

## MINUTES OF THE ADJOURNED MEETING SEPTEMBER 24, 2024 OF THE MT. LEBANON COMMISSION

The Commission of Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania, held an Adjourned Meeting at 8 P.M., on Tuesday, September 24, 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 and Andrew Flynn. Jeff Siegler was present online. Steve Silverman was not in attendance. Also, present were Assistant Manager/Municipal Planner Ian 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 Dan Deiseroth of the engineer's office.

### COMMISSION/MANAGER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Manager McGill summarized the information that was reviewed during the discussion session, including an update on the corrective action plan to meet the ALCOSAN Gold Line Standard as required by the consent order. An overview of the McNeilly Fields Plan was received as well as an updated probable opinion of cost. The new social services coordinator Jaqui Stilson was introduced. Information was received regarding plans for her position. A status update was provided on the Woodland sidewalk installation project. Commissioner Grella gave an update on the activities of the school board.

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 regular meeting of the Commission will be held on Tuesday, October 8th 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 5:30 p.m.

Commissioner Grella announced that Mt. Lebanon received the Award of Excellence in the Community Engagement Plan category at the Savvy Awards, presented by 3CMA, for its outreach efforts for the Comprehensive Plan project. While the entry is required to be submitted by the government entity, the team members on this project included Assistant Manager/Municipal Planner Ian McMeans, the public information office and our contractors with Pashek+MTR and Yard & Co. The Savvy Awards are an extremely competitive national competition, so this award marks significant achievement. Thanks to all our residents, property owners and visitors who participated in this 18-month process.

Mr. Grella said that leaf collection season will get underway on October 7. The Mt. Lebanon Fire Department reminds you not to park on leaf piles. Every year, we respond to vehicle fires that result from the hot bottoms of cars touching dried leaves.

Mr. Grella announced that we'd like to wish a happy 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary to Gateway Engineers! The team at Gateway, including Mt. Lebanon resident and president emeritus Dan Deiseroth, are behind a lot of the important municipal infrastructure upgrades that keep us safe today. Thank you and congratulations on your success!

Mr. Grella reminded everyone that the Artists Market this Saturday and Sunday from 10 to 5 in the Academy Avenue lot, presented by the Mt. Lebanon Partnership. Admission is free. Details at *[MtLebanonArtistsMarket.com](http://MtLebanonArtistsMarket.com)*.

**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. September 19<sup>th</sup> was open house for the high school. September 20<sup>th</sup> was the student activities fair. Over 70 high school clubs promoted themselves at the fair. On that same day the link crew tailgate took place where students gathered at the pavilion near the recreation center to socialize, eat and play games before watching the football game. The semifinalists for this year's merit scholarship program were announced. Mt. Lebanon had ten finalists. This week the student council set up a voter registration drive. There will be a financial aid meeting for juniors and seniors on the 26<sup>th</sup> for those applying to college who need more information. On October 2<sup>nd</sup> all the amazing custodians will be honored and celebrated for Custodian Appreciation Day. The homecoming parade and great alumni celebration will take place October 4<sup>th</sup>. Clara and the student council are working on a student poll to gather feedback on community events they'd like to see more of in Mt. Lebanon as well as which platform is frequented the most so that it's known how best to get the information out to students.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Bill Hoon of 456 Coolidge Avenue spoke about anxiety regarding the election, gun violence, arrows in the park and deer culling.

Morgan Sulik of 138 Sleepy Hollow Road spoke in support of the Active Transportation Plan. She and her son go on a lot of bike rides and walks in Mt. Lebanon and Dormont.

Alejandro Sanchez of 913 Miami Avenue spoke in support of sidewalks and of projects and repairs adhering to the complete streets plan we have in place.

Jen Rick of 104 Sunridge Drive is a mom supports the active transportation plan and complete streets policy and would like to see more sidewalks throughout the community like her street has.

Justus Roloff of 254 Academy Avenue spoke in support of the active transportation plan. He expressed wanting a safe option to walk or bike to a local market instead of getting in the car to go to a store outside of the municipality.

Charles Tran of 219 Mabrick Avenue is a resident and real estate agent in the municipality who supports having a walking community. He wishes to have more of a police presence on Washington Road to enforce traffic safety laws.

Kirill Tropin of 345 Margareta Avenue supports the active transportation plan and complete streets. He showed examples of difficult areas to cross the street in Mt. Lebanon that could be improved upon. He then showed safety improved crosswalks from other Pittsburgh area neighborhoods.

Justin McCabe of 104 Shady Drive West moved here with his family for the schools and walkability but feels there are dangerous issues with walking through the community. He is in support of the active transportation plan.

Greg Boris of 900 Washington Road #406 supports the active transportation plan. He detailed his observation of school children crossing Washington Road near Hazel, which sits between two school zones, where drivers tend to speed up greatly. He worked in transportation planning before he moved to Mt. Lebanon and stresses paint is not infrastructure, Actual physical barriers are needed for safety.

Meg Pinney of 37 Florence Avenue wants Mt. Lebanon to prioritize safe walkable streets for everyone.

Beth McCabe of 104 Shady Drive West believes the Cedar Boulevard resurfacing project was a missed opportunity to implement the complete streets policy on a main road Mt. Lebanon owns.

Commissioner Swager Wilson thanked everyone for coming and giving their thoughts on the active transportation plan. She also stated Commissioner Flynn has been a leader in this area.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES FROM  
THE REGULAR MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 10, 2024**

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

**RECEIPT OF THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP)**

As required by the Charter, the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for 2025-2029 was submitted to the Commission on August 1, 2024. A public hearing is required to be held on this program prior to the issuance of the Manager's Recommended Budget.

Mr. Flynn acknowledged the receipt of the 2025-2029 Capital Improvement Program. (CIP). Ms. Swager Wilson set the public hearing for October 8, 2024.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO PROVIDE  
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RELATED TO THE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

The municipality issued a Request for Proposals to engage a professional consulting team to conduct a Multi-Municipal Active Transportation Plan, in collaboration with the Borough of Dormont. A project team consisting of representatives from both communities developed the RFP, reviewed responses, and interviewed candidate firms. The 2023 Comprehensive Plan *Ascend Lebo* recommends conducting an Active Transportation plan in the Mobility, Parks and Recreation, and Financial Management chapters. The project team recommends the contract be awarded to Toole Design with subcontractor Pashek+MTR.

The municipality allocated \$80,000 in the 2024 operating budget for this project.

Mr. Siegler moved, and Mr. Flynn seconded to authorize the Manager and Solicitor to prepare and execute an agreement and any ancillary documents with Toole Design to conduct the Active Transportation Plan. The motion carried 4-0.

**CONSIDERATION OF A SUBDIVISION PLAN AT 826 COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE**

Request for final approval for a minor subdivision plan. The Rohrich property subdivision, situated at 826 Country Club Drive is proposing an extinguishment of a lot line on the property. The property will remain compliant with the zoning district requirements for lot size.

The Planning Board granted preliminary approval and recommended final approval at the August 20, 2024, meeting. All engineering comments have been addressed.

Mr. Grella moved, and Mr. Flynn seconded to grant final approval to the Rohrich Subdivision Plan. The vote was called. The motion carried 4-0.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE EXPENDITURE LIST FOR AUGUST  
TOTALING \$9,463,350.58**

Mr. Flynn moved, and Mr. Grella seconded to approve the expenditure list for August totaling \$9,463,350.58. The vote was called. The motion carried 4-0.

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

Mr. Siegler asked that the reports be received and filed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 pm.