

MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Council of the City of Lebanon, Pa., was held in Council Chamber of the Municipal Building, Lebanon, Pa., this evening, Chairperson Parker presiding.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present--Mr. Carey, Mr. Wertz, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Parker, Chairperson. Absent--Mr. Matula.

Also present were City Solicitor Donna L. Brightbill; Mayor Sherry L. Capello; Debra J. Gates, Director of Administration-Assistant to the Mayor; Duane Trautman, Fire Commissioner; 21 persons in the audience; and two members of the news media.

The minutes of the March 28, 2016, City Council meeting were presented by the City Clerk. There being no corrections, deletions or additions, the minutes were approved as presented.

Chairperson Parker announced that Council received a budget report for the period January 1 through March 31, 2016.

Councilmember Matula arrived in the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

Chairperson Parker introduced Resolution No. 10, as follows:

A RESOLUTION RECORDING A DEEP SENSE OF LOSS IN THE DEATH OF DONALD N. GRIFFITH, FORMER MAYOR OF THE CITY OF LEBANON.

WHEREAS, the people of the City of Lebanon were saddened to learn of the death of Donald N. Griffith, former Mayor of the City of Lebanon; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Griffith served as Mayor of the City of Lebanon from 1980-1984; and

WHEREAS, during his four-year tenure, Mayor Griffith was instrumental in forming the first canine unit in the Lebanon Police Department, organizing the Mayor's Independence Ball, a gala, the proceeds of which were used to benefit the annual July 4 fireworks display at Coleman Memorial Park; and creating the City of Lebanon Planning Commission which continues to be a vital part of city government; and

WHEREAS, after completing his term as Mayor, Mr. Griffith continued his commitment to Lebanon City by maintaining his real estate business, Griffith Group Realty and Appraisals, within the city limits; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Griffith's passion for the City of Lebanon continued years after his term in public office when he organized a referendum drive and worked tirelessly to prevent the takeover of the City of Lebanon Authority; and

WHEREAS, we mourn the loss of Donald N. Griffith, and extend to his wife, Donna, and family our sincere sympathy during this time of bereavement.

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved by the Council of the City of Lebanon, Pa., and it is hereby resolved by the authority of the same, That:

SECTION 1. We record our profound sense of loss in the death of Donald N. Griffith, and present this resolution to his wife, Donna, and family as an expression of our sincere condolences.

Resolution No. 10 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Carey. Yeas--Mr. Carey, Mr. Matula, Mr. Wertz, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Parker, Chairperson--5; nays--none.

Chairman Parker stated that former Mayor Griffith enlisted him to oppose the takeover of the City of Lebanon Authority, which motivated him to run for a seat on the Lebanon City Council.

Mayor Capello presented a Certificate of Recognition to Dave and Joleen Stein of Hidden Still Spirits Craft Distillery and Tasting Room, recognizing their accomplishments in being awarded three medals at the San Francisco World Spirits Competition and commending them for their commitment to the industry and the Lebanon community.

Dr. Wes Farmer, Executive Director of the Lancaster Safety Coalition, addressed City Council regarding a security camera feasibility study for Lebanon's Business Improvement District. Dr. Farmer explained that the Lancaster Safety Coalition's mission is to enhance Lancaster's community safety, thereby enhancing quality of life. The mission is accomplished through the placement of security cameras that provide live monitoring and video evidence. The Coalition works independently of local government and has a strong system of community partners.

The Coalition is a community-based 501c(3) non-profit organization and operates on a non-profit salary structure. It is one of two in the United States that is truly nonprofit; the other is in Wilmington, Delaware. The organization is dependent on donations. Most of the employees are part time and receive no benefits. The Coalition started with 12 cameras and now has 162. A camera map is available on the Coalition's website. The cameras record video 24 hours per day, 7 days per week and hold the information for 14 days. Most cameras are on utility poles 25-30 feet above ground. In order to address privacy concerns, second floors and back yards are blacked out. Video is not release unless a subpoena is presented.

Dr. Farmer pointed out that items to consider are passive and active monitoring, who controls evidence, who pays for what, and how to sustain funding.

Chairman Parker asked how the organization got started in Lancaster, to which Dr. Farmer responded with Urban Enhancement Grants. Mayor Capello suggested applying for a grant after Lebanon's initial study is completed.

