The regular monthly meeting of the Borough Council of Lewisburg, Union County, Pennsylvania, was held on Tuesday, April 16, 2013 in the Council Chambers, 55 South Fifth Street. Present: Council President Bergonia; Councilmembers Baker, Casimir, Cox, Mahon, Morris and Stresser; Mayor Wagner; Manager/Treasurer Smith; Solicitor Lyons; and Secretary Garrison. Absent: Councilmember Robinson. Also present: David Grey and Matt Farrand.

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 Morris, seconded by Councilmember Stresser, to approve the minutes of the regular Council meeting held March 19, 2013. Motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

POLICE COMMITTEE: No meeting in April. Chief Yost distributed and reviewed his March 2013 monthly activity report in detail.

PLANNING COMMITTEE: Councilmember Casimir made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Stresser, to approve HARB application a through e, as submitted and recommended by HARB. Motion was unanimously approved.

a. Joyce Johnson/50-52 South Fifth Street/Porch Renovations. An application was submitted to and reviewed by HARB for signage. A motion as made by Robert Cook, seconded by Kim Walter, to approve the porch renovation work as presented in the attachments to the HARB application, specifically replacement of decking with Azek vinyl porch floor and railing and front skirt to be repaired in kind. Motion was unanimously approved.

b. Kevin Gardner/606 Market Street/Signage. An application was submitted to and reviewed by HARB for signage. A motion was made by Ted Stresser, seconded by Elaine Wintjen, to approve the application to add a sign on the existing bracket with the addition of vinyl lettering on the windows, as specifically described in attachment to HARB application designated as Sheet #1. Motion was unanimously approved.

c. Kathy-Randy Snyder/336/338/340 Market Street/Fence. An application was submitted to and reviewed by HARB for a fence. A motion was made by Steve Snook, seconded by Mary Mastascusa, to approve the placement of a wooden fence as stated in the HARB application under project description, said fence will need to be stained and/or painted within one year. Motion was unanimously approved.

d. Todd Kramer-Matt Dewing/328 Market Street/Renovation. An application was submitted to and reviewed by HARB for renovation work. A motion was made by Robert Cook, seconded by Phoebe Faden, to approve the renovations, as stated in the HARB application under project description and as shown on the drawings attached to the application, specifically with new door/window configuration as shown on the sheet marked page #1, with lighting by goosenecks over the sign. Motion was unanimously approved.

e. Martin Newton/133-135 North Fourth Street/Porch Support Shed. An application was submitted to and reviewed by HARB for a fence, porch support and shed. A motion was made by Elaine Wintjen, seconded by Mary Mastascusa, to approve the placement of a fence and gates, as stated in the HARB application under project description, said fence and gates will need to be stained and/or painted within one year. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Casimir reported we finally received an invitation from the William Cameron Engine Company (WCEC) for a representative and an alternate member to serve on the newly formed Municipal and Community Advisory Committee (MACAC). He reiterated that he previously volunteered for this, but isn’t sure he would be a good candidate since he is moving his business to a larger facility, meaning he will be busier, and this is his last year serving on Council. He is willing to serve short term, but he would think it would be best to have some more continuity on that committee. Council President Bergonia indicated he would work on this.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: Councilmember Stresser said the 2013 CDBG Project Prioritization was recommended by the committee as follows: St. Louis Street Reconstruction (South Sixth Street to Hawn Alley) and the Donald Heiter Center’s Before School Program.

David Grey, SEDA-COG, stated he was contacted by Andrea Tufo of the Donald Heiter Community Center, Ms. Tufo indicated her other funding fell through so this program was withdrawn. He distributed his memo showing the revised recommendations: South Sixth Street Reconstruction Project, estimate $73,800.00, and Administration of CDBG funding, estimate of $16,200.00. He explained he renamed the project in an effort to be consistent with how we have named projects in the past.

