

The regular monthly meeting of the Borough Council of Lewisburg, Union County, Pennsylvania, was held at 6:30 PM on **Tuesday, February 18, 2025** in Council Chambers, 55 South Fifth Street, Lewisburg. Present: Council President Heayn; Council Vice President Bilenky Trahan, Councilmembers Armbruster (via telecommunications), Comas, Pearson, Powers, Stamm, Grobes, Manager Lowthert, Secretary Wendt, Community Development Grant Manager Berkey, and Solicitor Lyons. Also present: Chief Embeck, Lynne Ragusea, Martha Barrick, Kevin Gardner, George Kaplan, and Debra Sulai.

An Executive Session was held on January 30, 2025, 5:30 pm – 7:10 pm to discuss union contract negotiations.

An Executive Session was held on February 10, 2025, 6:00 pm – 7:45 pm to discuss union contract negotiations.

CALL TO ORDER: Council President Heayn called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Councilmember Bilenky Trahan made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Powers to approve the January 21, 2025, Regular meeting minutes. Motion was unanimously approved.

COUNCIL PRESENTATION: Buffalo Valley Regional Police Chief Dan Embeck introduced himself and said that if anyone needs anything to please reach out. He also said the best way to reach him is by email.

PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: Councilmember Bilenky Trahan made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Powers to approve HARB items a through c as submitted and recommended by HARB per their minutes dated February 11, 2025. Motion was unanimously approved.

- a. **44 Market, LLC / 112 Market Street / Windows/Siding** (HARB approved and recommends Council approval)
- b. **535 Inc. / 617 Market Street / Windows/Siding** (HARB approved and recommends Council approval)
- c. **Kevin Gardner / 621/623 Market Street / Windows/Siding** (HARB approved and recommends Council approval)

Councilmember Bilenky Trahan made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pearson to approve the Wolfe Field Athletic Complex Master Site Development Plan Request for Proposal (RFP) and Amendment to include the Community Garden (contingent upon PA DCNR approval of the draft document) and permission to release the RFP for proposals. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Bilenky Trahan made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Powers to approve engineering proposal from PennCore Consulting in the amount of \$6,500.00 to complete a Subdivision of Parcel #008-011-006.00000 – St. George Street River Access. (Note – additional legal fees from the Borough Solicitor for the completion of the Subdivision are expected to be less than \$1,000.00) Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Bilenky Trahan made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Powers to elect to revise our 2022 CDBG Grant Program reallocating \$77,298.71 to unused funds from the Limestone Run Flood Resiliency Project to the South Eighth Street/White Pine Alley Removal of Architectural Barriers Project and to approve the Union County Commissioners, on behalf of Lewisburg Borough, submit a budget revision to PA DCED. Motion was unanimously approved.

Union County’s 2024 CDBG Grant Application (which includes Lewisburg Borough’s 2024 CDBG Project Selection) has been approved by DCED and is currently in contracting.

Lewisburg Borough is expected to begin its 2025 CDBG Application Preparation process in March.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: Buffalo Valley Regional Police (BVRPD) Chief Embeck submitted a monthly report.

ATTENDANCE

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
February 10, 2025

COUNCIL PRESENTATION

PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS
HARB

44 Market, LLC

535 Inc.

Kevin Gardner

Wolfe Field Athletic Complex Master Site Development Plan – RFP

Approved proposal from PennCore Consulting for \$6,500

2022 CDBG Grant Program Reallocation of funds

2024 CDBG Grant Application Approval

2025 CDBG Application

ADMINISTRATIVE AND PUBLIC SAFETY
BVRPD

February 18, 2025

William Cameron Engine Company (WCEC) Chief Blount submitted a monthly report.

Councilmember Grobes made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Comas to approve payment of bills from January 19, 2025, through February 15, 2025, in the amount of \$402,842.98. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Grobes made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Powers to direct the Borough Solicitor to prepare and advertise changes to the Borough's Solid Waste-Recycling Ordinance related to the definition of "Community Activities" as PA DEP has indicated that recycling must be mandatory at events in Lewisburg Borough attended by more than 200 persons daily. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Grobes made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Powers to appoint Mike Derman to the Lewisburg Borough Zoning Hearing Board with a term expiring December 31, 2027. Motion was unanimously approved.

