

LEWISTOWN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE October 8, 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: Wendy Martin from the Fulton Democrat, City Clerk Cindy Goddard, City Treasurer Debby Brown, Chief of Police John Werland, Public Works Director Gary Shawgo, City Attorney Nathan Collins, Ed Helle, Linda Helle, Shelly Hocking, John Hocking, Vicki Irwin, Jane Pascal, Joyce Price, Jayson Herrick, Tab Roberts, Jill Herrick, Jeremy Brannan, Dalton Yurkovich, Ronald Lawver, Kent Grigsby, Cynthia Hinderliter, Marty Sepich, and Billie Simmons. **ABSENT:** Alderman Spotloe

DECLARATION OF QUORUM by Mayor Elmer Littlefield

CLERKS REPORT/MINUTES: Cindy Goddard.

Alderman Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of September 24, 2019, second by Alderman Lafary roll call vote, the motion carried all ayes.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Debbie Brown.

Nothing to report.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS:

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

Alderman Spotloe arrived at 6:32 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PETITIONS:

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Attorney Nathan Collins. Nothing to report.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance – Alderman Clark: The Mayor stated that the elected officials that received the bonus and/or overpayment that when paychecks are done next month everyone will be paid up that signed the paper to have the money withheld. For those that don't have theirs paid in full Attorney Collins will have authority to file legal work.

Utilities/Publications – Alderman Kelley: Nothing to report.

Buildings and Grounds – Alderman Kelley: Nothing to report.

Police/ESDA – Alderman Lafary: Nothing to report.

Street & Alley – Alderman Miller: Nothing to report.

Tourism – Alderman Pascal: Quite a few up down Main Street, Marigold Meadows was very busy, Kendall Miller said he had quite a few, Cindy Goddard said the Depot very busy, and the Blacksmith Shop was busy with around 80 visitors on Saturday alone, Scare crow report with names of winners of 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

Sewer – Alderman Spotloe: Nothing to report.

Water – Mayor Littlefield: Meters are being installed, GM Mechanical and still installing every day close to 500 new meters at this point. Alderman Pascal asked if any problems Mayor said not at this time.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Discuss/Approve payment to Illinois Road Contractors, Inc. for seal coat out of Motor Fuel Tax account – Each alderman has copy of invoice in their packet, Alderman Miller made a motion to pay the Illinois Road Contractors, Inc. invoice of \$56,961.38, second by Alderman Clark, roll call vote, motion carried all ayes.
2. Discuss/Approve with Joe Carruthers the estimates of Aerators for Waste Water – Joe wanted to do more homework on it. Lakeside has estimate at this time, want to check and see if manufacturer can give us a better price. Joe Carruthers not present.
3. Discuss Jayson Herrick water bill/Turn in Veto regarding cancellation of Jayson Herrick Sewer Bill – Council can not vote on this at this meeting, has to be next meeting to vote. Jayson Herrick presented a packet which is a rebuttal on the October 2, 2019 newspaper article of the Mayor's side of Jayson Herrick's leak. Start with Mayor Article. He wanted to make sure the city did not pay for the ad; it would not be fair if it came out of the city funds. Cindy Goddard, administrative assistant assured him that the city did not pay for the ad. Jayson went thru the veto paragraph by paragraph regarding what he felt were lies. He said water was shut off around three hours after break discovered and doesn't know why it matters when it was fixed. All six aldermen went to view the basement to see that the basement does not slope he said. Pipe broke 20 feet back when he purchased the property. Jason said the public works director did not tell him to repair the hole, he himself decided that the hole needed fixed. Jayson feels that the minimum water bill that all elected officials receive is against the ordinance and state. Jayson said the Mayor belittled the two people before him regarding their water bills. He (Jayson) gave one of the alderman \$200.00 for the water bills for the two people before him that had high water bills. He wants the

