

# LEWISBERRY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY DECEMBER 5, 2022

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; Robert Griffith, Maureen Berezna, Michelle Fletcher, Teresa Miller, Oscar Winters, and Daniel Soltis

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

PUBLIC PRESENT \*SEE ATTACHED SIGN IN SHEET\*

## RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC

- Lieutenant Boyles reports there were 8 calls for service, and 5 traffic incidents (4 warnings, 1 citations), in November. He also mentions that Fairview Township Board of Supervisors is voting tonight to hire a new officer who will replace the officer moving over to the position of School Resource Officer. There is also a box for Toys for Tots in the Fairview Township PD office lobby during business hours.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Maureen **BEREZNAK** made a motion, seconded by Michelle **FLETCHER** to approve the November 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion carried, 7-0.

## APPROVAL OF INVOICES AND RECEIPTS

- Michelle **FLETCHER** made a motion, seconded by Teresa **MILLER** to approve the General Fund, Electric Fund, Road Fund, and Building Maintenance account invoices for payment. Motion carried, 7-0.

## SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- Solicitor Altland states the following:
  - An ad for an illegal apartment was posted on Facebook Marketplace and brought to the Borough's attention. Solicitor Altland contacted the poster and the ad was removed.
  - Act 57 was passed in July 2022 allowing requiring tax collectors to waive any interest and penalties for delinquent tax payments if the bill of for the property was not received in a timely manner after the transfer of property. An ordinance was drafted and is up for approval for advertising tonight.
  - A letter was sent to PennDOT inquiring about the use of brake retarders on Market Street. A letter was received that a traffic study will be conducted and a decision made shortly.

## MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Branyan has no report.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Road Committee:

- Council Member Soltis reports the following:
  - Hoping for a warm day to use Aquafault to patch some potholes behind the fire hall.
  - The steel plates at Walnut and Heck Hill and Walnut and Market have moved despite adhesive being used under it. The one on Heck Hill and Walnut has been removed now.

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## Electric Commission:

- President Groft discusses the need for flashlights and rain gear for the electric storage shed for emergencies. He has been in contact with a supplier for some ideas and pricing. Will wait for the new storage shed to be finished and set up and for the new fiscal year.
- Council Member Soltis and Fletcher state that there was a power outage over the weekend. A transformer blew, and the top of the pole caught fire and burned for about 6 hours. A new pole will be needed. Mike Dubbs replaced the transformer from the storage shed. Shortly thereafter, the second transformer blew. A transformer was then borrowed from Goldsboro Borough. Manager Charlie Richcreek says they will accept half the price of a new transformer or can return it after a new one is obtained. Discussion ensued. Some additional supplies are needed to restock the electric shed. A quote was obtained from DECO Supply for \$1356.04 for the supplies. A motion was made by Daniel **SOLTIS**, seconded by Teresa **MILLER** to approve the purchasing of needed supplies up to \$2,500 in case Mike Dubbs says additional items are needed. Motion carried, 7-0. Discussion ensued on the topic of obtaining transformers. Council Member Fletcher will obtain a quote and lead time on transformers.
- Council Member Fletcher and Electric Commission Member Thompson discuss an opportunity from AMP and the Department of Energy for an AMI Meter Grant. The grant is quoted at 50 percent the cost. The last quote obtained from AMP for AMI meters in the Borough was \$200,000. A 50 percent match and possible low interest loan from AMP to finance the remaining 50 percent could be beneficial for the Borough to deploy smart meters for the Borough Electric. Discussion ensued. The electric commission and Manager Allard will continue to communicate with Sam Wolfe from AMP on the possible grant.

## Insurance Committee:

- No report

## Building and Grounds Committee:

- Manager Allard brings forth the following:
  - Trees need trimmed around town. Discussion ensued. A list will be provided in the future.
- President Groft and Council Member Soltis state that the furnace in the park building may not be able to hold out until the decision on the DCED Local Share Account grant is decided. The furnace is being run on very low. Discussion ensued. If the LSA Grant is not due to be decided soon, the heat pump will need to be purchased, it has been budgeted for in the 2023 budget.

## OLD BUSINESS

- The slide was installed at the Borough Park. Council Member Soltis, Maintenance employee Lewis, and community member Jerry Fletcher installed the new slide ladder.
- Council Member Griffith inquires as to the interest rates with the bank change to Members 1<sup>st</sup> Federal Credit Union. Discussion ensued. Manager Allard will as Members 1<sup>st</sup> for work up some laddered CD terms for investment.

## NEW BUSINESS

- Engineer Trout discusses the bid opening for the Low Volume Roads Heck Hill Project. Every bid was much over the grant award of \$53,945. The lowest bid came in from EK Services for \$132,514.25. The highest was just over \$181,000. Discussion ensued. A motion was made by Robert **GRIFFITH**, seconded by Teresa **MILLER** to table the Low Volume Roads Heck Hill Project Grant due to cost vs grant award. Motion carried, 7-0. Engineer Trout will look into further grant funding.

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- President Groft brings states he is working with Fairview Township in regards to possibly allowing Borough residents to drop yard waste at the Fairview Township facility. Discussion ensued. No resolution was brought forth this evening.
- Manager Allard brings forth the following:
  - The 2023 budget was prepared and was advertised as required. The budget is now up for adoption. The tax levy remains the same at 1.6 mils and no other changes were made to the budget since the advertising. A motion was made by Michelle **FLETCHER**, seconded by Daniel **SOLTIS** to approve the 2023 budget. Motion carried, 7-0.
  - As stated by Solicitor Altland during his report, Ordinance 2023-01 pertaining to Act 57 requiring tax collectors to waive any interest and penalties for delinquent tax payments if the bill of for the property was not received in a timely manner after the transfer of property. An ordinance was drafted and is up for approval for advertising tonight. A motion was made by Michelle **FLETCHER**, seconded by Daniel **SOLTIS** to approve the ordinance for advertising. Motion carried, 7-0.
  - Resolution 2022-09 was prepared for the application to the H2O PA Grant program from DCED. With Engineer Trout's cost estimate, the resolution asks for \$560,530.63. A motion was made by Maureen **BEREZNAK**, seconded by Michelle **FLETCHER** to pass the resolution to apply for the H2O PA Grant for the restoration of the storm water systems on Walnut Lane and South Street in their entireties. Motion carried, 7-0. Manager Allard will work with Engineer Trout to finish up the grant application.

TABLE

- No items due to COVID-19 pandemic

ADJOURN MEETING

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

December 5, 2022    Please Print

Name  
Sandy Loge  
TERENCE R YINGER  
Garret Boyles  
Tom Thompson

Affiliation  
Jurisdiction  
Resident  
Police Dept.  
RCS