

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021

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 Morales presiding.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present--Mr. Bost, Mr. Carey, Mr. Miller, Mr. Wertz, and Mr. Morales, 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; Duane Trautman, Fire Commissioner; Helen Westphal, Finance Officer; seven persons in the audience; and three members of the news media.

The minutes of the October 25 and November 10, 2021, City Council meeting were presented by the City Clerk. There being no corrections, deletions or additions, the minutes were approved as presented.

Chairperson Morales announced that Council received a budget report for the period January 1 through October 31, 2021. Mayor Capello reported that 83 percent of the fiscal year is completed; revenues are at 102 percent; and expenditures are slightly less than 75 percent. Overall, the performance is better than budgeted.

Chairperson Morales announced that Council received a communication from Mayor Sherry L. Capello, informing Council of the appointment of Detective Ryan Mong, 400 South Eighth Street, Lebanon, to the City of Lebanon Police Pension Fund Board to fill the unexpired term of John Zatorski, effective immediately. Mayor Capello reported that Officer Zatorski retired and Detective Mong was selected to fill the unexpired term. She further reported that the Board is comprised of three representatives from the Police Department, three residents of the city, and the Mayor who serves as Chair.

Mr. Bost introduced Resolution No. 41, as follows:

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PROPER OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF LEBANON TO ENTER INTO A REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT FOR THE LEBANON CITY RESURFACING-PHASE 2-TENTH STREET (SR 72) PROJECT.**

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. Lebanon City Council does hereby authorize the submission request for the Department of Transportation to provide up to Two Million One Hundred Fifty-Four Thousand Five Hundred Ninety-Six Dollars (\$2,154,596.00) reimbursement to the City of Lebanon for

construction costs associated with the Lebanon City Resurfacing-Phase 2-Tenth Street (SR 72) Project.

SECTION 2. The Mayor and City Clerk of the City of Lebanon are hereby authorized and directed to sign Reimbursement Agreement No. R21080020 on behalf of the City of Lebanon.

SECTION 3. Any resolution or part of resolution conflicting with the provisions of this resolution be and the same are hereby repealed so far as the same affects this resolution.

Mayor Capello explained that the City of Lebanon will enter into an agreement for each phase of the 422/72 Resurfacing Project. She added that the invoices from the contractor are paid by the City and PennDot reimburses the City.

Resolution No. 41 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Bost, seconded by Mr. Miller. Yeas--Mr. Bost, Mr. Carey, Mr. Miller, Mr. Wertz, and Mr. Morales, Chairperson--5; nays--none.

Mr. Wertz introduced Resolution No. 42, as follows:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PROPER OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF LEBANON TO ENTER INTO A REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT AMENDMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LEBANON AND THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE LEBANON CITY RESURFACING-PHASE 1-WALNUT STREET (US 422) PROJECT.

WHEREAS, the City of Lebanon was previously awarded \$1,976,888.00 for the Lebanon City Resurfacing-Phase 1-Walnut Street (US 422) Project which is to be increased by \$58,413.83, for a total of \$2,035,301.83.

NOW, THEREFORE, 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. Lebanon City Council does hereby approve the acceptance of the approved additional funding from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation in the amount of \$58,413.83.

SECTION 2. The proper officials of the City of Lebanon are hereby authorized and directed to sign any and all materials required for execution via PennDot's Reimbursement Agreement System for the requested federal aid reimbursement agreement amendment and any required supplements between the City of Lebanon and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and have the same delivered to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

SECTION 3. Any resolution or part of resolution conflicting with the provisions of this resolution be and the same are hereby repealed so far as the same affects this resolution.

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Mayor Capello explained that this is an amendment to the original agreement between the City of Lebanon and PennDot for the Walnut Street Resurfacing Project. The total cost exceeded the amount specified in the agreement and the amendment is required in order for PennDot to release the additional funds to the City of Lebanon.

Resolution No. 42 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Wertz, seconded by Mr. Carey. Yeas--Mr. Bost, Mr. Carey, Mr. Miller, Mr. Wertz, and Mr. Morales, Chairperson--5; nays--none.

