

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
DATE November 24, 2020 at 6:15p.m.

Discuss Tax Levy - Mayor Littlefield explained the Tax Levy, there are different taxing bodies, and this affects the real estate taxes. Have to have a referendum if 5% or above than it must be published in paper and a public hearing are required. 3% is what the Mayor is proposing for the Tax Levy. In July 1979 this tax levy replaced personal property taxes for the businesses.

Present: Alderperson Sally Clark (Zoom), Trever Kelley (Zoom) Kendall Miller, Mayor Elmer Littlefield and City Clerk Cindy Goddard, Debbie Brown (Zoom), and Evinn Palmer (Zoom), John Spotloe (Zoom), Doug Lafary.

Adjourned Tax Levy meeting at 6:21 p.m.

LEWISTOWN CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DATE November 24, 2020

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: Alderperson Sally Clark (ZOOM), Trever Kelley (ZOOM), Doug Lafary, Kendall Miller, Kim Pascal, John Spotloe (ZOOM) and Mayor Elmer Littlefield. Also present: City Clerk Cindy Goddard, City Treasurer Debby Brown, Chief of Police John Werland, Public Works Director Evinn Palmer (ZOOM), and City Attorney Nathan Collins. ABSENT:

DECLARATION OF QUORUM by Mayor Elmer Littlefield

CLERKS REPORT/MINUTES: Cindy Goddard. First for election information to turn in nomination papers it is from December 14, at 8:00 a.m. to December 21, before 4:00 p.m. Second thing Jason Bastien returned the \$2,000.00 TIF check because he did not need it for the sign, he already had one. Third is regarding the Local CURE Program (Local Coronavirus Urgent Remediation Emergency Program) is money the city received from the State so far received \$63,466.66 that is reimbursement for police payroll and Personal Protective Equipment. I have requested \$57,322.00 more to add to the \$34,880.00 that we have left from what was allowed Lewistown. Total of \$98,000.00 was allotted to begin with. The money is being set aside in a separate account to fall back on next year when the money we get from the Video poker machines and other taxes are short.

Alderperson Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of November 10, 2020, second by Alderperson Pascal roll call vote, the motion carried all ayes.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Debbie Brown. Nothing at this time

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PRESENTATION OF BILLS:

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

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Attorney Nathan Collins. Nothing at this time.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PETITIONS: Alderson Miller said fire hydrants look very good. \$20,000.00 was put in the account and will continue to do this to pay for the expense of painting and putting in new hydrants, they have been neglected for years, can't do all this in one year. Gary Shawgo and Evinn Palmer checked all fire hydrants, if X on it then it needs changed. No leaks in the fire hydrants. Nathan Collins thanked everyone for allowing his business to paint the fire hydrants and said they are greasing them also, a very important step, and using rust resistant grease. Mayor Littlefield said they look very good.

Jayson Herrick said that Jason Bastien pulled out at this time. He (Jayson Herrick) may have to change his TIF application now for that building, a beauty shop may go in there so it will need a different floor covering, not carpet squares and other different things done, entry way has to be ADA approved. City Clerk said you will need to fill out new paper work. The outside of other buildings need work done and he may apply for another TIF for them. Other towns are fixing up the fronts of their buildings with stucco. Why did we send all city crew with equipment to fair grounds to install the meters when water is not even on, when we need new fire hydrants? Yes there are fire hydrants that are not working, so why are we focused on meters at Fair Grounds instead of putting in new fire hydrants? We are entering a bad time of year for fires. This does not make sense to me. The Council is here to control the city so why are you letting this happen. There are tons of projects in town that need done instead of spending tax payer's dollars on meters for the fair grounds, this needs to stop.

A person here for Jeremy Lowe asking for water payments for him. Mayor told her there is a payment plan she can set up. If it was a leak and it was a leak, you don't have to come to council to ask for payment plan. Cindy Havens will be back in office on Monday and at that time you can set up the payments per Mayor Littlefield. She asked when the water can be turned back on. Alderson Lafary asked her if she wanted to wait till Monday, she said not really, starting a new job and would like water on as soon as possible. Mayor said sorry I didn't know you needed the water on right now. She is to set up payments with Cindy Goddard the next day.

Another person asked if the city was doing shut offs and late fees at this time. Mayor Littlefield said yes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance – Alderperson Clark: Nothing to report.

Sewer – Alderperson Spotloe: Nothing to report.

Street & Alley – Alderperson Miller: Nothing to report.

Police/ESDA – Alderperson Lafary: Nothing to report.

Water – Mayor Littlefield: Nothing at this time. Question by Doug Lafary, if water usage down to 12% for September and October why not brought up and telling everyone? Thinks it is great. Mayor wants it to be three months in a row to announce it.

Utilities/Publications – Alderperson Kelley: Nothing to report.

Buildings and Grounds – Alderperson Kelley: Nothing to report.

Tourism – Alderperson Pascal: Nothing to report.

WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Evinn said right now street sweeping, not doing meters this week because of Holiday weekend coming up. The city crew will start decorations next week for Christmas. The water loss is way down, and feels because of new meters. Less than 100 meters left to do. Alderperson Miller said streets and city garage look awesome. Mayor commended Mr. Palmer also.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discuss/Approve Tax Levy Ordinance – We had a public meeting prior to council meeting, this comes up once a year to set the tax levy for library and schools and such, anything over 5% have to have referendum but would like to do 3%. Motion by Alderperson Spotloe to approve the 3% Tax Levy, second by Alderperson Kelley, roll call vote, Clark aye, Kelley aye, Lafary aye, Miller nay, Pascal aye, Spotloe aye, motion carried.
2. Discuss/Approve Façade grant for RJH Enterprises, Inc. (The Rocket) Jack and Billie Simmons, for the amount of \$5,000.00 for a new front door and a new back door – Mayor said it is part of the façade. Billie Simmons attended meeting she said they did have funds for this, but being closed down due to the pandemic they need to apply for TIF money now. Alderperson Miller is sorry for having to be closed. Motion by Alderperson Miller to approve the \$5,000.00 for a new front

and back door, second by Alderperson Clark, roll call vote, motion carried all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT:

Alderperson Clark made a motion to adjourn at 6:53 p.m.; Seconded by Alderperson Lafary motion carried all ayes.


Cindy Goddard, City Clerk