

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF LEWISVILLE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
Wednesday, 18 October 2023  
Lewisville Community Center, 3451 E 480 N, Lewisville, Idaho

Prior to the beginning of the meeting Mayor Thomas read the guidelines for conduct in the meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thomas at 7:10 p.m. at the Lewisville Community Center at 3451 E 480 N, Lewisville, Idaho. Present were Mayor Curtis S. Thomas; Council Members Brigham Briggs, and Celena Lewis; Council Member James Ball was connected via Zoom; Officer Mike Miller from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department; Clerk/Treasurer, Donetta Fife; City Attorney, Kris Meek; residents and non-residents.

**ROLL CALL**

- Mayor Thomas – present
- James Ball – present
- Celena Lewis -- present
- Brigham Briggs – present
- Blake Ball – not present

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Brigham Briggs**

**MINUTES:**

- Minutes for the City Council Meeting held September 13, 2023 had previously been distributed by the Clerk. Brigham moved that the Minutes be approved, Celena seconded, motion passed.
- Minutes for the City Council Work Meeting held October 4, 2023 had previously been distributed by the Clerk. Celena moved to accept the minutes, James seconded, motion passed.

**POLICE REPORT:**

A report from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department had been sent to the City and distributed to the Mayor and Council covering the period between August 19, 2023 and September 15, 2023. 103 hours were spent within the City with 20 complaints, 1 arrests, 2 citations and 23 traffic contacts. Officer Miller explained that 8 of the calls involved controlled burns. One was for a vicious dog that was not listed on the last month's report because of parameters of the report. They have not been able to contact the owner.

**KELLER & ASSOCIATES:**

- Jaden Jackson from Keller & Associates asked if the Council had any questions on the Traffic Study. The Council had no questions and thanked Keller & Associates for the report. Brigham moved to approve the Transportation Study, James seconded, motion passed to accept the Transportation Study.
- Jaden Jackson also reported on the Wastewater Facilities Study. The Council had presented questions in the work meeting regarding the study. Donetta e-mailed this list to Jaden and he answered the questions. The e-mail was forwarded to the Council this afternoon. Brigham feels we need the information on sand point wells and cest pools before we can accept the study. This information can probably be obtained by the City from different government agencies. A survey of this type was not requested as part of the scope of the plan.
- Jaden indicated that it would be best to have the study approved before it is presented to DEQ in January. Brigham moved to table the approval of the Wastewater Study until the November City Council, Celena

seconded, motion passed. It was indicated that Doug Walker would know who to contact for information on cist pools and sand point wells.

**FORSGREN ASSOCIATES:**

- Kort Ware with Forsgren Associated indicated that the Highway Improvement grant for 500 north results have been extended to November. There were many applications and they would like to make sure the most needed projects are funded.
- Kort has been in contact with the railroad with regard to the Child Pedestrian Safety Grant path. The railroad will not allow the path on their right of way. There is another possible grant coming up in November and another Child Pedestrian Safety Grant coming up in December for \$250,000. We will be eligible to apply again even though we were funded in 2023.
- Kort also reviewed two more grants that the City might be eligible for.

**MAINTENANCE REPORT:**

- Mayor Thomas indicated that one of the cul-de-sacs in Countryside Meadows needs some work after the chip and seal.
- Repair on the garage is finished and an attic access has been added. We will be looking to insulate the roof to cut utility bills.

**CITY ATTORNEY:**

- Kris indicated that the Menan-Jefferson County AOI is still in discussion. They are making progress. They are still considering an extended boundary for the Menan AOI.
- Kris encouraged Mayor Thomas to enter into a conversation with Milt Olerton on the proposed boundary for the area of impact for the City of Lewisville and find out what is happening with our Exhibit "C".

**CLERK/TREASURER:**

- Donetta has made available a list of bills between September 14, 2023 and October 18, 2023. James moved that the bills be paid, Celena seconded, motion passed.
- Donetta reported that the AIC Fall training meeting had been very informative and provided guidelines on cybersecurity as well as other topics pertinent to the cities.
- James asked Donetta to check with Jefferson County to see if any progress has been made on reporting of fines and fees collected in behalf of the City. Kris indicated that the biggest problem they are facing is funding. The Court and Judicial system funding in the State of Idaho is poor. He encouraged the Council to talk with AIC and see if there is something they could put on the legislative agenda for funding.

