

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 10, 2020 OF THE MT. LEBANON COMMISSION

The Commission of Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania, held a Regular Meeting at 8:00 P.M., on Tuesday, November 10, 2020. Commission President Craig Grella called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Manager McGill called the roll. Present were Commissioners Andrew Flynn (remotely), Leeann Foster (remotely), Mindy Ranney (remotely), Steve Silverman (remotely), and Craig Grella. Also present were Assistant Manager/Planner McMeans (remotely), Police Chief Lauth, Finance Director McCreery (remotely), Public Works Director Sukal (remotely), I.T. Manager Schalles, Chief Building Inspector Sarver (remotely), Assistant Finance Director Windstein (remotely), and Public Information Officer Lilley (remotely). Also present were Phil Weis of the solicitor's office (remotely) and Dan Dieseroth of the engineer's office.

COMMISSION/MANAGER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Manager McGill summarized the information that was reviewed during the discussion session, including review of an audible pedestrian signal, an amendment to the zoning ordinance regarding wireless facilities, review of the stormwater pipe repair bids for the public works facility, and a review of information related to possible bond refunding. The commission then commenced to conducting the IDA meeting.

Manager McGill stated that prior to this meeting, the Commission met in executive session to receive legal advice from the solicitor on various legal issues as well as review board and authority appointments. He stated that the next adjourned meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, November 24, 2020, at 8 p.m., in Commission Chambers with the discussion session meeting starting at approximately 6:30 p.m., to be held in Room C, and the executive session starting at approximately 6 p.m. He noted that Mt. Lebanon is taking precautionary measures to stay safe, and any resident attending must wear a mask, as well as social distance, where chairs are already appropriately spaced. Room C will also be available in the event of an overflow.

Mr. McGill stated that a budget workshop occurred on Saturday, November 7, and two more will occur on Saturday, November 14, at 9 a.m., on Thursday, November 19, at 5:30 p.m., and a possibility of an additional workshop on Monday, November 30, at 6 p.m. Registration links will be available on the municipal website to allow resident to view the workshops in real time.

Ms. Ranney said Mt. Lebanon is looking for three Mt. Lebanon residents to share their expertise on the Mt. Lebanon Public Library Board. To apply, go to mtlebanon.org and look under "trending now."

Mt. Lebanon will honor all veterans at a virtual Veterans Day ceremony, tomorrow at 5 p.m. on the municipality's Facebook page. The keynote speaker will be Mt. Lebanon resident Brandon Smith, Commander of the Navy Talent Acquisition Group in Pittsburgh. Please join us online.

The Mt. Lebanon Partnership's Uptown Farmers Market went so well this year, the market has been extended. Now called The Mt. Lebanon Uptown Winter Market, it's at the same time and place Saturday mornings from 9 to noon, in the South Parking Lot across from Washington Elementary School, throughout November. As always, please wear your mask, observe physical distancing and follow all posted procedures. We thank you for continuing to support small businesses!

Mt. Lebanon's popular Residents Academy, presented by the Community Relations Board, will be virtual this year, with nine weeks of programming, every Thursday night from 6:30 to 8:30 starting January 7. Modeled after our extremely successful citizens police and fire academies, the Residents Academy will introduce you to all aspects of Mt. Lebanon government, giving you the inside scoop on how your tax dollars are spent and how decisions are made. You can apply online at mtlebanon.org/residentacademy or fill out the application in the November and December Mt. Lebanon Magazine. The deadline is December 11, and spots are filling fast. We have a limit of 30 in the group...after that, people will be placed on a waiting list for next year.

Our traditional in-person Lebo Light Night is cancelled this year. Instead, we'll light the tree online at 6:45 p.m. on Thursday, November 19, with special guest host Rick Sebak. We'll have special performances from the Center for Theater Arts, musicians and messages of cheer from local businesses, thanks to the work of the Mt. Lebanon Partnership. To watch, please log on to the Mt. Lebanon Municipality's or the Mt. Lebanon Partnership's FB page.

JUNIOR COMMISSIONER JACK HERRIGAN COMMENTS

Junior Commissioner Jack Herrigan stated the high school held a mock election. He also said that Model U.N. is going virtual this school year, as are several other clubs. He also stated that the high school was shut down last week for two days following a surge in COVID cases. He said that the school district is doing a great job, and contact tracing has suggested that people contracting COVID did not get it from the school.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Bill Hoon of 456 Coolidge Avenue spoke about a program where college students are asked various questions about their futures, stating their main concern is the climate. He also spoke against deer management.

Susan Uffelman of 617 Vermont Avenue inquired about the status of the firing range.

