

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2020

The regular monthly meeting of the Council of the City of Lebanon, Pa., was held on the above date, Chairperson Carey presiding. Due to the Corona Virus Pandemic the meeting was held virtually via Zoom.

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m.

Present--Mr. Bost, 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; Janelle Mendoff, Community and Economic Development Administrator; Melissa E. Quinones, Director of Administration-Assistant to the Mayor; and Duane Trautman, Fire Commissioner.

The minutes of the November 23, 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 November 30, 2020. Mayor Capello reported that 92 percent of the fiscal year is complete; revenue is at 100 percent; and expenditures are at 79 percent. Compared to the same period in 2019, revenue was at 105 percent and expenditures were at 83 percent. She reported that cutting capital expenditures and putting projects on hold during 2020 saved approximately 4 percent in expenditures. She added that considering the size of the city's budget, 4 percent is a significant cost reduction.

Chairperson Carey announced that Council received the following communications:

- a. Mayor Sherry L. Capello, informing Council of the reappointment of Jerome Kalinoski to the City of Lebanon Shade Tree Commission for a five-year term, effective November 30, 2020. Chairperson Carey thanked Mr. Kalinoski for his service on the Shade Tree Commission since March 1997. Mayor Capello reported that the Shade Tree Commission is responsible for the care and protection of all shade trees. These are the trees located between the curb and sidewalk and often referred to as shade trees.
- b. Mayor Sherry L. Capello, informing Council of the reappointment of Robin Getz and Helen Westphal as delegate and alternate delegate, respectively, to the Lebanon County Tax Collection Committee for a one-year term, effective January 1, 2021. Mayor Capello reported that each local municipality of each school district is allowed to have one representative on the Tax Collection Committee. Lebanon City and West Lebanon Township share a delegate and West Lebanon Township also acted on the reappointment of Mrs. Getz and Mrs. Westphal. She added that Mrs. Getz represented North Cornwall Township when she was Township Manager and Mrs. Westphal has a realm of experience.

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Mr. Carey introduced Resolution No. 23, as follows:

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF ROBIN GETZ AND HELEN WESTPHAL AS DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE DELEGATE, RESPECTIVELY, TO THE LEBANON COUNTY TAX COLLECTION COMMITTEE FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2021.

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 Robin Getz, 400 South Eighth Street, Lebanon, to represent the City of Lebanon and West Lebanon Township on the Lebanon County Tax Collection Committee for a one-year term, effective January 1, 2021, is hereby confirmed.

SECTION 2. The Mayor's appointment of Helen Westphal, 400 South Eighth Street, Lebanon, to represent the City of Lebanon and West Lebanon Township as an alternate on the Lebanon County Tax Collection Committee for a one-year term, effective January 1, 2021, is hereby confirmed.

Resolution No. 23 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Carey, seconded by Mr. Morales. Yeas--Mr. Bost, Mr. Miller, Mr. Morales, Mr. Wertz, and Mr. Carey, Chairperson--5; nays--none.

Mr. Wertz called up Bill No. 3 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 2021".

Mayor Capello reported that Bill No. 3 represents the sixth consecutive year of no tax increase for the property owners of the City of Lebanon. She added that 2021 will be the seventh year the real estate tax rate will be 4.581.

Bill No. 3 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Wertz, seconded by Mr. Bost. Yeas--Mr. Bost, Mr. Miller, Mr. Morales, Mr. Wertz, and Mr. Carey, Chairperson--5; nays--none.

Mr. Bost called up Bill No. 4 on final reading, the title of which is as follows: "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A TAX AND REVENUE ANTICIPATION NOTE, SERIES OF 2021 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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA; SETTING FORTH A FORM OF THE NOTE”.

Mayor Capello reported that the Tax and Revenue Anticipation Note (TRAN) is like an insurance policy to make sure the City has cash available in case of a deficit. She added that since she has become Mayor, there was no need to drawdown from the TRAN. The Request for Proposals (RFP) was sent to 20 banks and 3 banks responded to the RFP. First National Bank submitted the lowest proposal.

Bill No. 4 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Bost, seconded by Mr. Miller. Yeas--Mr. Bost, Mr. Miller, Mr. Morales, Mr. Wertz, and Mr. Carey, Chairperson--5; nays--none.

Mr. Miller called up Bill No. 5 on final reading, the title of which is as follows: “AN ORDINANCE OF LEBANON CITY, LEBANON COUNTY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, ELECTING TO AMEND ITS NON-UNIFORM PENSION PLAN ADMINISTERED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV OF THE PENNSYLVANIA MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT LAW; AGREEING TO BE BOUND BY ALL PROVISIONS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT LAW AS AMENDED AND AS APPLICABLE TO MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES”.

Mayor Capello reported that non-uniformed (AFSCME and Management) employees are covered under this pension plan. She added that this amendment is placing the plan into IRS format and there are no material changes to the plan.

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

Chairperson Carey extended holiday and Christmas blessings to everyone and reminded residents to stay safe and mask up. With the potential storm this week, he reminded residents to take care of neighbors and shovel to clear fire hydrants. Mayor Capello stated that staff will begin planning efforts for the storm during a meeting scheduled for Tuesday morning at 8:00 a.m. Information will be posted on the City of Lebanon’ website and social media, as well as being distributed the news media.

Director of Public Works Robin Getz reminded residents that a pathway of 3 feet must be cleared from sidewalks within 24 hours after the stoppage of snowfall. She advised residents to wait until the plows clear the street before shoveling the sidewalk.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Cheryl J. Gibson, City Clerk