community to sign a petition to have the mayor removed from office. Mayor does not want to dispute what Jason has said. Attorney Collins will say something about the ordinance and constitution. Mayor told the story that years ago, his mother-in-law could not afford her bill from a water leak so he paid it because they told him they would not write any off. Attorney Collins went thru the municipal code, the mayor may disapprove disputes over public funds (1A of Constitution regarding funds). Alderman Clark asked about the time lapse for a veto by Mayor, it has to be before next meeting but not less than 5 days after meeting. Alderman Clark wanted an agreement paper drawn up for people to sign for payments instead of then having to appear before the council. Alderman had a copy of it that Cindy Havens, water clerk had written up. Jason said that he was told by one of the city employees that city employees have to be careful what they say so they don't lose their job. Alderman Miller said it is all a big decision whether the water goes thru the sewer or not. Alderman Kelley said that the sewer was written off on Kathy Grzanich. Alderman Clark wanted to know if next meeting that it can be voted on.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discuss Ordinance Issues that John Hocking has regarding stagnate water in pools and street repairs – Mr. Hocking thanked city for allowing him to come to meeting he lives at 6 Crestview Drive, Lewistown. Everything started about 6 years ago no fence around neighbors pool, a couple of sections of fence went up so then it was ignored. He would like the pool ordinance to be enforced. He was told it would be fixed, at this time still not fixed enough to uphold the ordinance. With this neighbor they get rude comments after they complain. They feel that the city does not back them. The neighbor was not treating their water with the correct chemicals, the water smelled, it had mosquitoes, and a dead animal in it. It had hole in cover, he got a hold of the Chief more than once regarding this matter. Feels it is a health issue. Next issue they have are streets, a bad spot in the Cul-De-Sac street that is caused by the garbage truck. Kept complaining never heard anything. Also, when there was a fire in the area there was a problem getting the fire hydrant open. When he talked to city employee they told him they never flush that hydrant only the one at the end of the street. He explained how a hydrant should be taken care of, such as oiled and how each one should be addressed to keep them in working condition. At tax time Shelly (his wife) put on Facebook that it gets frustrating that taxes are paid and nothing gets done. He knows things can get better, they need to get better. Another thing normalization of deviance. The last thing because of the Facebook post, August 7, Mayor Littlefield went to the Bank that Shelly works at and gave the bank vice president a copy of the Facebook posts. That would make you believe that he was trying to ruin her career. They could file proper steps against Mayor if they want to. The Mayor responded that he had no intent to get anyone fired or ruin her career.

October 8, 2019

Alderman Pascal went down and saw that there is a new cover on the pool. Chief Page Werland said that the pool situation is a touchy one, the city does need to redo the ordinance for pools. The prior ordinance regarding stagnant water pertains to tires and standing water not pools. Gary Shawgo said that a couple of years ago the city cut down weeds and such at the residence and patched the street in the Cul-De-Sac, as soon as the street was patched the garbage truck came thru and it pulled out the patch. Alderman Miller suggested that maybe send the patch bill to the garbage company.

2. Discuss/Approve Trick-Or-Treat hours on October 31, 2019 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. – Alderman Spotloe made a motion to approve Trick-Or-Treat hours on October 31, 2019 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., second by Alderman Clark roll call vote motion carried all ayes.
3. Discuss/Approve 2019-2020 ICRMT Policy Renewal – Mayor Littlefield attended a seminar that was very informative that was presented by Snedeker's, asked council to approve the 2019-2020 ICRMT Policy Renewal. Aldermen had copy of renewal to examine prior to meeting. Cindy Goddard stated they are very prompt when called with a claim. Recently turned in claim for Waste Water items getting struck by lightning. Alderman Spotloe made a motion to approve the 2019-2020 ICRMT Policy, second by Alderman Pascal, roll call vote, motion carried all ayes.

CLOSED SESSION: No closed session

ADJOURNMENT:

Alderman Clark made a motion to adjourn at 7:36 p.m.; Seconded by Alderman Spotloe motion carried all ayes.



Cindy Goddard, City Clerk