Mr. Grella explained that the firing range has been an ongoing issue. He noted that several discussion session meetings were held involving the contractor, architect and engineers on this issue, and the videos can be seen on our website.

Ms. Foster stated that her contact information is available on the website, and suggested that Ms. Uffelman contact her for further discussion of the matter.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE THE ADJOURNED MEETING HELD OCTOBER 27, 2020

Ms. Foster moved and Mr. Silverman seconded to approve the minutes. The vote was called. The motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE (BILL NO. 8-20)
AMENDING THE 2020 BUDGET FOR REVENUE AND
EXPENDITURES NOT ANTICIPATED IN THE 2020 BUDGET**

Mr. Silverman said the following adjustments are proposed:

General Fund

Revenue:

CARES Act	\$	250,000
Grow Grant Recognition		514,000
Animal Control - Baldwin Borough		70,000
	\$	834,000

Expenditures:

Police Policy Software (Lexipol)	\$	34,000
Intersection Cameras		(34,000)
Animal Control - Baldwin Borough		70,000
Transfer to Capital Projects Fund		35,000
Decrease in the use of Fund Balance		729,000
	\$	834,000

Capital Projects Fund

Revenue:

Fund Balance	\$	40,000
Transfer from General Fund		35,000
	\$	75,000

Expenditures:

Bower Hill Rd. & Washington Rd Intersection Improv.	\$	40,000
Bower Hill Rd. & Segar Rd Intersection Improv.		35,000
	\$	75,000

Mr. Grella declared the public hearing opened.

Mr. McCreery gave a brief synopsis on this amendment.

Because there were no further comments, Mr. Grella declared the public hearing closed.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2021 MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED
BUDGET AND THE PROPOSED TAX RATE FOR THE YEAR 2021**

Mr. Flynn said the Manager's 2021 Recommended Budget, prepared pursuant to the Home Rule Charter, was submitted to the Commission November 1, 2020. Residents may inspect the budget during normal business hours at 710 Washington Road (Municipal Building) and at the library. The Recommended Budget is also available on Mt. Lebanon's website at www.mtlebanon.org.

Tonight, citizens have the opportunity to provide written and oral comments and suggestions regarding the budget and tax rate for 2021. The tax rate is proposed at 4.71 mills. The public will also have an opportunity on December 8, 2020 to comment on the Commission's proposed adjustments to the Manager's Recommended Budget.

Mr. Grella declared the public hearing opened.

Mr. McCreery gave a brief synopsis on what the budget entails. He noted that there are three budget workshops scheduled with a possible additional workshop.

Anne Swagger of 264 Connecting Road, vice chair of the Historic Preservation Board, asked the commission to fund \$50,000 over the amount of \$114,000 already funded for brick street repair. She also asked the commission to consider funding \$20,000 for historic district signage.

Because there were no further comments, Mr. Grella declared the public hearing closed.

**INTRODUCTION, PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF
ORDINANCE (BILL NO. 10-20) AUTHORIZING GENERAL
OBLIGATION BONDS IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED
\$18,615,000 THROUGH THE ISSUANCE OF ITS GENERAL OBLIGATION
BONDS, REFUNDING SERIES A OF 2020, AND GENERAL
OBLIGATION BONDS, REFUNDING SERIES B OF 2020 (FEDERALLY TAXABLE)**

Ms. Ranney said the proposed Ordinance is necessary for the Municipality to issue General Obligation Bonds, Refunding Series A of 2020, and General Obligation Bonds, Refunding Series B of 2020 (Federally Taxable). The bond issuance will be used to finance certain capital projects of the Municipality, refund certain Prior Bonds of the Municipality and pay the costs and expense of preparing and issuing the bonds.

Ms. Ranney introduced Ordinance (Bill No. 10-20).

Mr. Grella declared the public hearing opened.

Mr. McCreery reviewed the bond issue and noted the benefits Mt. Lebanon will receive.

Ron Brown, bond counsel, gave a synopsis of the bond issue and answered questions presented to him by the commission.

Because there were no further comments, Mr. Grella declared the public hearing closed.

Ms. Ranney moved and Mr. Flynn seconded to enact Ordinance (Bill No. 10-20). Mr. McGill called the roll, indicating vote by roll call and four votes is required. Mr. Flynn, Ms. Foster, Ms. Ranney, Mr. Silverman and Mr. Grella voted in support of the motion. The motion passed 5 – 0.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE (BILL NO. 9-20)
REGARDING WIRELESS FACILITIES**

Ms. Foster said Chapter XX of the Municipal Code, entitled “Zoning,” Part 6 § 607 contains provisions regarding wireless communications facilities. Ordinance Bill No. 09-20 revises definitions, establishes certain general and specific standards relating to the location, placement, construction and maintenance of tower-based wireless communication facilities, non-tower wireless communication facilities, and small wireless communications facilities. The ordinance further provides for the regulation and enforcement of such facilities within the public rights-of-way and outside the public rights-of-way.