Mr. Miller introduced Resolution No. 43, as follows:

A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE ANNUAL PLAN FOR THE COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS WITH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 TO REFLECT THE ALLOCATION OF UNUSED FUNDS FROM FY 2017, 2018, AND 2019 FOR STREET IMPROVEMENTS.

WHEREAS, beginning in FY 1995, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) replaced the regulations for submission of applications for funding for various entitlement programs and the City prepared a consolidated submission for community planning and development programs in order to receive funding for these programs; and,

WHEREAS, the City prepared a Five-Year Consolidated Plan for the period 2020 to 2024 which includes the Community Development Block Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the City has developed an Annual Plan for each program year for the use of federal funds; and

WHEREAS, unused funds from FY 2017, 2018, and 2019 in the amount of Two Hundred Fifty-Six Thousand Six Hundred Twelve Dollars and Ninety-Seven Cents (\$256,612.97) will be allocated for street improvements in the Annual Plan for FY 2021; and

WHEREAS, the City has made the amendment to the Annual Plan available for citizen review and comment for a period of thirty (30) days consistent with its Citizen Participation Plan and considered comments received.

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved by the Council of the City of Lebanon, PA, and it is hereby resolved by the authority of same, that:

SECTION 1. The amendment to the Housing and Community Development Annual Plan advertised on October 20, 2021, is hereby in all respects approved. The City Clerk is hereby directed to file a copy of said amendment with the minutes of this meeting.

SECTION 2. The Mayor of the City of Lebanon, on behalf of the City Council, is hereby authorized to provide such assurances and/or certifications as required by the regulations for the Consolidated Submissions for Community Planning and Development Programs.

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Mayor Capello explained that a specific amount is set aside for each category and sometimes projects come in under the amount budgeted. After a few years, the unused funds are reallocated and we make every effort to use those funds for street resurfacing. She reported that resurfacing of Lehman Street will continue beginning at Seventh Street and hopefully, go east to Lincoln Avenue. In addition, Walton Street, east of Seventh Street will be resurfaced.

Resolution No. 43 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Wertz. Yeas—Mr. Bost, Mr. Carey, Mr. Miller, Mr. Wertz, and Mr. Morales, Chairperson--5; nays--none.

Mr. Morales introduced Resolution No. 44, as follows:

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A PROPOSAL FROM BARBACANE THORNTON & COMPANY, WILMINGTON, DELAWARE, FOR AUDITING VARIOUS CITY ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 2021, WITH OPTIONS TO EXTEND THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2023.

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. A proposal dated November 12, 2021, from Barbacane Thornton & Company, 200 Springer Building, 3411 Silverside Road, Wilmington, DE 19810, for auditing various city accounts for the years 2021, 2022, and 2023 at an annual fee not to exceed Thirty-Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$32,500.00), is hereby accepted, subject to the annual review and recommendation of the City Council, the satisfactory negotiation of terms and the annual availability of an appropriation.

Mayor Capello reported that the City of Lebanon puts out a Request for Proposals every three years. Barbacane Thornton and Company is the current auditor and submitted the lowest proposal of \$32,500 annually which represents a \$500 increase from the cost for the 2020 audit.

Resolution No. 44 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Morales, seconded by Mr. Miller. Yeas--Mr. Bost, Mr. Carey, Mr. Miller, Mr. Wertz, and Mr. Morales, Chairperson--5; nays--none.

Mr. Morales called up Bill No. 13 on final reading, the title of which is as follows: "AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE NAME OF WALNUT STREET EXTENDING WEST FROM EDISON STREET TO NORTH TENTH STREET IN THE TENTH WARD OF THE CITY OF LEBANON.

Mayor Capello reported that the Lebanon County Department of Emergency Services requested the renaming of this Walnut Street which is located in the northern end of the city. She added that the names of the other streets in the vicinity were reviewed and we tried to choose a name that was similar.