Councilmember Stresser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Baker, to prioritize the 2013 CDBG Funding as follows: South Sixth Street Reconstruction Project with an estimated cost of $73,800.00 and the Administration of same at an estimated cost of $16,200.00. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Stresser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Baker, to untangle the Confirmation of Assignment to Larson Design Group in the amount of $4,780.00 for design, permitting and document preparation to re-stabilize the stream bank along Buffalo Creek adjacent to the Borough’s brush pile. ON THE QUESTION: Councilmember Casimir said he was hoping to have more time to research this; he has been in contact with the Buffalo Creek Water Shed Association and a professor at
Bucknell University who is supposed to be an expert in different types of reclamation techniques. Our Manager indicated there wasn’t urgency to this, so he would ask for another month to continue to meet with these people for an alternate approach. Councilmember Strosser withdrew his motion to table and Councilmember Baker withdrew his second. This matter remains tabled at this time.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:** Councilmember Casimir made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to approve payment of bills from 03/16/13 through 04/12/13 in the amount of $251,933.08. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Casimir made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Baker, to approve reconstruction of the curb and sidewalk ramp at the northeast corner of St. Catherine and South Fourth Streets by Diehl’s Masonry at a cost not to exceed $5,045.00. ON THE QUESTION: Manager Smith explained the property owner has taken care of their sidewalk reconstruction and the Borough is responsible for the ramp. The Borough attempts to tie this work in when a property owner is doing work. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Casimir indicated the Finance Committee has had conversations pertaining to the limits of spending for bidding purposes. The State’s limit of spending was increased to $12,000.00 and the Borough’s limit on spending has remained at $4,000.00. The Finance Committee has declined to raise the Borough’s limit, which is why the items over $4,000.00 are coming before Council for action. If Council doesn’t want to see such small amounts, we can consider raising the Borough’s limits.

Councilmember Casimir indicated an executive session will be needed at the end of the meeting to discuss potential legal matters pertaining to flood mitigation grants and also to discuss personnel matters.

Councilmember Casimir indicated the Borough’s current financial institution was able to repair the coin sorter, so the Request for Qualifications is on hold. The Finance Committee has not recommended a financial contribution be made to the Little League for assistance with field maintenance as the Borough crew does regular maintenance work on the field (purchase of $1,000.00 worth of dirt) and use our mowers (cost of mower $6,000.00), etc. Councilmember Baker noted we also buy very expensive dirt. Manager Smith explained the little league put in a request because they are having difficulty finding a groundskeeper. Currently the Borough crew mows the grass, but it is done on our timetable; there isn’t a guarantee as to when we will get there. He further explained there is a mower out there and the Little League does have access to it. Councilmember Casimir stated they are supposedly hosting two tournaments at the end of the season. Manager Smith said he was told All Star Districts and Sectionals will be held in the Borough this year. Councilmember Casimir said if they are still having trouble at the end of the season, he believes our Borough crew will be pitching in more time to be sure the fields are in proper playing order for these events. Councilmember Strosser reported he has heard the Roller Mills is unhappy about the parking issues out there. Councilmember Baker said this is a result of the Thursday evening auctions; there wasn’t a problem of parking when the Roller Mills closed at 5 PM. There was much discussion.

Councilmember Casimir reported Union County and BVRec have submitted two grants to PennDOT and DCNR totaling nearly $1,000,000.00 in funding for construction and further development of the Rail/Trail from the trail-head through and into Lewisburg Borough to North Fifth Street. Mayor Wagner pointed out that Bucknell students have presented three or four alternatives for crossing Route 15.

**MAYOR:** Mayor Wagner indicated she spent half her day yesterday with Representative Keller in Harrisburg witnessing government in action; she is grateful to have had that opportunity. She then attended a ceremony where the Central Keystone-COG (CK-COG) accepted the Governor’s Award for Local Government Excellence recognizing their facilitating the regional police efforts. She was there, along with Council President Bergonia and the CK-COG representatives. She learned this Borough has other projects that are deserving of an award like this and all we need to do is fill out the appropriate paperwork. She noted she plans on attending tourism day on Friday of this week sponsored by the Susquehanna Valley Visitors Bureau. She expressed her dissatisfaction of Windstream’s services in this Borough reporting it took 40 minutes to get to a real person when she called their number and then the person she spoke to was quite rude. We should not be getting second class service and she would like to explore other options and alternatives. She reminded everyone that the Fourth of July Parade and activities are being planned and it is going to be a wonderful event. The Community Relations Board at the Penitentiary meets this week and is a great opportunity for networking. There has been a lot of LNC activity. Arbor Day is the 26th of this month. Councilmember Casimir said the Arbor Day ceremony takes place in Kidsburg at 5 PM and there will be 30 to 45 trees planted at various sites around Lewisburg with North Fourth Street being a primary location. This year Union County is donating 30 oak trees to the Borough as part of their Bicentennial Celebration; 200 trees for the 200th year.
COUNCIL PRESIDENT: No report.

