

The regular monthly meeting of the Borough Council of Lewisburg, Union County, Pennsylvania, was held at 6:30 PM on **Tuesday, September 19, 2023** in Council Chambers, 55 South Fifth Street, Lewisburg. Present: Council President Sulai; Council Vice President Comas, Councilmembers Derman, Heayn (seated 7:15 pm), Bilenky Trahan, Powers, Stamm, Grobes, Manager Lowthert, Secretary Wendt, Mayor Alvarez, Community Development Grant Manager Berkey, and Solicitor Lyons. Also present: Ellen Ruby, Taylor Lightman, Brian Schultz, Norm Butts, Lynne Ragusesa, Logan Osgood-Zimmerman, and Justin Strawser.

Council President Sulai reported that there was an Executive Session held on August 24, 2023, 5:00 pm – 5:10 pm to discuss legal matters. An Executive Session was held on September 11, 2023, 5:00 – 5:15 pm to discuss legal matters and personnel matters.

CALL TO ORDER: Council President Sulai called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Councilmember Derman made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Powers to approve the August 15, 2023, Regular meeting minutes. Motion was unanimously approved.

COUNCIL PRESENTATION: Preliminary design plans for the Piers Art Park Project were presented by PennCORE Consulting for input from Borough Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY AGENDA ITEM: In reference to the Piers Art Park Project, Logan Osgood-Zimmerman asked that final plans show no increase in impervious surfaces at the park.

PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: Councilmember Bilenky Trahan made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Powers to approve HARB items a and b as submitted and recommended by HARB per their minutes dated September 12, 2023. Motion was unanimously approved.

- a. **“Park Road Farms” / 634 St. Catharine Street / Porch Modifications** (HARB approved and recommends Council approval)
- b. **“Tastecraft” / 512 Market Street / Signs (3)** (HARB approved and recommends Council approval)

Councilmember Bilenky Trahan made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Derman to approve a revised proposal from PennCORE Consulting in the amount of \$14,500.00 to rebid the St. George Street Stormwater Improvements/South Fourth Street Ramp Improvements Project with the addition of street paving. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Bilenky Trahan made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Powers to approve Engineering Change Order 1 from PennCORE Consulting in the amount of \$1,650.00 associated with Market Street design revisions required by PennDOT as part of the HOP process for Hufnagle Park Event Venue Project. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Bilenky Trahan made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Powers to approve Construction Change Order 4 from Gray Builders LLC in the amount of \$116,190.75 associated with the Hufnagle Park Event Venue Project. Motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Bilenky Trahan made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Powers to approve a proposal from Larson Design Group in the amount of \$5,000.00 to provide preliminary design assistance and a project cost estimate associated with the North Fourth Street Revitalization/Green Infrastructure CDBG Competitive Grant Application to DCED. Motion was unanimously approved.

ATTENDANCE

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
September 19, 2023

COUNCIL PRESENTATION

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEM

PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS

HARB

Rebid St. George St Stormwater Improvements/ S Fourth St Ramp Improvements

Change Order 1 for Market Street design revisions

Change Order 4 for Hufnagle Park Event Venue Project

Larson Design Group assistance with N Fourth St Revitalization/ Green Infrastructure

September 19, 2023

Councilmember Bilenky Trahan made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Comas to appoint Logan Osgood-Zimmerman to the Lewisburg Planning Commission with a term expiring December 31, 2025 as recommended by the Lewisburg Planning Commission. Motion was unanimously approved.

Appoint Logan Osgood-Zimmerman to Lewisburg Planning Commission

Councilmember Bilenky Trahan made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Powers to accept the resignation of Judy Wagner from the Lewisburg Shade Tree Commission effective immediately, with regret. Motion was unanimously approved.

Resignation of Judy Wagner from Shade Tree Commission

Councilmember Bilenky Trahan made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Powers to approve a Utility Easement with Citizen's Electric Company for the electric lines that currently run above Hufnagle Park. Motion was unanimously approved.

