PRESS RELEASE

TO: All News Media

FROM: Mayor Sherry L. Capello

SUBJECT: COVID-19 – Update on City Services

DATE: March 31, 2020

As COVID-19 cases continue to grow and the state continues to seek relief to save lives and stop the spread of COVID-19, today Governor Tom Wolf and Secretary of Health Dr. Rachel Levine revised their "Stay at Home" orders to include Cameron, Crawford, Forest, Franklin, Lawrence, Lebanon and Somerset counties, bringing the state total to 33 counties under a stay-at-home order. This order takes effect at 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 31, 2020, and will continue until April 30. Yesterday, all stay at home orders were extended through April 30. All Pennsylvania schools will remain closed until further notice. Non-life-sustaining business closures remain in effect.

The order now includes these 33 counties: Allegheny, Beaver, Berks, Bucks, Butler, Cameron, Carbon, Centre, Chester, Crawford, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, Erie, Forest, Franklin, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Lawrence, Lebanon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton, Philadelphia, Pike, Schuylkill, Somerset, Washington, Wayne, Westmoreland and York counties.

Following are a summary of orders and changes to the services implemented by the City of Lebanon:

➢ The City issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency for the City of Lebanon, effective March 17, 2020. The Declaration of Disaster Emergency authorizes city officials to employ temporary workers, rent equipment, purchase supplies and materials, and enter into contracts and agreements for the performance of public work as may be required to meet the emergency, all without regard to those time-consuming procedures and formalities normally prescribed by law, mandatory constitutional requirements excepted.
On March 17, in partnership with the Lebanon County Commissioners, the Lebanon City-County Municipal Building was closed to the public. City offices will remain closed to the public until further notice. City offices will continue to be staffed and only essential services will continue to be provided to the public.

The public is encouraged to contact staff or report issues at cityadmin@lebanonpa.org. The public can also contact city staff at the following telephone numbers during regular business hours:

- Lebanon Police Department – 717-272-6611 (non-emergency calls only; please call 911 if you have an emergency)
- Lebanon Fire Department – 717-228-4486 (non-emergency calls only; please call 911 if you have an emergency)
- Public Works Department (including Building and Zoning) – 717-228-4490
- Public Safety Department (including Code Enforcement) – 717-228-4495
- Finance Office – 717-228-4497
- Community and Economic Development Office – 717-228-4487
- Department of Administration (including recreation) – 717-228-4401
- Mayor’s Office – 717-228-4401

On March 20, the following changes were implemented:

- As a result of the closing of schools and non-essential businesses by the Governor, more vehicles are parked on all city streets leaving those vehicles on designated street cleaning streets with little place to go. Street sweeping operations were temporarily suspended until April 6. Effective immediately, street sweeping operations are suspended until further notice. Parking restrictions with designated sweeping routes will not be enforced.
- Due to the closing of non-life sustaining businesses by Governor Wolf, and in an attempt to alleviate parking concerns for residents, the City suspended parking meter enforcement until further notice. However, the City is specifically concerned that this change in operations may have a negative impact on businesses remaining open. Therefore, the City has established 15-minute reserved parking at meters in front of those life-sustaining businesses for customers picking up food and other essential services. Signs are hung on parking meters designating the spaces for the 15-minute parking.
- Parking regulations will be enforced based on safety issues (i.e., parking too close to a fire hydrant, parking within posted signs,
parking in a loading zone, etc.) and complaints received by the Lebanon Police Department.

- Camping and special event permits were not being issued until April 6. Effective immediately, camping and special event permits will not be issued until further notice.
- Applications for the rental of city-owned recreation buildings and pavilions for dates prior to May 1st will not be accepted. Reservations for dates after May 1st will be accepted. However, if the Governor's Stay-at-Home Orders or the President's social distancing orders are still in place for the date of the reservation, the City will cancel the reservation.

➢ Effective on March 23, the City's Recycling Center on Lehman Street was closed until April 6. Effective immediately, the Recycling Center is temporarily closed until further notice. Recycling pick-up is mandatory with curbside refuse collection. Refuse collectors charge a minimal fee as a part of their service to residents.

➢ Payments for tickets, rental licenses, pavilion rental reservations, permits, loans, parking spaces, etc., may be deposited in the green and white drop box located on the municipal parking lot at Eighth and Elm Streets, Lebanon. Please make sure the envelope is clearly marked with the Department for which it is intended and the reason for the payment. Please include your contact information with your payment.

Information about the facts and latest updates on COVID-19 coronavirus is available on the websites of the PA Department of Health, https://www.health.pa.gov and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention https://www.cdc.gov/. For local updates, the public is encouraged to monitor the Lebanon County Department of Emergency Services (DES) website https://covid19.lcedes.org