

Lebanon Town Council
Regular Monthly Meeting
Town Hall, Lebanon, Virginia
Monday, April 12, 2021
6:00 P.M.

Council Members Present: Nelson A. "Tony" Dodi, Mayor
DeAnna C. Jackson, Vice-Mayor
A. Doyle Fields, Council Member
Scott J. Gilmer, Council Member
Mary J. Stanley, Council Member
M. Elijah Leonard, Council Member
W. Bradley Lambert, Council Member

Staff Members Present: Kevin L. Blankenship, Town Manager
A. Diane Nunley, Clerk of Council
Richard Eric Deskins, Chief of Police
Kevin D. Tiller, Town Attorney

I. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dodi.

II. Prayer: Mr. Blankenship

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Edit for items not on the agenda:

Ms. Stanley requested to add under New Business banners.

Upon motion made by Mr. Gilmer, seconded by Mr. Leonard, the agenda with amended item was unanimously approved. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.

V. Edit and approve minutes from the 03/08/21 regular council meeting, 03/11/21 reconvened council meeting.

Upon motion made by Ms. Stanley, seconded by Mr. Lambert, the minutes from the 03/08/21 regular council meeting, 03/11/21 reconvened council meeting was unanimously approved. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.

VI. Approve accounts payable and capital assets for the month of March:

Mr. Gilmer advised that he had provided an additional sheet of accounts payable items for the month of March. Mr. Gilmer requested that the Davis Bros Nursery invoice for landscape work should be broken down part to VDOT Urban Maintenance and part from Downtown Revitalization Funds. The Gerdom Management Group invoice should be paid using the grant funds from the Russell Theater.

Upon motion made by Mr. Gilmer, seconded by Ms. Jackson, the accounts payable for the month of March with additional items was unanimously approved. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.

VII. Public Hearing to consider:

An Application submitted by Lebanon Tech Development LLC for a Conditional Use Permit to place a trailer on the property that is located at 470 East Main Street.

Planning Commission Members Present:

Tim Coleman, Vice-Chairman
R. D. Snead, Member
DeAnna Jackson, Member
Leonard Kegley, Member
Kevin L. Blankenship, Member

Planning Commission Members Absent:

Donnie Ramey, Chairman
J. S. Easterly, Jr., Clerk

- A. The Town Council recessed from regular session, 6:05 P.M.
- B. Mr. Blankenship, Member, opened the public hearing: 6:05 P.M.
- C. Mr. Bill Turpe, representative for Lebanon Tech Development, advised that Goodwill was interested in placing a mobile donation trailer on the property.
- D. Mr. Teddy Gaines, representative for Goodwill of Tenneva located in Kingsport, Tennessee, advised that Goodwill would place a 20-foot box trailer on the property to collect donations here in Lebanon. He stated that Goodwill would hire two Lebanon citizens to be attendants at the site. The donations would serve the Richlands store and the Abingdon store. The driver would deliver the items to the store location and have the trailer back on site for the hours of operation. The hours of operations Mon-Sat 10:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. and Sunday 1:00 P.M.- 6:00 P.M.
- E. Mr. Terry Spencer, Lebanon Citizen, stated he was concerned about the trailer blocking the view of the traffic on Main Street for anyone coming out of Fields Avenue.
- F. Mr. Gilmer advised that at the Abingdon Goodwill location, there was material and donated items piled outside at the back of building. He was concerned about the cleanliness of the site. Mr. Gaines assured him the property would be kept clean.
- G. Mr. Ted Campbell, Lebanon Citizen, questioned about people leaving bags of clothing at the site after hours and the items getting wet. Mr. Gaines stated that if the items were soiled, they would take the items to their salvage location.

H. Ms. Bea Stuart with Stuart & Associates, LLC. located next to the property expressed her concerns with the traffic issue and items left after hours on the property. She stated that there are five other locations where people can leave clothing therefore, she does not really see the need for another site within the Town of Lebanon.

I. Mr. Blankenship requested a motion concerning the request for a Conditional Use Permit. Mr. Snead stated that he would abstain due to his interest in the property. The request failed for a lack of a motion.

VIII. Mr. Blankenship closed the public hearing, 6:21 P.M.

IX. The Town Council returned to regular session, 6:2 P.M.

X. Mr. Coleman recommended on behalf of the Planning Commission the Conditional Use Permit failed for a lack of a motion.

XI. Bid Opening – Wendy’s Wall Project

Mayor Dodi opened the sealed bids for the Wendy’s Wall Project.

Ken’s Construction	\$191,660.00
Cleco Corporation LLC.	\$144,962.00

Mayor Dodi stated to follow the normal practice for Mr. Blankenship to meet with Mr. Leonard the Street Committee Chairman to review the bids to compare them.

XII. Public Request

Susan Cornett, Mobile Market Coordinator for Feeding Southwest Virginia, advised the council that they have a truck to bring frozen items, refrigerated items and dry goods to sell to citizens that have EBT cards. They partner with Food City to purchase items at wholesale price so they can sell much cheaper to the citizens. The items range different from month to month. Ms. Stanley questioned if they would be able to advertise the items they would be selling and their location. Ms. Cornett stated that she could send flyers to advertise for each month with set up information. Mayor Dodi advised that the Farmers Market would open May 1, 2021. Therefore, he would like for Ms. Cornett to coordinate with Tammy Lasley, director for the Farmers Market, to schedule a day to set up next to the Farmers Market.

Natasha Hughes stated that she was preparing to open a couple of businesses next door to the Town Hall, one would be a hair salon and the other a clothing boutique. She requested the Town Council help by waiving one of the water tap fees because she will be purchasing two more water taps. Mr. Gilmer stated that he has previously spoke with Ms. Hughes and told her that this building was in the Downtown Revitalization project area. He had advised her of the incentives for the Downtown Revitalization Businesses but Mr. Farmer advised him that the project area stopped at the red light just before her business location. Mayor Dodi advised Ms. Hughes that the Town Council would discuss this request and get back with her.

