

**CITY OF SOUTH LEBANON  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
September 7, 2023  
6:00 P.M.**

1. Mayor Smith opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge.
2. ATTENDANCE

Linda Allen – Present  
Linda Burke – Present  
Brenda Combs – Present

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

3. GUESTS

Richard Bertagna, *Lebanon Area Chamber of Commerce* – shared a couple of observations and recommendations with the Council. He began by stating that there are many Veterans Memorials in the area, and it would be nice if we had an Officer of the Year Award, for our police officers, to show our appreciation for everything that they do. If we decide to do this it would be nice to have a plaque that is in the Municipality Building, not the Police Post, so others could view it. His second observation was regarding the City of Lebanon and all the street, curb, and sidewalk updates they have been doing. He asked if South Lebanon has included new roads in its Master Plan.

Mayor Smith stated that there are some projects happening this year and there will be some additional next year. The Council is currently in the process of securing additional revenues and grants. Further adding that we have already started curb repair in Grants Frederick and Stone Brook; there will be repairs throughout the city. He also mentioned Mason-Morrow-Millgrove Road and shared that Forest Avenue will be a complete reconstruction.

Haddix added that there will be a storm/sewer project from High Street to Main Street on Broadway Street. Next year, beginning in April, the Pike Street bridge will be replaced, Forest Avenue from High Street to Section Street should be done early next year, Morrow Road from Mary Ellen to Mary Lane will be later next year, and the next section of Mason Morrow Millgrove Road will also be replaced. He added that those are mostly through OPWC however he will check with the City of Lebanon's City Manager to see the breakdown on where their money is coming from for their work.

Allen shared that the City of Lebanon has passed an ordinance for a street tax.

Susanne Mason, *Solid Waste Director for Warren County* – gave a presentation asking the Council to pass a resolution accepting the Solid Waste District Plan as this is required by the EPA. Every 5 years the Ohio EPA requires all solid waste districts to submit a plan update. They have developed the plan and are now going through the ratification process asking all cities and townships to submit a resolution accepting the plan. The plan is answering 2 questions: is there a place for the trash to go from Warren County and

is the county making any efforts to recycle and reduce waste. The answers to both questions are yes. There is a place for the trash as there is a landfill in Cincinnati and Dayton. As for recycling, there is curbside recycling throughout the county.

She went on to talk about some of the programs that would benefit South Lebanon. The Litter Program takes inmates from the County Jail or people sentenced to community service and they cleanup the roadways. If we ever have an event that needs extra help, such as setting up tents or cleaning up, they would be happy to partner with us. They also have an education program where they go into the schools and educate on recycling, protecting the water source, and composting. They have an electronic recycling and paper shred event twice a year where Warren County residents can bring computer equipment, tv's, and batteries; the next electronic recycling event will be October 14, 2023. On their campus in Lebanon there is also a latex paint recycling center and a Styrofoam recycling center. The paint is taken to Matthew 25 Ministries, and they filter the paint and reuse it. She also shared that they have a mini grant program that is offered to government agencies or nonprofits up to \$1,000.00.

Burke asked about medical waste such as needles. Mason stated that there are drop off centers at police stations throughout the county for prescription or over the counter drugs. She added that according to the EPA needles can be placed in rigid containers in the trash.

*Rich Surace, Energy Alliances, Inc.* – gave a presentation and update regarding the electric aggregation and pricing. They received pricing back about 2 weeks ago and he met with Haddix and Mayor Smith to look over the numbers and some main criteria. The first thing was that it had to be competitive with Duke Energy. They also looked at 12-month and 24-month terms, it needs to be free and easy for people to opt-out or opt-in, no termination fees, and suppliers who can offer renewable energy certificates. They received 3 responses, however 2 were disregarded as they did not meet the criteria. The recommendation based on the feedback would be for a company called Energy Harbor and our suggestion is for the 24-month term. The default rate on 9/1/23 was 6.78 as of this morning it was 6.73. If the city decides to move forward and execute tomorrow, we will have them refresh the price in the morning. Those who wish to pay a premium for the opt-in renewable energy the rate was 7.21 on 9/1/23, as of this morning that rate is 7.16. The Duke rate as of 9/1/23 was 9.94.

Discussion ensued with the Council regarding current rates, existing agreements, and opting in and out.

Haddix mentioned how the rate only has to do with part of your electrical bill to which Surace stated that the electric bills are made up of 2 main parts: distribution cost and supply cost. The distribution costs do not change and must be paid, they go towards things like infrastructure such as power lines, meters, and taking care of billing. The supply/generation costs are the ones that we are shopping for.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the gas aggregation with Surace stating that he had not received pricing back on it.

4. Mayor Smith opened the floor to the public.

No public comments.

Mayor Smith closed the floor to the public.

