

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 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 6:31 p.m.

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

Also present were Mayor Sherry L. Capello; Jeffrey Campbell, Deputy Fire Chief; City Solicitor Andrew Francos (teleconference); Melissa E. Quinones, Director of Administration-Assistant to the Mayor; Eric Sims, Chief of Police; A.J. Sweitzer, Fire Chief; Chad Yeagley, Director of Public Works; 15 persons in the audience; and 2 members of the news media.

The minutes of the January 29, 2026, City Council meeting were presented by the City Clerk. There being no corrections, deletions or additions, the minutes were approved as presented.

Chairperson Martin announced that Council received a budget report for the period January 1-31, 2026. Mayor Capello reported that eight percent of the fiscal year is completed; revenues are at four percent; and expenditures are at five percent. She reported that the city will begin receiving revenue from the real estate tax bills during the month of March.

Dave Funk, Chairperson, Coleman Memorial Park Board of Trustees, and Paige Rivera, President, Friends of Coleman Memorial Park Board of Trustees, presented a 2025 Year in Review of Coleman Memorial Park. Events held at the park included a pickleball tournament, a Latino Festival, Music in the Park, the 18th Annual Sweep the Streets Basketball Tournament, Movie Nights, the Summer Concert Series, a Harvest Festival, Ghost Tours, a Christkindl Market, and multiple baseball tournaments.

In addition, monthly cleanups are organized by the Friends of Coleman Memorial Park. Mr. Funk reported that an Arboretum Project is underway. He explained that the trees will be tagged and linked to a website with information. The goal is to have 750 trees tagged. He added that the project will be similar to that at Lebanon Valley College.

Mr. Funk reported that 12 new benches were installed throughout the park in 2025. In addition, numerous enhancements at the park were made possible with the help of the City of Lebanon and grant funding.

Mr. Funk reported that the activity at the ball fields draws approximately 5,000 visitors from Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, Ohio, and West Virginia to the park each year. In 2025, there were ball teams that traveled from Canada to participate in the tournaments.

Looking ahead, the Board plans to promote more activities at the Amphitheater. In 2026, the Trustees will focus on making improvements to the former miniature golf building and making it a community center from small group and community rentals.

Chairperson Martin announced that Council received the following communications:

- a. Mayor Sherry L. Capello, informing Council of the appointment of Karen Haitos to the Design Review Board to fill the unexpired term of former Councilmember Joseph Morales, effective January 30, 2026. The term expires on July 22, 2030. Mayor Capello reported that the Design Review Board reviews designs for murals and public art and also reviews any proposed changes to facades on buildings in the Central Business district in order to protect the physical character and historic streetscape identity. In response to a question inquiring how many applications were received in the past few years, Mayor Capello responded that unfortunately, the City often becomes aware of the project after it has been completed. Recently, the City became aware of a project and Mrs. Groh will be addressing that upon her return to work. Councilmember Maguire inquired about the status of the façade improvement grant to which Mayor Capello responded that the grant was awarded to the City; however, to date, the contract has not been received.
- b. Angelina Marko and the America 250 Organizing Committee, requesting a contribution for the America 250 Parade of Lebanon County. Mayor Capello reported that on Friday, February 20, 2026, she received correspondence from Jeff Short, Mayor of Jonestown Borough, requesting financial support of the parade. He indicated that Jonestown Borough began meeting in January of this year, received a resolution from the State acknowledging the establishment of the Committee, setup a fund for donations, and established a parade committee. The fireworks were a tradition in Jonestown until recently. Mr. Shott indicated that they are asking municipalities to financially support the celebration of the 250th Anniversary of our country. Mayor Capello commended the group for their enthusiasm and efforts to plan this celebration. She added that the Lebanon County Commissioners established a 250th Anniversary Committee that has been actively meeting for two years to plan a celebration for county residents at the Lebanon Expo. She reported that the establishment of the 250th Committee was reported in the local media, Lebanon County Commissioners' and Lebanon City Council meeting minutes, and social media. As part of the celebration at the Lebanon Expo, the City of Lebanon agreed to move its annual fireworks display from Coleman Memorial Park to the Lebanon Expo for 2026. The City entered into a contract to spend approximately \$23,000 to have a bigger display and is committed to raising \$13,000 for the fireworks. She added that \$5,000 is budgeted from the general fund for the fireworks and the Visit Lebanon Valley has committed \$10,000. Mayor Capello reported that more than two years ago approximately 50 folks met to determine the events that will be held at this celebration. She told Council that, respectfully, the City of Lebanon made a commitment to the County's 250th Committee and have devoted significant time and resources to supporting that county-designated effort. She wished this group well with their planning efforts for a parade and fireworks. Councilmember Wilson asked if the parade will happen even if enough funds are not raised for the

fireworks to which Ms. Marko replied yes. She added that all municipalities sponsoring the celebration will be included on a banner. Councilmember Wilson asked when organizations will be notified of the opportunity to participate in the parade. Ms. Marko stated that she has personally visited businesses and emails will be sent to organizations.

