

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2021

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

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; and two members of the news media.

The minutes of the January 25, 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 January 31, 2021. Mayor Capello reported that 8 percent of the fiscal year is completed; revenue is at 3.8 percent; and expenditures are at 4.7 percent. She added that revenue is down mainly because real estate taxes will only begin to be received in March and expenditures are performing better than budget.

Chairperson Morales announced that Council received a communication from Mayor Sherry L. Capello, informing Council of the appointment of Christopher Gebhard, Hoaster Gebhard & Company, 719 Quentin Road, Lebanon, and Horace Ehrgood, Esquire, Ehrgood and Arnold, 410 Chestnut Street, Lebanon, to the Lebanon Community Library Board of Directors for a two-year term, effective retroactively to January 1, 2021. Mayor Capello reported that a communication was received from Michelle Hawk, Director of the Lebanon Community Library, indicating that former Board member Ed Naab no longer resides in the city and is no longer on the Board and Board member Kathy Kulbitsky no longer works in the city. Ms. Hawk submitted Mr. Gebhard and Attorney Ehrgood as new Board members representing the City of Lebanon. Mayor Capello noted that Mr. Gebhard owns an insurance company in the City of Lebanon and Attorney Ehrgood's law office is located in the City of Lebanon.

Mr. Wertz introduced Resolution No. 27, as follows:

AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF VARIOUS DOCUMENTS IN THE FINANCE OFFICE.

WHEREAS, by virtue of Resolution No. 36, Sessions 2008-2009, passed finally by City Council on April 27, 2009, the City of Lebanon declared its intent to follow the procedures for

the disposition of records as set forth in the Retention and Disposition Schedule for Records of Pennsylvania Municipalities issued on December 16, 2008; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Act 428 of 1968, each individual act of disposition shall be approved by resolution of the governing body of the municipality.

NOW, THEREFORE, 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 disposition of the following records in the Finance Office is hereby approved:

- Audit back up and worksheets – 2011 and prior
- Bi-weekly payroll registers for City, Police Pension and Fire Pension - 2009 and prior
- Check Scans - 2017 and prior
- MR Updates - 2014 and Prior
- Timesheets - 2009 and Prior
- Credit Card Slips – 2017 and Prior
- Cash Receipts postings – 2009 and Prior
- Payroll Deduction/Distribution Register - 2008 and Prior
- Budget Worksheets and Data -- 2012 and Prior
- Quarterly Payroll Reports - 2009 and Prior
- Police Protection invoices - 2007 and Prior
- End-of-Year Registers for Payroll (greenbar) - 2006 and Prior
- Fuel Billable packets – 2006 and Prior

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 reported that the documents are being disposed of in accordance with the State's Retention and Disposition Schedule for Records.

Resolution No. 27 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Carey, seconded by Mr. Miller. Yeas--Mr. Bost, Mr. Carey, Mr. Miller, Mr. Morales, and Mr. Wertz, Chairperson—5; nays—none.

Mr. Bost called up Bill No. 6 on final reading, the title of which is as follows: "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE 1501, "INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE", OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LEBANON WHICH PROHIBITS OPEN BURNING IN THE CITY OF LEBANON, ADDING THE DEFINITION OF BURN CONTAINER AND CREATING A PERMITTING PROCESS FOR PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS INVOLVING BURNING OF A FLAG".

Mayor Capello reported that in light of current events, it's come to our attention that the City needs to update its ordinance to allow for public demonstrations involving outdoor burning as part of a protected form of first amendment speech. Bill No. 6 amends the Fire Code ordinance to include the definition of burn container; a new requirement for public demonstrations involving burning would require that the applicant submit the request to hold the event at least 48 hours preceding the demonstration; the applicant must ensure that an operable fire extinguisher is present at the demonstration at all times; no flag or other items exceeding 4x6 feet shall be burned; the applicant must remove the burn container and any remnants of the burn immediately following the demonstration; the container must be 15 feet from any building or combustible material; and the applicant is responsible for damages resulting from the burn.

Bill No. 6 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Bost, seconded by Mr. Carey. Yeas--Mr. Bost, Mr. Carey, Mr. Miller, Mr. Wertz, and Mr. Morales, Chairperson--5; nays--none.

Councilmember Carey encouraged residents to follow the City's Facebook page for updated information on snow removal and snow emergency information. He also reported that the Lebanon Valley Council on the Arts is planning an "Art in the Wild" outdoor exhibit for 2021. The LV Council on the Arts is also sponsoring the "We are Lebanon PA" which is a still photo campaign that includes a story about the person. The photos will be displayed at First Friday and will be available through March.

Chairperson Morales asked about the status of snow removal. Mayor Capello reported that the main streets look good. The City of Lebanon does not plow alley unless there is six or more inches of snow. She added that the crew is still out cleaning sidewalks on city-owned properties.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

CHERYL J. GIBSON, Clerk