Mr. Bill Akers with the Lebanon Rescue Squad presented the members of the squad. Mr. Jamie Combs, President, stated that the rescue squad was here to request advice from the Town Council concerning the management of the squad. He stated based on their present financial status he is concerned about the future of the squad.

Mr. David Coleman, Jr., Financial Advisor for Edward & Jones Investment, serves on the board for the Lebanon Rescue Squad. He advised that the outflow far exceeds the inflow for the squad. He has looked at employees to cut from shifts but its difficult to know when more people will be needed. He stated that he will get the financial documents to the Town Council for suggestions to help the rescue squad stay in business. Mr. Leonard requested if they had approached the County. Mr. Coleman stated his first choice for help was the Town. The County budgets even amounts to help each squad within the county, even though Lebanon runs more calls. Mr. Akers stated that Lebanon runs 1400 to 1500 calls within a year. He advised that all the small town rescue squads are suffering from lack of funds. Mr. Akers stated the new ambulance was out front that the town helped purchase he would like all the council to come out and look at it. He advised the squad is only paid if someone is loaded into the squad vehicle, any other calls insurance will not pay.

XIII. Recess: 6:55 P.M.

XIV. Resume: 7:12 P.M.

XV. New Business

Spring Cleaning Event Discussion

Mayor Dodi advised that a few years ago the Town provided a Spring Cleaning Event to help encourage citizens to clean up their properties. The Town would run extra trucks to pick-up any items they have to dispose of. The Citizens would need to call in the Town Hall to have their items picked up. The Town Council agreed to promote the Spring Cleaning Event for the weeks April 19, 2021 to April 30, 2021 for the Town Citizens. The Town Council requested Mr. Blankenship get in touch with the County concerning their clean up event to coordinate the two events.

Ms. Stanley presented different seasonal street banners which would be covered with the Downtown Revitalization Streetscape funds. Ms. Stanley had three quotes from local companies. Mayor Dodi requested to schedule a Parks and Recreation Committee to make a decision on the banners and choose a company to print them.

XVI. Town Managers Report

Adopt COVID-19 policy

Mr. Blankenship presented a VRSA COVID-19 and Infectious Disease Prevention plan. He advised that a contingency plan had been added to the previous plan. Eddie Shelton with VRSA approved this document.

Upon motion made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Ms. Stanley, the Town Council unanimously voted to adopt the VRSA COVID-19 and Infectious Disease Prevention as presented. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.

XVII. Town Chief of Police Report

Chief Deskins discussed the Police report. Chief Deskins advised that the insurance adjuster came to look at the wrecked explorer, he stated the insurance issued a check in the amount of \$19,000 for the damages. He advised that he received a bid for a 2020 State Vehicle for the amount of \$34,700. He requested to speak with the Town Council in closed session.

XVIII. Town Attorney Report

Mr. Tiller requested to meet with the Town Council in closed session.

XIX. Committee Reports and Recommendations

Ms. Stanley advised concerning Chris Pritt's recommendation on his monthly report that the contract with Shentel expired in February. She stated that currently the Town is using two providers one Shentel and the other Point Broadband. She suggested that the Town look at using only one internet provider for all the Town needs.

Mr. Leonard expressed his concerns with the water loss rate being at 32% for the month of March. He advised that the Street Committee agreed to move forward with Clatterbuck Pavement Markings.

XX. Enter closed session: 7:49 P.M.

A. Upon motion made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Gilmer, the Town Council unanimously voted to go into closed session under Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1)(5)(7) for the purpose of personnel to discuss seasonal and part time workers, legal to discuss pending legations and prospective business or industry. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.

B. Upon motion made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Ms. Jackson, the Town Council unanimously voted to return to regular session. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.

C. A. Diane Nunley, Clerk of Council, presented the Roll Call Vote:

Virginia Code, 1950, Section 2.2-3712(D)

Do you certify that to the best of your knowledge, (1) the Town Council in its' closed session; only discussed public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under this Chapter and (2) that only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard,

discussed, or considered in the meeting by the Town Council. Any member of the Town Council who believes that there was a departure from the requirements of clauses (1) and (2), shall so state prior to the vote, indicating the substance of the departure that, in their judgment, has taken place.

The roll call vote was as follows: Mayor Dodi, Aye; Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye; Mr. Blankenship, Aye; Mr. Tiller, Aye; Chief Deskins, Aye.

XXI. Adjourn closed session: 9:15 P.M.

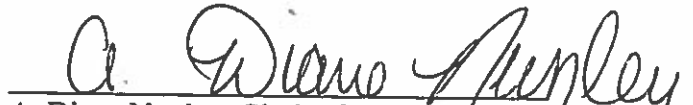
XXII. Mr. Gilmer advised that due to the new fiscal year budget being near that the Town Council needs to decide by next month if they are going to purchase a Police Vehicle. He suggested for Chief Deskins to budget for the Police Vehicle in the next fiscal year capital outlay budget.

Mr. Gilmer advised for Mr. Blankenship to get in touch with DHCD to see if he and Mr. Farmer can work on the cost estimates concerning the façade program at the Russell Theater.

XXIII. Adjourn: 9:20 P.M.

Upon motion made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Ms. Stanley, the Town Council unanimously voted to adjourn. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.


Nelson A. "Tony" Dodi, Mayor


A. Diane Nunley, Clerk of Council

Minutes recorded by: A. Diane Nunley, Clerk of Council
Minutes prepared by: A. Diane Nunley, Clerk of Council