

LEWISTOWN CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DATE November 9, 2021

The Lewistown City Council met in regular session in the council chambers. Mayor Douglas Lafary called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation: Brant Reed

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Alderperson Sally Clark, Brad Ward, Kendall Miller, John Spotloe and Mayor Doug Lafary. Also present: City Clerk Cindy Goddard, City Treasurer Debby Brown, Public Works Director Evinn Palmer, and City Attorney Nathan Collins. ABSENT: Alderperson Kim Pascal and Trever Kelley

DECLARATION OF QUORUM by Mayor Doug Lafary

CLERKS REPORT/MINUTES: Cindy Goddard.

Alderperson Clark made a motion to approve the minutes of October 26, 2021, second by Alderperson Miller, all ayes the motion carried all ayes.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Debbie Brown.
Treasurer report handed out. No questions.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Attorney Nathan Collins.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Keith Plavec. No Engineer present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PETITIONS: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance/Insurance/Zoning – Alderperson Clark: Nothing to new report.

Sewer – Alderperson Spotloe: Nothing to report.

Streets & Allies – Alderperson Miller: Nothing to report.

Police/ESDA – Alderperson Ward: Nothing to report.

Water – Alderperson Miller: Nothing to report.

Utilities/Publications – Alderperson Kelley: Absent.

Public Buildings & Grounds – Alderperson Kelley: Absent.

Tourism – Alderman Pascal: Absent.

Tax Increment Financing – Alderperson Spotloe: Nothing to report.

Citizens Committee – Amanda Smith handed out a summary of the Lewistown Town Hall Meeting. See attached. Still in preliminary steps of this grant. She will write the grant, but will need estimated costs of projects to be decided on, but can make a ball park estimate if need. She contacted Josh Mercer of WIRC couldn't really help her because has too many to do now, but will look over it when done. We are still on list for rehab of homes in our community.

Christmas Committee - Kenny Haacke said the town is getting involved now. FOP was going to purchase a 10foot tree for in front of Court House but they are around \$1,000.00 so they are going to purchase a tree

from us for \$30.00. Going to start putting in stakes for the Christmas trees soon If other trees are brought up would like to keep about the same size. Alderperson Miller is donating a tree for the gazebo for the Community Tree.

WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Evinn Palmer Director Regarding the fire hydrant flushing is on hold for now. The Main and Mac Arthur sink hole is being worked on. Mayor Lafary was able to get traffic control for the city. A brick manhole created a large void under the road. Still not sure what caused the sink hole, also had separated tile. Going to start filling the main drive lane with cement. AT & T line was torn down by a large piece of machinery. MFT money was OK'd to use for this emergency. The Visitors Center roof on the NW corner is rotten and the SE corner needs gutters. Trying to get estimates for gutters.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Discuss/Approve Ordinance for TIF Agreement between Masonic Lodge #104 and the City of Lewistown – Motion by Alderperson Spotloe to approve the Ordinance for TIF Agreement between Masonic Lodge #104 and The City of Lewistown in the amount of \$26,765.00, second by Alderperson Clark roll call vote, motion carried all ayes.
2. Discuss/Approve New Ameren Electric Franchise Agreement Ordinance – Attorney Collins found out that the other municipality has an additional resolution to collect an additional fee. The agreement is a fair as far as he can tell agreement for 20 years and we can request revision after five years if increase in population. Motion by Alderperson Miller to approve the New Ameren Electric Franchise Agreement Ordinance for the Municipality to receive \$11,810 annually, second by Alderperson Ward, roll call vote motion carried all ayes
3. Discuss/Approve New Ameren Gas Franchise Agreement Ordinance – Motion by Alderperson Ward, to approve the New Ameren Gas Franchise Agreement Ordinance for the Municipality to receive \$6,475 annually, second by Alderperson Clark, roll call vote motion carried all ayes.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discuss/Approve Tax Levy Ordinance – There was a finance committee meeting to discuss this, Mayor Lafary feels the city is in good shape and doesn't want to raise the taxes. Alderperson Spotloe says for the future the city needs to, we have water infrastructure projects that need done, water towers need painted, waste water needs a lot of work, worried about the reserves being used up. Motion by Alderperson Ward to approve the Tax Levy Ordinance of not raising the tax, leave as is, second by Alderperson Clark, roll call vote motion carried all ayes.
2. Discuss/Approve Tax Abatement Ordinance for General Obligation Refunding Bond Series 2014 – Motion by Alderperson Spotloe to approve Tax Abatement Ordinance for the General Obligation Refunding Bond Series 2014 (cemetery wall) second by Alderperson Clark, roll call vote motion carried all ayes.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS:

Alderperson Clark made a motion to approve all bills properly endorsed; Seconded by Alderperson Miller roll call vote, the motion carried with all ayes.

CLOSED SESSION: No closed session

ADJOURNMENT:

Alderperson Miller made a motion to adjourn at 7:15 p.m.; motion carried all ayes.


Cindy Goddard, City Clerk

Lewistown Town Hall Meeting Summary

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities/Opportunities for Teens and Children • <i>Vocational learning opportunities/mentorship (school district)</i> • Community after-school program
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community events/fundraisers • <i>Recreation, sports and exercise opportunities (Park District)</i> • Arts and music events • Farmers Market • More frequently utilize fairgrounds, visitor's center and other locations • Swimming pool/rec center
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leverage community events such as Scenic Drive (<i>Cindy Arnett</i>) • Advertise and promote Lewistown • <i>Create a more visible social media presence for Chamber of Commerce and businesses (Chamber)</i> • <i>Improve media communications for businesses (Chamber)</i> • <i>Increase Chamber of Commerce outreach/business roundtable (Chamber)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobile medical unit • <i>Transportation for non-drivers (Fulton County Rural Transit)</i> • <i>Provide services for the hungry, unsheltered and disadvantaged (Two foodbanks, CAPCIL)</i> • Programs for substance abuse
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Business incubator/support for start-ups (Erin Ahart?)</i> • Restaurants (Drive-thru, pizza, Chinese, high end) • <i>Commercial kitchen for start-ups (Erin Ahart?)</i> • <i>Studio space (Erin Ahart?)</i> • Fill storefronts • Offer incentives for new business • Create new business and jobs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer safe walking or biking path to The Barn • Resurface county/city parking lot • Continue restoring blacksmith shop • Lighting and curb appeal of downtown square • Share history through historical signs • New street signs downtown • Take advantage of history, county seat • Improve properties downtown (paint, clean up, curb appeal) • Bigger building for Porter Park and amenities for Music in the Park

Grant Funding:

- Parking lot resurfacing
- "Streetscape" for downtown square
- New lighting
- New street signs
- Historical signage
- Porter park building and amenities
- Visitor Center roof and 2nd & 3rd floor
- *Acquire property?*
- *Other ideas for consideration?*