The regular monthly meeting of the Borough Council of Lewisburg, Union County, Pennsylvania, was held on **Tuesday, January 20, 2015** in the Council Chambers, 55 South Fifth Street. Present: Council President Bergonia; Councilmembers Baker, Cook, Cox, Faden, Mahon, Morris and Strosser; Mayor Wagner, Solicitor Lyons, Manager Smith, Secretary Garrison and BVGRP Chief Yost. Also present: Anthony Russo and Krunal Thakove.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Council President Bergonia called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion was made by Councilmember Strosser, seconded by Councilmember Faden, to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2014 regular meeting and the January 13, 2015 special meeting. Motion was unanimously approved.

**PUBLIC HEARING/CONDITIONAL USE:** Council President Bergonia adjourned the regular order of business to conduct public hearings on four conditional use requests for the properties known as 622 St. Catherine Street, 31A South Sixth Street, 31B South Sixth Street and 606 St. Catherine Street. He called the public hearing to order at 7:05 PM.

Chad Smith, Manager, indicated that Matt Sauers, the Borough’s Zoning Officer, was absent tonight due to illness. Proper advertising and postings for these four properties occurred. Council should have a copy the Zoning Officer’s detailed inspection report with his findings, dated January, for each of these properties. The first three properties: 622 St. Catherine Street/Case #CU-15-01; 31A South Sixth Street/Case #CU-15-02; 31B South Sixth Street/Case #CU-15-03, were all recommended for approval by the Zoning Officer, as well as the Lewisburg Planning Commission. He noted that the fourth property, 606 St. Catherine Street/Case #CU-15-04, did not include a parking plan submittal as required by our ordinance. You will see that 622 Catherine Street is the first one and the Zoning Officer has recommended approval. Councilmember Strosser indicated there is a parking plan submittal for this one. However, he pointed out that there isn’t a parking plan submittal for 31A and 31B South Sixth Street. Councilmember Cox read the Zoning Officer’s letters for these two South Sixth Street properties as follows: “Four off-street parking spaces are provided onsite.” Manager Smith said these were discussed at length at the Planning Committee meeting; both utilize parking spaces in the private lot behind the properties. Councilmember Strosser commented they are not “onsite” if they are located in the Bull Run parking lot area and there should still be a parking plan provided with an application. Manager Smith asked Anthony Russo of 622 St. Catherine Street where his parking is located. Mr. Russo said in the back of the property actually on his property and he provided a drawing. Councilmember Strosser said the Planning Committee indicated they were ok with 31A and 31B South Sixth Street utilizing parking spaces in the Bull Run lot as long as they were clearly marked and signed properly as being reserved for use by the residents of 31A and 31B South Sixth Street. Manager Smith said yes; that is also the Planning Commission’s recommendation from their minutes. Solicitor Lyons reminded Council that when the motion is made for these properties, these signage issues should be made conditional to the approval. Manager Smith said 606 St. Catherine Street has no parking plan submittal, so it could be denied or we could table it. Councilmember Strosser asked the Solicitor for his opinion on this property. Solicitor Lyons said he doesn’t know why a parking plan wasn’t submitted with the application, but we certainly can’t approve it conditionally, as we don’t have a clue what we would be approving. Council could, since the hearing was advertised, table it until our next meeting thereby allowing time for the parking plan to be submitted. Councilmember Strosser said the Planning Commission’s recommendation was to reject it. Solicitor Lyons commented because there wasn’t a parking plan submitted.

Council President Bergonia asked if there is anyone present that would like to speak with regard to the conditional use requests for the four properties known as 622 St. Catherine Street, 31A South Sixth Street, 31B South Sixth Street and 606 St. Catherine Street. No one wished to speak. Council President Bergonia declared the conditional use public hearing closed at 7:15 PM.

Council President Bergonia indicated the next order of business is to conduct a public hearing on the zoning ordinance amendment. He called the public hearing to order at 7:15 PM.

