



LEBANON BOROUGH COMMON COUNCIL  
Wednesday, March 20, 2024  
7:30 pm

The Regular Meeting of the Lebanon Borough Common Council was called to order by Mayor Pittinger at 7:30 pm. The meeting was held in person and virtually.

The meeting was convened in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act of 1975; notice was sent to three local newspapers and posted on the bulletin board at Borough Hall.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Pittinger.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE:**

Please join me in a moment of silence for all  
US service members who have given their lives for  
our country.

On behalf of a grateful nation, they are truly heroes.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Mayor Pittinger, Council President Burton, Councilman Berger, Councilwoman Porcello, Councilman Kirchofer and Councilman Crawford  
Absent: Councilwoman Baldinger  
Also, Present: Administrator/Clerk Karen M Romano RMC, Borough Attorney Joseph Novak Esq.

**RESOLUTION #57-2024:**

**Council President Burton made a motion to approve Resolution 57-2024 the Consent Agenda. With a second by Councilman Crawford.**

**BOROUGH OF LEBANON  
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
RESOLUTION #57-2024**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are routine by the Governing Body of Lebanon Borough and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired that item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

1. Animal Control
2. Fire Department Report
3. Crossing Guard Resignation
4. NJDOT letter regarding removal of Medians on 22
5. Fire Grant Award \$75,000
6. HC Growth management letter

Introduced and adopted: March 20, 2024.

Ayes: Burton, Berger, Crawford, Kirchofer, Porcello

Nays:

Abstain:

Absent: Baldinger

LEBANON BOROUGH COUNCIL

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Richard J. Burton, Council President

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

### CERTIFICATION

I, Karen M. Romano, Lebanon Borough Administrator/ Clerk hereby certify that this resolution was duly adopted by the Borough of Lebanon Council at a meeting duly held on the March 20, 2024, force and effect as of the date I have subscribed my signature.

Date: March 20, 2024

\_\_\_\_\_  
Karen M. Romano, RMC  
Borough Administrator/Clerk

**The Motion was passed by the following vote:**

YES: Council President Burton, Councilman Berger, Councilwoman Porcello,  
Councilman Kirchofer and Councilman Crawford

NO:

Abstain:

Absent: Councilwoman Baldinger

**STREET OPENING: 21 Cherry Street revision**

**Council President Burton made a motion to approve the 21 Cherry Street opening. With a second by Councilman Berger.**

**The Motion was passed by the following vote:**

YES: Council President Burton, Councilman Berger, Councilwoman Porcello,  
Councilman Kirchofer and Councilman Crawford

NO:

Abstain:

Absent: Councilwoman Baldinger

**OPEN PUBLIC SESSION:**

**Councilwoman Porcello made a motion to open the public session. Councilman Berger seconded the motion with the unanimous approval of Council the floor was opened.**

### **Trooper John Caemmerer Report**

#### Speed Data on Cherry Street

Analyzed data from January to March

Approximately 31,000 vehicles were recorded. The average speed is 24 MPH.

- 75% of vehicles are traveling between 21-30 MPH (23,000 Vehicles)
- 13% of vehicles are traveling between 31-35 MPH (4284 Vehicles)
- .016% of vehicles are traveling between 35-40 MPH (526 Vehicles)
- .002% of vehicles are traveling 41MPH and above (70 Vehicles)
  - Considering the times, they appear to be emergency vehicles responding to calls
- .09% of vehicles are traveling 20MPH and below – almost the same amount as those traveling 31-35 MPH (3,000 Vehicles)

The times in which the majority of the speeding occurred was between 6am and 8am and then again from 3pm-5pm. I encourage residents to ensure they are obeying the speed limits, in particular during normal rush hour times.

There is some work to be done and the information regarding the times in which most of the speeding is occurring has been given to the Troopers.

I will be reporting on the Speed Data analysis on a quarterly basis to coincide with weather changes.