Utility Easement with Citizen's Electric Company

Councilmember Bilenky Trahan made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Powers to request the Lewisburg Planning Commission review our current zoning policy to identify opportunities for upzoning. Motion was unanimously approved.

Request Planning Commission to review of current zoning policy

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

ADMINISTRATIVE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

BVRPD

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

WCEC

Councilmember Derman made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bilenky Trahan to approve payment of bills from August 13, 2023, through September 16, 2023, in the amount of \$498,920.04. Motion was unanimously approved.

Approval of Bills

Councilmember Derman made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Comas to agree to approve an amendment to the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement between Lewisburg Borough and East Buffalo Township to eliminate Section 5 Finances, Part E(2) in its entirety and to modify Section 5 Finances, Part E (1) to allow the BVRPD to request funding earlier in the month if needed to support police operations. There was some discussion. Motion was unanimously approved.

Amendment to Buffalo Valley Regional Police Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement

Councilmember Derman made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bilenky Trahan to set the 2024 Lewisburg Borough Pension Minimum Municipal Obligation at \$311,749.00 as recommended by the Borough's Actuary. Motion was unanimously approved.

Lewisburg Borough Pension Minimum Municipal Obligation

Councilmember Derman made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Powers to defer Kendy Alveraz's October and November Mayor's pay until December 2023. Motion was unanimously approved.

Defer Mayor's pay for October and November

Current vacancies on Zoning Hearing Board Alternate with term expiring December 31, 2023, HARB with term expirations December 31, 2023, December 31, 2025.

Vacancies

BOROUGH MANAGER:

Borough Manager Lowthert reported that the Lewisburg Borough Council Chambers will be closed from September 21 – 29, 2023 for a window replacement project. Access to the Borough Office for in-person visits may be limited at times during construction. Staff will remain available via email and phone if access to the Borough Office is restricted.

Borough Manager

September 19, 2023

BOROUGH SOLICITOR:

Councilmember Heayn made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Derman for enactment of Ordinance No. 1077 amending the Lewisburg Borough Parking Regulations by establishing Loading/Unloading Zones on Market Street. There was some discussion. Motion was unanimously approved.

REPORTS / COMMUNITY UPDATES / PUBLIC NOTICES:

Mayor Alvarez reported that Halloween Trick or Treating will be held on Saturday, October 28, 2023 from 5:00 – 8:00 pm. She is writing in support of a Federal Recompete Grant that will do a lot of good not only in our community but neighboring communities.

Councilmember Comas invited all to the Brady Fire Company Banquet Hall on October 12th to allow the public to comment on changes being made to the Department of Environmental Protection’s new environmental justice policy. Secretary Green from DEP will be in attendance.

Councilmember Heayn reported that he and Councilmember Sulai outreached to rental properties in the Third Ward. They wrote a letter and distributed it door to door. Overall they were received positively.

WRITTEN REPORTS: Councilmember Derman made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Heayn to acknowledge receipt of the monthly Parking Report, BVRA July Board Meeting Report, BVRA July Financial Statements, Zoning Officer Report, Code Enforcement Officer Report and August Building Report. Motion was unanimously approved.

WORK SESSION: There will be a Work Session to be held Tuesday, October 10, 2023.

QUESTIONS FROM THE MEDIA: Justin Strawser, Daily Item, asked the cost of the Piers Art Park Project. He also asked the for cost of the Council Chamber’s Window Project as well as details.

Council President Sulai called for an executive session to discuss legal matters at 7:41PM. Council returned at 8:45PM.

There being no further business, Councilmember Powers made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Grobes to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy D. Wendt
Borough Secretary

Borough Solicitor

Ordinance 1077

**REPORTS /
COMMUNITY
UPDATES /
PUBLIC NOTICES**

Mayor Alvarez

Comas

Heayn

**WRITTEN
REPORTS**

WORK SESSION

**MEDIA
QUESTIONS**

**EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

ADJOURNMENT