Manager Smith indicated this is consideration of a change to the definition of rooming house or lodging house and also a change to the zoning map by expanding the open space zoning district to include all the area from Markel Street south to James Alley and from the east side of South Sixth Street to Bull (Limestone) Run. Solicitor Lyons said this is area where the homes were recently demolished. Councilmember Mahon asked if this includes the Niemic/Beck property. Manager Smith said yes; converting this to open space is consistent with the deed restrictions we are bound by, now because, it was grand funded and we can never do anything to it to improve the lots.
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Council President Bergonia asked if there is anyone present that would like to speak with regard to the proposed changes to the zoning ordinance. No one wished to speak. Council President Bergonia declared the public hearing closed at 7:20 PM. He reconvened to the regular order of business. He asked if someone on Council would like to make a motion now.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

POLICE COMMITTEE: Council President Bergonia said there was no meeting in January and everyone should have received the Chief’s monthly report. Chief Yost reminded Council he has two new hires, Daniel Baumwoll and Tammy Smith. Mayor Wagner reported that the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Commission (BVRPC) retained the same officers as last year (Mayor Wagner, Chairwoman; Tom Zorn, Vice Chairman; Sue Mahon, Secretary; Ed Cox, Member at Large).

PLANNING COMMITTEE: Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to approve HARB letters a, b, c and d, as submitted and recommended by HARB. Motion was unanimously approved.

a. David Smith-Mancini’s Restaurant/428 Market Street/Sign. An application was submitted to and reviewed by HARB for a sign. A motion was made by Ted Strosser, seconded by Rob Cook, to recommend approval of this sign, as indicated in the HARB application project description and as shown in the drawing provided. Motion was unanimously approved.

b. Richard Bechtel/408 Market Street/Sign. An application was submitted to and reviewed by HARB for a sign. A motion was made by Ted Strosser, seconded by Phoebe Faden, to recommend approval of this sign, as indicated in the HARB application project description and as shown in the sketch provided. Motion was unanimously approved.

c. Craig Bennett/119-121 North Fourth Street/Window Replacements. An application was submitted to and reviewed by HARB for window replacements. A motion was made by Phoebe Faden, seconded by Robert Cook, to recommend approval of the window replacements as indicated in the HARB application project description and as shown in the sketch provided. Motion was approved, with one abstention (Ted Strosser).

d. William Brennan-Bucknell University/580 South Seventh Street/Addition-Restoration. An application was submitted to and reviewed by HARB for an addition to the Carnegie Building. A motion was made by Steve Snook, seconded by Robert Cook, to recommend approval of the restoration of the Carnegie Building to the late 1910’s, early 1920’s style, restoration of original clear story over main reading room, replacement of original cornice that no longer exists, restoration of metal standing seam roof, all original brick and brownstone will be cleaned, gutters added in behind brown stone at top of building, windows will be replaced with aluminum clad wood windows with simulated divided light, elevator shaft addition will match the original building in brick color and coursing, and new entrance door will mimic larger windows; all work detailed in packet provided by Celli-Flynn Brennan Architects and Planners. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Faden, to approve Case No. 15-01, for the property of 622 St. Catherine Street to be converted into a rooming or lodging house, conditional upon the provision of five parking spaces off-street per ordinance, as recommended by the CK-COG. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Faden, to approve Case #CU-15-02, for the property of 31A South Sixth Street to be converted into a rooming/lodging house, conditional upon the provision of four parking spaces off-street per ordinance, as recommended by the CK-COG, with said four spaces being clearly marked and signed as being dedicated to this unit. ON THE QUESTION: Councilmember Cox asked if anyone is keeping track of how much of our parking spaces are being taken up and possibly tabling this; why make a motion to deny? Councilmember Strosser said mainly because this was the Planning Commission’s recommendation and we have challenged our Planning Commission a fair amount; he doesn’t see any harm in denying this one, as the procedure clearly wasn’t followed. Councilmember Mahon questioned how long we have been waiting on this parking plan? Councilmember Strosser said it has been at least a month. Solicitor Lyons stated with our Zoning Officer not present this evening, he doesn’t really know the specifics. Manager Smith commented that pursuant to what is upcoming with the zoning ordinance amendment, if Council were to deny this tonight, this
property owner will not be able to come back in and make application. Now, if you table it, it is before Council now and will be able to be considered next month. Councilmember Mahon said she would be willing to table this for another month. Councilmember Cox stated he doesn’t want to see this person penalized after they put a lot of money into this property simply because they missed the submittal of one part. Manager Smith said this could be looked at two ways. You could say they had the opportunity to submit the parking plan and they didn’t do it. Solicitor Lyons said on the other hand, we do not know what communications our Zoning Officer has had or has not had because he is absent tonight. For all we know there could have been something in the works; do we know for sure that something wasn’t submitted? Manager Smith commented they could have been present this evening. Solicitor Lyons said he doesn’t dispute that. Councilmember Mahon commented they may have felt there was no reason to be present tonight. There was much discussion. Councilmember Strosser said if we vote on this motion and it doesn’t pass, does it basically become tabled. Solicitor Lyons said no; a formal motion would be needed. Councilmember Baker suggested the motion be withdrawn. Councilmember Faden said no, she feels Council should just vote on the motion and we will see how everyone feels about this. Council President Bergonia called for the vote. Councilmembers Faden, Strosser and Bergonia voted yes (3); Councilmembers Baker, Cook, Cox, Mahon and Morris voted no (5). Motion to deny was defeated.

Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to table the public hearing for Case #CU-15-04, a conditional use request for 606 St. Catherine Street, until another hearing is held at the next regular monthly meeting of Council February and noted that said parking plan submittal, as required per ordinance, must be complied with by that Council meeting. Motion to table was approved with one dissenting vote, Councilmember Strosser voted no.

Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to appoint John Driver to the Lewisburg Area Joint Sewer Authority (LAJSA); term expiration 12/31/18. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Baker, to submit a letter of support to East Buffalo Township (EBT) Supervisors for the consolidation feasibility study (EBT and Borough) needed in an effort to obtain more information. On THE QUESTION: Councilmember Strosser questioned if Council needs to commit to a certain dollar amount at this time. Manager Smith said that will be needed, but later in the process. Councilmember Morris said this is just for the submittal for the feasibility study. Councilmember Strosser said once we get the grant, then we, Council and EBT, sit down and write the RFP for the consultant, which is very important. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Strosser indicated the Planning Committee is recommending the Manager submit a letter of concern to EBT regarding the pedestrian/bike issues from Stein Lane to the Route 15/Route 45 intersection. This was discussed by the Route 15 Corridor Study, our pedestrian/bike committee, EBT’s pedestrian/bike committee, and it hasn’t gotten anywhere. Our Traffic Committee is looking for the Borough’s help. Manager Smith provided diagrams showing the specific area being discussed, southbound Route 15 where it connects to Stein Lane. Our Traffic Committee Chairwoman met with the Manager of EBT and it appears EBT isn’t concerned about this location as there are other routes that could be taken. Councilmember Morris said she is confused. Councilmember Faden explained there is no bike path or pedestrian path and it is quite dangerous as there is no berm or sidewalk. Manager Smith said the Chief looked at this and Washington Street is an access, so people could cross Route 45, but we all know the volume of traffic on Route 45. Chief Yost said there is a three foot walking lane on the west side of that one-way section of Stein Lane, but there are no barriers or protection. Once you are past that area, there are no sidewalks in Lintontown at all, so basically there is no walkability in that community. Councilmember Mahon said she is struggling with the Borough getting involved in this. Councilmember Morris said she is also uncomfortable going into another township telling them they need to do something. There was much discussion. Councilmember Mahon suggested a Traffic Committee spokesperson take this before the East Buffalo Township Supervisors if there is a concern. Councilmember Morris asked if we really want the Borough’s Traffic Committee involved in the walkability issues of surrounding areas; again, she is very uncomfortable with this. Solicitor Lyons said he is hearing that Council is uncomfortable with the Borough addressing this issue vs. an individual addressing this issue. Again, there was much discussion. Councilmember Cook said he has friends that just moved into a property on Washington Street and they would be willing to go to an EBT meeting to share their concerns about this issue. It was the sense of Council that the Manager should share their concerns in this subject with the Traffic Committee.

Councilmember Strosser indicated the committee has recommended the Manager waive parking fees for events being held by organizations funded by the Borough, such as the LDP, LNC, etc. Manager Smith said we have recreation agreements and special events

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**606 ST CATHERINE STREET/CASE 15-04 CONVERSION TO ROOMING/LODGING HOUSE/VOTE TO TABLE (APPROVED)**

**APPOINTMENT TO LAJSA (JOHN DRIVER)**

**LETTER OF SUPPORT TO EBT FOR CONSOLIDATION FEASIBILITY STUDY (EBT AND BOROUGH)**

**DISCUSSION ON SUBMITTAL OF LETTER TO EBT REGARDING PEDESTRIAN/BIKE ISSUES FROM STEIN LANE TO ROUTE 15/ROUTE 45 INTERSECTION**

