A work session of the Borough Council of Lewisburg, Union County, Pennsylvania, was held on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 in the Borough Council Chambers, 55 South Fifth Street. Present: President of Council Bergonia; Councilmembers Baker, Cook, Cox, Morris, Strosser; Mayor Wagner and Manager Smith. Councilmembers Faden and Mahon arrived at 7:05 PM. Also present: Trey Casimir.

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Trey Casimir was present to update Council on the progression of the William Cameron Municipal and Community Advisory Committee (MACAC). Mr. Casimir, along with Councilmember Cox, communicated current discussion points and the intended direction of the committee. There was much discussion. No action items were necessary.

VAN SANT ELEVATION PROJECT: Borough Manager Smith informed the Council that its application for Hazard Mitigation Funding to elevate the VanSant home above the base flood elevation was approved in the amount of $132,081.00. There was some discussion.

Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to direct the Manager to execute the contract with the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) in the amount of $132,081.00 for the VanSant Elevation Project #4030-59-049 and return said contract to PEMA as required. Motion was approved with one abstention. Councilmember Strosser abstained from voting.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM GENERAL TO STREET LIGHT FUND: Borough Manager Smith explained that an accounting shortfall was present in the Street Light Fund as a result of the need for additional street light standards on the St. Louis Street Project and for operating purposes through the end of 2014. There was much discussion.

Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Faden, to approve the transfer of $20,000 from the General Fund to the Street Light Fund: 1) $10,000.00 to offset the purchase of the street light standards for the St. Louis Street Project; and 2) $10,000.00 as an operating loan through the end of 2014, said operating loan of $10,000.00 to be paid back in 2015. Motion was unanimously approved.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM GENERAL TO REFUSE FUND: Borough Manager Smith explained that an accounting shortfall was present in the Refuse Fund for operating expenses incurred prior to the third quarter billing payments; said $30,000.00 to be paid back in 2015. Motion was unanimously approved.

There was much discussion regarding the financial condition of the Refuse Fund, and it was the sense of Council that a special committee should be created to perform a thorough review/analysis of the Refuse Fund.

EPOXY PAVEMENT MARKINGS PROPOSAL: Borough Manager Smith indicated only one proposal was received for the proposed project. Given the lack of competitive proposals, the Manager recommended rejecting all bids and reviewing the project in the spring of 2015. There was some discussion.

Councilmember Strosser made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cook, to reject the one and only proposal received for the Epoxy Pavement Markings, with the intention of re-advertising in the spring of 2015.

PRESENTATION OF DRAFT 2015 BUDGET: Manager Smith presented a “draft” budget for 2015. Manager Smith explained that pursuant to discussions with Council over the last few months, he developed the budget with a .5 mill increase to General Fund; a .125 mill increase to the Street Light Fund; and a .125 mill increase to the Shade Tree Fund. This would equate to a tax increase of 0.75 mills taking the total assessed millage from 10.15 mills to 10.90 mills. There was much discussion.

It was the sense of Council that the proposed .75 mil increase may be approved, with actions put in place for next year as a means of looking toward saving money, i.e. review of Refuse Fund, review of ways to conserve on electricity, review of Parking Fund, etc.

EXECUTIVE SESSION–PERSONNEL MATTER: Councilmember Baker made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to enter an Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue. Motion was unanimously approved.
Council entered executive session at 8:10 PM.

Council returned to the regular work session at 8:15 PM.

Councilmember Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Faden, to pay the Manager for his twelve unused PTO days from 2014, as allowed per his contract, to be payable this week as it is a payroll week. Motion was unanimously approved.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilmember Stroser, seconded by Councilmember Morris, to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM. Motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Chad N. Smith
Borough Manager