

Minutes of City Council
April 16, 2024
Regular Session

The Council of the City of Lewisburg met in regular session on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, 2024 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, Councilmembers, Sarah Elkins, Franklin Johnson, Valerie Pritt and Arron Seams; City Clerk Shannon Beatty, Police Chief Christopher Teubert, Fire Chief Joseph Thomas, Director of Public Works Tony Legg and Treasurer Susan Honaker

ABSENT:, Councilmember John Little.

VISITORS: Reporter Sarah Richardson with the Mountain Messenger (ZOOM) Annie Slonaker with the West Virginia Daily News (ZOOM) and Adrienne French.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE MAYOR:

Harm Reduction

Mayor White stated that Dr. Bridget Morrison had not arrived at the meeting. She stated we would come back to this issue after she arrived at the meeting.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 546, Stormwater Assessment, and Management Study

City Clerk Shannon Beatty read the title of Resolution 546 in the amount of \$13,950.00 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 Seams made a motion to approve Resolution 546 as presented. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion passed.

Resolution 547, Water System Improvement Project Pay Request 23

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

City Clerk Shannon Beatty read the title of Resolution 547 in the amount of \$1,572,383.45 for passage:

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve Resolution 547 for passage. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion carried.

Resolution 548, Public Works Pay Request 12 and 13, DCI/Shires

City Manager Hill stated this resolution was tabled during the Building Commission meeting until more information could be received from the City Engineering firm Chapman Technical Group.

Councilmember Pritt made a motion to table Resolution 548. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion carried.

PROCLAMATIONS:

Arbor Day 2024

Mayor White read a proclamation celebration Arbor Day in Lewisburg.

Children's Memorial Flag Day

Mayor White read a proclamation recognizing Friday, April 26, 2024 as Children's Memorial Flag Day in Lewisburg.

Celebrate Osteopathic Medicine Week and National Osteopathic Medicine Week

Mayor White read a proclamation proclaiming March 25-29, 2024 as Celebrate Osteopathic Medicine Week and April 15-21 as National Osteopathic Medicine Week in City of Lewisburg.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER:

Lay the Levy

City Manager Hill announced the levy rates:

The rates are as follows: Regular current levy rates: Class I .12.5/\$100 valuation, Class II .25.000/\$100 valuation and Class IV .50.000/\$100 valuation.

Excess current levy rates: Class I .6.25/\$100 valuation, Class II .12.500 /\$100 valuation and Class IV .25.000/\$100 valuation.

City Council did not have any comments from the public regarding the laying of the levy.

Councilmember Elkins made a motion to officially lay the levy for the General Fund. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion carried.

Discuss and/or act on Historic Landmark Commission enforcement litigation.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to enter executive session with City Manager Hill, and City Attorney Tom White on the telephone to discuss and/or action on Historic Landmark Commission enforcement litigation at 7:13 pm. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion carried.

Councilmember Pritt made a motion to leave executive session at 7:56 pm. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion carried.

Councilmember Elkins made a motion to reconvene into regular session at 7:56 pm. Councilmember Seams seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion carried.

Councilmember Pritt announced that no decision was made in executive session.

Water Plant construction meetings

City Manager Hill stated she had attended water plant construction update meetings at the water plant on April 16, 2024. She noted that training would be held for water plant operators for the new equipment over the next few weeks.

Boil Water Advisory in Renick

City Manager Hill stated a Boil Water Advisory had been issued in Renick over the weekend because a main line had spit in two places. She stated the Public Works Department hoped it would be lifted on April 17, 2024. She stated the Boil Water Advisory affected 116 households and that 6 City Water employees had been called out to work on the leak. Mayor White stated she appreciated how understanding the citizens of Renick were with the City as the leak was repaired.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

Parks Commission Report

Councilmember Sarah Elkins reported on the following events of the April 2, 2024 Parks Commission meeting:

- There will be a Pickleball Summer youth program at Hollowell Park on Thursday from 2:00 until 4:00 pm in June and July.

- Summer Patterson with the ladies softball team and Josh Crane with the Little League presented a wish list of items they would like to have repaired or done in the ballfields.
- The Parks Commission discussed the need for a 5-year and 10-year plan for the Parks system.
- Parks Commission member Franklin Johnson raised the issue of making sure the City has services and equipment for small children in the Parks System.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Commission member Valerie Pritt announced that Lewisburg had come in the number spot in the “USA Today, 10 Best Small Towns.”

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.

Opioid Budget

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approved the Opioid Budget as presented. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (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 Councilmember had any questions for Chief Thomas.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Finance Committee Report

Councilmember Seams reported on the following events of the March 12, 2024, Finance Committee meeting:

- The Finance Committee recommended approval of the annual Fire Department Physicals in an amount not to exceed \$ 37,172.00

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the annual Fire Department Physicals in an amount not to exceed \$37,172.00. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion carried.

- The Finance Committee recommended approval of the Dogwood Heights Stormwater Project Pay Request No. 2 with Bear Contracting in the amount of \$121,050.00

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve the Dogwood Heights Stormwater Project Pay Request No. 2 with Bear Contracting in the amount of \$121,050.00. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion carried.

- The Finance Committee recommended approval of The Thrasher Group, Inc. Pay Request No. 12 and 13 for Fire Station One in the amount of \$133,875.00.

Councilmember Seams made a motion to approve The Thrasher Group, Inc. Pay Request No. 12 and 13 for Fire Station One in the amount of \$133,875.00. Councilmember Pritt seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion carried

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, March 19, 2024

Councilmember Pritt made a motion to approve the Regular Session March 19, 2024 minutes with one correction. Councilmember Elkins seconded the motion. With five (5) in favor and one (1) absent (Little) the motion carried.

VISITOR'S REPORTS:

No reports were given.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Seams made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.