

LEWISBERRY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

MONNDAY DECEMBER 9, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Mark Keener, President, leading in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Andrew Purcell, Mayor; Mark Keener, Council President; Council Members; Daniel Soltis (came in during Approval of the Minutes), William Thompson, Robert Lewis, Patrick Groft, and Maureen Berezna.

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

PUBLIC PRESENT

SEE ATTACHED SIGN IN SHEET

RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC

- Chief Lutz reports there were 21 calls for service within the Borough for the month of November. There were 2 traffic warnings. The police protection contract is up for renewal. Newberry Township agreed on a 5% increase in the rate for police protection. Council chose to approve the contract while Chief was still present to hand deliver it to him. Details are under New Business section of the minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Robert **LEWIS** made a motion, which was seconded Patrick **GROFT** to approve the November 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion carried, 5-0.

APPROVAL OF INVOICES AND RECEIPTS

- William **THOMPSON** made a motion, seconded by Robert **LEWIS** to approve the General Fund, Electric Fund, Road Fund, and Building Maintenance Fund account invoices, as read for payment. Motion carried, 6-0.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- Solicitor Altland reports that he was contacted by an attorney representing the Red Land Community Action Program (herein known as REDCAP), regarding the possibility of transferring their lease to another non-profit organization. The lease is currently a 50 year lease, and REDCAP is worried they may not be able to continue on to meet that 50 years. Solicitor Altland has formed a committee with Councilman Thompson and Councilman Elect Griffith to discuss moving forward with transferring the current REDCAP lease to another non-profit organization, such as Family First Healthcare.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Purcell presents his "State of the Borough Address" which he brings forth the following:
 - Recognizing President Keener for his 21 years of Borough Council service.
 - Painting the curbs, some done, but will need to finish in the spring.
 - The electric runs the Borough. The electric company is the primary funding for the Borough.
 - Community involvement is lacking.
 - Reading through the International Property Maintenance Code 2015 will be his winter project along with Councilman Soltis to determine which parts should be adopted by the Borough.
 - Councilman Thompson is the only Council member with a relationship with American Municipal Power Company, our electric supplier, what will happen when Councilman Thompson's term is over?
 - The roads are all a patchwork, and in dire need of repair.

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- The municipal buildings need attention as they are old and need updating, along with basic maintenance.
- The practicality of continuing on with the way things have been and the scant budget the Borough runs on.
- Would like to move into Executive Session at the end of the Regular Meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Road Committee:

- Manager Allard brings forth communication from York County 911 regarding who to call when a sign or road related event requires a call. Road Committee determines to place Councilman Groft, Soltis, and Lewis on the list to be contacted.
- President Keener brings forth the following:
 - Asks that Harcon Services, Inc. be reminded there is still another year left on the snow removal contract.
 - Walnut Lane is getting very rough between Lewis St and Heck Hill Rd
- Councilman Soltis will again look into low volume roads and seeing if any roads in the Borough would qualify. He will contact Byron Trout, the Borough engineer.

Electric Committee:

- Solicitor Altland brings forth correspondence from AMP regarding the AFEC Participant Tax Certificate, it's a document that the Borough needs to sign saying that they are a tax exempt financing and that the electricity the Borough receives is only being used for purposes of supplying to Borough residents and that's it, it's not being sold for resale to a large entity outside of the Borough. A motion was made by Patrick **GROFT**, seconded by Maureen **BEREZNAK** to execute the AFEC Participant Tax Certificate. Motion carried, 6-0.
- Councilman Thompson brings forth the discussion on changing the deposit schedule for new residents in the Borough for the electric company. Currently, the deposit is \$300 for homeowners with non-electric heat, and \$400 for electric heat and renters. After 12 consecutive on time payments, the deposit is refunded. Discussion was brought forth to change it to a flat \$400. However, the electric ordinance may actually have the set fees in it, which would require amending the ordinance. Solicitor Altland will look into it.
- Manager Allard reads an email updating the status of the new billing system from Electric Biller Chornak. There were many kinks to work out with the roll out of the new system. She would like to move to the z-fold pressure bills, which would lead to a cost savings to the Borough in the amount paid for the specialized perforated paper the Borough now purchases. Council has no opposition to switching to the z-fold bills. Email billing will possibly roll out in February or March if kinks are worked out by then.

Insurance Committee:

- No Report

Building and Grounds Committee:

- Councilman Groft says he'll be winterizing the park building following the library's event on December 21.
- Manager Allard states that a resident called inquiring why there isn't a flag flying at the fire hall. Council states there is no light or person to raise or lower it every day.

OLD BUSINESS

- President Keener again revisits the adoption of the International Property Maintenance Code 2015. Believes it would be a good thing for the Borough.

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NEW BUSINESS

- Manager Allard brings forth the following:
 - The Newberry Township Police Department Police Protection contract for 2020 is up for renewal. As Chief Lutz mentioned, the rate increase is 5% bringing the 2020 contract price up to \$22,411.20. It covers 350 calls for service, if over 350 calls it will be \$55 per hour. A motion was made by Maureen **BEREZNAK**, seconded by William **THOMPSON** to approve the 2020 Newberry PD police contract. Motion carried 5-0.
 - Last month, Council voted to increase the trash rate by \$0.50 per month to \$21.50, but a resolution is needed. Daniel **SOLTIS** made a motion, seconded by William **THOMPSON** to approve the Resolution 2019-05 to increase the trash rate. Motion carried, 6-0.
 - The 2020 Budget needs to be passed. No changes have been made since the budget was presented to Council in November. William **THOMPSON** made a motion, seconded by Maureen **BEREZNAK** to pass the 2020 Budget. Motion carried, 6-0.
 - Communication was received by West Shore Rec to appoint a representative to the WSRec 2020 Commission. Tabled to January.
- Solicitor Altland states that previously a tax levy needed to be adopted by ordinance. Recently it was enacted that if there is no change in the real estate tax rate it can be done via resolution, saving the fees on having to advertise the ordinance. The tax rate is 1.6 mils, which is \$0.16 per \$100 assessed value. A motion was made by William **THOMPSON**, seconded by Patrick **GROFT** to pass the 2020 tax levy resolution (Resolution 2019-06). Motion carried, 6-0.

TABLE

November 2019 Police Report; YoCo Connect Nov/Dec 2019; Conservation Horizons Fall 2019-Winter 2020

ADJOURN MEETING

Robert **LEWIS** made a motion, seconded by Daniel **SOLTIS** to adjourn the regular meeting and move into Executive Session. Motion carried, 6-0.

Please Print December 9, 2019

Name

Affiliation

Laura Lex

future Council member