**There being no further public comment Council President Burton made a motion to close the public session. Councilman Berger seconded the motion with the unanimous approval of Council the floor was closed.**

**RESOLUTION #58-2024:**

**Council President Burton made a motion to approve Resolution 58-2024. With a second by Councilman Crawford.**

**BOROUGH OF LEBANON  
HUNTERDON COUNTY**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**RESOLUTION No.58--2024**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF LEBANON COUNTY OF HUNTERDON OPPOSING ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 4/SENATE BILL NO. 50, WHICH PROPOSES TO OVERHALL THE FAIR HOUSING ACT (“FHA”) IN A WAY THAT IMPOSES UNREALISTIC OBLIGATIONS WITH UNREALISTIC DEADLINES BASED UPON ONEROUS STANDARDS.**

**Mount Laurel II**

**WHEREAS**, in 1983, the Supreme Court decided a landmark case, commonly referred to as Mount Laurel II; and

**WHEREAS**, Mount Laurel II and its progeny generated substantial litigation culminating in the enactment of the New Jersey Fair Housing Act in 1985 (“FHA”); and

**The Fair Housing Act of 1985**

**WHEREAS**, the Legislature enacted the FHA to restore home rule, to bring the fair share numbers back to reality and to reduce the burdens of Mount Laurel compliance; and

**WHEREAS**, more specifically, the FHA sought *to restore home rule* by imposing a moratorium on the builder’s remedy and by providing an administrative process that municipalities could voluntarily pursue wherein they would be insulated from developers seeking builder’s remedies to try to compel them to capitulate their zoning demands; and

**WHEREAS**, the FHA sought *to bring the fair share numbers back to reality* by among other things defining the prospective need as the need “based on development and growth which is reasonably likely to occur” and by calling for the fair share to be adjusted to a number lower than the fair share formula generated if the municipality lacked sufficient land to satisfy the obligation generated by the fair share formula; and

**WHEREAS**, the FHA sought *to reduce the burdens on municipalities* by prohibiting any requirement for municipalities to expend their own resources to comply; and

### **The New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing**

**WHEREAS**, the FHA created COAH and conferred “primary jurisdiction” on COAH to administer the FHA and to implement the affordable housing policies of our State; and

**WHEREAS**, all acknowledge -- even Fair Share Housing Center (“FSHC”) -- that COAH functioned just fine in Rounds 1 and 2; and

**WHEREAS**, COAH did not adopt valid regulations for Round 3 despite multiple efforts to do so and made no efforts to cure the bottleneck the third time COAH voted 3-3 on Round 3 regulations; and

### **Mount Laurel IV**

**WHEREAS**, in 2015, the Supreme Court issued a decision, commonly referred to as Mount Laurel IV, in response to a motion to transfer the responsibilities of COAH back to the courts in light of COAH's failure to adopt valid regulations; and

**WHEREAS**, in Mount Laurel IV, the Supreme Court returned the task of implementing the doctrine back to the Courts because COAH had failed to do its job and made no effort to cure the roadblock when it voted 3-3 on the third iteration of Round 3 regulations; and

**WHEREAS**, notwithstanding the foregoing, the Court emphasized that it preferred the administrative remedy created by the FHA to a judicial one and hoped that COAH would be effective so that towns could comply once again through the administrative process created by the FHA; and

**WHEREAS**, the Court process proved to be far more expensive than the COAH process and was ill-suited for resolving comprehensive planning disputes over affordable housing matters; and

**WHEREAS**, the Round 3 process was a disaster with judges pressing municipalities to comply before even establishing the obligations with which they must comply; and

**WHEREAS**, ultimately, on March 8, 2018, after a 41-day trial in Mercer County, Judge Jacobson issued an opinion in which she set forth a fair share methodology; and

**WHEREAS**, in that trial and in various other instances throughout the state, FSHC took the position that the Statewide obligation should exceed 300,000 to be addressed between 2015 and 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, municipalities, through Dr. Robert Powell, presented evidence that, in a best case scenario, the State could only absorb less than 40,000 affordable units and thus argued that FSHC's calculations was not grounded in reality whatsoever; and

