

January 4, 2023

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEWISTON, IDAHO, met in a Special Work Session at the Bell Building Second Floor Conference Room at 215 D Street. Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

City Council meetings are recorded live. To view the full video, go to <https://livestream.com/lewiston/events/3725902>

I. CALL TO ORDER

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Johnson; Council President Liedkie (Zoom); Councilor Forsmann; Councilor Schroeder; Councilor Tousley; Councilor Kleeburg; Councilor Spickelmire.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. STORMWATER UPDATE:

Public Works Director Johnson explained the goal of the discussion was to provide an update on progress made since the last discussion, receive feedback from Council, and discuss findings of meetings with impacted public agencies. He then provided an overview of the stormwater history and the six stormwater utility rate options. After the overview, Public Works Director Johnson explained current efforts included establishing utility structure; hiring a Stormwater Coordinator; and meeting with impacted public agencies, such as Nez Perce County, Port of Lewiston and Lewis-Clark State College.

Public Works Director Johnson concluded his report with the schedule to move forward, which includes the continuation of public outreach efforts, adoption of the stormwater ordinance; and a current expected rollout date of January 1, 2024. Councilors agreed the schedule was adequate and were supportive of determining which stormwater utility rate option to use at a later meeting.

B. AUDIT SERVICES:

Finance Director/City Treasurer Gordon expanded on the suggestion of a joint procurement of Audit Services with Nez Perce County. She explained the importance of going through a formal Request for Proposal (RFP) process, which provides an opportunity for qualified firms to apply. Finance Director/City Treasurer Gordon said her concern with having a joint procurement is that it would create an audit service too big for past and potential Independent Audit Firms (IAF) to submit a proposal.

After discussion, Councilors Kleeburg and Schroeder moved and seconded, respectively, to continue with the City's process of a formal Request for Proposal independent of the Nez Perce County. The motion carried 6-0.

C. METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION:

Community Development Director Grow announced that the Metropolitan Planning Organization was successful in its efforts to maintain the City of Lewiston's status as an urbanized area through the U.S. Census Bureau. In 2020, the Census Bureau proposed changes to the definition of an urbanized area from people per square mile to household units per square mile. In doing so, the change would have reduced the city's threshold from 57,000 to 40,000. The impact to the city would be a loss of urbanized status and a loss of funding, as the threshold for an urbanized area is 50,000. After reaching out to state legislators, the result was a re-evaluation of the decision by the Census Bureau and the City of Lewiston, along with other areas, were able to keep the urbanized area status.

Transit Manager Seigneur expressed gratitude from the City of Lewiston's Transit Department on the instrumental efforts of the Metropolitan Planning Organization, in an email. Councilors expressed appreciation of Community Development Director Grow's efforts to ensure the City of Lewiston stayed an urbanized area and can move forward with adding a third bus route.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Lewiston City Council, Councilors Forsmann and Schroeder moved and seconded, respectively, to adjourn the January 4, 2023, special meeting. The motion carried 6-0 and the meeting adjourned at approximately 4:28 p.m.