

LEWISBERRY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Sandra Griffith leading in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Sandra Griffith, Vice President; Matthew Kiner, Mayor; Mark Keener, Nora Sowers, Edward Farr and Mary Pelton

Also Present: Mary Ellen Banks, Borough Manager; Steven Miner, Solicitor

PUBLIC PRESENT

John Snyder, Newberry Township Police Chief

Allison Dougherty, Patriot News

Scott Six, Resident

Tom Worley, Resident

Ted Christiansen and Ryan McGuinness – RLGSA

Travis and Amanda Fuhrman, Dennis Beck, Donna and Geoff Coder, Dustin Bream, Kyle Shropshire, Douglas Morrow, Paul Fisher; Lewisberry Fire Co.

RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC

- Chief Snyder of Newberry Township Police Department reported there were twenty-eight (28) incidents in the Borough in the month of January.
- Lewisberry Fire Company:
 - Douglas Morrow reported on the following:
 - The Auditor General's meetings are continuing and several more members have met with the investigator. There is a criminal investigation on-going which may continue for another four to eight months.
 - The Company has filed a claim with the insurance company and asked for a six (6) month extension. Unfortunately, none of the members were bonded.
 - A new policy has been adopted that any purchase over \$50.00 requires board approval.
 - The membership is growing and they have appointed Paul Fisher and Greg Starner to the Board.
 - Travis Fuhrman, Fire Chief reported on the following:
 - The January call report for the Fire Company.
 - The Attack has been sold to Paul Fisher and they are working on updating all vehicle titles.
 - The air packs were inspected and certified in January.
 - A meeting is set up with the Fire Company's insurance agent and Nora Sowers and Mary Pelton are welcome to attend.
 - Geoffrey Coder presented the Treasurer's report.
 - Nora Sowers commented the Redland Senior Center is interested in renting the fire company building. Edward Farr's opinion is it may be a good move to have a regular monthly rental income. Travis stated they will meet with the group; however, they wanted to have Council's approval before moving forward. Doug Morrow asked Council if the Company could use Steve Miner, the Borough's solicitor. Steve Miner stated since the Borough and the Fire Company are two separate entities and he is in an agreement with the Borough which has dealings with the Fire Company, it would be an ethical conflict. He suggests hiring a solicitor that deals with non-profits. Mark Keener suggested the Sewer Authority Attorney.
- Scott Six, resident at 208 Front Street expressed concern with the excessive speed on Front Street. He had discussed this with the Newberry Township Police Department; however, he was told it was too congested to get an accurate clocking. Later in the meeting Mr. Six explained his concerns to Chief Snyder of Newberry Township police who explained they will be able to set up speed boards and hopefully take care of the problem. The Borough Manager will also send Chief Snyder a copy of the ordinance passed to restrict Front Street to local traffic only during the winter months.

LEWISBERRY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2011

RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC – CONTINUED

- Thomas Worley who handles the maintenance at the Laundromat located on Market Street stated there has been a problem which is continually getting worse when it rains causing flooding in the one apartment. He explained when the sidewalks were installed, the inlet was put too low and he would like to know if there is an easier way to fix this problem other than removing the sidewalk, fixing the problem and replacing the sidewalk. He also inquired if the Borough would be willing to assist in paying for this repair. Mark Keener reminded Mr. Worley the sidewalks have not been cleared at the Laundromat and he also will look at the problem which may be something Penn Dot is responsible for.
- Ryan McGuinness from RLGSA (Redland Girls Softball Association) requested approval to hold spring and summer girls' softball practices, games and meetings in 2011 at the Borough Park. Edward FARR made a motion which was seconded by Mary PELTON to allow RLGSA to rent the field and building for meetings at an annual rate of \$650.00 for 2011. Motion carried, 5-0.
- Ted Christianson also inquired if the field would be available for Liz Christianson summer softball camp. Mark KEENER made a motion which was seconded by Edward FARR to allow Liz Christianson to conduct this camp in July and August for a fee of \$80.00. Motion carried, 5-0.
- Doug Morrow stated the company he works for, Mellon Certified Restoration, gives grants for various projects in communities and he will apply for a grant to upgrade the outside of the Borough Park Building.
- Sandra Griffith stated in the minutes of last Council meeting, the Fire Company stated the money received from the sale of the Chief's truck was used to pay bills even though it was titled in the Relief Association's name. Doug Morrow explained this was discussed in a meeting with the auditor General's office and is tied up with the grant they also received. They will either have to pay back the grant or use the money from the sale of the aerial truck to replace the money used out of Firemen's Relief.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- Steven Miner reported the Office of Open Records of the Commonwealth ruled emails stored on a personal computer are not public records. Council was supplied with this information.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Mary PELTON made a motion which was seconded by Nora SOWERS to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2011 Meeting. Motion carried, 5-0.