Ordinance (Bill No. 9-20) was introduced, and the public hearing was set for November 24, 2020.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE (BILL NO. 11-20)
CONCERNING THE MUNICIPALITY’S 2021 BUDGET**

Mr. Silverman said the Commission held a scheduled budget work session to review the budget on Saturday, November 7. Additional budget work sessions will be held on Saturday, November 14, at 9 a.m., and Thursday, November 19, at 5:30 p.m. A public hearing was just held to comment on the Manager’s 2021 recommended budget. A second public hearing is scheduled on December 8, regarding any Commission revisions to the manager’s recommended budget. The 2021 budget ordinance is scheduled for consideration at the December 8, 2020 meeting.

Ordinance (Bill No. 11-20) was introduced.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE (BILL NO. 12-20)
FIXING THE TAX RATE FOR THE YEAR 2021**

Mr. Flynn said the municipality will be reaffirming its tax rate in accordance with the adopted budget. The tax rate for general purposes is currently 4.71 mills. The tax shall continue in force for each successive calendar year unless the tax is subsequently changed.

Ordinance (Bill No. 12-20) was introduced.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE EXECUTION OF THE
DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT FOR A GRADING, STORMWATER
MANAGEMENT, AND EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION
CONTROLS AT LOT NO. 2 OF THE TERRACE DRIVE PLAN OF LOTS**

Ms. Foster said the Municipal Engineer and Solicitor have recommended that the Municipality enter into a Developer’s Agreement with the property owners of Lot No. 2 of the Terrace Drive Plan of Lots, located at the corner of Terrace Drive and Woodland Drive, to ensure completion of the Grading, Stormwater Management, and Erosion and Sedimentation Control plans associated with the construction of a new single-family home.

Ms. Foster moved and Mr. Silverman seconded to authorize the proper municipal officials to execute the Development Agreement between Mr. and Mrs. DiPasquale and Mt. Lebanon for Grading, Stormwater Management, and Erosion and Sedimentation Controls at Lot 2 of the Terrace Drive Plan of Lots. The vote was called. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF COMMENCEMENT OF PENSION BENEFITS

Ms. Ranney said Mt. Lebanon sponsors three defined pension benefit plans for its employees: General Employees, Police and Firefighters. 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.

The employee detailed below has requested benefit commencement in accordance with the terms of his respective pension plans.

Employee Name Title	Pension Plan Department	Benefit Start Date
Mark Rayburg Police Lieutenant	Police Police	11/01/20

Ms. Ranney moved and Mr. Flynn seconded to approve benefit commencement for Mark Rayburg. The vote was called. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION FOR THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR
LINING THE CULVERT LOCATED IN THE PUBLIC WORKS YARD**

Mr. Silverman said bids were received on October 20, 2020 for the Department of Public Works Yard Culvert Lining contract. The project involves structural improvements to the 108” (9 foot) diameter corrugated metal pipe (CMP) culvert, debris removal, erosion and sediment controls and associated site work. The project base bid consists of 450 feet of partial reinforcement and 60 feet of full circumferential reinforcement. Alternate bids include: Alternate #1 – 65 feet of partial reinforcement and 55 feet of full circumferential reinforcement; Alternate #2 – installation of a concrete collar and trash rack system at the upstream end of the culvert and grouted rip-rap, which will allow public works to efficiently complete debris removal that protects the pipe.

The Municipal Engineer has verified the bids as follows:

	<u>Base Bid</u>	<u>Alternate #1</u>	<u>Alternate #2</u>
National Gunite	\$231,004	\$91,125	\$53,590

The Municipal Engineer has reviewed the bid and determined the low bid to be accurate. This project consisted of specialized work with a minimum number of contractors able to perform the work. Three (3) contractors requested bid documents with only one submitting a bid. As such, the Engineer recommends the base bid and alternate #2 be awarded to National Gunite. The contractor has completed similar work in Mt Lebanon and other municipalities in a satisfactory manner.

The budgeted amount for the base bid is \$240,000, and the Finance Director indicates there is capacity to complete the base bid and alternate bid #2.

Mr. Silverman moved and Ms. Foster seconded to award the contract for the Department of Public Works Yard Culvert Lining to National Gunitite for Base Bid at \$231,004 and Alternate #2 at \$53,590 for a total of \$284,594. The vote was called. Mr. Flynn, Ms. Foster, Ms. Ranney and Mr. Silverman voted in support of the motion. Mr. Grella voted against the motion. The motion passed four to one.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.