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John Bower, 213 Stuart Street, Lebanon, stated that the majority of the street is closed and he asked if the renaming of the street reopens the street. Mayor Capello replied that there are no plans to reopen the street. However, there could be a request to open the street in the future. Mr. Bower asked if property owners would be notified if a request to reopen the street is submitted to the City of Lebanon. Mayor Capello replied that a request to reopen the street would be part of a land development plan that goes before the Planning Commission. She added that anyone from the public may attend these meetings and voice concerns or support of development. There is no requirement to notify other property owners.

Bill No. 13 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Morales, seconded by Mr. Carey. Yeas--Mr. Bost, Mr. Carey, Mr. Miller, Mr. Wertz, and Mr. Morales, Chairperson--5; nays--none.

Mr. Morales called up Bill No. 14 on final reading, the title of which is as follows: "AN ORDINANCE MAKING APPROPRIATIONS OF THE CITY OF LEBANON, PA., FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2022, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022.

Mayor Capello reported that she and her staff worked hard to prepare a realistic budget for 2022 and she is pleased to present the budget for final reading.

Bill No. 14 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Morales, seconded by Mr. Miller. Yeas--Mr. Bost, Mr. Carey, Mr. Miller, Mr. Wertz, and Mr. Morales, Chairperson--5; nays--none.

Mr. Carey introduced Bill No. 15, as follows:

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE TAX LEVY OF THE CITY OF LEBANON, PA., FOR THE YEAR 2022.

Be It Ordained by the Council of the City of Lebanon, Pa., and it is hereby ordained by the authority of the same, That:

SECTION 1. The rate of taxation of the City of Lebanon, Pa., for the fiscal year 2022 and for general revenue purposes shall be Four and Five Hundred Eighty-One Thousandths (4.581) mills upon the dollar of the assessed valuation of all the real, personal and mixed property within the limits of said City, taxable for City purposes; such rate of taxation being at the rate of Forty-Five and Eighty-One Hundredths Cents (\$.4581) on each One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) of the assessed valuation of such taxable property, which assessed valuation is the sum of Eight Hundred Sixty-Three Million Three Hundred Ninety-Five Thousand One Hundred Dollars (\$863,395,100.00).

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

Mayor Capello reported that this is the seventh consecutive year with no real estate tax increase.

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Bill No. 15 was introduced and will be considered on final reading at the monthly meeting of December 13, 2021, on motion of Mr. Carey, seconded by Mr. Morales. Yeas--Mr. Bost, Mr. Carey, Mr. Miller, Mr. Wertz, and Mr. Morales, Chairperson--5; nays--none.

Councilmember Carey reminded folks to visit social media for the City of Lebanon, Downtown Lebanon, and the Community of Lebanon Association for information about events happening in the City of Lebanon.

Community and Economic Development Administrator Janelle Mendoff presented information about upcoming events in the City of Lebanon, as follows:

- a. Christmas Decorating Contest in Downtown Lebanon. Mayor Capello added that residents and business owners are encouraged to decorate prior to the Carriage Rides on December 3 and 10, 2021.
- b. Shop Small is November 27, 2021. There will be free parking limited to two hours on the metered lots in Downtown Lebanon.
- c. Carriage Rides are scheduled from 5-8 p.m. on December 5 and December 12. Reservations can be made on the CLA's website.
- d. Cookie Crawl is scheduled for December 4, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- e. Santa Claus will be at the Farmers Market during the holiday season.
- f. Christkindl Market at Coleman Memorial Park on December 4, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- g. Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Ninth and Mifflin Streets Mini-Park on December 6 at 6:30 p.m.
- h. Leaf pickup will continue through the week of December 6.
- i. New Year's Eve Bologna Drop will be held on December 31 in Downtown Lebanon.

Councilmember Wertz thanked the Community of Lebanon Association and all who were involved in making the Holiday Parade a success on November 20. Craig Gates, Community of Lebanon Association, reported that the budget for the parade is \$15,000 and he extended a thanks to all the volunteers. He reported that Channel 27 News wants to come back next year.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

CHERYL J. GIBSON, Clerk