

Lebanon Town Council
Regular Monthly Meeting
Town Hall, Lebanon, Virginia
Monday, December 11, 2023
2:00 P.M.

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

Staff Members Present: Andrew R. Shortt, Town Manager
Kevin D. Tiller, Town Attorney
Christopher Snead, Lieutenant
A. Diane Nunley, Clerk of Council

- I. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dodi.
- II. Enter closed session: 2:00 P.M.
 - A. Upon motion made by Mr. Leonard, seconded by Ms. Fields, the Town Council unanimously voted to go into closed session under Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) for the purpose of personnel to interview for the Police Officer position. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye; Mr. Kegley, Aye; Ms. Fields, Aye.
 - B. Upon motion made by Mr. Gilmer, seconded by Mr. Leonard, the Town Council unanimously voted to return to regular session. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye; Mr. Kegley, Aye; Ms. Fields, 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. Gilmer, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye; Mr. Kegley, Aye; Ms. Fields, Aye; Mr. Tiller, Aye; Mr. Shortt, Aye; Chief Deskins, Aye.

III. Adjourn Closed Session: 3:35 P.M.

IV. Prayer: Justin Honaker Pastor Lebanon Community Fellowship Church.

V. Pledge of Allegiance

VI. Edit for items not on the agenda:

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

VII. Edit and approve minutes from the 11/13/23 council meeting:

Ms. Jackson requested to edit the minutes statement of Mr. Leonard from Coal Temple Hollow to Coal Tipple Hollow.

Upon motion made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Gilmer, the minutes from the 11/13/23 council meeting as amended were unanimously approved. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye; Mr. Kegley, Aye; Ms. Fields, Aye.

VIII. Approve accounts payable and capital assets for the month of November:

Mr. Shortt requested to add the Front Row Music invoice for the amount of \$29,743.84 to the Accounts Payable for November. The invoice is for additional items that weren't included in the bid.

Upon motion made by Mr. Gilmer, seconded by Ms. Jackson, the accounts payable for the month of November including the Front Row Music invoice for the amount of \$29,743.84 was unanimously approved. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye; Mr. Kegley, Aye; Ms. Fields, Aye.

IX. Recognition

Chief Deskins presented Sergeant Hurd with the Virginia MADD award and pin. Chief Deskins advised that each year the Mothers Against Drunk Drivers award outstanding Police Officers in Virginia getting drunk drivers off the road.

X. Public Request

Matthew Lindamood

Mr. Lindamood introduced Holli Cox, manager for Junie B's Restaurant, which will be located at the Old Mill restaurant building. Ms. Cox plans to have some of the Old Mill Restaurant items on the menu such as: pork wine cheese and crackers, New York Strip, baby shrimp, catfish and Old Mill Burger. Mr. Lindamood advised that Ms. Cox plans to use the downstairs part of the restaurant as the primary restaurant with the upstairs part for parties and events. Ms. Cox plans for the lunch menu to be much smaller than the dinner menu. Mayor Dodi congratulated Ms. Cox on the opening of Junie B's Restaurant.

Svitlana Boyd

Svitlana Boyd advised that she is inquiring about an answer from the Town Council concerning the public hearing at the October Town Council meeting for rezoning the property on Viers Court. She stated that at the October meeting she was told the Town never had rezoned and property from R-1 to R-2, but she found that in 2006 the Town approved to rezone Colony Park from R-1 to R-2. Ms. Boyd presented some of her Christmas wishes for the Town of Lebanon.

XI. New Business

The Lane Group-Discuss Loan Process

Mr. Shortt advised that Chris Mullins and Kevin Heath with the Lane Group were present to discuss the DEQ funding offer for the Wastewater Plant PER. Mr. Kevin Heath advised that in 2021, the Lane Group provided an evaluation of the Wastewater Treatment Plant then identified a list of needs. In July of 2021 the Town applied for funding with an estimate total amount of this project at \$6.7 million. In 2022 DEQ made an offer to the Town in the amount of \$6.7 million with a 0.5 % loan amount for a 20-year term and a principal forgiveness amount of \$671,500.00. Mr. Heath stated that Mr. Shortt and Mr. Dye prioritized the Wastewater Treatment Plant PER to a reduced amount of \$3 million. He stated that the process now if the Town Council would like to proceed with the DEQ funding request is first for the Lane Group to state that they received the offer then notify DEQ to reduce the scope of the work with the lower funding amount. The Town Council questioned Mr. Heath with their concerns about the funding process. Mr. Dye presented a brief update of the upgrade needs at the Wastewater Plant.

