

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2025

A special meeting of the Council of the City of Lebanon, Pa., was held in Council Chamber of the Municipal Building, Lebanon, Pa., this afternoon, Chairperson Martin presiding.

The meeting was called to order at 4:47 p.m.

Present--Mrs. Haitos, Mr. Maguire, Mr. Martin, Mr. Potash, and Mr. Morales, Chairperson. Absent--none.

Also present were Mayor Sherry L. Capello; Chief of Police Eric Sims; Melissa E. Quinones, Director of Administration-Assistant to the Mayor; Fire Chief A.J. Sweitzer; Finance Officer Melissa Weirauch; Chad Yeagley, Director of Public Works; one member of the audience and one member of the news media.

Mr. Martin introduced Bill No. 21, the title of which is as follows: "AN ORDINANCE MAKING APPROPRIATIONS OF THE CITY OF LEBANON, PA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2026, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026".

Mayor Capello reported that for 2026, real estate taxes revenue will remain constant compared to 2025. Overall, the total revenues will increase in the amount of \$889,022 and expenditures will increase \$1,012,707 from 2025 to 2026.

Mayor Capello reported that the Consumer Price Index is 3.1 and the increase in salaries for the positions of Mayor and Councilmember are based on the CPI.

Mayor Capello reported that the 2026 budget represents pay increases as follows:

- a. Non-Uniformed Employees (AFSCME and management employees) – 4.00 percent
- b. Career Firefighters – no agreement has been reached to date.
- c. Police – there is no set percentage, as the increases range based upon years of service and are increasing in order to become more competitive with surrounding departments for recruiting and retention purposes.

Mayor Capello reported that the excess carryover was utilized to balance the budget. Additionally, 2026 is the eleventh consecutive year with no property tax increase.

Chairperson Martin commended Mayor Capello and staff for their diligence in preparing and presenting the budget for 2026.

Matthew Toth, *Lebanon Daily News*, asked how much revenue a one mill tax increase would generate to which Mayor Capello responded approximately \$1,115,391.00

Bill No. 21 was introduced and will be considered on final reading at the monthly Council meeting of November 24, 2025, on motion of Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Potash.

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Yeas--Mrs. Haitos, Mr. Maguire, Mr. Martin, Mr. Potash, and Mr. Morales, Chairperson--5;  
nays--none.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

CHERYL J. GIBSON, Clerk