Councilmember Maguire asked what is the approval process for the expenditure if Council chooses to support the parade. City Solicitor Francos replied if the funds have been appropriated, it can be approved without a resolution. Mr. Francos added that the City has funds appropriated in the budget for the 250th celebration. Mayor Capello clarified that the funds appropriated in the 2026 budget are committed to the County’s 250th Committee.

Jessie Green, 326 Canal Street, Lebanon, asked if the City of Lebanon is organizing a parade. Mayor Capello responded that the City of Lebanon and other municipalities and organizations joined the committee organized by the Lebanon County Commissioners to plan a county-wide celebration. That celebration is being held at the Lebanon Expo Center and the City of Lebanon is fundraising for the fireworks display at the conclusion of the event. She added that the County’s 250th Committee is not planning a parade as part of its activities.

Councilmember Maguire introduced Bill No. 1, as follows:

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE EDITING AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT CODES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LEBANON, PENNSYLVANIA.

WHEREAS, various ordinances of a general and permanent nature have been passed which should be included in the Codified Ordinances of the City of Lebanon, Pennsylvania:

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Ordained by the Council of the City of Lebanon, Pennsylvania, and it is hereby ordained by the authority of the same, That:

SECTION 1. The editing, arrangement and numbering or renumbering of the following ordinances and parts of ordinances are hereby approved as parts of the various component codes of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Lebanon, Pennsylvania, so as to conform to the classification and number system of the codified ordinances to wit:

Ordinance No.	Date	Subject	C.O. Section
11-2022, 23	7-24-2023	Establishing a fee schedule for the use of the Garbage and Recycling Center at Eighth and Walton Streets, Lebanon	Article 929
13-2022, 23	11-27-2023	Amending Subsection 513.03, “Hours of Operation”, of Article 513, “Parking Meters”, for the purpose of designating Juneteenth as a parking meter holiday	Article 1501

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Ordinance No.	Date	Subject	C.O. Section
15-2022, 23	12-18-2023	Providing for the tax levy of the City of Lebanon, Pa., for the year 2024	Article 331
3-2024, 25	7-22-2024	Amending Article 930, “Recycling”, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Lebanon, Pennsylvania, to amend Sections regarding definitions, separation of recyclables, and preparation of storage and recyclables	Article 930
4-2024, 25	9-23-2024	Amending the City of Lebanon Paid Firemen’s Pension Plan for the purpose of amending sections regarding normal retirement, cost-of-living adjustments for former employees, and Deferred Retirement Option Plan	Article 177
6-2024, 25	12-16-2024	Providing for the tax levy of the City of Lebanon, Pa., for the year 2025	Article 331
7-2024, 25	1-27-2025	Amending Article 1382, “Stormwater Management”, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Lebanon, Pennsylvania, for the purpose of adopting new stormwater management regulations	Article 1382
8-2024, 25	10-27-2025	Amending Part Eleven (Public Health Code) of the City of Lebanon Codified Ordinances to establish Article 1108, “Specialty Tobacco and E-cigarette Establishments and Hookah Establishments, to enact regulations for the sales of tobacco and e-cigarettes and to include regulations governing the operation of specialty tobacco and e-cigarette establishments and hookah establishments within the City of Lebanon	Article 1108
9-2024, 25	10-27-2025	Amending Section 1701.06, “Fees”, of Article 1701, “Pennsylvania Construction Code”, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Lebanon, Pa., for the purpose of revising the fee structure; and repealing all ordinances and parts of the ordinances in conflict therewith	Article 1701

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Ordinance No.	Date	Subject	C.O. Section
10-2024, 25	10-27-2025	Adopting the 2018 Edition of the <i>International Building Code</i> , regulating and governing the conditions and maintenance of all property, buildings and structures; by providing the standards for supplied utilities and facilities and other physical things and conditions essential to ensure that structures are safe, sanitary and fit for occupation and use; and the condemnation of buildings and structures unfit for human occupancy and use and the demolition of such structures in the City of Lebanon; and providing for the issuance of permits and collection of fees therefore; and repealing all ordinances and parts of the ordinances in conflict therewith	Article 1702
11-2024, 25	10-27-2025	Adopting the 2018 Edition of the <i>International Residential Code</i> , regulating and governing the construction, alteration, movement, enlargement, replacement, repair, equipment, location, removal and demolition of detached one and two family dwellings and multiple single family dwellings (townhouses) not more than three stories in height with separate means of egress in the City of Lebanon; providing for the issuance of permits and collection of fees therefore; and repealing all ordinances and parts of the ordinances in conflict therewith	Article 1703
12-2024, 25	10-27-2025	Adopting the 2018 Edition of the <i>International Existing Building Code</i> , regulating the repair, alteration, change of occupancy, addition, and relocation of existing buildings, including historic buildings, in the City of Lebanon, providing for the issuance of permits and collection of fees therefore; and repealing all ordinances and parts of the ordinances in conflict therewith	Article 1704