**WHEREAS**, the Court, having been constrained by the Supreme Court to prescriptively utilize a formula from 1993, ultimately concluded that the Statewide obligation to be constructed between 2015-2025 was roughly 153,000 units; and

### **The 354 Settlements with FSHC**

**WHEREAS**, FSHC reports that it entered 354 settlements in Round 3; and

**WHEREAS**, many municipalities are reeling under the burden of satisfying their obligations under those settlements entered between 2015 and 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, many of those Round 3 settlements will result in development during the Round 4 period; and

**WHEREAS**, Round 4 is set to begin on July 1, 2025 and there is no comprehensive analysis on the impacts of the 354 Round 3 settlements and over-zoning described above; and

**WHEREAS**, indeed, the A4/S50 Bill fails to consider the impact from affordable housing projects that were approved during the Third Round, but are still not yet under construction, as said projects, as well as additional future projects, will impact legitimate public concerns like infrastructure, the environment, schools, traffic, parking and open space; and

**WHEREAS**, the Round 3 process destroyed the balance achieved by the Fair Housing Act in 1985; and

**A-4/S-50**

**WHEREAS**, on December 19, 2023, against the above backdrop, the Housing Committee of the Assembly (a) unveiled the Legislation (A-4) – a detailed 69-page bill that the Chairwoman of the Housing Committee announced had been worked on for a long time; and (b) scheduled the bill for a vote at a hearing scheduled less than 24 hours later; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 19, 2023, the Administrative Office of the Courts wrote to the Legislature and made clear that it could not structure the bill in the manner set forth in the proposed legislation; and

**WHEREAS**, notwithstanding the foregoing, on December 20, 2023, the Housing Committee voted the bill out of the Committee and announced that the bill needed to be ready for signing by the Governor before the end of the lame duck session on January 8, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, the perception that the Legislature designed was to adopt the bill before the public had an opportunity to review it and provide meaningful comment was as real as it was unmistakable; and

**WHEREAS**, consequently, the Legislature did not ram the bill through in the lame duck session; and

**WHEREAS**, instead, on January 29, 2024, the Housing Committee of the Assembly met to consider a new version of A-4 and voted to release it out of the Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 8, 2024, as a result of comments, letters and resolutions challenging this new version of A-4, the Appropriations Committee of the Assembly announced a number of changes to the Bill; and

**WHEREAS**, one witness likened the summary presented to the public at the February 8, 2024 Appropriations meeting to that of an auctioneer; and

**WHEREAS**, the Appropriations Committee voted the bill out of the Committee at its February 8, 2024 meeting before the public had an opportunity to even see the changes, much less process their significance and comment on them; and

**WHEREAS**, the bill has been improved marginally as it has evolved from its initial version in December of 2023 to the current version voted out of the Appropriations Committee of the Assembly on February 8, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, despite elimination of just some of the gross excesses of the prior version of the bill, the current bill released after the February 8, 2024 Appropriations Committee meeting is still severely flawed; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bill still creates a judicial entity made up of 3-7 retired Mount Laurel judges called “The Program”, which, unlike COAH, is not comprised of an equal number of municipal and housing representatives, and is not made up of an equal number of Republicans and Democrats, thereby depriving the citizens of our State of the carefully crafted COAH Board that included a diversity of interests and that was the centerpiece of the FHA adopted in 1985; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bill still does not require the promulgation of affordable housing obligations, or the adoption of substantive regulations, in a way that utilizes an open and transparent process that COAH used and that gave all interested parties an opportunity to comment and receive COAH’s response to their comments; and

**WHEREAS**, as detailed below, the bill creates a patently unreasonable responsibility on municipalities by imposing an obligation on them to create a realistic opportunity for satisfaction of a fair share that is itself unrealistic; and

**WHEREAS**, the current version still details the methodology to be used for determining the fair share numbers of municipalities in Round 4 and in subsequent rounds; and

**WHEREAS**, the current version still presumes that 40 percent of all new households will qualify as low or moderate; and

