

**VILLAGE OF SOUTH LEBANON
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
September 2, 2021
6:30 P.M.**

1. Mayor Smith opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge.
2. Observed a moment of silence for the 13 fallen troops this past week in Kabul, Afghanistan with Harrison and Allen reading their names.

3. ATTENDANCE

Linda Allen – Present
Linda Burke – Present
Bryan Corcoran – Present

Maryan Harrison – Present
Bill Madison – Present
Rolin Spicer – Present

3. GUESTS

Brenda Combs, South Lebanon Historical Society, spoke about the generosity of the community and how in 48 hours enough money was raised to bury and purchase a headstone for Village resident Travis Appel. There was \$8,880.00 raised for the burial and \$1,180.00 raised for the headstone.

4. Mayor Smith opened the floor to the public.

Carla Horn, 922 Trovillo Drive South Lebanon, stated that she had just learned through the City of Mason about the proposed ordinance in South Lebanon to not allow abortions and to declare the Village a sanctuary for the unborn. She has not been able to find any information on the Village website regarding what has been going on since the June 17, 2021 minutes that are posted on the website. Mayor Smith stated that he would have the Solicitor through the Village Administrator send her an update. Ms. Horn added that this is a very serious issue that is important to everyone; she continued by sharing some statistics with the council.

Mayor Smith closed the floor to the public.

NEW BUSINESS

5. RESOLUTION 2021-39, A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE COUNCIL'S INTENT TO SELL UNNEEDED, OBSOLETE OR UNFIT PERSONAL PROPERTY BY INTERNET AUCTION AND REQUIRING PUBLICATION OF THE SAME; AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND FISCAL OFFICER TO EXECUTE ON BEHALF OF THE VILLAGE A CONTRACT WITH GOVDEALS, INC. FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2021, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

A motion to waive the three-reading rule was made by Burke, seconded by Madison, all yeas. By title only, Resolution 2021-39, a motion to adopt was made by Madison, seconded by Corcoran, all yeas.

6. RESOLUTION 2021-40, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR AND/OR FISCAL OFFICER TO ENTER INTO AN AWARD AGREEMENT RELATED TO THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Tina Williams remarked that the Village's application has been approved and we should see the money in the next fifteen days. This is a unique grant situation where they are giving us the money upfront without us designating a specific project yet; we have until the end of year 2024 to spend the money. The first installment will be within the next fifteen days and then in a year we will get the second installment. In the next couple of months, a committee will be formed to discuss what projects would qualify for the money and come to a consensus on the best way to spend the money and then bring that decision back to the Council. Allen remarked that online bill payment for Utilities would be a good use of the money. Burke volunteered to be on the committee.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule was made by Burke, seconded by Allen, all yeas. By title only, Resolution 2021-40, a motion to adopt was made by Burke, seconded by Madison, all yeas.

7. RESOLUTION 2021-41, A RESOLUTION APPROVING A LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES RELATIVE TO THE RIVER CORRIDOR SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN SAID AGREEMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

A motion to waive the three-reading rule was made by Madison, seconded by Burke, all yeas. By title only, Resolution 2021-41, a motion to adopt was made by Madison, seconded by Corcoran, all yeas.

Allen questioned how it is going to cross the river to which Mayor Smith answered on the railroad bridge which is in the Village limits.

8. RESOLUTION 2021-42, A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND FISCAL OFFICER TO EXECUTE ADDENDUM NO. 2 RELATIVE TO THE CONTRACT WITH MCGILL SMITH PUNSHON, INC. FOR ENGINEERING AND DESIGN SERVICES REQUIRED FOR THE RIVER CORRIDOR SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION PROJECT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

A motion to waive the three-reading rule was made by Madison, seconded by Burke, all yeas. By title only, Resolution 2021-42, a motion to adopt was made by Corcoran, seconded by Madison, all yeas.

9. ORDINANCE 2021-28, AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL REVENUE FUND FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 FUNDS AND AUTHORIZING THE FISCAL OFFICER TO DEPOSIT FEDERAL FUNDS INTO SUCH ACCOUNT AND PAY QUALIFIED EXPENDITURES FROM SAID FUND, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

A motion to waive the three-reading rule was made by Madison, seconded by Allen, all yeas. By title only, Ordinance 2021-28, a motion to adopt was made by Burke, seconded by Corcoran, all yeas.