Mr. Carey introduced Resolution No. 11, as follows:

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A SUPPLEMENTAL FEDERAL AID REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LEBANON AND PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM THE UTILITY PHASE TO THE RIGHT-OF-WAY PHASE OF THE 9<sup>TH</sup> STREET BRIDGE OVER NORFOLK SOUTHERN PROJECT AND TO REVISE STANDARD AGREEMENT LANGUAGE AND EXHIBITS WHICH HAVE BEEN UPDATED SUBSEQUENT TO THE LAST SUPPLEMENT.

Be It Resolved by the Council of the City of Lebanon, Pennsylvania, and it is hereby resolved by the authority of the same, That:

SECTION 1. Federal Aid Supplemental Reimbursement Agreement No. 086508G between the City of Lebanon and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for the purpose of transferring funds from the utility phase to the right-of-way phase of the project and to revise standard agreement language and exhibits which have been updated subsequent to the last supplement is hereby approved.

SECTION 2. The Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized to execute said agreement on behalf of the City of Lebanon.

SECTION 3. A copy of said agreement is attached to and hereby made part of this resolution.

Resolution No. 11 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Carey, seconded by Mr. Wertz. Yeas--Mr. Carey, Mr. Matula, Mr. Wertz, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Parker, Chairperson--5; nays--none.

Chairperson Parker called up Bill No. 2 on final reading, the title of which is as follows: "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF LEBANON POLICE PENSION PLAN IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THE DEFERRED RETIREMENT OPTION PLAN, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2016". Bill No. 2 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Matula. Yeas--Mr. Carey, Mr. Matula, Mr. Wertz, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Parker, Chairperson--5; nays--none.

Mr. Carey called up Bill No. 3 on final reading, the title of which is as follows: "AN ORDINANCE INCREASNG STOEVEER'S DAM PARK CAMPING PERMIT FEES". Bill No. 3 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Carey, seconded by Mr. Wertz. Yeas--Mr. Carey, Mr. Matula, Mr. Wertz, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Parker, Chairperson--5; nays--none.

Sharon Garcia, President of the Greater Lebanon PA Authorized Committee-NAACP, addressed City Council regarding a Civilian Review Board for the purpose of addressing complaints of police misconduct and drug activity at City-owned parks.

Ms. Garcia said her organization is a voice for those treated unfairly and unlawfully in Lebanon. It has received complaints of excessive force, false arrest and derogatory comments. While she understands there is currently a complaint procedure in place, it is inadequate. Citizens unsatisfied with the process should have the right of appeal to a Review Board. Her organization is preparing documents, data and facts to present to City Council at a later date.

Ms. Garcia recounted an incident where a citizen was harassed by security personnel at the Municipal Building, and the security guard also touched the citizen's body. Chairman Parker pointed out that the County of Lebanon provides Municipal Building security employees.

Councilmember Wilson asked the Mayor if the current process is to take complaints to the Police Chief. Mayor Capello responded there is a written policy and any complaints will definitely be investigated. In 2013 there were 6 complaints; 3 were unfounded. In 2014 there were 4 complaints; 3 were unfounded. In 2015 there were 4 complaints; 2 were unfounded. Professionalism of the Police Department is of utmost concern to her.

Chairman Parker stated he has done some research on citizen review boards in large cities. Training is required, and expenses are involved.

James Roland, 914 Mifflin Street, Lebanon, addressed Council regarding a group from a church in his neighborhood at Ninth and Mifflin Streets, which has been preaching and using an amplification device. After being told to discontinue the preaching because of complaints, a woman doing the preaching now "hollers". He politely asked her to keep the noise down, but she ignored him. The police responded on three separate occasions regarding excessive noise from preaching. Mr. Roland presented a petition with 19 signatures asking for the city permit to be revoked.

Michael Eisener, Eagle Scout from Troop 11 at St. Mary's Church, was present in the audience and was recognized.

Mayor Capello thanked all United Way Day of Caring volunteers who helped with cleanup and John Bowser from Domino's Pizza at Fifth and Cumberland Street, who also assisted. In all, 16 bags of trash were collected.

Chairman Parker thanked Acting Chief Breiner and Officer David Lear for taking care of an incident he witnessed in the downtown with spilled coffee.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

DEBRA J. GATES, Acting Clerk