

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2019

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; Robin L. Getz, Director of Public Works; Melissa E. Quinones, Director of Administration-Assistant to the Mayor; 11 persons in the audience; and 1 member of the news media.

The minutes of the September 23, 2019, 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 August 31, 2019. Mayor Capello reported that 67 percent of the fiscal year is completed; revenues are at 80 percent; and expenses are at 51 percent.

Michelle Hawk, Director of the Lebanon Community Library, gave an update on activities at the library during the past year. She reported that patrons use the library to meet, collaborate, use the Wi-Fi, use the computers, participate in book clubs, attend Storytime, and participate in special programs. Ms. Hawk gave an overview of various activities/programs at the library for the past year, as follows:

- 400 children participated in summer learning programs
- The library held 41 events with 1,500 participants
- FIT classes are offered
- Tech Help is offered at no charge on Mondays from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
- IPAD for Seniors – the classes begin on October 16
- Stem In Action – the classes begin on October 7
- E-library – the use of the E-library continues to increase
- Keystone Grant – the library is still working on replacing the flooring in the library
- Gold Star: Pa. Forward Star – the library was granted the highest level in this program
- The value of items borrowed by city residents is \$1.2 million
- The value of the total items borrowed and services provided to city residents is \$1.6 million

Ms. Hawk reported that in FY 2000, the library's annual allocation was increased from \$28,000 to \$29,000. She requested an increase in the allocation for 2020.

Councilmember Wilson asked if the library receives funds from United Way to which Ms. Hawk replied that the United Way funding was cut 25 percent this year. Mr. Wilson asked if Ms. Hawk is requesting a specific amount for the requested increase from the City. Ms. Hawk stated that currently, the City is contributing \$1.11 per capita; a contribution of \$1.30 per capita would be an annual amount of \$33,000. Ms. Hawk confirmed that the City's allocation is used solely for the Lebanon Community Library.

Chairperson Carey announced that Council received the following communications:

- a. Mayor Sherry L. Capello, informing Council of the appointment of Craig Gates to the Zoning Hearing Board to fill the unexpired term of Edwin Salem, effective September 9, 2019.

Mayor Capello stated that Mr. Gates served as an alternate on the Zoning Hearing Board for several years. Mr. Salem resigned due to personal reasons and Mr. Gates agreed to fill the unexpired term.

- b. Director of Administration-Assistant to the Mayor Melissa Quinones, transmitting notice of the 2020 minimum municipal pension plan contributions (Police-\$876,416; Fire-\$280,903; Non-Uniformed - \$0).

Mayor Capello reported that the MMO for 2020 is approximately the same as that of 2019. She further explained that the MMO is determined by the actuarial valuations completed every two years for each pension plan. Based on the performance of all three plans, the City of Lebanon's distress score is 0.

Resolution No. 34 was introduced, as follows:

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF CRAIG GATES TO THE CITY OF LEBANON ZONING HEARING BOARD TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF EDWIN SALEM, EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

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 appointment of Craig Gates, 44 Berwyn Park, Lebanon, to the City of Lebanon Zoning Hearing Board to fill the unexpired term of Edwin Salem, effective September 9, 2019, is hereby confirmed. Said term will expire on July 15, 2021.

Mayor Capello explained that although the *City of Lebanon Home Rule Charter* grants authority to appoint persons to Boards to the Mayor, the *Pa. Municipalities Planning Code* requires that the governing body appoint members of the Zoning Hearing Board. The resolution confirming the appointment to the Zoning Hearing Board is adopted to comply with the *Pa. Municipalities Planning Code*.

Resolution No. 34 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.

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Chairperson Carey announced that there are multiple groups coordinating clean-ups in the City of Lebanon.

Amy Kopecky, Downtown Lebanon Main Street Manager, announced that in partnership with the CLA's Image and Beautification Committee, a cleanup in the Downtown was held this past Saturday. Ms. Kopecky thanked the volunteers who participated in the cleanup.

Councilmember Wilson stated that churches have been holding neighborhood cleanups in the Northside neighborhoods. Mayor Capello announced that the new banners in the Elm Street Neighborhood were purchased through sponsorships by businesses in that area.

Councilmember Wilson announced that there will be a free meal offered at Covenant United Methodist Church on Sunday. He added that a town hall meeting was recently held at the church and there were many positive remarks.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

CHERYL J. GIBSON, Clerk