

LEWISTOWN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE September 26, 2017

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

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Aldermen Clark, Weese, Hough, Burget, Spotloe and Mayor Littlefield. Also present: Wendy Martin from the Fulton Democrat, Larry Eskridge from Canton Daily Ledger, City Treasurer Debbie Brown, City Administrator Amanda Woodruff, City Clerk Cindy Goddard, John Werland, Chief of Police, and Roger Clark, Mike Osborn, Bob Wight, Kim Pascal, **ABSENT:** Kelley

DECLARATION OF QUORUM by Mayor Littlefield

CLERKS REPORT/MINUTES: Cindy Goddard.

Alderman Clark made a motion to approve the minutes of September 12, 2017, second by Alderman Weese roll call vote, the motion carried all ayes.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Debbie Brown. Debbie has nothing new to report. Aldermen have treasurer's report.

BILLS:

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PETITIONS: None

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Attorney Nathan Collins. He arrived at 6:32 p.m.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance – Alderman Clark: Nothing to report.

Sewer – Alderman Burget: Nothing to report.

Street & Alley – Alderman Hough: Patching is all done on the street to be done, waiting on chips, Friday they will sweep and will start on Monday.

Police/ESDA – Alderman Spotloe: Nothing to report, but Chief Werland said he is waiting to see if any body goes to Canton police Department because they have an opening. Josh Adkins left city and went to County, the next PTI class is not till January, and the Vermont chief is filling in part time to help.

Water – Alderman Weese: Nothing to report.

Utilities/Publications – Alderman Kelley: Absent

Buildings and Grounds – Alderman Kelley: Absent

Tourism – Mayor Littlefield: Scarecrow contest is put on by WILD Committee, they are due September 29 to be up before Scenic Drive. Second Saturday of October is Edgar Lee Masters's poems and reenactment with wiener roast.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Discuss Mike Osborn TIF Application – Mike Osborn purchased Weirauch Florist property, applying for façade grant and TIF grant, he brought two estimates for blacktop it is for the drive up to the door and parking lot one estimate \$13,900, one \$19,995.00. The new business will be called The Flower Post, Inc.; the sign is being made by Snowman Studios, Inc. The Osborn's are asking for \$11,350.00 and Spotloe made a motion for the façade amount of \$550.00 for signage, second by Burget, and motion by Alderman Burget to accept the \$19,995.00, 50% with a 1% loan and 50% grant, second by Alderman Hough, roll call vote, all yes but Alderman Weese he did not vote (he is a relative) motion carried.
- B. Bob Wight, Village of Bryant address council about Water Rate Increases – contract with Lewistown, dated 1-10-2012. Bill Wight specifies they are not a business; they have a maximum already stated in the contract. New water rates states if they go over maximum charges it will double. Mr. Wight states that the city of Lewistown does not have to repair any leaks, check the pump house or do any repairs because they are municipality, they pay all their own insurance. This increase may cause them to have to shut some of their customers off because they may not be able to pay the high bills. It is a signed contract as a residence not a business. Mayor explains to him that last week that the council was presented a spread sheet regarding the rates. Bryant charges \$40 for first 1,000 gallons. Lewistown sells it to them at \$25.00 per 1,000. According to the Mayor the other villages are paying a lot more than what they (Bryant) are paying. According to contract can't increase Bryant water rate till September 1, 2018. We have a loss of 33% water that is unaccountable for on the spread sheet. Mr. Wight had some ideas on how to find the unaccountable water. Mayor Littlefield told him the city is getting new water meters that will help.
- C. Discuss/Approve Ordinance related to water rates - Alderman Spotloe made a motion to approve new ordinance related to water rates, second by Alderman Clark, roll call vote Alderman Clark yes, Weese yes, Hough yes Burget NO, and Spotloe yes, with the effective date of November 1, 2017, motion carried.

- D. Discuss Tank Inspection and future water cost estimates – Approved last week but it was already approved last year, but work was never done.
- E. Approve placement of sign for Orchard Hill Farm on East Avenue L. – The owner, wants a 2x2 foot sign placed on East Avenue L either on the Waterford church sign or on their own, Alderman Burget made a motion to allow the Orchard Hill Farm place a sign on East Avenue L, second by Spotloe roll call vote, motion carried all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT:

Alderman Hough made a motion to adjourn at 7:45 p.m.; Seconded by Alderman Clark, motion carried with all ayes.

Cindy Goddard, City Clerk