10. ORDINANCE 2021-29, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE VILLAGE OF SOUTH LEBANON, STATE OF OHIO, FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2021 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2021, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Williams stated that Sgt. Adams had brought this to her attention. The budget for our Sheriff's contract is higher at the end of the year because there was a significant payout when Jeff Boylan retired. Her understanding is that when someone has been assigned to our area for at least three years then it falls back on the Village to handle any retirement payout. We are only increasing the appropriations specifically for that \$10,693.67.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule was made by Madison, seconded by Burke, all yeas. By title only, Ordinance 2021-29, a motion to adopt was made by Burke, seconded by Madison, all yeas.

11. **A motion to authorize the Fiscal Officer to send an Amended Certificate to the Warren County Auditor was made by Madison, seconded by Corcoran, all yeas.**

12. AUTHORIZATION OF INVOICES

A motion to authorize the invoices for payment (\$87,633.45) was made by Burke, seconded by Madison, all yeas.

13. APPROVAL OF THE JULY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A motion to approve the financial statements was made by Madison, seconded by Burke, all yeas.

14. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Special Meeting – June 29, 2021
Regular Meeting – July 1, 2021
Special Meeting – July 13, 2021
Regular Meeting – July 15, 2021
Special Meeting – July 28, 2021
Regular Meeting – August 5, 2021
Regular Meeting – August 19, 2021

Madison remarked, in reference to the earlier question regarding available Council minutes on the website, that the reason there were no minutes on the website past June 17, 2021 was because the Council is just now approving them and after approval the Village website will be updated.

A motion to adopt the minutes was made by Burke, seconded by Madison, all yeas.

15. COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS

Mayor Smith

- a. The Veteran's Memorial is moving forward. There were some unexpected donations recently given. Lowes brought in all the block today, SRM has agreed to donate the full amount, at least 30 yards or more, for the interior grey and exterior grey rings, the foundation for the monuments is being poured tomorrow and IMI donated that full amount of concrete. That's over \$10,000.00 of in-kind donations in the last few days. Once the block is laid for the monuments (which will be about 6'4") the exterior sidewalk will be laid, it has been modified from 36" to 48". The flagpole mounts will go in after all of that and then the electric. The pie shape in the middle has not been decided on yet. We are still trying to raise money for the granite work. Phipps Auto Sales in Maineville has donated all the rebar and steel for this too.
- b. A storm sewer on Rt. 48 was recently clogged during a rainstorm and flooded the driveway at Speedway. We sent a crew down to unclog it and noticed that some damage had occurred. When it had clogged it created a spiral impact which created craters up to 4' deep and 3' wide that were only 1'-2' from pavement on Rt 48. The State said it was our responsibility since it was a storm sewer, so we ordered our crews up there and spent all day digging it out and repairing it. We had enough material on hand to fill it with a temporary fix that we can work on further down the road.
- c. Sidewalks are being installed as part of the Lebanon Road project; they will extend along Lebanon Road and go up Corwin Nixon Boulevard to Target. The Rt 48 Improvement Project will be the next phase for the sidewalks going across Rt 48, including islands and turning lanes. Per Jerry Haddix this should be bid out later this month followed by construction next spring.

Fiscal Officer Tina Williams

- a. The Ohio State Auditors are currently onsite auditing our 2019 and 2020 Financial Statements. They may reach out to members of Council with questions regarding activities within the Village. Things are going well, they are looking at Income Tax, Mayor's Court, and will be reviewing Utility Billing next week. Earlier this week they were looking at Payroll and Disbursements. We should have results in the next month or so.

- b. The month of August is now closed. After reviewing the August Income Tax report to date, we have collected \$1,629,199.17. This is important because the budget we had put together for the 2021 revenue for Income Tax was \$1,600,000.00. For the 2022 budget I believe the amount is \$1,800,000.00 as a conservative number.