**MAYOR REQUEST**

- Mayor Thomas asked Celena how the restoration of the WWII gun is going at Legacy Flight Museum. She indicated that it is progressing. Since he has had a request to accept public comment with regard to the WWII gun and it being loaned to Legacy Flight Museum, he opened the floor for public comment.
- Janeal Erickson Nield read a petition citing the circumstances under which the WWII gun was procured and its history, which she had prepared and presented to residents and nonresidents requesting return of the gun to the City of Lewisville. She indicated that she had collected nearly 100 signatures on the petition. (A copy of the petition and signatures was received at a later time.) She indicated her father, J. Neal Erickson as Chairman of the Board of the Village of Lewisville, had written a request to the Naval Ordnance Plant at Pocatello requesting a 40 millimeter gun to be placed in the Village of Lewisville as a war memorial paying tribute to

veterans in Lewisville and Jefferson County. She quoted from a letter dated June 12, 1959 from J. Neal Erickson as Chairman of the Village Board requesting the gun. (No letter of confirmation from the Naval Ordnance Plant in Pocatello granting this request was found in the City archives. a copy of the letter from the Village was later provided by Janeal Nield as it was not located in the City archives. Reference to this transaction is only found in the Minutes of the Village of Lewisville dated July 13, 1959.)

- Several residents and non-residents expressed their opinions as to the sentimentality, disposition and return of the WWII gun. Many people remembered playing on the gun as children and feel an attachment to it. Some spoke of their progenitors that gave their lives in WWII. Some citizens indicated that their children enjoy playing on the gun when attending the library. Many of those present felt that the gun should be returned to the City.
- Since this was not a public hearing and had not been publicized as such, no testimony was given pro, neutral or con.
- Mayor Thomas thanked everyone for coming and indicated that this is what a City Council meeting should look like. He indicated that it is difficult for the Mayor and Council to know the wishes of the citizens when they do not come to the meeting to make those wishes known. Mayor further explained that the City had been approached by Legacy Flight Museum about the gun and its restoration since it is in major disrepair. No plaque has ever been on display with the gun citing the history of the gun and dedicating it to the memory of the veterans of Lewisville and Jefferson County. Legacy Flight Museum has agreed to restore the gun and post a plaque noting the gun's history and that it is on loan from the City of Lewisville.
- Mayor Thomas explained that the topic of discussion of the WWII gun being loaned to Legacy Flight Museum was listed on agendas for the months of July and August, 2023 and posted in 3 different locations in the City -- the Community Center, library and post office, and on the cityoflewisville.org website. An article was published in the Jefferson Star in July after the July City Council and prior to the time the MOU was authorized and signed in August. No one came to either of those meetings to express their opinion. He indicated that it is impossible to know the mind of the people when the people don't show up.
- Brigham explained what had been done with regard to the MOU with Legacy Flight Museum. He felt the Council was acting in the best interest of the artifact that we had been entrusted with. However, he did not realize the sentimentality associated with the gun even though he has been a resident of the City for many years and he realized that this had become a problem.
- James indicated that many war memorials have come into major disrepair, like Airport Beach in Samoa, and sometimes by giving up direct possession of the item, we allow it to be preserved and viewed by all veterans, their posterity and the community as a whole.
- Kris indicated that it would be good to have a conversation with Legacy Flight Museum to see if alternate arrangements can be made.
- Brigham indicated that we should have a committee of interested people go with the Council to discuss a possible solution and asked those willing to serve on the Committee to sign up tonight. Mayor Thomas indicated that the Committee should have a plan on what might happen before they meet with the Museum.
- Mayor Thomas will talk with Legacy Flight Museum to see if he can organize a meeting.

#### **ITEMS FOR NOVEMBER AGENDA**

- WWII Gun Restoration and plan
- Grant for Reconstruction of 500 North Update
- Wastewater Study – Action Item

**ADJOURNMENT**

James moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:56 p.m., Celena seconded, motion passed.

Minutes approved by the City Council of the City of Lewisville on the 8th day of November, 2023.

Mayor   
Curtis S. Thomas

Date 11/8/23

ATTEST:

Clerk   
Donetta R. Fife

Date 11-8-2023