembers had any questions for Chief Thomas.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES:**

***Finance Committee Report***

***Arts and Humanities Funding Request for Lewisburg Literary Festival***

Councilmember Pritt made a motion by recommendation from Finance, seconded by Councilmember Elkins to approve the Arts and Humanities funding request for the Lewisburg Literary Festival in the amount of \$6,000.00 No further discussion. With all in favor, 5 for 1 absent (Seams) motion carried.

Chapman Technical Group Amendment No. 3 to Task Order No. 27 for Additional Construction Administration

Councilmember Elkins made a motion by recommendation from Finance, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to approve Chapman Technical Group Amendment No. 3 to Task Order No. 27 for Additional Construction Administration with no additional cost as presented. No further discussion. With all in favor, 5 for 1 absent (Seams) motion carried.

Lafayette Street Stormwater Project Pay Request No. 1

Councilmember Little made a motion by recommendation from Finance, seconded by Councilmember Pritt to approve Pay Request No. 1 in the amount of \$53,503.20 for pre-construction preparation and evaluations. No further discussion. With all in favor, 5 for 1 absent (Seams) motion carried.

Change Order No. 1 and 2 Lynch Construction

Councilmember Pritt made a motion by recommendation from Finance, seconded by Councilmember Johnson, to approve Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$26,266.45. This is for the hauling of material out and stone in on Lafayette Street up to Randolph Street. City Manager Hill stated these funds will come out of the ARPA Funds designated for the project. With all in favor, 5 for 1 absent (Seams) motion carried.

Councilmember Pritt made a motion by recommendation from Finance, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to approve Change Order No. 2 in the amount of \$16,883.70 for the hauling of material out and stone in on Lafayette Street up to Randolph Street, on the contingent upon the necessity of the change. No further discussion. With all in favor, 5 for 1 absent (Seams) motion carried.

Hudnall Wildlife Service Contract (skunk)

Councilmember Pritt made a motion by recommendation from Finance, seconded by Councilmember Elkins to approve Hudnall Wildlife Service Contract for skunk trapping and removal as presented. No further discussion. With all in favor, 5 for 1 absent (Seams) motion carried.

Triple H Outdoors Contract (deer)

Councilmember Johnson made a motion by recommendation from Finance, seconded by Councilmember Elkins to approve Triple H Outdoors Contract for deer removal at \$100.00 per deer in city limits. No further discussion. With all in favor, 5 for 1 absent (Seams) motion carried.

*Dog Park Fence quote approval*

Councilmember Elkins made a motion by recommendation from Finance, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to approve the Dog Park Fence quote from McCoy Fencing & Construction Company in the amount of \$13,500.00 for materials and labor as presented, with the correction of location from Hollowell Park to Dorie Miller Park. No further discussion. With all in favor, 5 for 1 absent (Seams) motion carried.

*Water Plant Operator Contract for Teddy A. Mills*

Councilmember Little made a motion by recommendation from Finance, seconded by Councilmember Elkins to approve the Water Plant Operator contract for Teddy A Mills at a rate of \$37.00 per hour with no benefits, for actual hours worked as presented. No further discussion. With all in favor, 5 for 1 absent (Seams) motion carried.

*Police Department Pay Increases*

*Ryan Johnson completion of the WV State Police Academy and one year probation*

Councilmember Little made a motion by recommendation from Finance, seconded by Councilmember Johnson, to approve a pay increase of \$1,200.00 for Patrolman Ryan C. Johnson for the completion and graduation of the WV State Police Academy and for the raise to be retroactively effective as of November 22, 2024, as presented. No further discussion. With all in favor, 5 for 1 absent (Seams) motion carried.

Councilmember Little made a motion by recommendation from Finance, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to approve a pay increase of \$1,200.00 for Patrolman Ryan C. Johnson for completion of his one-year probationary period as of June 28, 2025, and for the increase to be retroactive to June 28, 2025. No further discussion. With all in favor, 5 for 1 absent (Seams) motion carried.

*Jacob Thomas completion of one year probation*

Councilmember Little made a motion by recommendation from Finance, seconded by Councilmember Elkins to approve a pay increase of \$1,200.00 for Patrolman Jacob Thomas for the completion of his one-year probationary period as of June 28, 2025, and for the increase to be retroactive to June 28, 2025. No further discussion. With all in favor, 5 for 1 absent (Seams) motion carried.

*Police Special Response Team Training*

Councilmember Pritt made a motion by recommendation from Finance, seconded by Councilmember Elkins to approve the Police Special Response Team training at a rate of \$2,750.00 per attendee for a total of \$16,500.00 for the training event. Further discussion, not included in the training costs are ammunition, clothing/equipment replacement, officer overtime,

transportation, meals, and department expendables. Currently the department has around \$9,820.00 in a drug asset forfeiture fund. This fund can only be used for drug investigation related equipment or training and since the team would be utilized for drug investigation search warrants, they will use \$9,000.00 from this fund which will leave still needing \$7,500.00 from the department's training budget of \$30,000.00 annually. This training would also fulfill the annual training requirements for these six officers. With all in favor, 5 for 1 absent (Seams) motion carried.

#### Water Fund Budget for 2026

Councilmember Little made a motion by recommendation from Finance, seconded by Councilmember Elkins to approve the Water Fund Budget for 2026 as presented. No further discussion. With all in favor, 5 for 1 absent (Seams) motion carried.

### **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Mayor White stated that a copy of Public Works Director Legg's report has been presented and asked if City Councilmembers had any questions for Director Legg.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

#### Regular Session

Councilmember Elkins made a motion seconded by Councilmember Johnson, to approve the minutes from the City Council meeting on June 17, 2025, as presented. No further discussion. With all in favor, 5 for 1 absent (Seams) motion carried.

### **VISITOR'S REPORTS:**

Mayor White acknowledged and welcomed visitors.

Clifford Baker a member of the Board for Montwell Commons stated he would like to express his appreciation for the communications from the City on the upcoming project in that area and all the work put forth to help keep the businesses available during the project.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilmember Little made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to adjourn at 7:48p.m. No further discussion. With all in favor, 5 for 1 absent (Seams) motion carried.

Respectfully submitted

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City Clerk Crystal Ratliff