**WHEREAS**, the current version still calls for the determination of the prospective need by subtracting the number of households reported in the 2010 Decennial Census from the number of households reported in the 2020 Decennial Census and multiplying that figure by 40 percent; and

**WHEREAS**, we calculate the statewide need number to be 84,690 based upon the formula set forth in the bill; and

**WHEREAS**, the current version of the Bill calls for 84,690 to be adjusted by the number of conversions and demolitions; and

**WHEREAS**, the statewide fair share would be increased from 84,690 to 96,780, if we assume the same number of demolitions and conversions used by Judge Jacobson in her formula for Round 3 that will apply in Round 4; and

**WHEREAS**, we can estimate the obligation of each municipality if we assume that the same percentage of the regional need in Round 3 for each municipality applies in Round 4; and

**WHEREAS**, we have widely distributed our estimates and invited input after acknowledging that we have done the best we can to formulate estimates in very limited time; and

**WHEREAS**, other than an analysis of the allocation factors by an expert for the American Planning Association (Creigh Rahenkamp) who identified problems with the allocation factors, nobody has accepted our invitation to review and comment on our rough estimates; and

**WHEREAS**, to the contrary, the Executive Director of Fair Share Housing Center testified that he did not have a calculation of the fair share numbers; and

**WHEREAS**, more importantly, no committee of the Assembly or Senate has identified the fair share obligations municipalities should expect based upon the formula set forth in the bill; and

**WHEREAS**, the 96,780 fair share number estimated for Round 4 compares to the roughly 211,000 COs issued between 2010 and 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the 96,780 fair share number divided by 211,000 COs equals roughly 46 percent (45.867 percent to be more precise); and

**WHEREAS**, all municipalities should be able to cure any violations of the prohibition against exclusionary zoning with inclusionary zoning; and

**WHEREAS**, traditional inclusionary zoning ordinances generally require no more than 20 percent of the units to be affordable; and

**WHEREAS**, it is mathematically impossible to satisfy a 46 percent problem with a 20 percent solution and, therefore, the number generated by the statutory formula is patently excessive; and

**WHEREAS**, while this mathematical error conceptually may have existed at COAH, COAH utilized its discretion to reduce the statewide number to roughly 5,000 units per year in Rounds 1-2 (or lower for prospective need in its attempted regulations in 2014); and

**WHEREAS**, in addition, COAH's Round 2 regulations had flexible standards, Regional Contribution Agreements (RCAs), an achievable bonus structure, waivers and other flexible standards to further mitigate the problem; and

**WHEREAS**, had COAH not mitigated the problem, it is likely that the regulations would have been challenged by municipalities; and

**WHEREAS**, as detailed below, the Bill still fails to account for the enormous burdens on municipalities to comply with their Round 3 obligations before imposing very substantial additional burdens on those 354 municipalities for Round 4; and

**WHEREAS**, a representative of FSHC testified that it has entered into 354 settlements and that it would furnish those settlements to the Housing Committee, which it has failed to do; and

**WHEREAS**, we have pressed FSHC to advise how much development will take place in Round 4 as a result of municipalities implementing the 354 settlements reached in Round 3; and

**WHEREAS**, Adam Gordon on behalf of FSHC has indicated he doesn't know the answer to this question and no committee of the Assembly or Senate has even hinted at what the answer might be; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bill requires municipalities to create a realistic opportunity for satisfaction of a fair share without taking into account how many affordable units can realistically be achieved through traditional inclusionary zoning (where generally one out of every five units must be affordable); and

**WHEREAS**, we also sought to ascertain how many affordable units could be realistically achieved through traditional inclusionary zoning by urging the Legislature to do a market study since the strength of the housing market will determine the number of market units that can reasonably be anticipated that are essential to generating one affordable unit for every four market units constructed; and

**WHEREAS**, the Legislature has not furnished a market study in response to our repeated emphasis on the need for one to ascertain how many affordable units could be realistically achieved through traditional inclusionary zoning; and

**WHEREAS**, as explained below, the bill dilutes the protections to which a municipality is currently entitled as it seeks to comply voluntarily and even after it secures approval of its affordable housing plan; and

**WHEREAS**, current laws preserve a municipality's immunity in the absence of proof that the municipality is "determined to be constitutionally noncompliant", the proposed bill does not give municipalities seeking to comply voluntarily the same measure of protection the Supreme Court deemed appropriate; and

**WHEREAS** A4/S50 subjects municipalities to litigation not only as they seek approval of their Housing Element and Fair Share Plans, but also even after they secure approval of those plans; and

**WHEREAS**, more specifically, A4/S50 provides municipalities a "compliance certification" if the municipality secures approval of its affordable housing plan; however, that certification does not prevent an interested party from "alleging that, despite the issuance of compliance certification, a municipality's fair share obligation, fair share plan, housing element, or ordinances implementing the fair share plan or housing element are in violation of the Mount Laurel doctrine"; and

**WHEREAS, the Bill suffers from a myriad of additional flaws; and**

**WHEREAS,** under current laws, a municipality would have a right to rely on the fair share number that COAH provides; however, under the new bill a municipality would only have a presumption of validity that the number the DCA provides to the municipality is appropriate and FSHC, a deep pocketed developer or any other interested party could seek to overcome that presumption through litigation; and

**WHEREAS,** the A4/S50 Bill replaces a straightforward system by which a municipality could secure bonus credits up to a 25 percent cap with a highly complicated system for securing bonuses with many conditions attached to various forms of bonus.; and

**WHEREAS,** the Legislature previously capped the fair share of any municipality down to 1,000 in recognition that any obligation above 1,000 would be “onerous”; A4/S50 applies the 1,000-unit cap only to a component of the municipality’s fair share -- the prospective need – and authorizes the imposition of an obligation that is onerous; and

**WHEREAS,** the A4/S50 Bill creates unfair requirements and ambiguity when it comes to the Vacant Land Adjustment process, which could lead to municipalities that lack sufficient vacant land being required to produce more affordable housing units than is practical; and

**WHEREAS,** the A4/S50 Bill includes many other provisions and changes to the FHA that are impractical and devoid of any consideration of the burdens created by the statute; and

**WHEREAS,** as a result of the facts set forth above, a bill that boasts of its effectiveness in reducing costs and litigation will clearly have the exact opposite effect; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to all the concerns expressed above, a bill that so radically changes the affordable housing laws of our state still needs considerable work; and

**WHEREAS**, indeed, as the following facts demonstrate, the Legislature has yet to do the most fundamental due diligence before enacting a statute with such broad ramifications;

1. The Legislature has not and cannot inform the public of the fair share obligations the bill, if enacted, would impose on the public;
2. The Legislature has not and cannot inform the public of the obligations that municipalities will satisfy in Round 4 from the 354 settlements achieved in Round 3 before heaping substantial additional burdens on them for Round 4;
3. The Legislature has not and cannot inform the public of the number of affordable units that can realistically be achieved through traditional inclusionary zoning while imposing obligations on municipalities to create a realistic opportunity for a fair share that far exceeds any number a municipality can realistically achieve through inclusionary zoning; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of the pronounced lack of due diligence, the bill will likely force taxes to increase dramatically and will foster serious overdevelopment creating unreasonable burdens on our schools, public services, roads, sewer and water infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, the Legislature clearly can and should upgrade the affordable housing policies of our State; however, the current Version of A4 is not the answer and the most fundamental diligence can and should be exercised before adopting such a bill.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that for all of the above reasons, the Common Council of the Borough of Lebanon objects to and opposes Assembly Bill No. 4/Senate Bill No. 50, and requests that the bill be tabled, re-written and re-introduced in way that imposes achievable obligations and facilitates the ability of the municipality to satisfy its obligations.

A certified copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Legislators in the State Assembly and Senate representing our District immediately.

Introduced and adopted: March 20, 2024

LEBANON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Ayes: Burton, Berger, Crawford, Kirchofer, Porcello

Nays:

Absent: Baldinger

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Richard Burton,  
Borough Council President

ATTEST:

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Karen M. Romano, RMC  
Borough Clerk

### CERTIFICATION

I, Karen M. Romano, Lebanon Borough Clerk hereby certify that this resolution was duly adopted by the Borough of Lebanon Common Council at a meeting duly held on the 20th day of March, 2024; that this resolution has not been amended or repealed; and that it remains in full force and effect as of the date I have subscribed my signature.

Date: March 20, 2024

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Karen M. Romano, RMC  
Borough Clerk

**The Motion was passed by the following vote:**

YES: Council President Burton, Councilman Berger, Councilman Crawford,  
Councilwoman Porcello, Councilman Kirchofer and Councilman Crawford

NO:

Abstain:

Absent: Councilwoman Baldinger

**RESOLUTION #59-2024:**

**Council President Burton made a motion to approve Resolution 59-2024 With a second by Councilman Crawford.**

**BOROUGH OF LEBANON  
HUNTERDON COUNTY  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**RESOLUTION #59-2024**

**AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT  
FOR THE RETENTION OF CONFLICT LEGAL COUNSEL FOR A PROPERTY TAX  
APPEAL LITIGATION MATTER**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Lebanon has determined a need to retain Conflict Legal Counsel to provide services to the Borough on the matter NY Life Ins. Co. v. Clinton Township and Lebanon Borough, and wishes to do so on a non-fair and open contract basis pursuant to the provision of *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5*; and

**WHEREAS**, the term of this professional services contract shall be for only this matter at a rate of \$190/per hour, for an amount not to exceed \$1500.00.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Lebanon as follows:

1. The Borough Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to execute a professional services Contract with Brian Chewcaskie, Esq. on the condition that he has completed a Business Entity Disclosure Certification.

2. This resolution authorizes a Contract to be awarded without competitive bidding with such  
Contract to be prepared and finally approved by the Borough Attorney.
  
3. A notice of this action shall be published in the legal newspaper of the Borough

Introduced and adopted : March 20, 2024

LEBANON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Ayes: Burton, Berger, Crawford, Kirchofer, Porcello

Nays:

Absent: Baldinger

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Richard Burton,  
Borough Council President

ATTEST:

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Karen M. Romano, RMC  
Borough Clerk

### **CERTIFICATION**

I, Karen M. Romano, Lebanon Borough Clerk hereby certify that this resolution was duly adopted by the Borough of Lebanon Common Council at a meeting duly held on the 20th day of March, 2024; that this resolution has not been amended or repealed; and that it remains in full force and effect as of the date I have subscribed my signature.

Date: March 20, 2024

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Karen M. Romano, RMC  
Borough Clerk

**The Motion was passed by the following vote:**

YES: Council President Burton, Councilman Berger, Councilwoman Porcello and Councilman Kirchofer and Councilman Crawford

NO:

Abstain:

Absent: Councilwoman Baldinger

**RESOLUTION #60-2024:**

**Council President Burton made a motion to approve Resolution 60-2024 With a second by Councilman Crawford.**

**BOROUGH OF LEBANON  
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**RESOLUTION #60-2024**

**CROSSING GUARDS APPOINTMENT**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Lebanon Borough Common Council that the following are appointed as Adult School Crossing Guards and Substitute Crossing Guards:

**Jake Carruthers**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Lebanon Borough Council that the salary range for the Adult School Crossing Guards and Substitute Crossing Guards having been established and set forth in Ordinance #2019-04, the following salary is hereby granted to the employee for the year 2024-2025:

Adult School Crossing Guards and Substitute Crossing Guards

and Substitute Crossing Guards ..... \$ 23.00/hr. (NTX 5 hours per week)

Introduced and adopted: March 20, 2024

Ayes: Burton, Berger, Crawford, Kirchofer, Porcello

Nays: 0

Absent: Baldinger

LEBANON BOROUGH COUNCIL

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Richard J. Burton, Council President

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Karen M. Romano, Lebanon Borough Administrator/ Clerk hereby certify that this resolution was duly adopted by the Borough of Lebanon Council at a meeting duly held on the March 20, 2024 force and effect as of the date I have subscribed my signature.

