

Lebanon Town Council  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
Town Hall, Lebanon, Virginia  
Monday, March 13, 2023  
6:00 P.M.

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

Council Members Absent: Scott J. Gilmer, Council Member

Staff Members Present: Andrew R. Shortt, Town Manager  
A. Diane Nunley, Clerk of Council  
Richard Eric Deskins, Chief of Police

Staff Members Absent: Kevin D. Tiller, Town Attorney

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

II. Prayer: Keith Hovis Pastor Lebanon Church of Christ

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Edit for items not on the agenda:

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

V. Edit and approve minutes from the 02/13/23 regular council meeting, 03/08/23 called meeting.

Upon motion made by Ms. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Leonard, the minutes from the 02/13/23 regular council meeting, 03/08/23 called meeting was unanimously approved. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye; Mr. Kegley, Aye.

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

Mr. Shortt requested to add Accounts Payable Report B to the accounts payable for the month of February. Mr. Leonard questioned Mr. Shortt concerning Aramark and Cintas monthly charges. Mr. Shortt stated that Mr. Farmer was checking with a couple other company for estimates concerning the bathroom supplies and Cintas charges are for the guy's uniforms.

Upon motion made by Mr. Fields, seconded by Mr. Leonard, the accounts payable for the month of February including the additions was unanimously approved. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye; Mr. Kegley, Aye.

## VII. Public Request

### Kevin Sigmon-Tree City USA

Mr. Sigmon works part-time for the Town of Abingdon as Town Arborist plus works full-time for Appalachian Power. He advised that on behalf of himself and the Russell County Master Gardeners they would like to encourage the Town of Lebanon to become a member of the Tree City USA. He stated that currently there are 62 communities within the State of Virginia that are Tree City USA members. Mr. Sigmon stated that the four standards for Tree City USA recognition is 1. Must have a Tree Board or Department. 2. Must pass a Public Tree Care Ordinance. 3. Must have a Community Forestry Program with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita. 4. Must have an annual Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation. He advised that the trees must be located on Town property or right of ways. He advised that they are not against cutting any trees, once a tree becomes dead or a danger but possibly replant a new tree in its place. Mayor Dodi requested Parks and Recreation Chair Ms. Jackson meet with Mr. Sigmon and Bea Stuart for further discussion. Randy Burke, Town Citizen, stated that he felt the Town should table this request until the public has time to further investigate Tree City USA.

Upon motion made by Ms. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Lambert, the Town Council voted to apply for Tree City USA. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye; Mr. Kegley, Nay.

### Tony Carter, Randy Hamm-Point Broadband

Tony Carter advised that he is a General Manager for Point Broadband. Randy Hamm Construction Manager for Point Broadband advised that they are currently installing fiber near Bonanza on the East end of Town with hope to be completed in April. Mr. Hamm advised that their goal was to have all of Lebanon served by the third quarter of this year. He advised that the delay was because they are having issues getting permits to use the Verizon poles.

### Lebanon Little League

Matthew Smith Vice-President with Lebanon Little League stated that opening day for Lebanon Little League is April 1, 2023. They plan to start with a parade plus they would like for the Mayor, Town Council and Town Manager to attend. Mr. Smith advised that they recently took on a project to build a deck which is on the County plus funded by the County. He stated that they are in need of aluminum picnic table, he questioned if the Town would have any extra, they could use during Little League season. He advised that due to the increase in kids this year for T-Ball they needed to use the T-Ball field at Glade Hollow. He requested if the Town would use their Brush Cutter to clear the brush around the T-Ball field. Mr. Lambert requested Ms. Jackson to speak with Mr. Farmer concerning Little League opening day to arrange for inflatables and food trucks. Mayor Dodi requested Mr. Shortt speak with Mr. Hughes to arrange for getting the brush cut at the T-Ball field.

