

## LEWISBERRY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

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

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Wayne Branyan, Mayor; Patrick Groft, Council President; Council Members; Robert Griffith, Daniel Soltis, Robert Lewis, William Thompson, and Maureen Berezna

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

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

### RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC

- Chief Jason Loper reports there were 12 calls for service and 9 traffic incidents (citations and warnings) in August. Residents thank the police officers for driving through the neighborhoods.
- Resident Nora Sowers has concerns about 111 Market Street, the yard looks like a junkyard and believes it is in violation of multiple codes. Code Enforcement Officer Lechene has been notified about the property and has yet to respond. Council and Manager Allard will again reach out to Code Enforcement Officer Lechene to come survey the situation.
- Resident Earl Sowers inquires if the roads can be tared and chipped. Council responds that road improvements are in the pipeline.
- Resident Sandy Fogle inquires on the status of the repairs to the Community Building, she again states that the roof is leaking in the copy room, and asks about the status of the bat removal. Council states the bats will be removed by Home Paramount in September, and the roof will be looked at by LR4 again shortly.
- Resident Bonnie Crossley introduces herself, she is the leader of the local Girl Scout troop. Co-leader Missy Crain was present at a previous meeting. The troop used the fire hall last year for their meetings on Thursday evenings 6:15-7:30 pm with the exception of the first Thursdays through the end of May 2022. Council previously approved the use of the fire hall for the Girl Scouts at the July 2021 meeting when the inquiry was first introduced.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- William **THOMPSON** made a motion, seconded Maureen **BEREZNAK** to approve the August 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion carried, 7-0.

### APPROVAL OF INVOICES AND RECEIPTS

- Maureen **BEREZNAK** made a motion, seconded by Daniel **SOLTIS** to approve the General Fund, Electric Fund, Road Fund, and Building Maintenance account invoices for payment. Motion carried, 6-0.

### SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- Solicitor Altland reports that a model ordinance regarding small cell wireless and Act 50 was provided to him from Council Member Thompson that was distributed at the Pennsylvania Municipal Electric Association (PMEA) conference. If the Borough plans to adopt an ordinance, it must be in place prior to October 28, 2021. Solicitor Altland asks Council to consider making a motion to allow for advertisement of the ordinance and he will get to work on drafting it right away. A motion was made by William **THOMPSON**, seconded by Robert **GRIFFITH**, to authorize advertising of the ordinance pertaining to Act 50 and the attachment of small cell wireless within the public right-of-ways.

LEWISBERRY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Branyan discusses the rain and the flooding, and states he hopes we are on the road to recovery. He also praises the response of everyone involved with the traffic accident involving the electric pole a couple weeks ago.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Road Committee:

- Council Member Soltis states that a representative from the Low Volume Roads program came out to the Borough recently and walked the roads in the Borough surveying condition and which roads may qualify for the program.

Electric Committee:

- Council member Thompson states the following:
  - He attended the Pennsylvania Municipal Electric Association (PMEA) conference last week. He passes around the sheet showing the rates of all 35 municipal electric companies in the state to see how the Borough compares. Lewisberry Borough falls right in the middle.
  - There is a conference in Florida in February from NextERA and is awaiting registration and agenda information but will pass it along once available.
  - A new webinar series is being put on from AMP in the coming weeks.
  - Act 50 involving small cell wireless (5G) attaching to the poles in the public right of way and a maximum rental fee was discussed at PMEA conference and a model ordinance was distributed. Councilman Thompson has given it to Solicitor Altland for review.
  - The electric pole that was struck by a vehicle a couple weeks ago involved a brief (30 minutes) power outage for the entire Borough, but the majority of the Borough was able to be restored aside from the apartment building and Allen's Eatery. Gettle responded and was quick to repair the damaged poles.
- President Groft discusses a request from the meter reader involving the fence put up at 312 Market Street. Meter Reader Chornak has requested that the homeowners install a gate to allow easier access to read the meter. He now has to walk all around through the yard and is concerned about how easy that access will be in the winter when there is snow on the ground. Discussion ensued.

Insurance Committee:

- Manager Allard reports that Geico has assumed responsibility for the accident involving the electric pole that resulted in the replacement of two electric poles. She is in communication with both PIRMA (the Borough's insurance) and Geico (the driver's insurance).

Building and Grounds Committee:

- Discussion regarding the Community Building roof was started during public recognition when Sandy Fogle inquired about it. President Groft states he will call LR4 to come take a look at the issues.

OLD BUSINESS

- Manager Allard brings forth the following:
  - The discussion surrounding Maintenance Employee Malley last month remains unfinished. The initial discussion decided that no more work would be given to him, but there would be no formal termination. At this point, that is not a feasible option. Given that he has not performed the job in a timely manner and has also gone against the workmen's comp policy by subbing out his work on more than one occasion. Employees do not have the right to assign their work to other people. A

## LEWISBERRY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

motion was made by Robert **LEWIS**, seconded by Daniel **SOLTIS** to terminate Maintenance Worker Malley and advertise for the position of hourly seasonal employee to shovel snow. Motion carried, 6-0.

