

MONDAY, JULY 23, 2018

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 Carey presiding.

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

Present—Mr. Morales, Mr. Parker, Mr. Wertz, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Carey, Chairperson.  
Absent--none.

Also present were Mayor Sherry L. Capello; Chief of Police Todd Breiner; Donna Long Brightbill, City Solicitor; Robin L. Getz, Director of Public Works; Melissa E. Quinones, Director of Administration-Assistant to the Mayor; Duane Trautman, Fire Commissioner; nine persons in the audience; and one member of the news media.

The minutes of the June 25, 2018, City Council meeting were presented by the City Clerk. There being no corrections, deletions or additions, the minutes were approved as presented.

Chairperson Carey announced that Council received a budget report for the period January 1 through June 30, 2018. Mayor Capello reported that 50 percent of the fiscal year is completed; revenues are at 66 percent; and expenses are at 40 percent.

Mayor Capello announced that the City of Lebanon will be exploring a potential partnership with the Lebanon Valley Family YMCA for the construction of an outdoor community pool. The pool would be constructed at the YMCA facility. She added that the partnership could be very beneficial to the taxpayers in the city. She emphasized that the plans are very preliminary and she will report back to Council in the near future with more details. Mayor Capello reported that she did not think it would be feasible for a new pool to be completed for 2019. She further reported that if the City pursues the partnership with the YMCA, she does not anticipate the pool at Coleman Memorial Park opening while construction of the new pool is underway.

Jim Roland, 914 Mifflin Street, Lebanon, asked the status of the pool at the former YMCA facility located at Ninth and Willow Streets, Lebanon. Mayor Capello replied that the building is privately owned and it is her understanding that the pool is not operational.

Patrice Royer, 521 Canal Street, Lebanon, stated that the City of Lebanon has received a substantial amount of funding from the State and, in her opinion, city officials have not been good stewards of public funds. She added that the descendants of the Gingrich pool were unhappy that the pool was closed. Ms. Royer told officials that it is unfair to the constituents to allow the deterioration of the pool. Mayor Capello stated that the pool is almost 90 years old and during that time it has been renovated three times. The estimated cost of minimal repairs that need to be completed to re-open the pool is \$500,000.00.

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Chairperson Carey announced that Council received a communication from Mayor Sherry L. Capello, informing Council of the reappointment of Robert Hoffman, 949 Summit Street, Lebanon, to the City of Lebanon Zoning Hearing Board for a five-year term, effective July 15, 2018. Mayor Capello reported that Mr. Hoffman has served on the Zoning Hearing Board since 1981.

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

A RESOLUTION APPROVING SPECIFICATIONS FOR REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2018, WITH OPTIONS TO EXTEND THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020.

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. Specifications for Requests for Proposals for professional auditing services for the year ending December 31, 2018, with options to extend through December 31, 2020, be and the same are hereby approved.

Mayor Capello explained that this is standard procedure. She added that when she took office the city audits were three years behind in auditing and the annual cost was \$37,000.00. She added that during her tenure, the staff worked diligently to bring the audits up to date and the audits were filed in a timely manner. She reported that the fee for the last audit was \$32,000.00.

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

Mr. Wertz introduced Resolution No. 12, as follows:

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF ROBERT HOFFMAN TO THE CITY OF LEBANON ZONING HEARING BOARD FOR A FIVE-YEAR TERM, EFFECTIVE JULY 15, 2018.

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. The Mayor's reappointment of Robert Hoffman, 949 Summit Street, Lebanon, to the City of Lebanon Zoning Hearing Board for a five-year term, effective July 15, 2018, is hereby confirmed.

Resolution No. 12 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Wertz, seconded by Mr. Morales. Yeas—Mr. Morales, Mr. Parker, Mr. Wertz, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Carey, Chairperson—5; nays—none.

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Mr. Wertz introduced Resolution No. 13, as follows:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PROPER OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF LEBANON TO FILE AN APPLICATION FOR TRAFFIC SIGNAL APPROVAL TO THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR MODIFICATIONS TO A TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNAL AT THE INTERSECTION OF 16<sup>TH</sup> AND CUMBERLAND STREETS, LEBANON.

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. The Mayor and Director of Public Works of the City of Lebanon are hereby authorized and directed to submit and execute the attached Application for Traffic Signal Approval to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for modifications to a traffic control signal at the intersection of 16<sup>th</sup> and Cumberland Streets, Lebanon.

Mayor Capello reported that the traffic signal is for the new Rutter's store being constructed on the northwest corner of 16<sup>th</sup> and Cumberland Streets. The intersection of the traffic signal is located 50 percent in the City of Lebanon, 25 percent in West Lebanon Township, and 25 percent in North Cornwall Township. The PennDot permit for the traffic signal is issued to West Lebanon Township. The current permit is being modified to lengthen the signal for turning lanes, optimize the timing for the signals, adding a pedestrian signal, and widening the northwest section of the intersection.

Resolution No. 13 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Wertz, seconded by Mr. Parker. Yeas—Mr. Morales, Mr. Parker, Mr. Wertz, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Carey, Chairperson—5; nays—none.

Chairperson Carey announced that Resolution No. 14, establishing a policy for the protection of the public safety and the general welfare of the citizens of the City of Lebanon, Pennsylvania, was withdrawn from the agenda for further review and will be discussed at the August 23, 2018, Pre-Council meeting.

Councilmember Wilson asked what the procedure is for affording opportunities to constituents to serve on Boards, Commissions, etc. Mayor Capello replied that when a Board member retires or resigns, she tries to find someone with the appropriate background. In some instances, she has solicited letters of interest and placed an advertisement in the local media on one occasion for volunteer openings on Boards, Commissions, etc.

Royal Marti, 623 Cumberland Street, Lebanon, addressed Council regarding Resolution No. 14. He stated that he feels it should be an ordinance as the resolution is directing complainants to the Pa. Human Relations Commission vs. a local Human Relations Commission. He added that he feels it was rude for Council to withdraw the resolution without reaching out to him before tonight's meeting. Mr. Marti told Council that petitions are being circulated requesting the adoption of an ordinance addressing anti-discrimination.

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Councilmember Parker stated that everyone probably agrees that citizens should not be treated unfairly. The adoption of an ordinance establishes a local Human Relations Commission. He explained that before taking action on an ordinance, Council needs to request a legal review of the language.

Councilman Wilson stated that Mr. Marti raised a good point and Council needs time to review ordinances from other municipalities before making a decision. The resolution was withdrawn to allow Council to review the issue more thoroughly.

Lori Boyer, 1019 Mifflin Street, Lebanon, stated that residents in the neighborhood are painting yellow lines on the curbs. Mayor Capello replied that Director of Public Works Robin Getz will follow up with Ms. Boyer on this issue.

Councilmember Wilson thanked the Lebanon Police Department for handling the recent complaint of criminal mischief at Beautex Park. He also thanked the employees in the Public Works Department for cleaning up the damage.

Ed Salem, 214 Mifflin Street, Lebanon, thanked the Lebanon Police Department for their hard work during the week of July 4.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

CHERYL J. GIBSON, Clerk