#### NEW BUSINESS

5. RESOLUTION 2023-38, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO AN ELECTRIC AGGREGATION AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SOUTH LEBANON WITH ENERGY HARBOR LLC PROVIDED THAT THE ACCEPTED AGGREGATION RATE IS AT OR BELOW \$0.0699/KWH AT THE TIME OF EXECUTION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

A motion to waive the three-reading rule was made by Madison, seconded by Combs, all yeas. By title only, Resolution 2023-38, a motion to adopt was made by Madison, seconded by Combs, all yeas.

6. RESOLUTION 2023-39, FIRST READING, A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND DIRECTOR OF FINANCE TO EXECUTE A RIGHT-OF-WAY DEDICATION PLAT FOR THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF MORROW AND SHAWHAN ROADS

7. AUTHORIZATION OF INVOICES

A motion to authorize the invoices for payment (\$61,663.10) was made by Burke, seconded by Combs, all yeas.

8. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES  
Regular Meeting – August 17, 2023

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

#### OLD BUSINESS

9. RESOLUTION 2023-37, SECOND READING, A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2024 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN OF THE WARREN COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

By title only, Resolution 2023-37, a motion to adopt was made by Madison, seconded by Combs, all yeas.

## 10. COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS

### Mayor Smith

- a. Mentioned that Susanne Mason had assisted in our receiving additional funding for the Hobart Street project.
- b. A slideshow presentation was given with photos taken at the sunflower garden. Poster style pictures of the sunflower garden and the Cartridge Factory were also shown. Lisa & Dan Wilson along with Nate Smith were thanked for their work with this project. Haddix stated that next year the city should have a photo competition with different categories at the sunflower garden.
- c. There were 9 sections of new curb put in this morning.

### Director of Finance Tina Williams

- a. Nothing to report.

### Administrator Jerry Haddix

- a. Crack sealing around town will begin later next week.
- b. Leaf pickup should begin in mid-October and run through December.
- c. The job advertisement for Assistant Administrator will be running until September 29, 2023.
- d. The Water Department is doing hydrant flushing through September. If you receive any questions about dirty or discolored water just have them flush it out.
- e. The Soil & Water Conservationist of the Year award was presented to us on August 23, 2023. Mayor Smith stated that we received great recognition for this project, we even received a Proclamation from the State of Ohio. Mayor Smith added that we have many proclamations and awards that are in the process of being framed.
- f. The Ford F-750 dump truck with a plow has been delivered.
- g. Regarding the earlier request for a handicap sign on Mary Lane, we have now received a request for one on McKinley Street. He will meet with Meier in the next week or so to discuss it.
- h. The Municipal Building phones and internet were down all day on Monday, August 28, 2023 due to a squirrel breaking a line. We will be looking into a backup system.

Assistant Administrator Jeff Boylan

- a. The white Ford F-750 dump truck with a 10' snowplow, aluminum wheels, gas engine, and stainless bed has arrived. The under-coating still needs to be completed as well as training for the guys.

Law Director Andrew Meier

- a. Nothing to report.

Sgt. Corey Adams

- a. Absent.

Bill Madison

- a. Thanked all the city employees for their hard work; the guys have worked hard during a hot summer.
- b. Stated that it is great that we finally have gotten the salt truck; it can plow through snow, but it also has the capacity to carry a large quantity of salt. This will help the guys with having to go back and forth multiple times to load up salt and being lenient in disbursing it. This should make their jobs more efficient, and we will see more salt on the roads.

Brenda Combs

- a. Thanked Lisa Wilson and Nate Smith for the sunflower field further stating that it is just amazing; there are people there all the time.
- b. Thanked the city workers.

Linda Burke

- a. Nothing to report.

Linda Allen

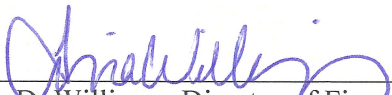
- a. Thanked everyone.
- b. Shared that we keep doing so many things here in South Lebanon and these designation spots are contributing to people wanting to come here and see what we have going on.

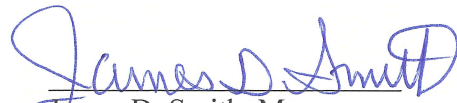
Maryan Harrison

- a. Commented that we do not realize how much joy these flowers bring to people's lives.
- b. Thanked the workers, employees, and first responders.

Rolin Spicer

- a. At the last Parks and Recreation meeting they had tossed around a few ideas, he recently drove by Oeders Park and noticed that they were expanding the parking lot. Mayor Smith stated that they have added 6 more spaces.
11. Mayor Smith asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. A motion was made by Madison, seconded by Allen, all yeas.

  
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Petrina D. Williams, Director of Finance/Clerk

  
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James D. Smith, Mayor