

MINUTES OF THE ADJOURNED MEETING FEBRUARY 27, 2024 OF THE MT. LEBANON COMMISSION

The Commission of Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania, held an Adjourned Meeting at 8 P.M., on Tuesday, February 27, 2024. Commission President Swager Wilson called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Manager McGill called the roll. Present were Craig Grella, Anne Swager Wilson and Steve Silverman. Andrew Flynn was present online. Also, present were Assistant Manager/Planner McMeans, Public Works Director Sukal, Chief of Police Haberman, Fire Chief Sohyda, Recreation Director Donnellan, Finance Director McCreery. Also present were Phil Weis of the solicitor's office and Dan Deiseroth of the engineer's office.

COMMISSION/MANAGER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Manager McGill summarized the information that was reviewed during the discussion session, including information on draft recommendations for the Main Park Site Plan, concepts for some possible Recreation Center expansions, a presentation regarding the 2024 Street Reconstruction Program, 2024 Street Maintenance and Brick Street Repair Programs, and updates from Commission liaisons on activities of Advisory Boards.

Manager McGill stated that prior to this meeting, the Commission met in executive session to receive legal advice from the solicitor on a variety of topics and also discuss appointments to boards. The next regular meeting of the Commission will be held on Monday, March 11th at 8 pm to be held in Commission Chambers, with the discussion session meeting starting at approximately 6:30 p.m., to be held in Room C. These meetings are available on Zoom. The executive session starts at approximately 6 p.m.

Commissioner Grella expressed thanks Governor Josh Shapiro who came to our Uptown Business District last week to discuss his Main Street Matters budget proposal in support of Pennsylvania's small businesses. Thanks to state Department of Community and Economic Development Secretary Rick Siger, State Senator Wayne Fontana, State Representative Dan Miller, County Executive Sara Innamorato and municipal staff for spotlighting our Nationally Accredited Main Street and being gracious hosts to the governor.

Mr. Grella congratulated the 29 residents who will graduate on Thursday from this year's Mt. Lebanon Residents Academy. The Mt. Lebanon Community Relations Board sponsors the nine-week academy each year and the course quickly fills to capacity. Participants hear from the municipal senior staff as well as some of our community partners, such as the school district and district judge. Thanks to all who participated and special thanks to the Community Relations Board for your hard work.

If you have a card to the Mt. Lebanon Public Library – and I hope you do! -- you and all county library cardholders are eligible to receive RAD Pass discounts and free admission passes to many of the county's great cultural offerings. Go to the RAD pass website to discover what opportunities are available at [*radpass.org*](https://radpass.org).

March is Women's History Month. The Mt. Lebanon Commission encourages the study, observance and celebration of the vital role of women in American history as well as the many contributions women make every day in Mt. Lebanon. For ideas on ways to celebrate the month with your family, go to [*womenshistorymonth.gov*](https://womenshistorymonth.gov).

Columbia Gas is going to be working in Mt. Lebanon on Cooke Lane, Castle Shannon Boulevard, Crystal Drive and other areas in Sunset Hills over the next few months. For a schedule and details, go to [**mtlebanon.org/RoadConstruction**](http://mtlebanon.org/RoadConstruction). We'll update the page as the gas company gives us more information.

JUNIOR COMMISSIONER KATE YANG COMMENTS

Kate Yang spoke about various activities at the high school including the successful winter blood drive, the new resource officer, and the Pittsburgh Polar Plunge that students fundraised for and participated in, and also the musical concerts at the high school. Kate said that Mt. Lebanon will be hosting the SATS on March 9th, and it will be the first time the test will be digital instead of on paper.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Bill Hoon of 456 Coolidge Avenue followed agreed with what was discussed at the last meeting, in reference to Mt. Lebanon used to be all republican boards, but are now Democrat. He concluded by speaking about deer culling and his opposition to it.

Dave Egler of 121 Poplar Drive spoke about the refuse fee. He went over figures he presented in previous meetings. Mr. Egler feels that this should be a tax not a fee.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 13, 2024

Mr. Grella moved, and Mr. Silverman seconded to approve the minutes. The vote was called. The motion carried 4-0.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE (BILL NO. 02-24) MAKING TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO THE GARBAGE FEE ORDINANCE

Mt. Lebanon currently has an ordinance assessing a fee for garbage collection. It is desirable to enact some technical amendments to the ordinance to clarify provisions relating to calculation, exoneration, and review procedures regarding the fee.

Mr. Silverman introduced Ordinance (Bill No. 02-24). Ms. Swager Wilson set the public hearing for March 11, 2024.

CONSIDERATION OF BYLAWS FOR ADVISORY BOARDS

On February 28, 2023 the Commission approved Ordinance No. 3356 amending the administrative code to realign the structure of municipal advisory boards. Ordinance No. 3356 takes effect on April 1, 2024. The Ordinance requires advisory boards to be "governed by the form set of bylaws promulgated by the Commission." The Commission reviewed the Policies and Procedures bylaws for the new advisory board structure in several Discussion Sessions, most recently on February 13.

Mr. Grella moved to adopt the Policies and Procedures document as the formal bylaws for municipal advisory boards in accordance with Ordinance No. 3356. and Mr. Silverman seconded.