**MANAGER HAS DISCRETION TO WAIVE PARKING FEES FOR VARIOUS EVENTS**

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**January 20, 2015**

**606 ST CATHERINE STREET/CASE 15-04 CONVERSION TO ROOMING/LODGING HOUSE/VOTE TO TABLE (APPROVED)**

**APPOINTMENT TO LAJSA (JOHN DRIVER)**

**LETTER OF SUPPORT TO EBT FOR CONSOLIDATION FEASIBILITY STUDY (EBT AND BOROUGH)**

**DISCUSSION ON SUBMITTAL OF LETTER TO EBT REGARDING PEDESTRIAN/BIKE ISSUES FROM STEIN LANE TO ROUTE 15/ROUTE 45 INTERSECTION**

**MANAGER HAS DISCRETION TO WAIVE PARKING FEES FOR VARIOUS EVENTS**
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where metered parking spaces are being blocked off and it has been complicated as to whether we should charge or not. Currently the cost is $3.00 per bag and he has always taken a position that when an event is for children (Easter Egg Hunt, Wooly Worm, etc.) he waives the fees. He also waives the fees for the organizations funded by the Borough. Examples would be LDP and LNC. But, he was looking for Council’s position. He explained a more confusing one is the Buffalo Valley Recreation Association (BVRA), because there are races and walks held that are not necessarily the BVRA, but a group just going through the BVRA. There was much discussion. It was the sense of Council that the Manager be permitted to waive parking fees for events or groups at his discretion. Manager Smith thanked Council for their input on this subject.

Councilmember Strosser indicated the committee is recommending the temporary closure of Market Street, not to exceed 15 minutes, from Sixth Street to Fourth Street for the Lewisburg Sunset Rotary Frosty 5K Race, conditional upon the applicant obtaining PennDOT permit/approval and the availability for assistance by the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Department (BVRPD) on Saturday, February (Ice Festival Weekend). Councilmember Mahon questioned the time of this race. Chief Yost said registration is 8 AM and the race is 10 AM. Councilmember Faden said hearing it is a 10 AM start time, she is having second thoughts. Councilmember Cook said the committee talked about charging a fee. Manager Smith said we really weren’t sure exactly what the costs would be as this is the first time for this, but they would be billed for PPU’s from the BVRPD and that cost could be $160.00 or more. Chief Yost stressed he has concerns about this; this race happened last year, but was not on Market Street. He questions why they have to run on Market Street; they want to run from the Campus Theater to South Sixth Street and last year they did this race from Fifth Street and never touched Market Street. Now, in the fall there is the Lewisburg Lights Race and we block off Market Street from Hufnagle Park to Second Street, but it’s a Friday night and it is a totally different environment. His concern is if you plan this, counting on the Police to be here, and then there is a serious accident, his officers would have to respond to the accident and would not be here for this race. And, he has an extremely difficult time getting officers to volunteer for overtime on a Saturday. Councilmember Mahon said this is the Saturday of the Ice Festival. Our town is going to be packed with people, so she doesn’t feel this is a good idea at all. Manager Smith said Sunset Rotary member Hank Baylor pleaded that this be allowed because it would only be 15 minutes. Councilmember Baker commented no one can say it will only be 15 minutes, as there will be unknowns like the amount of people. Councilmember Morris asked why the committee recommended this. Councilmember Strosser said if they would have to pay the costs for this, why not, and he thought it was part of the Ice Festival. Chief Yost stressed again there is no guarantee of the Police being present. Councilmember Mahon questioned Linda Sterling’s comments about this. There was very much discussion. Councilmember Morris said she hates to second guess a committee, but she recommends Council not approve the use/closure of Market Street for this race. She clarified the Sunset Rotary can have their Frosty 5K Race using the route that was used and approved last year.

