

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2026

The regular monthly meeting of the Council of the City of Lebanon, Pa., was held in Dixon Council Chamber of City Hall, Lebanon, Pa., this evening, Chairperson Martin presiding.

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m.

Present--Mrs. Haitos, Mr. Potash (via teleconference), Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Martin, Chairperson. Absent—Mr. Maguire.

Also present were Mayor Sherry L. Capello; Jeffrey Campbell, Deputy Fire Chief; City Solicitor Andrew Francos; Eric Sims, Chief of Police; A.J. Sweitzer, Fire Chief; Chad Yeagley, Director of Public Works; eight persons in the audience; and two members of the news media.

The minutes of the December 15, 2025, and January 5, 2026, City Council meeting were presented by the City Clerk. There being no corrections, deletions or additions, the minutes were approved as presented.

Mayor Capello reported that a formal post event review of Sunday's snowstorm has not yet been completed; however, she has received compliments on the snow removal to date. It has been four days since the start of the snowfall and three days since it ended, so crews are still cleaning up. She reported that the initial forecast was for 21-27 inches of snow and the final forecast was 12-18 inches. The Public Works Department spent the week preparing for the event and on January 20, a joint planning meeting was held with the Departments of Public Works and Police. She reported that during the snow emergency, 134 citations were issued, 56 vehicles were initially towed, and 20 additional vehicles were towed later. The Public Works crew reported to duty at 1:00 a.m. Sunday and started calling operators at approximately 1:30 a.m., shortly before the snowfall began. Plowing began at 5:30 a.m. Street operations were handled by 13 employees; private contractors assisted with plowing the municipal lots and a private contractor plowed alleys. Seasonal employees removed snow from the sidewalks at city-owned properties. During snow hauling operations the past two days, 361 dump truck loads, or 5,733 tons of snow, were removed from the snow emergency routes. Today, crews removed 53 loads of snow from narrow streets and will continue efforts to remove snow from narrow streets tomorrow. The snow emergency was lifted today at 9:00 a.m. Mayor Capello commended the Public Works employees for their diligence in clearing the streets and the Police Officers for their support in clearing the snow emergency routes.

Councilmember Wilson asked if Sixth Street is included on the list to be plowed to the curb as there is an elementary school in that area and parking is limited. Mayor Capello responded that snow hauling was scheduled as in previous years based on a past engineer's recommendation. She agreed to look at the streets surrounding the school as safety of children is important; however, the City cannot remove snow from every street.

Councilmember Wilson asked if residents will be cited if they place chairs in parking spaces to reserve parking. Mayor Capello replied that it is too early for that to be occurring;

however, if it becomes a problem, the City will consider collecting the items placed in the parking spaces.

Mayor Capello reported that the Public Works crew is very young and new to the job, so this was their first big snow storm. Many of the employees were learning during the snow plowing and snow removal operations. During the first night of snow hauling operations, there were mechanical issues and other challenges, but the crew was committed to getting the job done.

Chris Coyle, LebTown, asked if any citations were issued to property owners who have not cleared the sidewalk. Mayor Capello responded that the requirement to clear the sidewalk was extended to 4:00 p.m. today. She added that she reached out to a local church to seek volunteers to help the elderly. The Code Enforcement Inspectors will begin issuing tickets on Friday to property owners who made no attempt to clear the sidewalk.

Richard Evans, 330 East Beech Street, Lebanon, asked if there is a regulation prohibiting the snow being plowed onto the street. Mayor Capello responded that if the City is made aware of independent contractors plowing snow from private property onto a city street or onto another property, a representative will contact the contractor and issue a ticket, if necessary.

Chairperson Martin announced that Council received the following communications:

- a. Mayor Sherry L. Capello, informing Council of the reappointment of Martin Yocum to the City of Lebanon Authority for a five-year term, effective January 2, 2026. Mayor Capello reported that Mr. Yocum has a background in finance, resides in the city, and was a former owner of a financial company in the city.
- b. Mayor Sherry L. Capello, informing Council of the reappointment of Jane Yocum, Terrence Feeman, Gregory Lee, Chief Eric Sims, Sgt. Ryan Mong, and PFC Travis Pidcock to the City of Lebanon Police Pension Fund Board for a four-year term, effective January 2, 2026. Mayor Capello reported that Mrs. Yocum and Mr. Feeman were appointed prior to her tenure; Greg Lee has worked at the Lebanon Federal Credit Union for approximately 25 years; and the police representatives are selected by the union. She added that PNC is the advisor to the Board.
- c. Mayor Sherry L. Capello, informing Council of the reappointment of Career Firefighter Brian Otto, Career Firefighter Allen Firestine, Martin Yocum, and Gregory Hower to the City of Lebanon Paid Firemen's Pension Fund Board for a four-year term, effective January 2, 2026. Mayor Capello reported that Mr. Yocum was appointed prior to her tenure; Greg Hower is retired from the banking industry; and the Career Firefighters are selected by the union. She added that R.J. Hall is the advisor to the Board.
- d. Mayor Sherry L. Capello, informing Council of the reappointment of Jeffrey Yocum, D.O., Fire Chief A.J. Sweitzer, and Cheryl Feeman; and the appointment of Code Enforcement Supervisor Glenn Yanos to the City of Lebanon Board of Health for a four-year term, effective January 2, 2026. Mayor Capello reported that the composition of the Board is set forth in the ordinance. Mrs. Feeman is a retired nurse; Dr. Yocum is the Health Officer for the City of Lebanon; Mr. Yanos is the

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Code Enforcement Supervisor and is replacing Gerald Fisch who recently retired; and Mr. Sweitzer is the Fire Chief and Director of Public Safety. She added that the Board reviews reports on property maintenance activity, eating and drinking establishments, and the general health of the community. The Lebanon School District is also required to report the number on cases of certain illnesses each month.

Mr. Wilson introduced Resolution No. 1, as follows:

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LEBANON AND THE LEBANON POLICE BARGAINING ASSOCIATION, AN AGENT OF THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE, LODGE NO. 42, FOR THE YEARS 2026 THROUGH 2029.

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 agreement between the City of Lebanon and the Lebanon Police Bargaining Association, an agent of the Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge No. 42, effective January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2029, be and the same is hereby ratified.

SECTION 2. A copy of said agreement is attached to and hereby made part of this resolution.

Mayor Capello provided a summary of the changes to the new contract between the City of Lebanon and the Lebanon Police Bargaining Association. She explained that salaries were increased in order to be more competitive with the other municipalities.

Resolution No. 1 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mrs. Haitos. Yeas—Mrs. Haitos, Mr. Potash, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Martin, Chairperson—4; nays—none.

Mr. Martin called up Bill No. 24, Sessions 2024-2025, on final reading, the title of which is as follows: “AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING FES RELATING TO ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS MADE TO THE CITY OF LEBANON.

Mayor Capello explained that this is a convenience or processing fee for online payments. The cost is being passed onto the user instead of being paid by the City of Lebanon. She reported that the fees are comparable to other cities and are the same as the fees being charged by the City of Lebanon Authority. She further explained that the charge back fee covers the cost for the dispute process.

Bill No. 24 was passed finally on motion of Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Potash. Yeas—Mrs. Haitos, Mr. Potash, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Martin, Chairperson—4; nays—none.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

CHERYL J. GIBSON, Clerk