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Ordinance No.	Date	Subject	C.O. Section
13-2024, 25	10-27-2025	Adopting the 2018 Edition of the <i>International Mechanical Code</i> , regulating and governing the design, construction, quality of materials, erection, installation, alteration, repair, location, relocation, replacement, addition to, use or maintenance of mechanical systems in the City of Lebanon; providing for the issuance of permits and collection of fees therefore; and repealing all ordinances and parts of the ordinances in conflict therewith	Article 1705
14-2024, 25	10-27-2025	Adopting the 2018 Edition of the <i>International Plumbing Code</i> , regulating and governing the design, construction, quality of materials, erection, installation, alteration, repair, location, relocation, replacement, addition to, use or maintenance of plumbing systems in the City of Lebanon; providing for the issuance of permits and collection of fees therefore; and repealing all ordinances and parts of the ordinance in conflict therewith	Article 1706
15-2024, 25	10-27-2025	Adopting the 2018 Edition of the <i>International Fuel Gas Code</i> , regulating and governing fuel gas systems and gas-fired appliances in the City of Lebanon and providing for the issuance of permits and collection of fees therefore; and repealing all ordinances and parts of the ordinances in conflict therewith	Article 1707
16-2024, 25	10-27-2025	Adopting the 2018 Edition of the <i>International Energy Conservation Code</i> , regulating and governing energy efficient building envelopes and installation of energy efficient mechanical, lighting and power systems in the City of Lebanon; providing for the issuance of permits and collection of fees therefore; and repealing all ordinances and parts of the ordinances in conflict therewith	Article 1708

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Ordinance No.	Date	Subject	C.O. Section
17-2024, 25	10-27-2025	Adopting the 2018 edition of the <i>International Fire Code</i> , regulating and governing the safe-guarding of life and property from fire and explosion hazards arising from the storage, handling and use of hazardous substances, materials and devices, and from conditions hazardous to life or property in the occupancy of buildings and premises in the City of Lebanon; providing for the issuance of permits and collection of fees therefore; and repealing all ordinances and parts of the ordinances in conflict therewith	Article 1501
18-2024, 25	10-27-2025	Adopting the 2018 Edition of the <i>International Property Maintenance Code</i> , regulating and governing the conditions and maintenance of all property, building and structures; by providing the standards for supplied utilities and facilities and other physical things and conditions essential to ensure that structures are safe sanitary and fit for occupation and use; and the condemnation of buildings and structures unfit for human occupancy and use, and the demolition of such existing structures in the City of Lebanon; providing for the issuance of permits and collection of fees therefore; and repealing Bill No. 8, Sessions 2010-2011, the same being Article 1901 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Lebanon, Pa., and all other ordinances and parts of ordinances that conflict therewith	Article 1901
19-2024, 25	10-27-2025	Amending Article 1519, “Carbon Monoxide Alarms”, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Lebanon, Pennsylvania, to amend subsections regarding carbon monoxide alarm requirements and carbon monoxide alarm requirements in regulated rental unit properties	Article 1519

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Ordinance No.	Date	Subject	C.O. Section
20-2024, 25	11-24-2025	Amending Article 943, "Parks", of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Lebanon, Pennsylvania, for the purpose of adding a new subsection establishing rules and regulations and fees for the Dog Park in Coleman Memorial Park	Article 943

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 at a minimum of every two years, the ordinances from the previous session are codified into the reference book. She added that the codified ordinances are available on the City of Lebanon’s website as well as in the City Clerk’s Office.

Bill No. 1 was introduced and will be considered on final reading at the meeting of March 23, 2026, on motion of Mr. Maguire, seconded by Mrs. Haitos. Yeas--Mrs. Haitos, Mr. Maguire, Mr. Potash, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Martin, Chairperson--5; nays--none.

Councilmember Wilson asked how much time a property owner is granted to make improvements when a property fails an inspection. Mayor Capello responded that when there is a property maintenance code violation, the property owner is asked to provide an Action Plan for bringing the property into compliance. Depending on the situation, the time for compliance may vary. She added that if it is a life safety issue, there is no leniency granted.

Mayor Capello presented a Letter of Commendation to Director of Administration-Assistant to the Mayor Melissa Quinones, thanking her for her 25 years of service and dedication to the City of Lebanon and wishing her will in her new endeavor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

CHERYL J. GIBSON, Clerk