Councilmember Cook made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Morris, to deny the Market Street closure request of the Sunset Rotary Frosty 5K Race and directed the Manager write a letter explaining the reasons behind Council’s denial. Motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: No action items.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Baker, to approve the payment of bills from 12/13/14 through 01/16/15 in the amount of $468,618.44. ON THE QUESTION: Manager Smith indicated if you take into consideration the annual transfers, the insurance payments, and the payment to the BVRPD, you will see that the amount of this bill pay is roughly $200,000.00. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cox, to adopt the modifications to the 2015 Final Budget (starting cash amounts and unappropriated line items) as presented on Budget Modification Summary Sheet dated January 20, 2015. ON THE QUESTION: Manager Smith explained adjustments must be made to the unappropriated line items as a result of the accurate yearend closing amounts and this is done every year. He pointed out that he started this budget in September and there were very few changes made as his projections through the end of the year were extremely close and the best numbers he has ever projected. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Baker, to approve the L.A.R. Park Ash Tree Project price quote of $8,500.00 received January 12, 2015 from Keith Walter and Sons, Inc. ON THE QUESTION: Manager Smith said we rejected bids last month for just the Hunt Park area or Area A. After discussions with a forester, Scott Carey, who was aware of a logging firm interested in the Ash wood and who was also willing to take the majority of the tops of the trees and limbs, we turned around and created a spec write the removal of the trunk wood and limbs in excess of 3" in all three sections of the L.A.R. Park. This cost is what you have before you. This doesn’t include stump removal and it doesn’t deal with the clean-up of the area as a result of fire.
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marks/ruts, etc. But there is still confidence amongst the STC members and the forester that we will be able to get all necessary work done (trees down in all three areas, stumps removed, landscaping and final planting) for around $30,000.00. This approximate amount doesn’t include treatment. Mayor Wagner thanked the Manager for his work on this big project. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Baker, to direct the Solicitor to advertise an ordinance amendment which would allow the Manager to have the power to approve all purchase orders in amounts of less than $10,500.00 for any/all departments of the Borough which the Manager has supervision. ON THE QUESTION: Councilmember Morris pointed out the State allows this higher figure and currently the Borough only allows amounts less than $4,000.00. This will allow the Manager to be able to commit to purchases without having to wait until the next monthly Council meeting.

Manager Smith said he had a situation just yesterday where we needed ten new tires for one of our refuse trucks. To purchase, dismount and mount the new tires the cost was $4,629.00. He explained according to the State regulations, purchases from $10,500.00 to $19,399.99 requires written or telephone quotes, and anything over $19,400.00 must be bid. Solicitor Lyons explained that number increases each year according to a formula, but that certainly doesn’t mean we have to change this dollar amount every year.

Further, language was also removed from our ordinance right after the dollar amount, “for supplies and equipment for the use of the Borough office and those” departments of the Borough which the Borough Manager has supervision. The way this is proposed it reads, “for any/all departments of the Borough which the Manager has supervision.” He indicated he has no problem with that, but wanted Council to be aware of that change also. Manager Smith said that was purposely removed and an example of why would be his dealing with the arrangements of a curb cut installation vs. supplies and equipment.

Solicitor Lyons said we have just been presented with a very good example of something that would not fit into the language that was previously in our ordinance. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Morris reported the committee is recommending the Manager enter into a Professional Services Agreement with McCormick Taylor, specifically for the Route 15 Adaptive Signal Project, in an amount not to exceed $2,000.00. Manager Smith said this is the engineering firm the County and the Regional Transportation group hired to assist in the process of the application. This firm is ineligible to apply to be a consultant for the Councilmember Morris reported the committee is recommending the Manager enter into a Professional Services Agreement with McCormick Taylor, specifically for the Route 15 Adaptive Signal Project, in an amount not to exceed $2,000.00. Manager Smith said this is the engineering firm the County and the Regional Transportation group hired to assist in the process of the application. This firm is ineligible to apply to be a consultant for the

MAYOR: Mayor Wagner asked for a moment of reflection in memory of Robert (Bob) Donehower who recently passed away. She said this man was a World War I baby born in 1918, lived in Lewisburg almost his whole life. He was truly a philanthropist, as well as a man of the people. Everyone has a story about Bob and she shared a story. She stated we are fortunate to have another individual that knows a lot about Lewisburg’s history and that is Betty Cook. Councilmember Cook asked exactly what we could do to honor Mr. Donehower? Council President Bergonia suggested Council take time to think about this and then send your ideas to the Mayor or the Manager. Manager Smith reminded Council the naming of this building and the plaque we have was done to honor Mr. Donehower while he was living. Mayor Wagner reported Tom Zorn extends his thanks to Council for their attendance at the informational meeting about the possible merging of our two municipalities.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT: No report.

SOLICITOR: Solicitor Lyons indicated an ordinance was advertised for changes made to the millage rates for General Fund and Shade Tree purposes, and it is before you for consideration.

Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cook, to adopt Ordinance No. 1031, an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 1030 enacted December 16, 2014 by changing the millage rates for General Fund and Shade Tree purposes. Motion was unanimously approved.

Solicitor Lyons said an ordinance was advertised for stop signs at the intersections of South Third Street and St. Catherine Street, and is before you for consideration.

Councilmember Faden made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cook, to adopt Ordinance No. 1032, an ordinance providing for the erection and maintenance of stop signs at the corners of the northwestern and southeastern intersections of South Third Street and St. Catherine Street. Motion was unanimously approved.

Solicitor Lyons indicated an ordinance was advertised for an amendment of the zoning ordinance pursuant to the public hearing held earlier this evening making the changes discussed at that hearing.
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Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Faden, to adopt Ordinance No. 1033, an ordinance changing the definition of “rooming house or lodging house” and the caption of Section 360-21D to “Rooming or Lodging House,” and also changing the zoning map adopted as part of the said ordinance by expanding the open space zoning district to include all the area from Market Street South to James Alley and from the East side of South Sixth Street to Bull (Limestone) Run. ON THE QUESTION: Manager Smith said the Planning Commission also wanted the removal of rooming/lodging house from the RT-2 district, but it was inadvertently missed between their September and October meetings. This was discussed at length at the last Planning Committee meeting and it was determined that this removal of rooming/lodging house from the RT-2 district will be captured the next time changes are made to the zoning ordinance. Motion was unanimously approved.

MANAGER: Councilmember Cook made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Faden, to submit a letter of support to the Lewisburg Downtown Partnership (LDP) to pursue the Keystone Initiative for Network Based Education and Research (KINBER) opportunity. ON THE QUESTION: Manager Smith explained he attended a meeting yesterday with a representative of KINBER, along with several others including the Mayor and Councilmember Morris. This is a not-for-profit organization that was awarded a very large State Grant through the stimulus package to connect through high speed/broadband internet and it is currently used for universities, hospitals, government agencies, the small business development center and other not-for-profits. Councilmember Faden said Bucknell University currently utilizes this. Manager Smith said there are two providers for individual residences and businesses to download data at a certain level and upload at a certain level. KINBER’s connectivity is unbelievably faster for downloading and uploading which is a very positive thing. An example would be a business that sells videos worldwide; having the ability to increase their internet speed could increase their business. This could also be the case here in Lewisburg if we are proactive in the response. Lewisburg could be one of six municipalities in the State they are currently dealing with. We have a very unique relationship with Bucknell University. Most municipalities that host universities do not talk, share information, or partner on anything. This grant was millions of dollars as it is a Statewide Program. Councilmember Mahon asked how this will affect our downtown businesses. Manager Smith said at this time, we are not certain. Councilmember Faden stressed this will create an opportunity for businesses that work in the online marketplace to be able to exist here; currently they don’t exist here because they can’t. We will create an opportunity to grow a section of a marketplace in the direction that she believes all commerce is going. Councilmember Mahon said would this be competition for current providers. Manager Smith said it would depend upon how it is setup. Councilmember Faden stated there are times that local providers are allowed an opportunity to participate. Manager Smith said right now the County building is served by this, as they have a fiber optic line from Bucknell University and the County building is served by this, as they have a fiber optic line from Bucknell University. Councilmember Mahon said would this be competition for current providers. Manager Smith said it would depend upon how it is setup. Councilmember Faden stated there are times that local providers are allowed an opportunity to participate. Manager Smith said right now the County building is served by this, as they have a fiber optic line from Bucknell University and the County building has a dish on their tower that sends the information to the public library. Our two current providers do have the ability to provide these increased speeds, but they look logistically at the cost to provide and have not deemed it worthy of pursuing. KINBER did it because they received huge grant funding. There was much discussion. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Faden, to approve the temporary transfer of $15,000.00 from the General Fund to the Street Light Fund, which had to be made due to the shortage in the Street Light Fund, said monies to be paid back in 2015. Motion was unanimously approved.

OTHER COMMITTEES: Council President Bergonia said the Buffalo Valley Recreation Authority (BVRA) is continuing with the process of finding a replacement for their Director. Also, the BVRA is moving into the East Buffalo Township Building.

Councilmember Morris indicated we have just heard about the LDP and their involvement with KINBER. They are also very involved in the upcoming Ice Festival scheduled for February and .

Councilmember Morris indicated the next Town and Gown Committee meeting is scheduled for February.

