

LEWISTOWN CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DATE December 12, 2023

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

Invocation: Mayor Lafary

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Alderperson Sally Clark, Jim Long, Brad Ward, Kendall Miller, David Levingston, John Spotloe and Mayor Doug Lafary. Also present: City Clerk Cindy Goddard, City Treasurer Debby Brown, Levi Peitzmeier, Public Works Director Evinn Palmer, Police Chief Chris Ford and City Attorney Nathan Collins.

DECLARATION OF QUORUM by Mayor Doug Lafary

CLERKS REPORT/MINUTES: Cindy Goddard.

Alderperson Long made a motion to approve the minutes of November 28, 2023, second by Alderperson Miller, the motion carried all ayes.

Report- Review covering receipts and disbursement of Motor Fuel Tax funds beginning January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2022. This report certifies that all entries are correct. Total received \$70,114.13, balance as of December 31, 2022 was \$208,768.44 that is the unobligated amount of \$52,811.63 and obligated amount was \$155,956.81.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Debbie Brown. No treasurer's report.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Attorney Nathan Collins. Nothing tonight.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PETITIONS: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance/Insurance/Zoning – Alderperson Clark: Nothing to report.

Sewer – Alderperson Spotloe: Nothing to report. Evinn Palmer told them that he got the Vac truck back; they could not find anything wrong with it, if problem occurs again they will send a tech to look at it.

Streets & Allies – Alderperson Levingston: Nothing to report.

Police/ESDA – Alderperson Ward: Nothing to report. The candidate did not pass the power test will try again on the 19th.

Water – Alderperson Miller: Nothing from him, but Evinn said Keith Plavec is finalizing stuff at ground storage for the grant.

Utilities/Publications – Alderperson Long: Nothing to report.

Public Buildings & Grounds – Alderperson Long: Nothing to report.

Tourism – Alderman Miller: Smithsonian Museum On Main Street is coming to Havana, January 13 and February 17, 2024. It is featuring what sparks innovation. Going over how Havana has reinvented itself. Maybe we should check it out.

Tax Increment Financing – Alderperson Spotloe: Later in unfinished business.

Citizens Committee – Amanda Sutphen not present.

Christmas Committee - Kenny Haacke not present

WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Evinn Palmer Director said still working on the lead line locate program with the new pot holer that is working great.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Discuss/Act Upon TIF Ordinance for Lewistown Society for Historic Preservation – Granted them \$13,508.15. Motion by Alderperson Spotloe to approve the TIF Ordinance for the Lewistown Society for Historic Preservation to grant them \$13,508.15, second by Alderperson Miller, roll call vote, motion carried all ayes.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discuss/Act Upon Purchasing tasers and Body Cameras with a grant for Police Department – Bid presented to council from Axon Enterprise, Inc., this is a 5 year plan, a grant from our insurance IPMG for \$10,000.00, then other grant is in February from another place, first year \$5,442.84.84 then around \$5,000.00 for next 4 years till January 2028. Total cost is \$33,273.30. Alderperson Levingston asked how many, 2 each was answer. Storage is included in the quote. Yearly payments are made by the city then reimbursed by the grants. Motion by Alderperson Ward to do the payment option, Alderperson Levingston asked how important are these body cams. The Chief said that there is no arguing with video when there are any questions. Studies are positive. When shooting a few years ago body cams would have helped. Tasers prevent officers from getting hurt, safety issue. Alderperson Miller says just because state requirements it we don't need to do. Not required for another year. Motion by Alderperson Ward to do a yearly agreement thru January 2028 to purchase body cameras and tasers, second by Alderperson Spotloe, roll call vote Alderperson Clark yes, Long no, Ward yes, Miller no, Levingston yes, Spotloe yes, motion carried.
2. Discuss/Act Upon Resolution for The National Incident Management System (NIMS) to help with Federal Funding for the Police Department – to help us get in compliance ILES with Department of Homeland Security. Motion by Alderperson Spotloe to approve the Resolution for The National Incident Management System, second by Alderperson Ward, motion carried all ayes.
3. Discuss/Act Upon Motor Fuel Tax Maintenance Resolution – This resolution is needed so the city can purchase out of the Motor Fuel Tax account between January 1 and May 1, when our fiscal year begins. Motion by Alderperson Spotloe, second by Alderperson Miller, to approve the Motor Fuel Tax Maintenance Resolution, roll call vote, motion carried all ayes.

4. Discuss/Act Upon Purchasing Mower for Excavator – Evinn reminded them that the city has no tractor and mower to mow ditches and banks. He tried it a couple of weeks, the price is \$5,500.00 it fits on the new mini excavator. Motion by Alderperson Long, second by Alderperson Levingston, to approve purchasing the mower for the excavator in the amount of \$5,500.00, roll call vote, motion carries all ayes.
5. Discuss/Act Upon 2024 Personnel Policy Handbook – Last update Nathan Collins did was 2017 then modified again by previous administrator. So presented to the council is a revised draft by Attorney Collins. This includes the new law coming into effect January 1, 2024 for all employees to get personal time off after 40 hours of work. This is for all full and part time employees. Police have their own handbook. Motion by Alderperson Levingston, second by Alderperson Spotloe, to approve the 2024 Personnel Policy Handbook, all ayes motion carried.
6. Discuss/Act Upon Paid Holidays for Full Time and Police – Motion by Alderperson Miller, to approve the schedule of paid holidays for full time employees and police department, second by Alderperson Long all ayes, motion carried.
7. Discuss/Act Upon City Council Meeting Dates – Motion by Alderperson Long, second by Alderperson Ward, to approve the schedule for the City Council Meeting dates, all ayes motion carried.


PRESENTATION OF BILLS:

Alderperson Long made a motion to approve all bills properly endorsed; Seconded by Alderperson Ward roll call vote, the motion carried with all ayes.

CLOSED SESSION: No closed session

ADJOURNMENT:

Alderperson Spotloe made a motion to adjourn at 7:01 p.m.; Seconded by Alderperson Ward motion carried all ayes.


Cindy Goddard, City Clerk