

# LEWISBERRY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY DECEMBER 4, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Patrick Groft, Council President, leading in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

## MEMBERS PRESENT

Patrick Groft, Council President; Wayne Branyan, Mayor; Council Members: Maureen Berezna, Michelle Fletcher, Daniel Soltis, Oscar Winters, and Robert Griffith

Also Present: Yvonne Allard, Borough Manager; P. Daniel Altland, Solicitor

## PUBLIC PRESENT \*SEE ATTACHED SIGN IN SHEET\*

## RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC

- Lieutenant Boyles states there were 9 calls for service and 2 traffic incidents (1 citation and 1 warning), and 1 criminal investigation (arson at the laundromat) for November 2023. Fairview PD is collecting Toys for Tots in their lobby through the second week of December, Monday-Friday 8:00-4:30.
- Resident Mark Keener inquires as to the policy regarding replacing meters. Discussion ensued. New meters for replacement will be given to Electric Biller Chornak.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Maureen **BEREZNAK** made a motion, seconded by Michelle **FLETCHER** to approve the November 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion carried, 7-0.

## APPROVAL OF INVOICES AND RECEIPTS

- Robert **LEWIS** made a motion, seconded by Maureen **BEREZNAK** to approve the General Fund, Electric Fund, Road Fund, and Building Maintenance account invoices for payment. Motion carried, 7-0.

## SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- No report.

## MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Branyan states he performed one wedding last month. Another was requested, but he was not available.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Road Committee:

- No report

### Electric Commission:

- Council Member Fletcher states there was an outage at the laundromat this past weekend. The three new transformers were delivered this evening, and the two blown ones were picked up.
- Council Member Soltis states there was a power outage on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, but the problem was not found. A fuse and cutout need to be taken care of behind the fire hall. If a main fuse is blown a good part of the town loses power.

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### Insurance Committee:

- No report

### Building and Grounds Committee:

- President Groft states he winterized the Park Building, it is now closed for winter.
- Council Member Soltis states the following:
  - He has not looked at the fridge yet.
  - Has received some complaints about people parking at the Boro Park after hours. Manager Allard will email Chief Holland to take a look.
- Manager Allard states that Family First Healthcare has submitted and been approved for a building permit to erect a dividing wall in the former community room of the Community Building. The cost of the permit from Barry Isett & Associates, Inc. was \$650. This is just the fee for Isett and not the Borough fee. The Borough fee is an additional \$125. Discussion ensued. A motion was made by Maureen **BEREZNAK**, seconded by Michelle **FLETCHER** to split the \$650 Isett fee with Family First Healthcare. Motion carried, 6-1, with Robert **GRIFFITH** opposing.

### OLD BUSINESS

- Manager Allard states that while meeting dates for 2024 were established last meeting, Thanksgiving will be later next year and in years past, the first Monday of December was delayed due to hunting season. Discussion ensued. The December 2024 meeting date will be the second Monday, December 9, 2024. The 2024 meetings will be held the first Monday evening of the month at 7 pm, except January, which will be Tuesday January 2, Tuesday September 3, and Monday December 9. A motion was made by Maureen **BEREZNAK**, seconded by Michelle **FLETCHER** to advertise the 2024 meeting dates. Motion carried, 7-0.
- Council Member Winters brings forth the Annie E. Sterline Library lease. Council poses the question as to the square footage of the building. The library occupies 1465.12 sq ft. Family First Healthcare pays \$10.93 per square foot a year for a total of \$22,959.60. Based on the same formula the Library rent would be \$16,013.76. The Library currently pays \$4,800 per year, or \$3.28 per sq ft. Discussion ensued. A motion was made by Robert **LEWIS**, seconded by Daniel **SOLTIS** to allow the Library lease to go month to month at \$800 per month, and can be revisited at the Borough's will. Motion carried, 5-2, with Oscar **WINTERS** and Robert **GRIFFITH** opposed.
- Solicitor Altland discusses the nuisance citation for 213 Market Street, where the resident was found guilty and was charged a \$25 fine. Discussion ensued. A motion was made by Maureen **BEREZNAK**, seconded by Michelle **FLETCHER** to change the ordinance to a \$1000 fine when brought before the magistrate. Motion carried, 5-2, with Robert **LEWIS**, and Patrick **GROFT** opposed. A new ordinance will be drafted and presented next month.

### NEW BUSINESS

- Manager Allard brings forth the following:
  - Resolution 2023-08 2024 Tax Levy. The property tax levy for 2024 will remain at 1.6 mils. A motion was made by Maureen **BEREZNAK**, seconded by Robert **LEWIS** to approve Resolution 2023-08 2024 Tax Levy. Motion carried, 7-0.

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- The 2024 budget has been drafted, the budget committee met and the budget was advertised as required. A motion was made by Maureen **BEREZNAK**, seconded by Michelle **FLETCHER** to approve the 2024 Budget. Motion carried, 7-0.

**TABLE**

- No items

**ADJOURN MEETING**

Maureen **BEREZNAK** made a motion, seconded by Robert **LEWIS** to adjourn the regular meeting. Motion carried, 7-0.