

## LEWISTOWN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE August 13, 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, Trever Kelley, Doug Lafary, Kendall Miller, Kim Pascal, John Spotloe and Mayor Elmer Littlefield. Also present: City Clerk Cindy Goddard, City Treasurer Debby Brown, Chief of Police John Werland, Public Works Director Gary Shawgo, City Attorney Nathan Collins, Mike Russell, Kathy Grzanich, Joey McLaughlin, and Billie Simmons.

**DECLARATION OF QUORUM** by Mayor Elmer Littlefield

**CLERKS REPORT/MINUTES:** Cindy Goddard. Cindy had a picture of Welcome to Lewistown Monument that was just set on the edge of town on Route 24. Cindy went over the TIF account, explained excel sheet and Mayor Littlefield went over TIF base value. Alderman Spotloe asked if everyone up to date on payments. Mayor replied everyone that is required to pay is up to date.

Alderman Pascal made a motion to approve the minutes of July 9, 2019, second by Alderman Clark roll call vote, the motion carried all ayes.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Debbie Brown.

City treasurer said planning on waiting to present a treasurer's report until accounts get closer to being done with new accountants. Cindy Goddard told the alderman that the accountants are still working on April/May of 2018.

**PRESENTATION OF BILLS:**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PETITIONS:**

Joey McLaughlin, resident in town, parent, and principal at elementary school asked about the school recourse officer. He had a contract with him, he asked school board how it was coming and they said that the hang up is with the City of Lewistown, he wants to know why the city had not signed the contract? The Mayor Littlefield said we have not seen a contract. Mayor said it can be put on next agenda for the next meeting. Mr. McLaughlin stated he wants something done; he is concerned as a parent and principal. Mayor told him he was blind sided with presenting us a signed contract. The City Attorney looked at contract it was changed some.

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

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

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## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance – Alderman Clark: Nothing to report.

Utilities/Publications – Alderman Kelley: Nothing to report.

Buildings and Grounds – Alderman Kelley: Nothing to report.

Police/ESDA – Alderman Lafary: Nothing to report.

Streets & Allies – Alderman Miller reported that the Seal Coat was completed last Friday. Hopefully next year the city can seal coat the road in front the school. Mayor Littlefield said the city is still going to put a culvert in by that road.

Tourism – Alderman Pascal said that hope to have vendors at Porter Park during Scenic Drive, will have Karen King on agenda next time. She did very well with Music in Park; it went very well this summer. Legion ladies gave away half the money it was \$605.00 said Alderman Clark. Alderman Pascal stated that the city is trying to pay one vendor fee to the Scenic Drive Organization for Porter Park. Cindy Goddard talked to Donita with Scenic Drive; she will get back to her regarding this. She was told that demonstrators don't have to pay.

Sewer – Alderman Spotloe: Nothing to report.

Water – Mayor Littlefield: Nothing to report

## OLD BUSINESS:

## NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discuss/Approve Kathy Grzanich water bill for Deb Cole because of water break – 919 South Main, Sunday morning discovered break, City could not get it shut off, she got it shut off on Sunday afternoon, and got it fixed on Monday. Kath said she is willing to pay \$50.00 plus regular bill would like rest wrote off. Gary Shawgo said that was some water in pit. Mayor Littlefield said the reading was about 20,000 gallons over what is usually used, so had to be leaking for awhile. City can't find shut off. Mayor proposes that the sewer amount be deducted off, that amount is \$58.00 and late charge. Alderman Clark said that makes the bill around \$114.00. Motion by Alderman Spotloe to deduct the \$58.00 plus late fees, second by Alderman Miller, roll call vote all ayes. Kathy wants to know if city can still try to find shut off. Mayor Littlefield said maybe will have to put in a curb stop and the shut off is the responsibility of the home owner. Meter pit is under the front porch.

