

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2020

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--Mrs. Keller, Mr. Miller, Mr. Morales, Mr. Wertz, 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; 14 persons in the audience; and 2 members of the news media.

The minutes of the January 27, 2020, 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 January 31, 2020. Mayor Capello reported that 8 percent of the fiscal year is completed; revenue is at 4 percent and expenditures are at 4.6 percent.

Chairperson Carey announced that Council received a communication from Mayor Sherry L. Capello, informing Council of the reappointment of County Treasurer Sallie Neuin to the City of Lebanon Land Bank for a five-year term, effective February 9, 2020. Mayor Capello stated that Mrs. Neuin serves on the Land Bank as the representative from the Lebanon County Treasurer's Office. She added that Mrs. Neuin has been a valuable asset and thanked her for serving in this capacity.

Mr. Morales introduced Resolution No. 2, as follows:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF LEBANON TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE SUSQUEHANNA AREA MOUNTAIN BIKE ASSOCIATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AND MAINTENANCE OF A BICYCLE PLAYGROUND ON CITY-OWNED LAND AT COLEMAN MEMORIAL PARK.

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 of the City of Lebanon, Lebanon County, is hereby authorized to execute a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Lebanon and the Susquehanna Area Mountain Bike Association (SAMBA), c/o Nick Loftus, President, Post Office Box 1493,

Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, 17055, for the development of and maintenance of a Bicycle Playground on city-owned land at Coleman Memorial Park.

SECTION 2. A copy of the executed Memorandum of Understanding shall be attached to and hereby made part of this resolution.

Mayor Capello explained that Susquehanna Area Mountain Bike Association (SAMBA) is a local chapter of the International Mountain Bike Association, both of which are 501(c) non-profit organizations. The Memorandum of Understanding identifies a specific project, including consultation on the design and construction of shared-use trails, participation in trail maintenance, and upkeep of which SAMBA volunteers have agreed to provide as a service to the trail; establishes responsibilities and conditions that volunteer service will be provided; and delineates the responsibilities of the City of Lebanon consistent with the provisions of Pennsylvania's Recreational Use of Land and Water Act. She added that SAMBA will plan the ability level of the trail, supervise the trails, provide and supervise volunteers in the construction of the trail, identify crew leaders for work days, and perform routine maintenance issues. The use of chain saws and tree removal would be performed by trained volunteers. She further explained that the City of Lebanon would secure permits, secure road barriers, insure the concession stand remains, provide soil, and promote the bicycle playground on its website and social media.

Resolution No. 2 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Morales, seconded by Mr. Wertz. Yeas--Mrs. Keller, Mr. Miller, Mr. Morales, Mr. Wertz, and Mr. Carey, Chairperson--5; nays--none.

Ronald Bennett, 536 Weidman Street, Lebanon, addressed Council regarding the demolition of the pool at Coleman Memorial Park. He told Council that the majority of the public like to have fun and go swimming. He urged the public to get together as a community to keep the pool.

Mayor Capello stated that the bicycle playground is not on the site of the pool; it will be located in the area adjacent to the pool. She added that pool attendance decreased dramatically over the years, and the rebar in the structure of the pool is rusting from the inside. There were chunks of concrete falling from the rebar, making the structure unsafe. Mayor Capello stated that potentially a splash pad could be installed at the site, or the City and YMCA may form a partnership for a pool. Currently, the City is in the initial stages of submitting a grant application for the completion of a feasibility study to determine the best use for the site.

Councilmember Keller asked what initiatives have been established for the upcoming Census 2020. Mayor Capello replied that there has been public outreach and education, City staff is working with partners, and posters and educational handouts will be distributed. The partners for Census 2020 include the City of Lebanon, Lebanon Family Health Services, nursing homes, County of Lebanon Transit Authority, housing complexes for the elderly, and Guadalupe Barba who has served as a liason for the Latino community.

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Councilmember Keller asked if any consideration has been given to advertising on the local Spanish radio station. Mayor Capello replied that she will reach out to her contact person at the Spanish radio station.

Councilmember Keller asked if there is anything Councilmembers can do to help with Census 2020. Mayor Capello offered to provide information to Councilmembers. She stressed that the information reported in the census is confidential and will not have an adverse effect on citizens (i.e., overcrowding violations).

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m. on motion of Mr. Wertz, seconded by Mr. Miller.

CHERYL J. GIBSON, Clerk