SOLICITOR: Solicitor Lyons presented an ordinance to terminate the Borough of Lewisburg Police Pension Plan; this ordinance has been authorized, duly advertised, and is presented for Council consideration.

Councilmember Casimir made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to approve Ordinance No. 1021, termination of the Borough of Lewisburg’s Police Pension Plan. Motion was unanimously approved.

MANAGER: Councilmember Casimir made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to allow the Buffalo Valley AM Kiwanis Club to utilize the Borough’s three-globe light standard, alongside a depiction of the Lewisburg High School, on a crock. ON THE QUESTION: Councilmember Morris said this is tentative; the Lewisburg High School Alumni Association would like to create a crock, but they do not know if this can be done. She wanted to get Council approval in case they determine it can be done. Motion was unanimously approved.

Manager Smith indicated the Union County GIS has asked the Borough to approve the name change of Tressler Drive to East Tressler Boulevard, as a result of the Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village reconstruction. Solicitor Lyons asked if Tressler Drive was always a private road. Manager Smith said yes. Solicitor Lyons said they are not asking the Borough to accept this private road as a public road. Manager Smith said no. Solicitor Lyons said the Borough doesn’t have a say in the naming of a private road, but he doesn’t have a problem with Council agreeing to this. There was much discussion.

Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Casimir, to notify the Union County GIS Department that the Borough does not object to the name change of Tressler Drive to East Tressler Boulevard, as a result of the Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village reconstruction. Motion was unanimously approved.

OTHER COMMITTEES: Councilmember Bergonia reported the Buffalo Valley Recreation Authority (BVRec) opened a dog park on April 7th and there were about sixty dogs there. They are also in the process of hiring necessary pool personnel and camp personnel.

Councilmember Morris reported the Downtown Partnership wants everyone to know their fundraising campaign is due to start in mid-June. She stated she is also is attempting to have the LDP work with the LNC administratively, in an attempt to determine how they can move forward with more of a connection than they have had in the past.

Mayor Wagner stated there has not been a Town and Gown Committee for a while.

Mayor Wagner reported the LNC has been very busy with Ward I Plus; there is a public meeting Thursday at 7 PM at the Senior Citizen Center to determine what issues of concern they may have in their neighborhood and their ideas for improvements; there will also be a public meeting Friday at 4 PM for those who can’t make Thursday’s meeting.

Councilmember Casimir stated he reported earlier on the Arbor Day Celebration and thanked the Borough for all the assistance the STC is getting from the Manager and Borough crew.

Council President Bergonia indicated the CK-COG continues to be very busy and as was noted earlier they received the Governor’s Award for Local Government Excellence.

Councilmember Morris indicated the Community Garden is up and running with an incredible amount of support this year. There were twenty-two plots added, every plot is filled, and they have a waiting list.

Mayor Wagner reported the Traffic Advisory Committee is working with Michele Oswald, an engineering professor at Bucknell University; her students are doing numerous traffic counts and evaluations around town to help with the rail/trail studies.

OLD BUSINESS: Councilmember Strosser reported a follow-up to the Route 15 Corridor Study and a review of our Zoning Ordinance is needed.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

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

WORK SESSION: Council President Bergonia reported there will not be a work session in May.
Tuesday, April 16, 2013

Councilmember Casimir made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Morris, to hold an executive session to discuss potential legal matters pertaining to flood mitigation grants and also to discuss personnel matters. Motion was unanimously approved.

Council President Bergonia called for a five minute recess at 8:35 PM. Council returned at 8:40 PM.

Council entered executive session at 8:40 PM. Council returned at 8:50 PM.

There being no further business, Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Casimir, to adjourn the meeting. Motion was unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Garrison
Borough Secretary