- The refuse contract with Republic Services will begin October 1<sup>st</sup>. Republic will distribute new wheeled 96 gallon trash carts, as well as wheeled recycle carts to every residence in the Borough on Monday September 20<sup>th</sup>. Penn Waste will perform their last collection on Monday September 27<sup>th</sup> utilizing the Republic carts as they will collect their recycle carts on Monday September 20<sup>th</sup> as well. Discussion ensued regarding collection of the cul-du-sac on Nebinger that is Fairview Township. President Groft will reach out to Fairview Township Manager Don Martin.
- President Groft discusses the Borough Square in front of 213 Market Street where the three trees were removed. Discussion ensued involving tree options for the area. Two options presented were a Japanese Maple or American White Dogwood. Discussion ensued. The quoted price for the sapling is \$107. A motion was made by Robert **LEWIS**, seconded by Maureen **BEREZNAK** to plant a Japanese Maple in the middle of the Borough Square. Motion carried, 6-0.

### NEW BUSINESS

- Manager Allard brings forth the following:
  - Correspondence was received from West Shore Recreation Commission advising the per capita rate is being raised from \$2.50 per resident to \$3 per resident for a total of \$1,086 up from \$905 last year. They are also requesting the first payment be made by December 1, 2021. Discussion ensued. A motion was by William **THOMPSON**, seconded by Robert **LEWIS** to approve the West Shore Rec per capita rate, and pay it in full by December 1, 2021. Motion carried, 6-0.
  - With the new refuse contract with Republic Services, the trash fee will need to be increased to \$26.00. Resolution 2021-02 was drafted to reflect the increase from \$22 per month to \$26 per month. A motion was made by Maureen **BEREZNAK**, seconded by William **THOMPSON** to approve Resolution 2021-02 to increase the trash fee. Motion carried, 6-0.
  - Caterer Erica Brouse has used the Fire Hall kitchen for her catering business for years, she gets the kitchen inspected, and so forth. The current arrangement has her paying \$125 per use of the kitchen. She is now trying to restructure her business and asks if she can negotiate it as a monthly rate, for 2 uses per month for \$250. This is the same price she is paying, but structured as a monthly fee and not a per use fee. Discussion ensued. A motion was made by Robert **LEWIS**, seconded by Daniel **SOLTIS** to allow Ms. Brouse to utilize the kitchen for \$250 per month for use two days during the month. Motion carried, 6-0.
  - Communication was received from Red Land Girls Softball Association regarding possible field improvements. Questions from them included if they would need approval for any work done, as well as if this is something the Borough would contribute financially to. Discussion ensued. Any work done will need approval and it would depend on estimates on any financial contributions.
  - Had a video meeting with a representative from Verizon and Masters Telecom regarding the Borough phone system. At the moment, the Borough number is serviced through Blue Ridge Cable and is forwarded via Google Voice to Manager Allard's personal cellular phone. Verizon offers a service with a new desk phone via wifi and voice over internet, however there is an app that would then be installed on Manager Allard's cellular phone and the app would ring. It would also include an "auto receptionist" that would answer and would direct callers to press different numbers for different things, for example for electric billing press 1, and it would forward to the electric billing number. The largest benefit would come in the form of an electric emergency number. This "virtual

LEWISBERRY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

line” would not be tied to a specific phone, but enabled on an app put on to Council members’ telephones to be enabled or disabled as to who is on call. The quote is \$60 per month, and \$170 for the desk telephone, no contract. A quote was also received from Elk Systems, Inc. for a voice over internet proposal, the quote \$45.24 per month, but includes a 3 year contract, and is not app enabled for the electric emergency number, instead Manager Allard or on call council members would need to access a web portal and switch on and off the forwarding. Discussion ensued. Decision tabled.

- President Groft brings forth the following:
  - A resident was seen reaching into the electric payment box and pulling out multiple envelopes, her entire arm was able to fit in the box to retrieve multiple envelopes until she found the one she was searching for. This raises the question of how secure is the payment box. Council Member Griffith will call the company the boxes were purchased from.
  - A date for Trick or Treat night needs to be decided. Discussion ensued. A motion was made by Daniel **SOLTIS**, seconded by William **THOMPSON** to hold Trick or Treat night on Thursday October 28, 2021 6-8 pm, with a rain date of Saturday October 30, 2021 6-8 pm. Motion carried, 6-0.
  - Duty’s Lock and Safe was out to look at re-keying the buildings and have quoted the price at \$735 for all three buildings.
  - The drainage basin at Nebinger Street and Walnut Lane overflowed during the storm. It may need to be looked at again.

TABLE

- No items due to COVID-19 pandemic

ADJOURN MEETING

Daniel **SOLTIS** made a motion seconded by Maureen **BEREZNAK** to adjourn the regular meeting. Motion carried, 6-0.

September 13, 2021

Please Print

Name

Zora Brown  
Earl Sowers  
Sandy Foga  
Terry Yinger  
Bonnie Crossley

Affiliation

Live in Boro  
live in Boro  
Lewisberry  
Resident  
Girl Scouts/Resident