Councilmember Cook indicated he has no report for the LNC. Manager Smith said he, along with the LNC Director, is working on the application for a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant as a match to the Bull Run Master Planning Grant. We are currently working on the RFP, which should be before Council next month, as we will be looking for approval to proceed.

Council President Bergonia commented there isn’t a report from the STC.

Council President Bergonia reported this is Tom Sauers last month; his retirement party is Thursday the . Mayor Wagner indicated proclamations will be presented from Senator Yaw, Representative Keller, and the Borough at 2 PM that day.
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Councilmember Morris stated the Community Garden Committee should be meeting next week.

Mayor Wagner indicated with regard to the Lewisburg Area High School Repurposing Committee, RFP’s should have gone out this month, a tour of the building will take place in February for those interested, and the next meeting is scheduled for May. Councilmember Cook asked if the RFP is available online, as he would like to see a copy. Mayor Wagner said she isn’t sure, but could try to find out.

Mayor Wagner reported the Flood Task Force is planning to invite Senators Casey and Toomey, as well as Representative Marino, to come to the Borough sometime in March. They would like to have them tour the neighborhood so they can see firsthand the flooding issues here. The intention is to educate and lobby on the Borough’s behalf. Councilmember Cook reported he will be meeting with some Bucknell students who will be participating on the Flood Task Force.

Councilmember Morris asked if we have a Council representative on the River Town Committee. Councilmember Cook said he intends to go to as many of these meetings as possible. Councilmember Morris said she would like to see the River Town Committee added to our Council agenda and if Councilmember Cook cannot make a meeting, maybe someone else should be a backup as this is an important committee.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Councilmember Cox said there was a Fire Committee meeting last week; there is a press release announcing the hiring of a new Fire Chief. The man hired is from Iowa and will report to work the first week in February. He, along with Trey Casimir represent the Borough on this committee and there is also representation from West Chillisquaque Township, Buffalo Township, East Buffalo Township, and Kelly Township. Some expressed distress about the proposed ordinance which would allow the fire company to bill for fire calls, as it was never followed up on. He understands that Peter Matson, Esq. will be drafting a proposal on this as it will generate revenue for the fire company. There was also much discussion with regard to all the tax exempt properties in the Borough; they are trying to determine where the monetary support is going to be coming from under the current system. The question is how long we can continue to sustain people using these resources when they do not contribute. He was told that our Borough supposedly has 45.7% of tax exempt properties. Discussions continue with regard to representation on the actual Fire Board. Currently it is made up of volunteers with no municipal participation. It has been expressed by Tom Zorn that the municipalities need to hold a seat on the Fire Board, because as it stands now, these volunteers could obligate the municipalities to pay for things, like labor contracts, etc. Now, we have absolutely no control. There is reason for concern and he is sharing these things with Council as they need to be considered. Councilmember Morris clarified that is hearing that not being a part of the Fire Board means you do not have a vote in terms of policy and decision making? Councilmember Cox said that is correct.

WRITTEN REPORTS: Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to acknowledge receipt of the Budget Index; Parking Report and Code Enforcement Officer Report. Motion was unanimously approved.

Council President Bergonia noted the Zoning Report for December will have to be presented at next month’s Council meeting.

WORK SESSION: Council President Bergonia questioned if a work session will be needed January 13, 2015. Councilmember Morris said there may be one needed due to the KINBER opportunity and suggested the Manager send an email to Council closer to the actual meeting date advising if a work session is needed.

Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to hold an executive session to discuss a personnel issue. Motion was unanimously approved.

Council President Bergonia called for a five minute recess at 8:45 PM. Council returned at 8:50 PM.

Council entered executive session at 8:50 PM. Council returned at 9:15 PM.

Councilmember Cook made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Morris, to give the Manager a discretionary bonus in the amount of $2,500.00, to be provided this week. Motion was approved with two dissenting votes, Councilmembers Cox and Strosser voted no.

Councilmember Morris indicated in accordance with Council discussions, she will provide a memo indicating Council would like to receive a summary report monthly of the Manager’s activities, would like the Manager to continue his work to prepare a three year projection of the Borough’s budget, and would like the Manager to take the lead in attending workshops, along with a member or two of Council.
January 20, 2015

There being no further business, Councilmember Cox made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Faden, to adjourn the meeting. Motion was unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Garrison
Borough Secretary