

LEWISTOWN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE March 9, 2021

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, Public Works Director Evin Palmer.

DECLARATION OF QUORUM by Mayor Elmer Littlefield Jr.

CLERKS REPORT/MINUTES: Cindy Goddard, I checked into any grants for lighting, Ameren said to check website but it was only discount when purchasing light bulbs. Most grants want you to pay for them like \$30.00 to apply.

The City Clerk passed out the Statement of Economic Interests to be filled out and returned to the Office of the County Clerk by May 3.

Alderperson Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of February 23, 2021, second by Alderperson Spotloe roll call vote, Clark aye, Kelley present, Lafary aye, Miller aye, Pascal aye and Spotloe aye, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Debbie Brown. Nothing to report.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS:

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

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Attorney Nathan Collins. Nothing to report. However, did want to tell the council that some needles have been found on Broadway, the person that found one called 911 and was told to leave it alone, the city police did not respond, that person has volunteered to collect them if any more, the needle laid there for some time before collected.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Keith Plavec. Did not attend.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PETITIONS: Walt Harper thinks there should be emergency power for the city it could be across from the fire department, a form of a charging system. Get Ameren to assist. Maybe a generator for the city. It should be enough for two days if power goes out. He found out it is about \$100,000.00 for controls. Maybe a battery storage unit. City Council maybe agree to a battery power system for emergencies. About a month away from spring storms, never know when there could be a storm in winter or summer.

Richard Hough a concerned citizen of Lewistown tax payers is asking why should the tax payers of Lewistown have to pay for Fulton County Fairgrounds water usage? They are in Fulton County

not in the city of Lewistown so they need their own water meters. Why does the tax payers have to pay for their water? The Fulton County Fair Association has around \$173,000.00 in the bank with total assets of \$361,000.00.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance – Alderperson Clark: Nothing to report. Mayor said information from IML that Governor Pritzker is going to cut the municipalities 10%. We are putting the budget together right now and we are already down \$132,000.00 at $\frac{3}{4}$ of the year. Not signed yet.

Sewer – Alderperson Spotloe: Nothing to report.

Street & Alley – Alderperson Miller: Good right now.

Police/ESDA – Alderperson Lafary: Nothing to report.

Water – Mayor Littlefield: Nothing to report.

Utilities/Publications – Alderperson Kelley: Nothing to report.

Buildings & Grounds – Alderperson Kelley: Made us aware that the Gazebo needs painted, put on agenda to get bids.

Tourism – Alderperson Pascal: Nothing new to report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Discuss Garbage pickup – Mayor said his garbage bill it is \$27.63. Divide by 4 and that is only \$6.91 a week. He has Area Wigand. Last meeting the young lady that came said hers was \$54.00 a month. At this time citizens can choose who they want. To get city wide we would need to get input from the whole community. Alderperson Miller said previously when discussed most people wanted to choose their own company. Farmington Mayor said they have all town garbage pickup and added on water bills. We already have issues collecting water bills without adding garbage to that bill. Mayor stated not everyone would need the garbage pickup because of empty houses. We need to wait and see what Ms. Martindale has to present us. Alderperson Miller explained how it would be added to the water bill and the city would be responsible with a contract with the company. Alderperson Pascal said it would not be fair on rental property that did not have garbage pickup and the fee would still be on there. The City already has an Ordinance for no garbage burning, fires are to be out by 5:00 p.m. unless it is like a little camp fire for a wiener roast.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discuss/Approve Recovery Act Grant Fund – bids for new Public Works truck – Thomas Auto Group and Bob Ridings Fleet sales – Mayor Littlefield has been working with Josh Mercer for months to get a grant for some time, now there is one, the grant would pay

35%, we pay 65%. Alderperson Miller wanted to know if fee? Mayor Littlefield said we pay a yearly fee to belong to the Western Illinois Regional Council. Mayor Littlefield added the one place most municipalities work with is Thomas Auto Group. Evinn Palmer said that he contacted more than one dealership but some didn't get back with him. Regarding the two bids received, Cindy Goddard and Alderman Spotloe suggested contacting Thomas Auto Group, and the other dealer is where the city bought the last truck, they only had one truck left on lot to sell us and could not order one. Thomas Auto could order what Evinn wanted and they can get a state purchase price for us. It is a basic truck, no electric windows, 4x4 Ram 3500 and with 9' snow plow at \$44,991.00 with an 8" Service Body. Mayor Littlefield and Evinn have discussed this because the truck is needed. Josh Mercer needs the council's approval to go ahead with the grant. Alderperson Miller wanted to know the percentage, it is grant for 35% and the city pays 65%. City Clerk Cindy Goddard said the grant would pay \$15,746.85 and city pays \$29,244.15 and the grant is only available until May 31st. Alderperson Miller made a motion to give approval to Josh Mercer to apply for the Recovery Act Grant Fund to purchase a truck for public works, second by Alderperson Spotloe roll call vote, motion carried all ayes. Miller wants to see more numbers before all finalized. The motion is for the Ram 3500 4x4 for \$44,991.00 at Thomas Auto Group.

ADJOURNMENT:

Alderperson Spotloe made a motion to adjourn at 7:05 p.m.; Second by Alderperson Pascal motion carried all ayes.

Cindy Goddard, City Clerk