

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 10, 2017
OF THE MT. LEBANON COMMISSION**

The Commission of Mt. Lebanon Pennsylvania, held a Regular Meeting at 8:00 P.M., on Tuesday, January 10, 2017, at the Municipal Building. Commission President Dave Brumfield called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Assistant Manager Ian McMeans called the roll. Present were Commissioners John Bendel, Kelly Fraasch, Steve McLean, Steve Silverman and Dave Brumfield. Also present were Assistant Manager/Planner McMeans, Finance Director McCreery, Police Chief Lauth, Fire Chief Sohyda, and Public Works Director Sukal. Also present were Phil Weis of the solicitor's office and Dan Deiseroth of the engineer's office.

COMMISSION/MANAGER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Assistant Manager McMeans summarized the information that was reviewed during the discussion session, including review of the 2017 bond issue, review of contract renewals with Gateway Engineers, heard an update on the Beverly Road Parking Study, discussed the proposed amendments to the traffic board procedures, as well as heard Commission comments regarding activities of boards and authorities.

Mr. McMeans stated that prior to the meeting, the Commission met in executive session to receive legal advice from the solicitor, as well as discussed board and authority appointments. He stated that the next adjourned Commission meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 23, 2017, at 8 p.m. The discussion session will also begin approximately 6:15 p.m., in Room C.

Mr. Silverman stated that if you'd like to nominate a resident for the Community Relations Board Volunteer Service Award, please download an application at www.mtlebanon.org. Applications are due by February 20. He also thanked residents, especially those along the walking paths to schools and public transit, for complying with the ordinance in removing all snow from sidewalks within 24-hours of a snowfall. If you plan to be away for the winter, we encourage you to make arrangements to have your sidewalk clear in the event of a storm. He stated that updated Look Up Lebo tips for safe driving, walking and bicycling are listed on Mt. Lebanon's website. He also stated that Christmas tree recycling is scheduled for Saturday, January 14. If you have a tree, it needs to be at curbside by 7 a.m., unbagged and stripped of all decorations. Trees may also be placed out for regular refuse collection.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Bill Hoon of 456 Coolidge Avenue stated that over the past three weeks, he has witnessed numerous near-call incidents involving vehicles, as well as several vehicle accidents. He questioned whether Mt. Lebanon has a deer problem.

Skip Kasky of 493 Thornycroft Drive stated that he's been in Mt. Lebanon for a long time, and to see a deer years ago was an anomaly, but now you can see deer on a daily basis. He spoke in support of deer culling, asking the Commission to continue the program. He also spoke about pay as you throw, stating that his research shows that communities who choose this method do not have effective refuse/recycling programs to begin with like Mt. Lebanon does.

Mr. Brumfield and Ms. Fraasch explained the program, indicating that Mt. Lebanon was in the preliminary stages of considering pay as you throw. Mr. McMeans added that a committee made up of internal staff members, the chair of the Environmental Sustainability Board, and a resident

member of the 2014 ad hoc committee, will present information on this subject at the next discussion session meeting on January 23.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR
MEETING HELD DECEMBER 13, 2016 AND
THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING HELD JANUARY 3, 2017**

Mr. Bendel moved and Mr. McLean seconded to approve the minutes. The vote was called. The motion carried unanimously.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE (BILL NO. 1-17)
AMENDING THE MT. LEBANON CODE TO INCLUDE
NEWLY ENACTED ORDINANCES OR AMENDMENTS
TO EXISTING ORDINANCES ENACTED SINCE JANUARY 26, 2016**

Mr. Silverman said Mt. Lebanon's ordinances were codified in 1978 with updates occurring periodically since that time. All of the ordinances have been enacted previously by the Commission, but this action will codify the documents.

Ordinance (Bill No. 1-17) was introduced, and the public hearing was set for Monday, January 23, 2017.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE (BILL NO. 2-17) AUTHORIZING THE
INCURRING OF NON-ELECTORAL DEBT FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL PROJECTS**

Ms. Fraasch said the municipality desires to issue debt for the projects listed below and also to pay the costs of issuing the bonds:

<u>Proposed Projects</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Bond Funding</u>
Ice Rink Floor Replacement	General	\$1,510,000
Public Works Facility and Firing Range	General	\$6,735,000
Fire Truck	General	\$ 555,000
Total		\$8,800,000

Ordinance (Bill No. 2-17) was introduced, and the public hearing was set for Monday, January 23, 2017.

**CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE (BILL NO. 10-16)
AMENDING THE CHARTER REGARDING TAX LIMITS**

Mr. McLean said the Home Rule Charter Section 914 contains limitations on increases in taxes, including a 2-mill limit on increases in annual real estate tax, and a restriction on increasing earned income tax only when there is a corresponding reduction in real estate. The 2-mill limit was added to Section 914 at a time when Allegheny County used a predetermined ratio of 25% for assessments, whereas now it uses 100%. The 2-mill limit in Section 914 would allow a tax increase of approximately \$5,000,000 a year; the proposed 10% limit would lower this amount to approximately \$3,500,000.

Section 914 allows a tax increase in excess of the stated limitations only if the increase is approved by a referendum or by unanimous vote of all Commissioners in office. Therefore, the Commission desires to change the Charter regarding the limitations and taxes. This ordinance was introduced November 28, 2016, and the public hearing was held December 13, 2016.

Mr. McLean moved and Mr. Bendel seconded to enact Ordinance (Bill No. 10-16). The vote was called. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF COMMENCEMENT OF PENSION BENEFITS

Mr. Bendel said Mt. Lebanon sponsors three defined pension benefit plans for its employees: General Employees, Police and Firemen. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s Department of the Auditor General requires that all benefit commencements for the Police Pension Plan be approved by the Commission. It also recommends that all benefit commencements regardless of plan type be approved by the Commission.

The employees detailed below have requested benefit commencement commensurate with the terms of their respective pension plans.

Employee Name Title	Pension Plan Department		Benefit Start Date		
Steven Lane Lieutenant	Firemen Fire		2/1/2017		
Kathleen Mays Library Assistant	General Employees Library		2/1/2017		

Mr. Bendel moved and Mr. McLean seconded to approve benefit commencement for Steven Lane and Kathleen Mays. The vote was called. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.