

Lebanon Town Council  
Called Meeting  
Town Hall, Lebanon, Virginia  
Monday, March 28, 2022  
5:15 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: Andrew R. Shortt, Town Manager  
Richard Eric Deskins, Chief of Police

Staff Members Absent: Kevin D. Tiller, Town Attorney  
A. Diane Nunley, Clerk of Council

- I. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dodi.
- II. Prayer: Mayor Dodi
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Angie Carpenter-Cedar Fest Pageant

Ms. Carpenter advised that the approximate total cost to cover the Cedar Fest Beauty Pageant is \$1,000. She advised that her choice of location for the pageant would be Lebanon Middle School. She stated that there will be four age groups and the Ms. Cedar Fest will attend all the Town of Lebanon events with her sash and crown. Mr. Gilmer stated his concerns about Ms. Cedar Fest representing the Town of Lebanon at all the Town events. Ms. Carpenter advised that she felt a \$25 fee for each applicant to enter the pageant would be a fair cost. Mr. Gilmer suggested to donate \$1,000 from the ARPA fund to the Russell County Chamber of Commerce to help with the pageant expenses.

Upon motion made by Mr. Gilmer, seconded by Ms. Jackson, the Town Council unanimously voted to donate \$1000 to the Russell County Chamber of Commerce earmarked for Cedar Fest Pageant June 10 and 11, 2022. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.

- V. Discuss Broadband RFP's

Mr. Gilmer stated that he had contacted each council member to discuss their rank regarding the broadband RFP's based on customer service, credentials, qualifications, participating in the FCC affordability connectivity program, based on an all-fiber network, construction cost estimates, construction time line. Mr. Gilmer stated that he personally took in consideration the

relationship of working with Cumberland Plateau. Mr. Gilmer advised that the majority of the Town Council members ranked Point Broadband number one and Shentel number two.

Upon motion made by Mr. Gilmer, seconded by Mr. Lambert, the Town Council unanimously voted to start competitive negotiations with Point Broadband as soon as a meeting can be scheduled with their representative and the Town Manager. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.

Mayor Dodi advised that he would like for the Finance Committee to attend the meeting with Point Broadband and the Town Manager to begin competitive negotiations.

#### VI. ARC Approval

Mayor Dodi advised that the Town has already completed an Environmental Review for the CDBG portion of the Theater Project therefore the resolution needs to be approved.

Upon motion made by Mr. Fields, seconded by Ms. Stanley, the Town Council unanimously voted to use the same Environmental Review for the ARC portion of the Russell Theater Project. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.

#### VII. Playground Equipment at JS Easterly Park and Trash Cans

Mr. Famer, Parks and Recreation Director, advised that the Parks and Recreation Committee recommended to purchase playground equipment for JS Easterly Park in the amount of \$7,810.19 with the Town Employees installing the equipment. Mr. Gilmer stated his concerns of safety for the kids with traffic passing through. Mr. Leonard stated that his thoughts was instead of purchasing the equipment use the money to upgrade the park. The Town Council discussed the JS Easterly Park needed maintenance.

Upon motion made by Ms. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Fields, the Town Council voted to purchase the playground equipment in the amount of \$7,810.19. The roll call vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Nay; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Nay; Mr. Lambert, Nay. Mayor Dodi broke the tie with an Aye.

Mayor Dodi advised that the trash cans at the JS Easterly Park are in bad shape. The Town Council discussed trash cans at the JS Easterly Park.

Upon motion made by Ms. Jackson, seconded by Ms. Stanley, the Town Council unanimously voted to purchase 10 trash cans at the quoted price of \$498.85 each for the JS Easterly Park using ARPA funds. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.

#### VIII. Town Managers Report

Mr. Shortt presented quotes to replace the Pool Vacuum. He advised that the Town's current Pool Vacuum was broken.