Mr. Grella stated that a lot of work has gone into streamlining the boards over the last year and it is going to be a good process. Ms. Swager Wilson thanked Commissioner Flynn who put in so much of the initial work and shepherded it through the whole process. Mr. Flynn thanked the staff and Mr. McMeans for doing the bulk of the work.

The vote was called. The motion carried 4-0.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE AWARD OF A SOUTH GARAGE
MAINTENANCE CONTRACT**

Bids were received on February 13, 2024 for a South Garage Maintenance Contract. The project involves concrete repairs, structural concrete repairs, membrane coating replacement and caulk sealant replacement to the South Garage.

The Municipal Engineer has verified the bids as follows:

Contractor	Base Bid Amount
Mariani-Richards, Inc.	\$242,650.00
CPS Construction Group	\$297,343.00
CH+D Enterprises, Inc.	\$297,888.00
MCK Construction, LLC	\$522,950.00

The Municipal Engineer has reviewed the bids and determined the low bid to be accurate. The Engineer recommends the project be awarded to Mariani-Richards, Inc. The contractor has completed similar projects for the Municipality in a satisfactory manner.

The budgeted amount for this contract is \$300,000 and the Engineer's Estimate for the project was \$247,000. The project is within budget and is to be funded through the parking fund.

Mr. Silverman moved to award the South Garage Maintenance contract to Mariani-Richards, Inc. in the amount of \$242,650.00. Mr. Grella seconded. The vote was called. The motion carried 4-0.

CONSIDERATION OF BALLISTIC VESTS

Commission approval is requested to purchase 46 Safariland ballistic vests and carriers from North Eastern Uniforms & Equipment at a total purchase price of \$77,820.00. The budgeted amount is \$70,000.00 These new vests will replace equipment fitted for each Mt. Lebanon Police Department Officer that were purchased in 2019. Ballistic vests carry a manufacturer's warranty of five years, and their replacement is currently covered under the Collective Bargaining agreement.

Previously approved Capital Improvement Funds and savings from other Capital projects will be used for the purchase. The municipality is also submitting a grant application to the Bureau of Justice Assistance through the Department of Justice. North Eastern Uniforms & Equipment has quoted the vests and carriers under Costars pricing and PA State Contract #037-011.

Mr. Grella moved to authorize purchase of a 46 Safariland ballistic vests with North Eastern Uniforms & Equipment under Costars contract #037-011 at a total cost of \$77,820.00. Mr. Silverman seconded. The vote was called. The motion carried 4-0.

CONSIDERATION TO PURCHASE TWO POLICE VEHICLES

The police department is requesting approval to purchase two 2025 Ford Police Interceptor Utility vehicles for use by the patrol unit. These new vehicles will replace older vehicles, a 2015 and 2016 Ford Police Interceptor Utility, that have reached their useful end of life.

As part of the vehicle fleet rotation, the municipality has obtained bids for the purchase of two new vehicles for 2024. The vehicles will be purchased through Woltz & Wind Ford with pricing obtained through Pennsylvania's CO-STARs program Contract # 013-E22-220. \$90,000 was appropriated for these vehicles in the 2024 operating budget.

Vehicle	Purpose	Bid	Amount
2025 Ford Police Interceptor	Patrol Unit	CO-STARs 013-E22-220	\$48,710
2025 Ford Police Interceptor	Patrol Unit	CO-STARs 013-E22-220	\$48,710
Total			\$97,420

The difference between the budgeted amount and the purchase price will be offset through the sale of vehicles that are being taken out of service.

Mr. Silverman moved to award the purchase of two 2025 Ford Police Interceptor Utility vehicles through the Pennsylvania COSTARS program from Woltz & Wind Ford at a total cost of \$97,420.00, and Mr. Grella seconded.

Mr. Grella said that he received a thoughtful email from the Police Chief referencing difficulty with charging a fleet. Mr. Grella stated that although he appreciates that, the municipality should have more specific rather than broad plans to move to electric vehicles with specific things we can do, including prices to look at.

Mr. McGill said there has been the formation of a Vehicle Committee with members from Public Works, Police, Fire, Recreation, and Finance. They will start with a vehicle inventory, a vehicle rotation schedule, and the number of hours of service they're typically utilized. They will then work with the new Sustainability Board and pull in the Financial Advisory Board and the Mobility Board to develop a plan looking at cost of infrastructure and other issues such as certifying our current mechanics. Mr. McGill hopes to have at least a draft to the Commission by the end of the year.

The vote was called. The motion carried 4-0.

Ms. Swager Wilson asked Fire Chief Sohyda if there were electric fire engines. Chief Sohyda said yes and they've been on the market for about 2 years. He discussed a few brands and the cost from what he discovered researching for the Vehicle Committee.

CONSIDERATION OF THE COMMENCEMENT OF PENSION BENEFITS

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

Employee Name	Pension Plan	Start Date
David Hornack	General Employees	03/01/2024

Mr. Grella moved to approve benefit commencement for David Hornack. Mr. Silverman seconded.

Mr. Silverman wished him a long and healthy retirement.

The vote was called. The motion carried 4-0.

CONSIDERATION OF THE EXPENDITURE LIST FOR JANUARY
TOTALLING \$5,573,818.57

Mr. Silverman moved to approve the expenditure list for January totaling \$5,573,818.57. Mr. Grella seconded. The vote was called. The motion carried 4-0.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Mr. Grella asked that the departmental reports be received and filed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm.