

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2023

A special meeting of the Council of the City of Lebanon, Pa., was held in Council Chamber of the Municipal Building, Lebanon, Pa., this evening, Chairperson Morales presiding.

The meeting was called to order at 4:45 p.m.

Present--Mrs. Haitos, Mr. Martin, Mr. Miller, Mr. Wertz, and Mr. Morales, Chairperson.  
Absent--none.

Also present were Mayor Sherry L. Capello; Deputy Fire Chief Jeff Campbell; Fire Chief A.J. Sweitzer; Director of Public Works Chad Yeagley; and two members of the news media.

Mr. Morales introduced Bill No. 14, the title of which is as follows: "AN ORDINANCE MAKING APPROPRIATIONS OF THE CITY OF LEBANON, PA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2024, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024".

Mayor Capello reported that this is the ninth consecutive year that the budget was presented with no tax increase. She reported that the City of Lebanon Hermitage City in Mercer County are the only two cities in Pennsylvania that have not raised real estate taxes in the last nine years. The City of Lebanon's real estate tax rate is lower than Hermitage City and additionally the earned income tax rate for Hermitage City is higher than the City of Lebanon's EIT rate. She further reported that salaries and benefits account for 80.28 percent of the 2024 budget which is the lowest percentage during her tenure as Mayor. She reported that overall, revenues increased by \$685,870 or 5.31 percent; and expenditures increased by \$832,051 or 5.32 percent. In addition, the fund balance in the amount of was \$2,886,551 was utilized to balance the budget.

Mayor Capello gave a comparison of the 2024 budget to the 2023 budget, as follows:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Revenues:	\$13,595,085	\$12,567,232
Expenditures:		
Department of Administration	\$ 4,326,602	\$ 3,899,732
Bureau of Police	5,525,491	5,447,925
Department of Public Safety	3,948,221	3,589,986
Department of Public Works	2,681,332	2,554,836
Interfund Transfer	<u>0</u>	<u>157,106</u>
	\$16,481,636	\$15,649,585

Overall, the total revenues propose to increase by 5.31 percent and the total expenditures propose to increase by 5.32 percent for the 2024 budget

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Bill No. 14 was introduced and will be considered on final reading at the monthly Council meeting of November 27, 2023, on motion of Mr. Morales, seconded by Mr. Miller. Yeas--Mrs. Haitos, Mr. Martin, Mr. Miller, Mr. Wertz, and Mr. Morales, Chairperson--5; nays--none.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

CHERYL J. GIBSON, Clerk