

## LEWISTOWN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

**DATE August 11, 2020**

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

**ROLL CALL: PRESENT:** Alderperson Sally Clark, Trever Kelley, Doug Lafary, Kendall Miller, Kim Pascal, John Spotloe and Mayor Elmer Littlefield. Also Present: City Clerk Cindy Goddard, Treasurer Debbie Brown (ZOOM), Public Works Director Evinn Palmer, City Engineer Keith Plavec and Andrew Ryon and Joe Carruthers.

**DECLARATION OF QUORUM** by Mayor Elmer Littlefield Jr.

**CLERKS REPORT/MINUTES:** Cindy Goddard. TIF Report/Balance

Cindy Goddard went over the estimated revenues and expenditures for year 2020. Estimated Tax Increment to receive is \$112,482. We have received 1<sup>st</sup> installment. Already accounted for is \$46,530.00. Present balance at this time is \$21,214.54

Alderperson Spotloe made a motion to approve the minutes of July 14, 2020, second by Alderperson Clark roll call vote, motion carried all ayes.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Debbie Brown. She has nothing at this time.

### **PRESENTATION OF BILLS:**

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

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT:** Attorney Nathan Collins. Absent.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:** Keith Plavec.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PETITIONS:** Still have weeds. (Kendall Miller)

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance – Alderperson Clark:** Nothing to report.

**Sewer – Alderperson Spotloe:** Nothing to report.

**Street & Alley – Alderperson Miller:** The Street Department is doing a great job on streets and asked about Central School road. Mayor Littlefield explained that it is out for rebid, the transfer device is what Tazwell Asphalt did not have, it is not applicable for 2 tenths of a mile street. George Merkle with Maurer Stutz contacted IDOT to wave the transfer device, George wrote a detailed letter that explained that it was not necessary for 2 tenths of a mile. They said it was OK for this one job. Rebids due Aug 18, bid opening at 10:00 a.m., then it will be on the next agenda. Mayor explained what the device is used for and why we didn't need it. Hoping to get more bids.

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**Police/ESDA – Alderperson Lafary:** Nothing to report.

**Water – Mayor Littlefield:** Evin Palmer, Public Works Director, explained they are flushing the fire hydrants and there has not been many dirty water calls. Just the regular phone calls with issues. Alderperson Clark said everyone does appreciate the extra effort that is being put forth at this time.

**Utilities/Publications – Alderperson Kelley:** Nothing to report.

**Buildings & Grounds – Alderperson Kelley:** Nothing to report.

**Tourism – Alderperson Pascal:** Nothing new to report. There are two more Music in the Parks to go. Local people in these bands, Pete Miller band, and citizens wanted to have Dog House Daisy back. Local businesses have been furnishing food. It has been great this season.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. Discuss/Approve Audit Report for FY2021 presented by Gordon, Stockman & Waugh, P.C. – Andrew Ryon the CPA with Gordon, Stockman & Waugh P.C. was present at meeting to explain the Audit Report for FY2021. The audit has been reviewed; the year end was April 30, 2020. Everyone has a copy to follow as he goes over it. Andrew said the city has close to a total of \$2 million and stated we are in good standing; that is a reserve of 14 1/2 months. This is a good reserve because of the Covid 19 impact. In the subsequent events it states the city has not been negatively impacted by the coronavirus outbreak. The only funds over budget was the IMRF and the SS funds and that was just a budget issue and it has been taken care of for next year. Alderperson Clark stated they are very thorough. Motion by Alderperson Miller, to approve the Audit Report for FY2021, second by Alderperson Clark, roll call, motion carried all ayes.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Discuss water meters at Fulton County Fairgrounds and why needed – This is nothing to do with money at this time. EPA has special requirements they will be explained by Joe Carruthers and Keith Plavec, some of the requirements are to account for the water. Alderperson Doug Lafary is on the Fair board so he can not participate. Keith Plavec stated we have been tracking for a couple years the unaccounted for and accounted for water. Spread Sheets from 2014 to 2017 for what is being pumped and what is paid for. Is there water that is not being metered, is there a leak are we paying for chemicals that we do not need to, can we save power? An example is a case for Canton, they had a large unaccounted-for water amount, so they changed out the water meter at the collector wall, water loss is gone, numbers are better. In the notice from EPA in 2019 there was

