

Lebanon Town Council  
Called Meeting  
Town Hall, Lebanon, VA  
Monday, March 25, 2020  
4:00 P.M.

Council Members Present: Nelson A. "Tony" Dodi, Mayor  
DeAnna C. Jackson, Vice- Mayor  
J. Hassel Kegley, Council Member  
A. Doyle Fields, Council Member  
Kevin B. Ferguson, Council Member  
Scott J. Gilmer, Council Member  
Mary J. Stanley, Council Member

Staff Members Present: Mark A. Mitchell, Town Manager/Chief of Police  
A. Diane Nunley, Clerk of Council  
Kevin D. Tiller, Town Attorney

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

II. Prayer: Mr. Mitchell

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Items to Discuss

A. Cancel Reconvened March 30, 2020 Meeting.

Upon motion made by Ms. Jackson, seconded by Ms. Stanley, the Town Council unanimously voted to cancel the March 30, 2020 Reconvened Meeting. The vote was as follows: Mr. Kegley, Aye; Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Mr. Ferguson, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye.

B. Discuss fees that customers are charged when using their credit card to pay bills.

The Town Council discussed the 2.75% fee that customers are charged when using a credit card to pay their bill, as of now the customer is charged the extra fee which goes to the credit card company. The council agreed for the customer to only be charged their bill amount if they used their credit card to pay online or by phone with the Town paying the 2.75% fee incurred by the credit card company for a 90-day period.

C. Local Business Assistance

Mayor Dodi advised that the IDA of Russell County had \$65,000 in funds that was available to loan the local businesses.

The Town Council discussed the COVID-19 financial impact on the Town of Lebanon businesses, as well as ways to assist during this critical period.

Upon motion made by Mr. Gilmer, seconded by Ms. Jackson, the Town Council unanimously voted to institute a small business relief loan funding in partnership with the IDA of Russell County: Allocating \$75,000 for small business relief for Town of Lebanon businesses essential and nonessential that are affected by COVID-19 pandemic through June 30, 2020. Loan funds will be up to \$5,000 at a 0% interest rate with a 2-year repayment plan starting January 1, 2021. The vote was as follows: Mr. Kegley, Aye; Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Mr. Ferguson, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye.

The Town Council discussed deferring Business License due date from May 1, 2020 until August 1, 2020.

Upon motion made by Mr. Gilmer, seconded by Ms. Jackson, the Town Council unanimously voted to approve for all Town of Lebanon businesses to defer all business license payments due on May 1, 2020, to August 1, 2020, without penalties and interest, regardless of the amount owed. The vote was as follows: Mr. Kegley, Aye; Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Mr. Ferguson, Aye, Ms. Stanley, Aye.

Ms. Stanley suggested the town print coupon books for the local businesses to encourage local citizens to shop local. The council agreed to discuss later.

- D. The Town Council discussed Mr. Mitchell's Emergency Employee Plan, they agreed in the event the plan was enacted all employees would be paid until the Town Council was able to meet.
- E. Other assistance efforts

The Town Council discussed different avenues to help all town citizens by decreasing their utility bills. Ms. Jackson requested cut each bill by \$10. Mr. Mitchell requested to help the town citizens on a as needed basis.

Upon motion made by Mr. Gilmer, seconded by Ms. Stanley, the Town Council voted to provide town citizens immediate relief on water and sewer utilities by cutting the base rate for residential in town utility customers in half or equivalent for the month of April. The vote was as follows: Mr. Kegley, Aye; Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Nay; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Mr. Ferguson, Nay; Ms. Stanley, Aye.

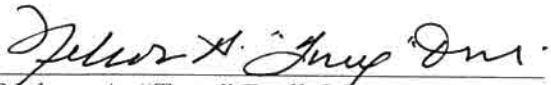
The Town Council agreed for the month of April no water cut-offs.

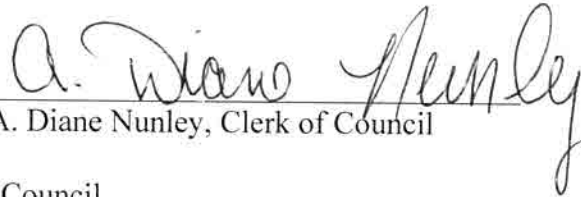
Mr. Gilmer discussed refinancing the Recreation Center Bond \$2,500,000, Polycap Bond \$1,100,000, Steel Fab Bond \$2,344,000 and the Duty Tank Bond \$3,100,000.

Upon motion made by Mr. Ferguson, seconded by Mr. Gilmer, the Town Council unanimously voted to cancel all public hearing due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The vote was as follows: Mr. Kegley, Aye; Ms. Jackson, Aye; Mr. Fields, Aye; Mr. Gilmer, Aye; Mr. Ferguson, Aye; Ms. Stanley, Aye.

V. Adjourn: 6:20 P.M.

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