Upon motion made by Mr. Gilmer, seconded by Mr. Lambert, the Town Council unanimously voted to approve the purchase of the Dolphin Wave 120 Pool Cleaner from Sunplay in the amount of \$5,299.00 using ARPA Funds. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.

Mr. Shortt stated that Mr. Farmer had requested a floor cleaner during the COVID pandemic. He advised that since basketball season was almost ended this would be a good time to clean the Parks and Recreation Community Center floors.

Upon motion made by Ms. Stanley, seconded by Ms. Jackson, the Town Council unanimously voted to purchase from Cleanfreak the Viper AS516OTO Walk Behind Orbital Auto Scrubber for the amount of \$6,485.00 plus add the Gym Kit. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.

Mr. Shortt advised that there is a new funding through ARC Power Grant which has to do with infrastructure with funding up to \$1.5 million. He stated that Chris Mullins with The Lane Group is preparing the letter of intent which is due April 4, 2022. The Town Council needs to make a decision to what project that they would like to apply funding for. The grant is a 30/70 match. The Town Council discussed the ARC Power Grant.

Upon motion made by Ms. Stanley, seconded by Mr. Lambert, the Town Council unanimously voted to move forward in pursuing the Town's options for the ARC Power Grant. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.

Mr. Shortt requested the Town Council approval for the Phoenix Process Equipment Co. invoice quote for the Wastewater Plant \$5,586.90 for a year's supply for Drum, Polymer. He stated that the Town was notified that the price will increase.

Upon motion made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Gilmer, the Town Council unanimously voted to approve the purchase for Drum, Polymer from Phoenix Process Equipment Co. in the amount of \$5,586.90 using ARPA Funds. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.

Mr. Shortt advised that he received a letter from Friends of Southwest Virginia requesting a donation for the amount of \$5,000. Mr. Gilmer requested to table the request until the Town Council prepared the 2022-2023 budget.

Mr. Shortt advised that he will be working with Jeff Dye to start the process to place the meters for the Downtown Lighting Project. He requested the Town Council pleasure if they preferred underground lines at the cost of around \$1,200 or overhead lines which AEP would provide. The Town Council agreed to install the underground lines.

Mr. Shortt advised that he received a request from Lebanon Volunteer Assistant Chief John McCoy for new laptops for the amount of \$2,600. Mr. McCoy stated that they are currently using laptops that was donated by the Sheriffs Department back in 2016.

Upon motion made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Gilmer, the Town Council unanimously voted to purchase laptops for the Lebanon Volunteer Fire Department using ARPA funds. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye.

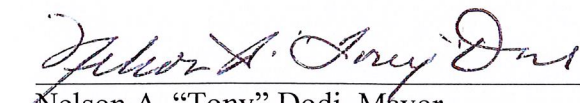
Mr. Shortt advised that Travis Rickman that conducted the Fire Study for the Lebanon Volunteer Fire Department no longer works for the Virginia Department of Fire Programs. He stated that he is trying to get an update concerning the fire study.

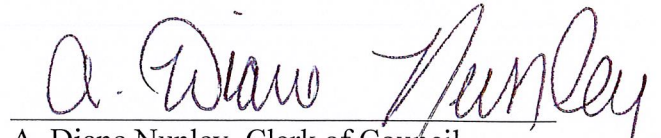
- IX. Mayor Dodi advised that he had spoken with Randy Williams concerning Personal Property taxes. The Commissioner of Revenue office was notified by the General Assembly that the price of used vehicles has averaged an increase in value by 24 %. Mayor Dodi advised that the Town Council has three options: first option pass the 24% increase on to the citizens, second option make a decision to pass what percent of the 24% on to the citizens, third option you can set the rate yourself by locality.

Mayor Dodi advised that Lebanon High School won their first State Championship in Forensics. He requested the council's pleasure about recognizing them at the April or May meeting. The Town Council agree to recognize the Forensics Team at the April meeting.

- X. Adjourn: 5:50 P.M.

Upon motion made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Fields, 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