Date: March 20, 2024

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Karen M. Romano, RMC  
Borough Administrator/Clerk

**The Motion was passed by the following vote:**

YES: Council President Burton, Councilman Berger, Councilwoman Porcello and Councilman Kirchofer and Councilman Crawford

NO:

Abstain:

Absent: Councilwoman Baldinger

**RESOLUTION #61-2024:**

**Council President Burton made a motion to approve Resolution 61-2024 With a second by Councilman Berger.**

**BOROUGH OF LEBANON  
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**RESOLUTION #61-2024**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Council of the Borough of Lebanon, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that the CFO is hereby authorized to make the following payment for redemption of tax sale certificate and return premium.

Block	Lot	Cert #	Name/Address	Amount
8	9.03	2022-003	BALA Partners, LLC 1 American Lane, Suite 220 Greenwich, CT 06831	\$ 1,950.07
				Premium \$1,800.00

Introduced and adopt

LEBANON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Ayes: Burton, Berger, Crawford, Kirchofer, Porcello

Nays:

Absent: Baldinger

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Burton, Borough Council President

ATTEST:

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Karen Romano  
Borough Clerk

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Resolution adopted by the Borough Council at a meeting held on March 20, 2024.

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Karen Romano  
Borough Clerk

**The Motion was passed by the following vote:**

YES: Council President Burton, Councilman Berger, Councilwoman Porcello and Councilman Kirchofer and Councilman Crawford

NO:

Abstain:

Absent: Councilwoman Baldinger

**RESOLUTION #62-2024:**

**Council President Burton made a motion to approve Resolution 62-2024 With a second by Councilman Berger.**

**BOROUGH OF LEBANON  
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**RESOLUTION #62-2024**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Council of the Borough of Lebanon, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that the CFO is hereby authorized to make the following payment for redemption of tax sale certificate and return premium.

Block	Lot	Cert #	Name/Address	Amount
13.02	1015	2023-002	Pro Cap 8 FBO Firstrust Bank PO Box 5021 Philadelphia, PA 19111-5021	\$ 1,116.96

Premium \$ 800.00

Introduced and adopted:

LEBANON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Ayes: Burton, Berger, Crawford, Kirchofer, Porcello

Nays:

Absent: Baldinger

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Burton, Borough Council President

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Karen Romano  
Borough Clerk

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Resolution adopted by the Borough Council at a meeting held on March 20, 2024.

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Karen Romano  
Borough Clerk

**The Motion was passed by the following vote:**

YES: Council President Burton, Councilman Berger, Councilwoman Porcello and Councilman Kirchofer and Councilman Crawford

NO:

Abstain:

**RESOLUTION #63-2024:**

**Council President Burton made a motion to approve Resolution 63-2024 With a second by Councilman Berger.**

**BOROUGH OF LEBANON  
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**RESOLUTION NO. 63-2024**

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING MUNICIPAL COURT**

**PUBLIC DEFENDER**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Lebanon has resolved to establish its Municipal Court as a shared Court with the Joint Municipal Court of Bethlehem and Bloomsbury; and

**WHEREAS**, the terms of an Interlocal Agreement have been mutually agreed upon by the Municipalities and received the approval of the Vicinage 13 Assignment Judge, Kevin Shanahan, A.J.S.C.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Municipal Court requires the services of a Municipal Court Judge, Prosecutor and Public Defender for the calendar year 2024;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Governing Body of the Borough of Lebanon, Hunterdon County, New Jersey that the following persons are hereby appointed to their respective positions for the Lebanon Borough Municipal Court as a shared Court of the Joint Municipal Court of Bethlehem and Bloomsbury for calendar years 202:

Public Defender – Mary Anodide  
of Wilhelm & Roseersma, PC

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Court personnel shall be compensated for their respective positions in accordance with the Interlocal Agreement between the Borough of Lebanon and the Joint Municipal Court of Bethlehem and Bloomsbury.