INVOICES AND RECEIPTS

- Mary PELTON made a motion which was seconded by Mark KEENER to approve the General Fund, Electric Fund, Road Fund and Building Maintenance account invoices for payment. Motion carried, 5-0.

COMMISSION AND BOARD REPORTS

Zoning Officer Report – Not Present

Mayor's Report – Matt Kiner

- Matt Kiner reported the following:
- Steve composed and mailed a letter to the property owner and tenant on a Front Street Property in violation of not clearing the sidewalks of snow and ice. He explained the ordinance is written to site both landlord and tenant. Matt requested if Council Members are calling him to report a problem with sidewalk clearing to please give him an actual address.
- Matt reviewed the Emergency Operations Plan which delegates the EMC (Emergency Management Coordinator) whom is Brad Wright, to act on behalf of the borough of Lewisberry. He recommends that Council adopt this plan. Mary PELTON made a motion which was seconded by Nora SOWERS to adopt the above plan. Motion carried, 5-0.

LEWISBERRY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2011

COMMISSION AND BOARD REPORTS/MAYOR'S REPORT – CONTINUED

- Discussion ensued concerning various blighted properties, in particular, Mr. Sinsabaugh's which has improved; however, when spring comes, Matt will review this property and take action, if necessary.
- Nora Sowers stated once again that the Konevich property is a fire and health hazard and she has received numerous complaints. Mary PELTON made a motion which was seconded by Nora SOWERS to site Mr. Konevich for various violations. Motion carried, 5-0.

Road Commission – No Report

Electric Commission

- Council chose to send an historical picture of the Methodist Church to be included on the AMP Community and Economic Development website which will give the history of Lewisberry Borough.
- Mary Ellen Banks stated the Borough's AMP Scholarship selection next year will be handled differently getting Council more involved.
- Council was to review the Middletown and Mifflintown Borough Ordinances for disconnects, etc. Discussion ensued.
- Mark Keener stated there was a property owner that moved out of town and requested in writing the electric be disconnected and also stated there would be no one occupying the residence.
- Mark asked permission with a situation where a landlord pays the electric and rebills the tenant; therefore, the account is technically current. However, the tenant is not paying the landlord for this electric. The landlord has asked the Electric Company to disconnect the meter. Steve stated to be cautious about this situation since the landlord is responsible for evicting the tenant, not the borough. In addition, the account is current; therefore you cannot disconnect the service.
- Mary PELTON made a motion which was seconded by Nora SOWERS to give permission to Mary Jo Keener to remove hard drive from the Electric Company PC and destroy it. Motion carried, 5-0.
- Mary Ellen Banks stated William Thompson requests his pay be discontinued for Electric Company consultant.

Library Commission

- Sandra Griffith stated the Library still has not selected a Fairview Township member for the Board; however, she will have a selection for Council to approve next month.

Insurance Commission

- Mary Ellen Banks stated there will be an annual insurance review in March.

Recreation and Grounds Commission – No Report

Lewisberry Community Building Commission

- Edward Farr distributed to Council the 2010 expenses and income for the Community Building. Steve explained the Borough should make up the short-fall by accessing and invoicing the tenants the additional amount per percentage according to space occupied. Steve also stated the Borough should also increase the monthly rents for 2011. February, 2012, it will once again be reconciled and if an overage, the Borough will refund that amount. Edward FARR made a motion which was seconded by Mark KEENER requesting Steve to issue a letter stating this shortage and the increase in rent. Motion carried, 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS - Nothing

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED - Nothing

LEWISBERRY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2011

NEW BUSINESS

- Mark Keener questioned if the house owned by the Methodist Church pays taxes. Mary Ellen Banks stated they do pay taxes; however, the Church does not since they are a non-profit.
- Edward FARR made a motion which was seconded by Mary PELTON to approve exonerations per Patricia Gordon, tax collector. Motion carried, 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Edward FARR made a motion which was seconded by Mary PELTON to adjourn the Meeting. Motion carried, 5-0.