Wanda Burke advised that she has a cost confirmation from Mar Mero for the amount of \$14,000. She stated that after speaking with the principals at Honaker and Castlewood they agreed to combine High School and Middle School together for Mar Mero to speak too but Lebanon will be separate due to the size of the auditorium. She advised that they have scheduled for a Community Night also.

#### VIII. Town Managers Report

Mr. Shortt advised that he would like to update everyone concerning the Parks and Recreation projects. He stated that they hope to start on the Basketball Court this week and the Basketball goals are here. He advised that after speaking with Mr. Farmer, they are looking for six LED lights for the tennis court to replace the old lights and possibly two more LED lights for the Basketball Court which should be around \$3,000.00 total. Mr. Farmer plans to replace the Volleyball system due to damage. Mr. Shortt advised that Mr. Hughes purchased an Edger for landscaping.

Mr. Shortt advised that he was working with the Lane Group concerning the RFP for the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning. They sent the Town of Abingdon's RFP which is about sixty-five pages. He stated that he is trying to minimize it because their RFP is very detail oriented which he hopes to have the RFP ready to advertise within the next couple of weeks. He advised that the RFP would be advertised two weeks plus an additional two weeks to receive the responses plus another month or two for the study.

Mr. Shortt advised that the 2023-2024 budget prep work has begun. He stated that he is working on the contract for the PSA. He advised the supervisors at their last meeting to be prepared for any large upcoming needed purchases.

Mr. Shortt discussed the Lane Group PER projects concerning the Water Plant, Wastewater Plant and the distribution systems. He stated that he and Chris Dye met with The Lane Group and Cumberland Plateau a few weeks ago. He stated that the Town has been denied a couple of grants that they applied for to help with these projects. Mr. Shortt stated the Chris Mullins with the Lane Group advised for the Town to shelf these projects due to lack and cost of contractors.

Mr. Shortt stated that the Town received The Local Choice Plan for 2023-2024 which states that the percentage adjustment is zero.

Mr. Kegley requested a progress report on the wrecked street department truck. Mr. Shortt advised that the truck is back but the truck has a recall on the seat belt and air bags. Mr. Kegley requested he request all the damaged parts from the repair shop.

Mayor Dodi advised that last week he received notification in cooperation of the Governor and Virginia Criminal Law Enforcement that the Town will receive grant money out of ARPA just for criminal police services. Mayor Dodi advised that he received notice that the Opioid money that the Commonwealth has received out of the settlement which will be disbursed to major cities and counties. He stated that the county will disburse a share of the Opioid Money to the Town to be used to assist with the Opioid problem.

Chief Deskins advised that with the Opioid funds they are geared more toward PPE equipment that is needed in the field. Chief Deskins stated that the grant money from Virginia Criminal Law Enforcement can be used for a wider range of things. He advised that the biggest need for the Lebanon Police Department with these funds are cameras at every major intersection, 911 Call Boxes and cameras in the police vehicles.

IX. Chief of Police Report

Chief Deskins presented the monthly Police Report. He advised that he spoke at the Police Academy to the students that was paying for their schooling encouraging them to look at what the Town of Lebanon offers once they are certified.

X. Enter closed session: 7:13 P.M.

- A. Upon motion made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Ms. Jackson, the Town Council unanimously voted to go into closed session under Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) (7) for the purpose of discussing personnel request issues and legal questions for Mr. Tiller. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye; Mr. Kegley, Aye.
- B. Upon motion made by Mr. Leonard, 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. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye; Mr. Kegley, Aye.
- C. A. Diane Nunley, Clerk of Council, presented the Roll Call Vote:

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

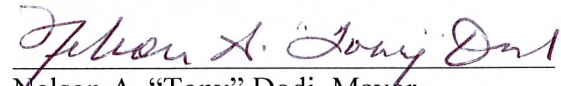
Do you certify that to the best of your knowledge, (1) the Town Council in its' closed session; only discussed public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under this Chapter and (2) that only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed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

XI. Adjourn closed session: 7:59 P.M.

XII. Adjourn: 8:00 P.M.

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