Administrator Jerry Haddix

- a. Lebanon Road shut down this week to get the sidewalk, curb, and some storm sewer in and then repaving will begin.
- b. The sewer project has been about two years in the making with lots of hoops to get it signed and approved. Mayor Smith stated that some Council members attended the last Municipal League meeting and they asked us to make sure we request our list, that was due that Friday, because there is some money available from the state and federal government that would affect every county in Ohio. Each county had ten positions they would take; we made the top three and have now been submitted. Madison asked if someone on the staff could generate a form letter for each Council member and forward it on to them so that they could sign it and then send it out in support. Corcoran pointed out that each of the Council members has their own span of influence within their Homeowners Associations and communities. Mayor Smith stated that they could do all that as this project affects the entire community. Lebanon was 1st, Warren County was 2nd, and South Lebanon was 3rd. Corcoran stated that if they could have a one-page information paper and then those of them with a span of influence can post it somewhere so that constituents can also make phone calls. Haddix remarked that the next phase is to get the Control Building designed then some visual engineering for the bridge crossing and the connection to the plant. After that we will be close to getting this out to bid. We will know about the grant in about forty-five days.
- c. The Auburn Grove subdivision on Cochran Road is moving forward as they are wanting to get platted this year and start building houses. There will be a development agreement and final plat soon.
- d. G.E. Credit Union is planning on opening September 8, 2021 with a big event about thirty days later.
- e. Waffle House has started putting the walls up.
- f. The new employees have gotten involved in many projects.
- g. The Lebanon Area Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner is September 30, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at the County Events Center on N. Broadway. It is \$65.00/person or \$450.00 for a table of ten. RSVP is due by September 23, 2021.

A motion to purchase a table was made by Burke, seconded by Madison, all yeas.

Assistant Administrator Jeff Boylan

- a. Ohio Plan Risk Assessment formal report has arrived. This report gives a deadline to go through it all and give a response. Some of the projects we are already working on. We are meeting with the architects next week to figure out what we need for a Public Works Building, what is needed to continue working on upstairs of the Municipal Building and start getting an idea on the funding. The playground equipment is another area that will need updated as the equipment is over twenty years old.
- b. All the street signs will need to be updated as the current specs. are for signs to be 2' off the pole and 7' from the ground to the bottom of the sign.
- c. With all the new employees, we will be repurposing one of the old police cruisers that we had planned to sell on GovDeals. We should be able to get six months to a year out of it until we can get our equipment.
- d. The new Chevrolet truck that we ordered is now able to be ordered from the factory, we should have confirmation soon. Hopefully we will have it by the end of the year.
- e. The vehicle rustproofing we will be doing is also known as "crowning", the company name is Crown. This is a rustproofing liquid made with linseed oil and when it is sprayed on a rusty vehicle the rust falls off as the oil penetrates the rust and adheres to good metal. The cost is \$180.00 for pickup trucks and \$210.00 for dump trucks. The rustproofing will be done every year and we have trained everyone on using the pressure washer and being able to spray the salt chemicals on the underneath side of the trucks. The combination of these two applications should extend our truck lives but a few years.

Sgt. Corey Adams

- a. Things are runny well; we had some injuries over the summer, but everyone is back.
- b. The main Sheriff's Office is preparing to begin moving to the new Sheriff's Office/Jail the second week of October. Haddix shared that there will be a ribbon cutting on October 12, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. for the new jail which will include an open house and guided tours. Boylan stated that the new jail will have a mini hospital and dental chair with the goal being to keep everything inhouse.

Bill Madison

- a. There should be a letter that everyone on the Council will sign to thank all the donors to the Veterans Memorial.
- b. Lowes has started on their expansion.
- c. The grant money, would we be able to spend it on the Veterans Memorial, Veterans Park, the playground equipment to which Williams answered that she has seen other jurisdictions that are looking at playground equipment for their grant money. Madison remarked that the park is dated, many of the newer parks have water attractions, such as splash pads, that would be a great addition for the children of the Village.
- d. Has any progress been made with the weather alert for the 48 and Corwin Nixon Boulevard area to which Haddix commented that they would look into it again.
- e. The Stonehouse, at one time the owner had a plan of donating it to the Village, but it appears to have changed. Mayor Smith stated that they had donated part of it but put the remainder up for sale. Madison asked if the Village would be interested in purchasing it as it is the oldest building in the Village (built in 1796) and would add to the community. Mayor Smith stated that he would reach out. Madison shared that the building has been restored to its dated period, it would be a showpiece for this community.
- f. Requested a committee to meet before the 2022 budget is set to look at some projections. Williams remarked that she was thinking they would meet a couple of times in October.

