

LEWISTOWN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE March 29, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEETING TO DISCUSS WATER RATES AND TYPES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Alderman Ford, Kelley, Weese, Burget, City Administrator Alicia Campbell, City Clerk Cindy Goddard, Mayor John King, also Elmer Littlefield Jr., Nic Anderson, Bridget Erwin, Lauri Hagie, Chris Hagie, John W. Weber, Janet Weber, Carolyn Hitchcock, Mike Hitchcock, Cindy Arnett, June Russell, Mike Russell, Howard P. Hudson, Nancy Havera, Andy Fiffe, Absent Alderman Barclay and Spotloe.

Alderman Ford brought to the city council's attention the subject of large water usage customers, everyone is charged the same at this time, she checked into commercial rates but did not find out much information; maybe consider a tier rate system for out of town customers or customers that use large amounts to help maintain our water system. Mayor does not want to put a stress on any one customer. City water rates are reasonable at this time compared to other communities.

The City may need a second well at some point, businesses south of town only get charged for water not sewer. Alderman Burget wants to know how much it cost per gallon for the city also wanted to know about sewer rates. Try to get facts before making a decision. Table this matter till more information is gathered. Mayor closed meeting at 6:20 p.m.

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

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Aldermen Ford, Kelley, Weese, Burget, and Mayor R. John King. Also present: Wendy Martin from the Fulton Democrat, Andrea Klinedinst from Canton Daily Ledger, City Administrator Alicia Campbell, City Clerk Cindy Goddard, Elmer Littlefield Jr., Cindy Arnett, Andy Fyffe, Nic Anderson, Bridget Erwin, Lauri Hagie, Chris Hagie John W. Weber, Janet Weber, Carolyn Hitchcock, Mike Hitchcock, June Russell, Mike Russell, Howard P. Hudson, and Nancy Havera.
ABSENT: Alderman Barclay, Spotloe, and city treasurer Debbie Brown.

DECLARATION OF QUORUM by Mayor John King.

MINUTES:

Alderman Ford made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2016 meeting, Seconded by Alderman Kelley, the motion carried with all ayes.

CLERKS REPORT: Nothing to report.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Nothing to report

BILLS:

Alderman Weese made a motion to approve all bills properly endorsed; Seconded by Alderman Kelley roll call vote, the motion carried with all ayes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PETITIONS:

Cindy Arnett approached city council proving that there are 101 signatures on Milton Hillside Loop sign in sheet; she feels that the government should follow their own rules regarding how close the Bear Creek Genetics is operating from the city limits. She is requesting an injunction from the city against Bear Creek Genetics. Nic Anderson representing the farm was present, pre-annexation agreement has to be signed by the Bear Creek, before water will be given to them, he stated they have been in contact with city engineer and water dept. According to Mayor King they have to have a fire hydrant test out there. The city needs all information regarding how much water is going to be used. Who oversees this? Per Mr. Anderson the Department of Agriculture, requested all building codes, then the Department of Agriculture then combines with IL EPA they share all information. Mike Hitchcock states that there are two or three houses are within 60 feet of farm. Every two years the farm can expand. Zoned agriculture not within city limits per Mr. Anderson. Alderman Ford and Mayor wants to know why Doug Groth didn't have accurate plat book information, per Mr. Anderson there is a ¼ mile set back from residence, ½ mile set back within city limits, also 200 feet from water way or well. EPA is in control of getting rid of hog manure, it is applied (knifed) at certain rate into the fields. Mayor King states that it looks like work has already started out there. Alderman Ford has more questions about set backs and manure being applied. According to Mr. Anderson knifing the manure in is better than putting it on top, manure will connect to the soil and not run off.

Vote to extend discussion 15 more minutes, motion made by Alderman Ford, seconded by Burget, to extend open discussion 15 more minutes with a 5 minute time limit on each individual, motion carried all ayes.

Questions from Carolyn Hitchcock regarding Illinois Department of Agriculture, how many inspections, three inspections are done, What if this sells? Mr. Anderson states that four mature hogs equal one cow unit.

