

LEWISTOWN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE July 9, 2019

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 Sally Clark, Doug Lafary, Kendall Miller, Kim Pascal, and Mayor Elmer Littlefield. Also present: Wendy Martin from the Fulton Democrat, City Treasurer Debby Brown, Chief of Police John Werland, Public Works Director Gary Shawgo, Larry Bainter and Dan Bender (Clifton Larson Allen) **ABSENT:** Alderman Kelley and City Clerk Cindy Goddard

DECLARATION OF QUORUM by Mayor Elmer Littlefield

Alderman Spotloe arrived at 6:32 p.m.

CLERKS REPORT/MINUTES: Cindy Goddard, absent because her mother passed away. Visitation is Thursday at Henry-Lange Memorial Home, the Mayor stated.

Alderman Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of June 25, 2019, second by Alderman Pascal roll call vote, the motion carried all ayes.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Debbie Brown.

No report.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS:

No bills presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PETITIONS: Larry Bainter addressed the council regarding Central School Lane. He stated that six residents drive over that road when school is not in session. Patching the road has helped but more work is needed. School buses and garbage trucks will ruin it again. The people who live there must drive over it every day. The Mayor's comments were that he and Gary Shawgo have discussed this, and they have spent several hundred dollars already. Gary will work on the ditch. Water runs over it and underneath. Have had this plan but the rain has delayed work. The city workers will dig out the ditch and then put in a culvert. Also the city will continue to patch it. Maurer-Stutz estimate to fix it correctly was \$350,000.00

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Attorney Nathan Collins. No attorney present.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance – Alderman Clark: Nothing to report.

Utilities/Publications – Alderman Kelley: Absent

Buildings and Grounds – Alderman Kelley: Absent. Alderman Clark reported that South Monroe, across from Karen Stutes was an eyesore/junk everywhere. Two different properties, the Mayor directed her to discuss this with the Chief of Police. Alderman Miller noted a property at Halsey and Illinois Street is in bad shape also, has animals and weeds.

Police/ESDA – Alderman Lafary: Nothing to report.

Street & Alley – Alderman Miller: Nothing new to report only the Larry Bainter subject that was discussed in public comments.

Tourism – Alderman Pascal: Alderman Pascal has contacted people for tire pick-up. Will probably in September. Must show ID and proof they are a Lewistown residence. Last year we had an 8 or 10 limit the public works director stated. It was suggested that we limit it to 10 tires. Alderman Pascal has numbers for anything metal, refrigerators, stoves, washers, etc. Alderman Pascal said they will come to the resident to pickup. Music in the park was a great success with the fish fry. The children's 4th of July parade had 125 children.

Sewer – Alderman Spotloe: Nothing to report.

Water – Mayor Littlefield: GM Mechanical is still installing new water meters and still scheduling for more installations. Mayor stated that the new well was started today. It is 16 foot in diameter, the largest we have had. Well #13 went down. The city is spending extra money to put one in this size. Gary Shawgo stated that hopefully will be done by middle of next week.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Discuss water backing up in the sanctuary and fellowship hall at the Nazarene Church – Mayor Littlefield stated that we had a water committee meeting regarding this matter. Alderman Lafary reported that he did not feel the city is responsible. The Mayor noted that they should have check valves to stop it. They have them installed now.
2. Discuss Approve Annual Appropriation Ordinance – The budget has already been passed. It was published in paper and now must adopt and file with county clerk. Alderman Clark made a motion to approve Annual Appropriation Ordinance, second by Alderman Lafary; roll call vote motion carried all ayes.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discuss Dan Bender, Principal of Accounting at CliftonLarsonAllen LLP as our accountant – Mayor Littlefield stated that our accounting practices have not been

adequate. Auditors have difficulty with our accounting system. Dan Bender was present to discuss. He stated he does accounting our-sourcing work. Accounting practices are hard gaps to fill. Can fill a long term void or short term. They work for Canton also. Started working for them in 2015. Mayor Jeff Fritz, they always have someone in a daily accounting role. They tried outsourcing it and have done it for 4 years. They will work with Cindy Goddard. When they are comfortable with our work they will only look at it monthly. The engagement letter is their contract for services. The primary goal is to look at last audit and reconcile. Identify what needs to be done. They will issue reports as they get things done. They will also assist staff in being trained. An extension will be filed for this audit. Mayor Littlefield agreed. This year is a learning/transition year. They will be picking up from what has been closed and going forward. Their fee is \$125.00 an hour. May of 2018 is the starting point. Mayor asked about time frame. They will use the same team member that Canton uses, Dan said. Probably will begin last week of July. One staff member for about a day and one-half each week. Dan will oversee. Page 6 in hand out shows scope of hours and includes their schedule. How long will this go on Alderman Lafary asked. Dan estimated 2-3 months. Need to prepare for the next firm to come in for audit. The goal is to have Cindy take over. The firm that does the accounting work cannot legally do the audit, the Mayor stated. We may cancel their service at any time.

2. Discuss/Approve cancellation of audit contract –
3. Discuss/Approve accountant contract with CliftonLarsonAllen LLP –

Motion by Alderman Clark to approve hiring CliftonLarsonAllen as our accountant, and cancel the audit contract with them, second by Alderman Pascal, roll call vote, yes Alderman Clark, yes Alderman Lafary, yes Alderman Miller, yes Alderman Pascal, yes Alderman Spotloe, motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: No closed session

ADJOURNMENT:

Alderman Clark made a motion to adjourn at 7:12 p.m.; Seconded by Alderman Spotloe motion carried all ayes.


Cindy Goddard, City Clerk