The regular monthly meeting of the Borough Council of Lewisburg, Union County, Pennsylvania, was held at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 in the Council Chambers, 55 South Fifth Street, Lewisburg, Present: Council President Morris; Councilmembers Derman, Mahon, Yohn, Medina, Comas and Fredrick; Mayor Wagner, Solicitor Lyons, Manager Lowthert, Secretary Anders, BVRPD Chief Yost, Special Projects Coordinator/Grant Manager Kim Wheeler and Junior Councilmember Kaszuba. Also present: Rudy Mummey, Ellen Ruby, Lynne Ragniece, Sandy Field, Nancy Steckel, Carolyn Conner, Kevin Gardner, Griffin Perrault, Alf Siewers, Andrew Stuhl, Barbara Kalin, Rich Stover and Matt Farand.

CALL TO ORDER: Council President Morris called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made by Councilmember Derman, seconded by Councilmember Medina, to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2019 regular monthly meeting. Motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC WORKS/POLICE COMMITTEE: Council received the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Department’s (BVRPD) monthly report.

Councilmember Mahon made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Derman, to approve final design plans for the Sixth South Street CDBG funded Floodplain Restoration Project and to release the project for bid. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Mahon made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Derman to approve a Budget Revision to the 2016 CDBG Program to move $2,385.16 from the completed Lewisburg Borough Curb-Cuts Project to the South Sixth Street Reconstruction Project (Floodplain Restoration component).

Review of the project design plans for the Lewisburg Borough 2020 Streets Project and the Walker-Loomis Street Project is expected at the November Committee Meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE: Councilmember Derman made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to approve payment of bills from September 14, 2019 through October 11, 2019 in the amount of $461,127.04. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Derman stated there has been some discussions at the Committee level regarding passing a resolution to allow Lewisburg Borough Council members to participate in meetings by telecommunication devices. Some of the questions are as follows: Do we allow telecommunication? If telecommunication is aloud, would the Councilmember be allowed to vote or just participate in the discussion? Should there be restrictions on the number of times that a Councilmember would be able to telecommunicate? There was a concern of the stability of technology and it becomes disruptive to the meeting. There was much discussion. The Borough Solicitor will research the legalities and get back to Borough Council. Council may try telecommunication at committee meetings.

The Committee directed the Borough Manager to purchase a replacement post hole/signpost installation attachment for the Bucket Truck at a cost of approximately $4,000.00 to be paid from the Highway Equipment Depreciation Fund.

Schlegel Excavating Inc. will be used for 2019 – 2020 winter snow removal equipment/operator rental.

Committee directed the Borough Manager to release for bid surplus Borough Equipment.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/PLANNING COMMITTEE: Councilmember Mahon made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Derman, to approve HARB item a as submitted and recommended by HARB per their minutes dated October 8, 2019. Motion was unanimously approved.

- Scott Mackenzie / 235 North Second Street / Accessory Garage. An application was submitted to and reviewed by HARB for a replacement accessory garage. Motion was made by Kim Walter-Makowski, seconded by Ann Hilliard to recommend approval and issuance of Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) for a replacement garage as submitted in the project description of the HARB application, recommendation for 1 over 1 double hung windows with siding to be smooth or brushed. Motion was unanimously approved.

  Courtesy Review: Jim Clark / 26 North Seventh Street / Garage in Rear. Mr. Clark shared the project for the garage in the rear with HARB. Motion was made by Ann Hilliard, seconded by Ted Strosser that it is HARB’s interpretation that this project has little impact on the streetscape of Seventh Street or Market Street and therefore does not require HARB review. Motion was unanimously approved.

Project Updates: It has been noted that 108 Saint Louis Street has removal of all historic trim elements without HARB approval.
Councilmember Mahon made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Medina, to accept the resignation of Sarajane Snyder from the Shade Tree with regret. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Comas attended a Shade Tree Commission meeting and believes that passing a Resolution to clarify the requested priorities by Borough Council. There was some discussion.

Councilmember Comas made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Derman, to pass the following Resolution: Whereas the Borough Council in its opinion, depends on the Shade Tree Commission to enforce its shade tree ordinance, Whereas Borough Council supports the goal of a robust urban canopy and broad public appreciation for the value of shade trees, Whereas the ordinance is not sufficient to meet our current needs to promote and protect shade trees, Whereas effective protection and enforcement of shade trees requires a clear tree plan, Be it resolved that the Borough Council requests the Shade Tree Commission adopt as its priorities, in this order: a. Drafting revisions to the current Borough Ordinance; b. Developing an adequate tree plan for the Borough; c. Maintaining its normal regulatory functions as proscribed in the current Shade Tree ordinance. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Mahon indicated the current vacancies on the Planning Commission, term expiration 12/31/2019 and 12/31/2022, HARB, term expiration 12/31/2020 and Shade Tree Commission, term expiration 12/31/2020 and 12/31/2021.

PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY NON-AGENDA ITEMS: Rich Stover representing the Buffalo Valley Climate Coalition thanked Mayor Wagner for the proclamation of the Climate Strike and stated that he is looking forward to working together. Councilmember Comas suggested that interested parties get together and develop an action plan to present to the Community Development Committee for Council consideration.

MAYOR: Mayor Wagner proclaimed that Trick or Treating will be held on Halloween from 6 PM to 9 PM.

It was also noted that the weekend was a success with the downtown being very busy with the Unpaved event and the craft show in Hufnagel Park. Mayor Wagner stated that she is looking forward to seeing the Unpaved event again next year. Ellen Ruby informed Council that there were 25 vendors from the Unpaved community, 50 additional crafters and food/beverage vendors, a live band and wooly worms. Ellen thanked Chief Yost and staff for their presence and assistance with planning and information. Ellen also wanted to thank Borough staff and crew for their assistance.

Mayor Wagner shared an event on November 3rd. Eddie Fryerson is doing his last one man show. See the Facebook page for tickets (https://lewisburgpa.com/news/). The money that comes into Lewisburg Downtown Partners for the event will be donated to 4th of July parade.

October 10th Mayor Wagner presented a proclamation for Alumni Weekend at the Lewisburg High School. The Visitors Bureau will be having a breakfast for area Elected people November 8th.

Mayor Wagner introduced a special guest, Louis Medina to read LGBTQ History Month Proclamation.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT: No report.

BOROUGH MANAGER: Councilmember Derman made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon, to approve the proposed 2020 budget with millage rates as follows: General Fund 10.085; Debt Service Fund 0.598; Street Lighting Fund 0.407; Fire Protection Fund 1.010; Shade Tree Fund 0.100; Regional Recreation Fund 0.540 (total millage for 2020 is 12.74), and direct the Solicitor to advertise proposed 2020 budget for final consideration and adoption of Council on November 19, 2020 (Proposed 2020 budget will be placed on the Borough website and available for review at the Borough Office beginning October 16th.) Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Yohn made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Mahon to direct Borough Solicitor to prepare a resolution for the 2020 mileage rates and a tax resolution for realty transfer tax, earned income tax, local services tax and business privilege tax for 2020. Motion was unanimously approved

BOROUGH SOLICITOR: No report.

JUNIOR COUNCILMEMBER: Junior Councilmember Kaszuba informed Council that the Fall play this year is Beauty and the Beast.

OTHER COMMITTEES: Councilmember Medina reported Buffalo Valley Recreation Authority (BVRA) is hosting ribbon cutting event to celebrate the AED gift donated by Evangelical Hospital on November 7th at the Warming House.

Ellen Ruby stated that Lewisburg Downtown Partnership (LDP) is getting ready for the holiday season, tree lights, late shoppers’ night, Grinch weekend and Santa at the Campus Theatre.
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Ellen also stated that LDP is kicking off the 2020 – 2022 campaign called Preserving the Legacy for Lewisburg. Mayor Wagner commends Ellen Ruby on everything she contributes.

Councilmember Derman reported that the paddle boats at the Lewisburg Landing are being used.

Barbara Kailin informed Council that the Shade Tree Commission (STC) was approached by a company called Core Integrator because they would like to plant a tree for each of their new customers.

Borough Manager Lowthert stated that Chesapeake Bay Foundation donated 44 trees to the Borough. The trees will be planted at Wolfe Field.

Councilmember Derman reported that Central Susquehanna Fire and Emergency Services (CSFES) will have a meeting Thursday to finalize agreements. The plan is to finalize the agreements in October and to be up and running in January.

Special Projects Coordinator/Grant Manager Kim Wheeler reminded Council the Market Street Study will be presented to the Public October 16, 2019 at the Campus Theatre. The doors will be open at 5:30 PM.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS FROM COUNCIL: Councilmember Comas shared the draft Human Relations Ordinance with Council. Councilmember Derman made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Comas, to send the Human Relations Ordinance for a preliminary legal review. Motion was unanimously approved. The draft Human Relations Ordinance will be posted on the Borough website and be available for email upon request.

WRITTEN REPORTS: Councilmember Mahon made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Derman, to acknowledge receipt of the monthly LAJSA October 15, 2019 Agenda, LAJSA September 17, 2019 Minutes, Zoning Officer Report, Code Enforcement Officer Report, Fines and Meters Report. Motion was unanimously approved.

WORK SESSION: Manager Lowthert said there will be a work session held Tuesday November 12, 2019.

Council President Morris called for executive session at 7:56 PM for personnel and legal matters.

Council returned at 8:27 PM.

There being no further business, Councilmember Derman made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Fredrick, to adjourn the meeting. Motion was unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline A. Anders
Borough Secretary