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items to be checked into, waste water is also checked. Within that notice, summary of items that need corrected and improvements. Right now, the usage shows 124 gal per person per day. Normal usage is 50 to 75 gal per day per person. The meters that are being installed at this time will help check for the unaccounted-for water, such as at City Hall, Fair Grounds, where there have been no meters. The water from flushing the fire hydrants needs metered, trying to account for water usage. A water loss because of an old system. Anything over 15% with EPA could get a red flag. If everything is metered and still have 35% unaccounted for water then need company to come and try to find leaks. With new meters can narrow gap of when a water leak is found. Our numbers have been 40 to 50% unaccounted for water. Joe Carruthers stated on the water loss report you can see the numbers getting lower. Knowing the tap and the pressure shows we know the well site. The pressure can tell where the big water users are. The water quality is something we need to know; we are responsible for that. Bryant uses about 15,000 a day. If we find 10% of the loss that is around what Bryant uses. Macomb is getting new meters and with the leak detection company they found a big water leak. If we get down to 20 to 30% maybe hire company to look for leaks to get it down to the 10 to 15% loss. Alderperson Miller stated they used to hire a leak detection company every 2 or 3 years. Will add more to the tracking sheet. The Fire Department will get their meter, it is a 3 inch; it will be next year. Alderperson Miller asked what size meters for Fair Grounds they will be 2 inch, approximately 6, some as small as  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch. Price of meters was discussed. Around \$1,000.00 for each meter and pit. The Mayor stated they last for 20 years. Is there an easement between Fulton County and the city asked Alderperson Miller? Mayor said we have an Ordinance that says if they are using the water, we can do this. Is it between Fulton County and the City? Will have Attorney Collins try to find as much information and if there is an easement. Alderperson Miller said there was a verbal agreement not sure if a written agreement, but we have not seen it. Mayor said the laws have changed, and we need an easement. Fair Grounds is a corporation, in 1906 became a corporation. The water mains were placed in 1893 before it was a fair ground. Tonight, just trying to get across why the meters are needed. The meters are starting to work. The GM Mechanical employee installing the meters said he has run across quite a few meters that were not working (dead meters). Joe said that with these new meters the numbers will go down. Keith wants the meters to be installed then wait a few months to see our numbers. Mayor said this is all worthless if everyone does not have a meter. Alderperson Lafary said the water is off at the Fair Grounds. The Mayor stated there is vendors, weddings and other activities at the fair grounds they use water. Evinn said he has seen 6 taps at Fair Grounds with 6 shut offs not sure if there is more. Lines are tapped off at ground storage. Alderperson Lafary said water is free and does not feel that the

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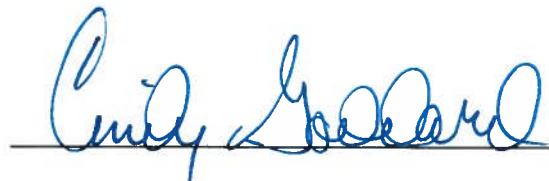
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city will ever recoup the money that has been lost on the water and meters. Only have to add chemicals and power to get the water. City Hall does not have a meter either. Other towns such as Macomb and Canton are realizing they were losing a lot of water and where at? Mayor explained that we have to account for all the water. Keith agrees that absolutely need to meter everywhere. Alderperson Spotloe agreed and said he tried to get a meter when the new fire house was built. EPA could cut our funds; it is another push to help the cities save money. The backflow device helps the water not flow backwards, they are at the big businesses, such as Casey's, schools, fertilizer plant and funeral home. Chlorine is a disinfectant for bacteria, will not remove a chemical. Evinn said until we dig, we will not know exactly how many taps. Alderperson Lafary cannot discuss it but can sit in on the fairgrounds meeting, Mayor Littlefield has the Attorney General report regarding the conflict of interest. Attorney Collins will look into the easements. Alderperson Spotloe to set up meeting with the Fair Board. All Alderman can attend the meeting. It will be a different day than the council meeting.

2. Discuss/Approve Revised Estimate of Cost and Supplemental Resolution for Payment of paint for curbs and flowable or hot patch out of MFT for sink holes. – Budget is not being changed just adding line items so we can use Motor Fuel Tax funds. IDOT is strict so need line items, they need to know where all dollars are spent. Have to revise the estimate of costs. No additional cost for this. Motion by Alderperson Spotloe to approve the revised estimate of cost and supplemental resolution for payment of paint for curbs and hot patch out of MFT funds, second by Alderperson Clark, roll call vote, motion carried all ayes.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Alderperson Miller made a motion to adjourn at 7:37 p.m.; Second by Alderperson Lafary motion carried all ayes.



Cindy Goddard, City Clerk