Current vacancies on Zoning Hearing Board Alternate, term expiration December 31, 2026, Zoning Hearing Board Alternate, term expiration December 31, 2026, HARB, term expiration December 31, 2025.

PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Debra Sulai asked Council to continue discussions regarding the cat issue in the Borough. She suggested updating the Borough Codes and to hire an animal control officer. Chief Embeck reported that police can enforce dog laws but there are not any codes for cat enforcement. There was a lengthy discussion on how to proceed. Lynne Ragusea, LDP, reported that she is in the process of nominating the Hufnagle Park Improvement Project for a County award. She will share the information when it is completed.

BOROUGH MANAGER: Borough Manager Lowthert asked Council for direction regarding priority use of the Borough office vehicle. After a lengthy discussion, Council requested that the Administrative and Public Safety Committee continue to discuss.

BOROUGH SOLICITOR:

Councilmember Powers made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bilenky Trahan to approve Resolution 25-04 increasing Zoning Permit Fees. Motion was unanimously approved.

REPORTS / COMMUNITY UPDATES / PUBLIC NOTICES:

Councilmember Grobes read the "Black History Month" Proclamation.

Councilmember Heayn reported that Councilmember Grobes will be replacing Councilmember Bilenky Trahan on the Parking Subcommittee. Councilmember Pearson will Chair the subcommittee. Heayn is still in the process of updating the Council bylaws. He also reported that he received management evaluation input and is in the process of updating. Heayn reported that he drafted a letter to be distributed to residents/property owners who would be affected by the CDBG South 8th Street/White Pine Alley Project and is requesting their feedback.

Councilmember Pearson made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Comas to approved Resolution 25-05 affirming Lewisburg Borough's Commitment to Inclusivity and Welcoming All Residents. Motion was unanimously approved.

Community Development/Grant Manager Berkey reported that a Public Meeting will be held next Wednesday, February 26th, 6:30 pm at the Lewisburg Hotel for public input on the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. Berkey also reported that a study group is being formed for the Wolfe Field Master Site Development Plan. If anyone is interested in being part of the group, please reach out to Berkey.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

WCEC

Approval of Bills

Approve Borough Solicitor to prepare and advertise changes to Solid Waste-Recycling Ordinance

Derman appointed to ZHB

Vacancies

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Debra Sulai

Lynne Ragusea

Borough Manager

Borough Solicitor

Resolution 25-04

REPORTS / COMMUNITY UPDATES / PUBLIC NOTICES

Heayn

Resolution 25-05

Berkey

February 18, 2025

Councilmember Comas reported that in 1938 Crystal Bird Fauset was the first female African American state legislator elected in the United States based in Philadelphia, Pa. He also encourage everyone to get involved in any way they can to help preserve our democracy.

Councilmember Pearson shared information regarding local transit in the Borough. The Stop Hopper is an on demand publicly accessible transit service for the Lewisburg-Milton service area that operates Monday-Friday, 6:30 am – 6:30 pm. It is \$2.00 a ride and free for 65 years and older for those who register with the Rabbit Transit System.. An app can be downloaded on your phone to utilize the service. A week without driving in October would be a great opportunity to use this service to better understand the transit system. Pearson also reported that there is a Safe Streets For All public meeting next week and has flyers for distribution with QR Code to complete the survey.

WRITTEN REPORTS: Councilmember Powers made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bilenky Trahan to acknowledge receipt of the monthly Parking Report, Zoning Officer Report, Code Enforcement Officer Report, CK COG January Activity Reports, and BVRA December 2024 Financials. Motion was unanimously approved.

WORK SESSION: There will be a Work Session to be held Tuesday, March 11, 2025.

Council President Heayn called for an executive session to discuss Union Contract Negotiations/Matters and legal matters at 7:40 PM. Council returned at 8:18 PM.

There being no further business, Councilmember Powers made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Pearson to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy D. Wendt
Borough Secretary

**REPORTS /
COMMUNITY
UPDATES /
PUBLIC NOTICES**

Comas

Pearson

**WRITTEN
REPORTS**

WORK SESSION

**EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

ADJOURNMENT