Mayor Dodi questioned the Town Council concerning their pleasure in moving forward with the \$3 million DEQ funding process, the results are as follows: Mr. Leonard stated he felt the Town Council needs to move forward just not sure the amount; Mr. Lambert stated yes to move forward with the \$3 million; Mr. Kegley stated that due to the needs at the Wastewater Plant he felt the need to move forward with the original amount \$6.7 million; Ms. Jackson stated yes to move forward with the \$6.7 million; Ms. Fields mentioned the savings in electricity by upgrading some of the equipment; Mr. Gilmer stated yes to move forward with the \$3 million due to the fact that the Town Manager and Public Works Director have prioritized the needs for the Wastewater Plant plus the Town needs to consider the Water Plant PER and the Distribution Side PER the first of 2024. Mr. Gilmer stated that the Town needs to continue to apply for funding from other local funding agencies.

Upon motion made by Mr. Gilmer, seconded by Mr. Lambert, the Town Council unanimously voted to accept the DEQ funding offer for the reduced scope of work for the Wastewater Plant PER in the amount of \$3 million. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye; Mr. Kegley, Aye; Ms. Fields, Aye.

Upon motion made by Mr. Gilmer, seconded by Mr. Leonard, the Town Council unanimously voted for The Lane Group to work with VDH and DEQ concerning the current funding offers for all the Town of Lebanon's PER projects. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Mr. Leonard, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye; Mr. Kegley, Aye; Ms. Fields, Aye.

Mr. Elijah Leonard left the meeting.

XII. Town Managers Report

Mr. Shortt stated that he renegotiated with Bizzack Construction concerning their bid for paving for the amount of \$128.25 per ton to W-L Construction bid for the amount of \$128.48 per ton.

Upon motion made by Mr. Gilmer, seconded by Mr. Lambert, the Town Council unanimously voted to award the asphalt paving bid 3-year contract to Bizzack Construction for the amount of \$128.25 per ton. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye; Mr. Kegley, Aye; Ms. Fields, Aye.

Mr. Shortt advised that Aaron Bostic requested a \$5,000.00 donation for the Sam Whited Gospel event due to cost increase.

Upon motion made by Mr. Gilmer, seconded by Mr. Lambert, the Town Council unanimously voted to donate \$5,000.00 to Aaron Bostic for the Sam Whited Gospel Singing event. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye; Mr. Kegley, Aye; Ms. Fields, Aye.

Mr. Shortt presented the 2024 Holiday List.

Upon motion made by Mr. Gilmer, seconded by Mr. Lambert, the Town Council unanimously vote to approve the 2024 Holiday List as presented. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye; Mr. Kegley, Aye; Ms. Fields, Aye.

Mr. Shortt advised that he spoke with Point Broadband Tony Carter, he stated that Point Broadband service should be available to all Town Citizens and Businesses by the end of this week. Mr. Shortt advised that once Point Broadband has finished installation they will invoice for their payment. Mr. Gilmer requested to add their invoice to the January Accounts Payable.

XIII. Chief of Police Report

Chief Deskins thanked the Town Council for the Christmas Dinner and bonus. He stated that the Shop with a Cop is this Saturday along with Russell County and Town of Honaker. He advised that they have seventeen kids this year plus with all the donations received they should be able to spend around \$250.00 for each kid.

XIV. Enter closed session: 4:52 P.M.

A Upon motion made by Mr. Gilmer, seconded by Mr. Lambert, the Town Council unanimously voted to go into closed session under Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) (7) for the purpose of personnel, and legal. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye; Mr. Kegley, Aye; Ms. Fields, Aye.

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

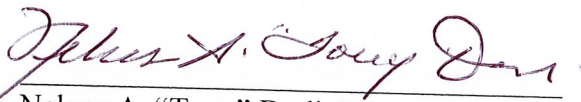
XV. Adjourn closed session: 5:25 P.M.

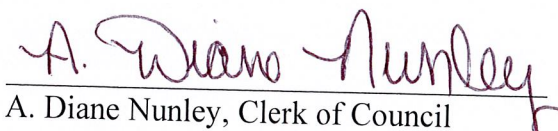
XVI. Upon motion made by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. Kegley, the Town Council unanimously voted to hire Samuel Campbell as Patrol Police Officer for the Town of Lebanon at the starting rate of an uncertified officer. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye; Mr. Kegley, Aye; Ms. Fields, Aye.

Upon motion made by Mr. Gilmer, seconded by Ms. Jackson, the Town Council unanimously voted to hire Jonathan Brown as Patrol Police Officer for the Town of Lebanon at the starting rate of an uncertified officer. The vote was as follows: Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Mr. Lambert, Aye; Mr. Kegley, Aye; Ms. Fields, Aye.

XVII. Adjourn: 5:34 P.M.

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