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2. Discuss/Approve Jeremy Mallott water bill to make payments – Not present. Mayor said we can still vote on it for \$50.00 plus bill. Motion by Alderman Miller to approve Jeremy Mallott to make \$50.00 payments plus regular bills, second by Clark, roll vote motion carried all ayes.
3. Discuss/Approve Tax Abatement Ordinance for General Obligation Bond – Its one bond for cemetery wall, expires 2023, this year the amount is \$17,643.75 – The Mayor explained that this is a yearly expense for the Obligation Bond on the cemetery wall. Alderman Miller made a motion to approve the Tax Abatement Ordinance for General Obligation Bond, second by Alderman Spotloe, roll call vote, motion carried all ayes.
4. Discuss/Approve closing Euclid on August 17 (1 year anniversary for Rocket) and October 19 (Brian Bowers benefit) for the Rocket – Billie Simmons stated that they are not having the August 17<sup>th</sup> one year anniversary party, they will have it at a later date, but still having the benefit for Brian Bowers on October 19, it starts at 2:00 p.m. would like to close Main Street to Adams, no beer truck, they will take drinks outside, music will end at 10:00 p.m. or 11:00 p.m. what ever the ordinance says. Motion by Alderman Spotloe to approve closing Euclid from Main to Adams for Brian Bowers Benefit on October 19, second by Alderman Clark roll call vote, motion carried all ayes.
5. Discuss full time employees and future employees living outside city limits – as council needs to get together with this. Mayor Littlefield told the council that the city has a Police officer that has not moved within 20 miles of the city limits and it has been a year. Mayor would like the policy changed to 15 miles. Alderman Miller suggested create an ordinance, Mayor agrees. Alderman Pascal suggested write her up. Alderman Clark asked the Chief his in put. He feels that most houses are at least \$70,000 or more to be decent and rentals are very expensive and high rent could be a house payment. Alderman Miller said if Caterpillar said he had to live close, and then he would have moved, a rule is a rule. Alderman Spotloe said original set miles (20) to include Canton because of previous police officers living up there. Alderman Miller feels that all city employees should be a tax payer of Lewistown. Chief Werland feels that it is just too hard for her to find a house here in Lewistown. Mayor said she cannot be on call living that far away; and hopes she did not find and mortgage a house even further, Werland agrees. Alderman Pascal reminded them she has had a year. Alderman Clark said if she gets fired than their will only be three full time officers. Motion by Alderman Miller, to create ordinance that all full time employees live within 25 miles. Motion died because of no second. Alderman Lafary would like Attorney Collins to investigate whether it is a problem by enforcing the mileage situation. Motion by Alderman Clark to table at this time after Attorney Collins checks into the mileage limitation, second by Alderman Miller. Tabled.
6. Discuss/Approve Cannabis Ordinance – Attorney Collins reminded the Mayor that the ordinance had to be passed by September 30, 2019, or have to waive it. Mayor Littlefield attended meeting that the person that grows and distributes

Cannabis near Vermont, Illinois. State of Illinois has 75 permits to issue. A permit costs \$50,000.00 first year, and \$25,000.00 every year after that for license. State is taxing 30%, county 3%, city 3%, need to regulate as the same as alcohol. Attorney wants to be able to give guide lines to Chief Werland when needed. It will be regulated by the State. Mayor stated that some municipalities are denying it. Total taxing would be 36%. Alderman Lafary thinks we should not add the additional 3% tax. The Mayor said it is regulated by the state. Attorney Collins explained the two ordinances, one for zoning provisions for distribution and sale of medical and recreational cannabis in the city of Lewistown, and the other is tax ordinance. Motion to approve the Distribution and Sale of Medical and Recreational Cannabis in the City of Lewistown and the Tax Ordinance by Alderman Pascal, second by Alderman Miller, roll call vote, Alderman Clark yes, Alderman Kelley yes, Alderman Lafary yes, Alderman Miller yes, Alderman Pascal yes, and Alderman Spotloe no, motion carried. Alderman Miller asked if it is a possibility to change the ordinances at a later time and Attorney Collins said yes.

7. Discuss Mike Russell proposal for adopting a letter or ordinance for “Ice and Water Shield” for roofs – Mike Russell, recently had roof that had wind and hail damage, one particular bid very high. They said they could lower the bid if claims could be filed with insurance company. Insurance did pay for wind and hail damage, and the state has included this area in the zone for Ice protection often called “Ice and Water Shield”. If city has ordinance or code then the insurance company is more willing to pay for damage. He feels city should do this to help the community. Mike explained how the ice and water shield is applied. He has no benefit to gain since his roof is already done.

Mayor Littlefield spent a lot of time checking into this matter. Mayor brought a sample of ice and water shield to show the council. Ice and water shield is very expensive, he called different insurance companies. He asked how much it would be to have it added if not included, around \$1,000 and over. One insurance company has 14 companies and only 50% offer ice and water shield protection as an endorsement in the policy. What gives us the right to tell the citizens that they have to put on the ice and water shield?, the Mayor asked. Canton did ordinance because the construction companies wanted it. Should we dictate and tell them to put on 50 year shingles. The city of Lewistown goes by the state code. Mike said he talked to a roofer; it is 60 cents per linier foot at this time. Mayor said every roofer would love that everyone put the ice and water shield on. Mike said the city should have the best interest of the citizens. Mayor stated this is no life or safety issue. By making an ordinance it is costing the citizens more money. Mike wanted something passed to suggest that this be applied to the roofs. Mike asked Attorney Collins if something could be passed that suggested the city put the ice and water shield on a house. Attorney Collins response was the city could pass a resolution which is just thoughts and

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suggestions, the insurance company is going to insure what they want. Mr. Russell's response was "adjourned and thank you!"

CLOSED SESSION: No closed session

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Alderman Miller made a motion to adjourn at 8:14 p.m.; Seconded by Alderman Spotloe motion carried all ayes.

  
Cindy Goddard, City Clerk