

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 10, 2024 OF THE MT. LEBANON COMMISSION

The Commission of Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania, held a Regular Meeting at 8 P.M., on Tuesday, September 10, 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 Anne Swager Wilson, Craig Grella, Steve Silverman and Andrew Flynn. Jeff Siegler attended online. Also, present were Assistant Manager McMeans, Police Chief Haberman, Finance Director McCreery, Library Director Vittek, acting Fire Chief Daniels, and Public Information Officer Lilley. Also present were Phil Weis of the solicitor's office and Josh Scanlon of the engineer's office.

COMMISSION/MANAGER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Manager McGill summarized the information that was reviewed during the discussion session, including hearing about a new service being offered by the inspection office for consultations before the submission of a permit application. They will be held on the first Wednesday of each month from 2 – 5 pm. 30-minute consultations can be with a contractor and/or a resident to answer questions, provide information, and to clarify the state and local codes to expedite the application process. Ian McMeans and Toole Design gave a presentation on the Active Transportation Plan and the next steps we will be taking. Information was also received on receiving a certified welcoming designation through Welcoming America. Finally, there were updates on various activities from the commissioners for those boards to which they are liaison to.

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. The next adjourned meeting of the Commission will be held on Tuesday, September 24th 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 announced that September is the 9th annual Love Your Library campaign for the Mt. Lebanon Public Library. Thanks to the very generous support of the Jack Buncher Foundation, every gift, up to \$500, made to Mt. Lebanon Public Library and other Allegheny County libraries during the month of September will be MATCHED. Donate on the library webpage at mtlebanonlibrary.org.

Mr. Grella explained that each year from September 15 through October 15, we celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America.

The observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988.

The day of September 15 is significant because it is the anniversary of independence for Latin American countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively. Also, Columbus Day, which is October 12, falls within this 30 day period.

Hispanic Heritage Month is an incredible opportunity to speak with one voice, acknowledge the crucial role that Hispanics play in shaping the future of our country and the world, and to celebrate and recognize Latinos as employees, suppliers, consumers, and community. We are grateful for all of your contributions. Thank you for making Mt. Lebanon a better place.

Mr. Grella announced that the Mt. Lebanon Partnership will present the annual Artists Market on Saturday, September 28 and Sunday, September 29 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Academy Avenue lot. Enjoy beautiful, juried art for sale, including two-dimensional work, jewelry, wood, sculpture, glass, ceramics, fiber, wearables, mixed media, leather and metal. Patrons will also love the food trucks and music. Admission is free. Details at *MtLebanonArtistsMarket.com*.

Finally, Mr. Grella said that later tonight, we will be approving the pension benefits of several Mt. Lebanon employees. Hearty congratulations go to parking employee Steven Bressanelli (BREZ-ah-nelly), tax office employee Fran George, police officer Bryan Henley, Fire Chief Nick Sohyda and police officer Brian MacFarland. We wish them all a long, happy and healthy retirement and thank them for everything they've done to make Mt. Lebanon a better place.

JUNIOR COMMISSIONER CLARA SUN COMMENTS

Clara gave a brief overview of the student events that happened over the last few weeks along with upcoming events and concerns from the student body. August 20th was the first day of school for students. There was an orientation and a night of events for freshman students to meet their peers and get accustomed to the high school. There were a few activities for seniors in the beginning of September. Open houses will occur next week. The week of September 23rd there will be a student voter registration drive. Among student body concerns are the recent Wi-Fi issues and parking pass issues. Finally, the students would like more community events aimed toward teenagers and better communication getting the information about events to the schools. Commissioner Silverman and Commissioner Grella asked Clara to bring suggestions from the students for additional ideas on activities and how to get the word out about events to students.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Bill Hoon of 456 Coolidge discussed homicides in America and deer culling in Mt. Lebanon.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE ADJOURNED MEETING HELD AUGUST 27, 2024

Mr. Grella moved, and Mr. Silverman seconded to approve the minutes. The vote was called. The motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION (R-11-24)

The Mt. Lebanon Hospital Authority recently approved the extension of the Hospital's 2017 bank note, extending the terms of an approximately \$7 million balloon payment that was set to mature in October 2024. The financing will extend the maturity of the note for an additional five years. The original purpose of the 2017 note was for capital improvements at the Hospital's main campus, primarily Emergency Department, central utility building and nursing unit renovations. The extension of this note's balloon payment does not affect the bank qualifications of the Municipality's debt and will not affect the general credit of the Municipality. Commission approval is needed to satisfy portions of the Internal Revenue Code.

Mr. Siegler moved, and Mr. Grella seconded to adopt Resolution No. R-11-24 Eric Luttringer from St. Clair Health spoke briefly thanking the Commission and explaining that the Hospital Authority serves as a conduit for the hospital to issue their debt. The vote was called. The motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION (R-12-24)

The municipality, for the benefit of its citizens, wishes to submit a grant application to the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County's (RAAC) Gaming Economic Development Tourism Fund (GEDTF), which provides support projects in the public interest within Allegheny County.

The Municipality is requesting \$500,000 in funds for the Mt. Lebanon Recreation Center Accessibility Upgrades and Facility Expansion. The project aims to upgrade accessible features and maximize the recreational space according to the Main Park Site Plan & Architectural Study. There is no municipal match required for this grant application.

Mr. Silverman moved, and Mr. Flynn seconded to adopt Resolution No. R-12-24 The vote was called. The motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO COUNSILMAN-HUNSAKER FOR THE FILTRATION SYSTEM REPLACEMENT PROJECT AT THE MT. LEBANON SWIM CENTER

The Municipality of Mt. Lebanon wishes to contract with Counsilman-Hunsaker to perform a facility audit and the development of a design, plans and specifications for the replacement of the filtration system at the Mt. Lebanon Swim Center.

The contract will be paid according to the fee schedule included with the proposed scope of work.

Mr. Flynn moved, and Mr. Silverman seconded authorize the Manager and Solicitor to prepare and execute an agreement and any ancillary documents with Counsilman-Hunsaker in the amount of \$40,400 plus travel expenses and any additional services if necessary. The vote was called. The motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF 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
Steven Bressanelli	General Employees	09/01/2024
Fran George	General Employees	09/01/2024
Bryan Henley	Police	09/01/2024
Nicholas Sohyda	Firefighters	09/01/2024
Brian MacFarland	Police	08/01/2024

Mr. Grella moved and Mr. Silverman seconded to approve benefit commencement for Steven

Bressanelli, Fran George, Bryan Henley, Nicholas Sohyda and Brian MacFarland.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm.