

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 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; eight persons in the audience; and one member of the news media.

The minutes of the November 26, 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 November 30, 2018.

Chairperson Carey announced that Council received a communication from Mayor Sherry L. Capello, informing Council of the reappointment of Charles Wertz to the City of Lebanon Shade Tree Commission for a five-year term, effective November 30, 2018.

Mr. Wertz introduced Resolution No. 18, as follows:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF LEBANON TO FILE FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE ROBERT T. STAFFORD DISASTER RELIEF AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE ACT FOR THE HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM.

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 of the City of Lebanon is hereby authorized to execute for and on behalf of the City of Lebanon, Lebanon County, a public entity established under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, all required forms and documents for the purpose of obtaining financial assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Public Law 93-288 as amended by Public Law 100-707) for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

SECTION 2. Any resolution or part of resolution conflicting with the provisions of this resolution be and the same is hereby repealed so far as the same affects this resolution.

Resolution No. 18 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Wertz, seconded by Mr. Wilson. Yeas--Mr. Morales, Mr. Parker, Mr. Wertz, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Carey, Chairperson--5; nays--none.

Mayor Capello explained that during Tropical Storm Lee in 2011, the property at 121 East Elm Street, Lebanon, sustained approximately \$91,000 in damage. There were also minor claims for flood damage to this property submitted in 1979, 1999, and 2007. Under the guidelines of FEMA's program, FEMA will purchase the property from the owners and the home will be demolished and become a grass lot which the City of Lebanon will be responsible for maintaining. She added that the City of Lebanon will not pay any costs not covered by FEMA. Mayor Capello explained that during Tropical Storm Lee there were two unique conditions which contributed to the excessive flooding: a fence was installed without a permit and debris was caught in the fence; and, the neighbor's car was swept down into the Hazel Dyke and caused the water to back up. Mayor Capello explained that the property owner is responsible for paying ten percent of the cost, as well as, relocation costs. There is an additional property on East Elm Street that is eligible to participate in the program; however, the property owner did not meet the deadline for submitting the paperwork during this round.

Mr. Parker called up Bill No. 8 on final reading, the title of which is as follows: "AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE TAX LEVY OF THE CITY OF LEBANON, PA., FOR THE YEAR 2019". Bill No. 8 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Wilson. Yeas--Mr. Morales, Mr. Parker, Mr. Wertz, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Carey, Chairperson--5; nays--none.

Mr. Morales called up Bill No. 9 on final reading, the title of which is as follows: "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A TAX AND REVENUE ANTICIPATION NOTE, SERIES OF 2019 IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF ONE MILLION DOLLARS (\$1,000,000); PROVIDING FOR THE DATED DATE, INTEREST RATE, MATURITY DATE, PAYMENT AND PLACE OF PAYMENT IN RESPECT OF THE NOTE; ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT "B" FROM THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTION OR ENTITY NAMED THEREIN FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE NOTE; NAMING A SINKING FUND DEPOSITARY/PAYING AGENT; AUTHORIZING THE PROPER OFFICERS OF THE CITY TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER THE NOTE AND CERTAIN OTHER DOCUMENTS AND CERTIFICATES IN CONNECTION THEREWITH; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE PREPARATION, CERTIFICATION AND FILING OF THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA; SETTING FORTH A FORM OF THE NOTE".

Mayor Capello reported that requests for proposals were sent to 18 banks and only 3 banks submitted a proposal. The proposal submitted by First National Bank with a fixed interest rate of 2.63 percent was accepted.

Gordon Weise, WLBR Radio, asked if there is a possibility that the city will need to draw from the TRAN during 2019 due to the situation with First Aid and Safety Patrol. Mayor Capello responded that she did not think so and is more concerned with the health fund for 2019.

## JOURNAL OF COUNCIL – DECEMBER 17, 2018

There were some catastrophic losses during 2018 and money from the cash reserve had to be transferred to the health fund to cover the cost of claims.

Bill No. 9 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Morales, seconded by Mr. Wertz. Yeas--Mr. Morales, Mr. Parker, Mr. Wertz, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Carey, Chairperson--5; nays--none.

- a. The Pa. Independent Fiscal Office recently issued its Five Year Economic and Budget Outlook - Rep. Ryan urged officials to review the report which is available at [ifo.state.pa.us](http://ifo.state.pa.us)
- b. Comprehensive Annual Financial Report – Rep. Ryan reported that the deficit is approximately \$8 billion. He explained this is the result of the GASB requirement for reporting post retirement employee benefits. He stated he is expecting significant budget delays in 2019.
- c. Fire and EMS Crisis – Rep. Ryan reported that the crisis is statewide. Senate Resolution No. 6 addresses the opioid crisis and the transport/no treatment issues. It is his understanding the payment would be effective retroactively upon the passage of the resolution. He added that there have also been discussion with Sunoco and Met-Ed regarding grants for First Aid and Safety Patrol.
- d. Senate Resolution No. 291 – The comments are against state consolidation.
- e. Property Tax Reform – Legislators continue to work on property tax reform. This will help urban areas.
- f. Humane Officers – Rep. Ryan reported that the training requirements addressing agricultural disease went into effect.
- g. MS4 – Rep. Ryan reported that there is a growing recognition that the efforts in Lebanon County have limited to no benefit. There has been some progress with this issue.

Craig Gates reported that due to a legal glitch, the Land Bank was not able to acquire properties at the recent judicial sale. The Land Bank will again attempt to acquire properties at the next sale.

Dawn Fenstermacher, 34 Walnut Street, Lebanon, reported that motorists traveling north on Lincoln Avenue are not stopping at the designated location at the red light and it is difficult for motorists to make the turn onto Lincoln Avenue from Walnut Street.

Ms. Fenstermacher also reported that the work zone on Walnut Street is not safe. She said motorists are traveling at a high rate of speed through the work zone and the workers are also concerned for their safety. She added that she fears for herself and her property as vehicles are “climbing” the curb. Mayor Capello replied that the contractor can intensify the work zone if the workers are concerned about their safety. She added that it is her understanding that the work will be finished this week.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

CHERYL J. GIBSON, Clerk