Bryan Corcoran

- a. Spoke on the tragic pond event that took the life of a 4-year-old this past week in Hamilton Township. He commended law enforcement and was encouraged by how quickly the community came together.
- b. Still desire a crosswalk in the Stone Brook community by the pool area.
- c. The Veterans Memorial, the Mayor has worked many hours on this project and should be commended for his efforts.
- d. In regard to the issue of the Sanctuary City, the commitment from this Council is that they will be respectful of everyone's opinions and desire that everyone be respectful of one another as this discussion continues.

Linda Burke

- a. Desires to have some crosswalks within the historical part of the Village.
- b. Discussed the “no truck” sign on Parkview Drive to which Mayor Smith stated that Solicitor Meier would have to be involved in that.
- c. Discussion on the speed limit on the closed portion of Lebanon Road. Haddix commented that after the road is opened back up there will have to be a speed study completed by either the County Engineer or a private engineer. ODOT will have to be the one that changes the speed. Mayor Smith shared that the Village pays for all the repairs to that road, and it is not in the Village limits. There is an agreement with the Township, but it is time to take the road into the Village limits. Williams remarked that there had been a previous motion to reach out to the residents regarding annexation. Mayor Smith stated that since it is a road it will not affect the property owners.

Madison made a motion requesting that Meier draw up paperwork for the annexation of Lebanon Road only, seconded by Burke, all yeas.

Haddix clarified that this is to annex the total road that is in the Lebanon Road Maintenance Agreement to which Mayor Smith and Allen stated it is.

- d. Inquired as to the Village signs and including Purple Heart Community on them. Mayor Smith stated that since we will need to purchase all new signs to include the change from Village to City, and having a new logo, one possibility would be “City of South Lebanon, Purple Heart City”.

Linda Allen

- a. Questioned when direct deposit would be available to the Village employees and Council to which Williams stated it would hopefully be sooner than later.
- b. Discussed the Lebanon Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner and the inclusion of Rich Bertagna.
- c. Thanked Brenda Combs for what she did for Travis Appel.

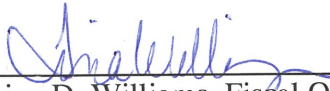
Maryan Harrison

- a. Shared that Rolin Spicer had volunteered to make thirteen crosses for the fallen military troops from this past week. We are obtaining two American flags that flew over the capital that weekend for free from Congressman Chabot’s office. We need to let them know what size we would like, 3X5, 4X6, or 5X8 so that they can fill out the certificate before sending.

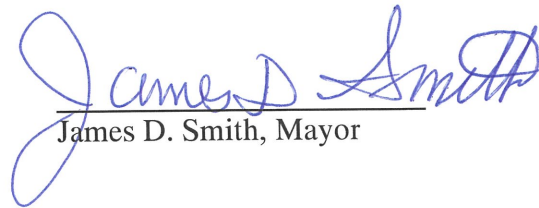
Rolin Spicer

- a. Would like to know what size the crosses should be to which Mayor Smith stated 24" tall.
- b. Stated that Rogers Park is becoming a hub for the community. The fence along the road needs to be replaced to which Madison also shared that the sidewalks are in need too. Mayor Smith stated that we could possibly use grant money on these updates. Spicer asked about paving the two parking areas along the park to which Mayor Smith stated that there are overflow parking areas for the ballfields, but landscaping could also be added in the area.

16. Mayor Smith asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m. A motion was made by Madison, seconded by Allen, all yeas.



Petrina D. Williams, Fiscal Officer



James D. Smith, Mayor

For an audio copy of the Sept. 2, 2021 minutes of the Village of South Lebanon Council regular meeting, please contact Fiscal Officer at twilliams@southlebanonohio.org.