

Lebanon Town Council
Call Meeting
Town Hall, Lebanon, Virginia
Monday, April 26, 2021
4:30 P.M.

Council Members Present: Nelson A. "Tony" Dodi, 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

Council Members Absent: DeAnna C. Jackson, Vice-Mayor

Staff Members Present: Kevin L. Blankenship, Town Manager
A. Diane Nunley, Clerk of Council

Staff Members Absent: Kevin D. Tiller, Town Attorney

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

II. Prayer: Mr. Blankenship

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Award Wendy's Wall Project

Mr. Leonard, Street Chairman, advised that Mr. Blankenship met with Ken Construction Company and Cleco Corp Construction to discuss the bids, they were in comparison. Mr. Blankenship advised both bidders that no funds would be available until after July 1, 2021 for the next fiscal year budget.

Upon motion made by Mr. Leonard, seconded by Mr. Gilmer, the Town Council unanimously voted to award the Wendy's Wall Project bid to the lowest bidder Cleco Corp Construction. The vote was as follows: Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.

IV. Items for Discussion

Part-Time/Seasonal Workers

Mayor Dodi advised that after speaking with Ms. Stinson the Town can work seasonal workers for only six months. He suggested to have all Parks and Recreation Employees as seasonal during the summer months.

Upon motion made by Mr. Gilmer, seconded by Mr. Leonard, the Town Council voted to approve to change all Parks and Recreation Employees plus new hires as seasonal and all Street Laborers as seasonal to work up until October 1, 2021. The vote was as follows: Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.

Mr. Gilmer advised that the Parks and Recreation director Mr. Farmer notified him concerning two lifeguards that would not be returning this year. Mr. Gilmer suggested hiring Juliana Stanley and Thai Tatum as replacements.

Upon motion made by Mr. Gilmer, seconded by Mr. Fields, the Town Council unanimously voted to hire Juliana Stanley and Thai Tatum as lifeguards for the Lebanon Pool. The vote was as follows: Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.

Signage for Easterly Park/Wastewater Plant

Mayor Dodi advised that the Town had previously discussed replacing the signage at the J. S. Easterly Park and at the Wastewater Plant.

Upon motion made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Ms. Stanley, the Town Council unanimously voted to approve the quote provided by Steffey Construction to replace the signage structures at the J. S. Easterly Park and the Wastewater Plant. The vote was as follows: Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.

Employee Pool/Rec Center Pass

Mr. Lambert advised that at the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting, they discussed the Tobacco Policy benefit by promoting health and wellness. Therefore, the committee agreed to offer free passes to Town Employees for the Lebanon Community Center and Pool.

Upon motion made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Ms. Stanley, the Town Council unanimously voted to approve for all Town Employees and immediate family to have free passes to the Lebanon Community Recreation Center and Pool. The vote was as follows: Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.

Ms. Stanley advised that she received a quote from Fast Signs for banners for Cedar Fest, the Four Seasons, Independence Day and Town of Lebanon Seal. She advised that the Town must pay half down before Fast Signs will order. The quoted price is \$14,168.00. The Town can use the Downtown Revitalization Streetscape funds to purchase these banners.

Mr. Gilmer requested information concerning the replacing the concrete at the pool. Mr. Blankenship advised that the project should not cost much if the Town Employees provides the labor. Mr. Blankenship advised that they can reuse the anchors that are already there, they will need to order only one anchor.

Upon motion made by Ms. Stanley, seconded by Mr. Lambert, the Town Council unanimously voted to approve the quote from Fast Signs at the presented quote of \$14,168.00. The vote was as follows: Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.

Upon motion made by Ms. Stanley, seconded by Mr. Lambert, the Town Council unanimously voted to approve for the Town to purchase the material and the Town Employees to replace the anchors for the diving blocks at the pool. The vote was as follows: Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.

Budget 2021-2022

Mayor Dodi provided an update concerning the American Relief Act. He advised that the Department of Treasury notified all entities to provide a DUNS #, EIN #, be registered with the Federal Government, Bank Information with routing and account numbers and contact persons; which they listed Mr. Blankenship and Ms. Stinson. The first localities to receive these funds will be localities with 50,000 plus in population and be administered by the Federal Government. Localities below 50,000 in population will be administered by the State. During the week of May 3, 2021, they should release the guidelines to dispense these funds.

Mayor Dodi advised that Russell County is preparing to implement Meals Tax and a \$.12 Cigarette Tax. Therefore, he feels the Town needs to start the process to implement the Cigarette Tax. Mayor Dodi requested that Mr. Tiller prepare to discuss the Cigarette Tax at the May's Council meeting.

Mr. Gilmer discussed the Lebanon Rescue Squad request at the last Town Council meeting. The Town Council agreed for the donation to the Rescue Squad to remain the same amount \$22,000 which is distributed in monthly installments.

Mr. Gilmer requested the Council's pleasure regarding the J.S. Easterly Park restrooms. The Council agreed to budget for the restrooms in the Parks and Recreation Capital Outlay Budget. Mr. Lambert requested to add to the Fire Department Capital Outlay Budget about \$30,000 to update the bathrooms and kitchens.

Mayor Dodi advised that he had invited Mr. Lonzo Lester to come to the May Town Council meeting to discuss treating the leachate with the Council. The Town Council discussed the leachate.

- V. Recess: 6:00 P.M.
- VI. Resume: 6:08 P.M.
- VII. Mayor Dodi advised the add to the donation request list the Russell County Fair for \$5,000 and the Heart Of Appalachia request for \$2,500.
- VIII. Mr. Gilmer advised that he would like to discuss the Town of Lebanon Water and Sewer Rates for the 2021-2022 Budget year. He proposed to increase the base water rate to \$17, the base sewer rate by \$18 and the garbage rate to \$8 residential and \$15 for commercial garbage then increase each rate by \$.25 each year thereafter. The overage rate be raised on 2,250 to 15,000 gallons to \$4.25 and overage rate raised on over 15,000 gallons to \$4.75. The Town Council discussed the water and sewer rates. Mr. Leonard suggested that the Town look at raising the water rates by the first year 8 ½%, the next year by 7 ½% over a seven-year period. After the seven-years, keep the rate increase at 3% for each year thereafter. Mr. Gilmer requested that

Mr. Blankenship work with Ms. Carrier to be able to present his proposed rates and the proposed rates Mr. Leonard suggested for the Town Council.

Mr. Gilmer advised that in preparation for the next budget he would like for the Council to prepare to discuss employee compensation. Ms. Stanley advised that she is interested in an employee pay step increase.

IX. Adjourn: 7:00 P.M.

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


Nelson A. "Tony" Dodr, 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