Mr. Chris Hagie wanted to know about how many complaints there has been regarding the Dunfermline Hog farm. Mr. Anderson didn't know. It is stated it is about ½ size of this.

Mayor King had a few questions regarding employment (if local people), pay and benefits. Mr. Anderson stated there will be 6-8 jobs, lab employees and general maintenance employees, delivery people. Around a million dollar infrastructure per Mr. Anderson. The pay scale around \$10.00 an hour, full time will be eligible for insurance and benefits.

Mayor King made everyone aware that the Vermont and Table Grove hog farms have same address as the Vet Clinic at Carthage. Alderman Ford made everyone aware that the taxes are lowered for the other two hog farms, so the city will not be getting full tax amount.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Present, but nothing new to report.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: No Engineer present.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance – Alderman Ford: Nothing to report.

Sewer – Alderman Weese: Nothing to report.

Street & Alley – Alderman Burget: Alderman Ford wants the residence of Lewistown to be aware that they are not supposed to blow grass into street, it blocks gutters and sewers. Per Nathan no notice has to be given in advanced it has already been published in paper last fall.

Police/ESDA – Alderman Spotloe: Absent.

Water – Alderman Barclay: Absent.

Utilities/Publications – Alderman Kelley: Nothing to report.

Buildings and Grounds – Alderman Kelley: Nothing to report.

Tourism – Mayor King: Music in the park has a full lineup for this summer.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Vote on Food Truck Ordinance – Alderman Kelley made motion to approve the Food Truck Ordinance, Weese seconded, roll call vote motion carried with all ayes
- B. Vote on Bear Creek Genetics, LLC Water Tap - Tabled at this time.
- C. Vote on Ordinance for Sludge and Septic Waste dumping – Ford made motion, to approve the Ordinance for Sludge and Septic Waste dumping, second Burget, roll call vote, motion carried with all ayes.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Vote to close West half of Avenue B to Adams for Paul Allen's Auction (needs closed 6:00 a.m.-5:00p.m.) April 9, 2016 – Alderman Ford made a motion to close the West half of Avenue B to Adams for the Paul Allen Auction on April 9, 2016 from 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., seconded by Kelley; roll call vote motion carried all ayes.
- B. Andy Fyffe to request Handicap and Veterans only parking at Veterans office. He stated in that in front of building that there is a loading zone is not needed. The people in courthouse take up the parking, and there is a need for one handicap parking and one reserved for veteran commission on West Lincoln. Table till next meeting so all aldermen can look at this and put on next agenda.
- C. Cindy Arnett to address council regarding letter of support. Mrs. Arnett wants a letter of support from the City of Lewistown to send to the Senators, and the Governor. The letter should be regarding the violations that are going to be abused. Alderman Ford agrees we should do what ever we can do to get this stopped. The farmers in the area that the Mayor talked to first said that the hog farm is needed, but second they **did not** want to live next to it. Bear Creek did not try to explain themselves or try to convince us they should build out there; they just sneaked in and started everything. Alderman Ford made a motion to write letter from the City of Lewistown supporting the group against Bear Creek Genetics LLC, seconded by Kelley, roll call vote all ayes by Alderman Ford, Kelley, Weese and Burget, motion carried.
- D. Approve Steve Blackwell's proposal of well field for underground electrical. It is something that came up recently, \$10,000.00 was the proposal. Alderman Weese made a motion to accept the \$10,000.00 proposal of Steve's Electric for underground electrical for the well field, second Burget; roll call vote motion carried all ayes.
- E. Recognition of Vietnam War Veterans. Alderman Ford made a motion to recognize March 29, 2016 as WELCOME HOME VIETNAM VETERAN'S DAY as the last day that US troops were on the ground in Vietnam as a day to honor those who have "borne the battle", seconded by Weese, motion carried all ayes.
- F. Fees for VFW Darts Dash benefit. Alderman Ford wants the \$25.00 fee that they paid to be returned. The area has to be roped off if band with alcohol. Alderman Ford made motion to return the \$25.00 fee, seconded by Burget, roll call vote, motion carried all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT:

Alderman Kelley made a motion to adjourn at 7:40 p.m.; seconded by Alderman Weese motion carried all ayes.