LEBANON BOROUGH COUNCIL

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Karen M. Romano, RMC  
Administrator/Clerk

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Richard J. Burton, Council President

Introduced and adopted:

Ayes: Burton, Berger, Crawford, Kirchofer, Porcello

Nays:

Absent: Baldinger

### CERTIFICATION

I, Karen M. Romano, Lebanon Borough Municipal Clerk hereby certify that this resolution was duly adopted by the Council of the Borough of Lebanon at a meeting duly held on the 20th day of March 2024; that this resolution has not been amended or repealed; and that it remains in full force and effect as of the date I have subscribed my signature.

Date: March 20, 2024

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Karen Romano, RMC  
Administrator/Clerk

**The Motion was passed by the following vote:**

YES: Council President Burton, Councilman Berger, Councilwoman Porcello and Councilman Kirchofer and Councilman Crawford

NO:

Abstain:

**RESOLUTION #64-2024:**

**Council President Burton made a motion to approve Resolution 64-2024 With a second by Councilman Crawford.**

**BOROUGH OF LEBANON  
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**RESOLUTION #64-2024**

**INTRODUCTION OF 2024 BUDGET**

**2024 Available in the Clerk's Office**

Introduced and adopted: March 20, 2024

LEBANON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Ayes: Burton, Berger, Crawford, Kirchofer, Porcello

Nays: 0

Absent: Baldinger

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Richard J. Burton  
Borough Council President

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Karen M. Romano, Lebanon Borough Clerk hereby certify that this resolution was duly adopted by the Borough of Lebanon Common Council at a meeting duly held on the 20th of March 2024; that this resolution has not been amended or repealed; and that it remains in full force and effect as of the date I have subscribed my signature.

Date: March 20, 2024

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Karen M. Romano, RMC  
Borough Administrator/ Clerk

**The Motion was passed by the following vote:**

YES: Council President Burton, Councilman Berger, Councilwoman Porcello and Councilman Kirchofer and Councilman Crawford

NO:

Abstain:

Absent: Councilwoman Baldinger

**RESOLUTION #65-2024:**

**Council President Burton made a motion to approve Resolution 65-2024 With a second by Councilman Crawford.**

**BOROUGH OF LEBANON  
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
RESOLUTION # 65-2024**

**North Hunterdon Regional High School District Tax Levy**

**WHEREAS**, regulations of the State of New Jersey provide for the deferral of school taxes in an amount not to exceed fifty percent of the annual school tax levy when such taxes are raised on a fiscal year basis (school year July 1 through June 30); and

**WHEREAS**, said taxes subject to deferral have not been requisitioned by or paid to the school district; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire and intent of the governing body of the Borough of Lebanon, County of Hunterdon, to avail the Borough of the deferral as permitted by regulations promulgated by the Local Finance Board, Division of Local Government Services, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs; and

**WHEREAS**, fifty percent of the school tax levy of the North Hunterdon Regional High School District is \$846,133.50.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Lebanon, County of Hunterdon, hereby authorize the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough to defer \$476,740.15 of school taxes as permitted by the aforementioned regulation; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough and the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs.

Introduced and adopted: March 20, 2024

LEBANON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Ayes: Burton, Berger, Crawford, Kirchofer, Porcello

Nays: 0

Absent: Baldinger

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard J. Burton  
Borough Council President

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Karen M. Romano, Lebanon Borough Administrator/ Clerk hereby certify that this resolution was duly adopted by the Borough of Lebanon Council at a meeting duly held on the March 20, 2024 force and effect as of the date I have subscribed my signature.

Date: March 20, 2024

\_\_\_\_\_  
Karen M. Romano, RMC  
Borough Administrator/Clerk

**The Motion was passed by the following vote:**

YES: Council President Burton, Councilman Berger, Councilwoman Porcello and Councilman Kirchofer and Councilman Crawford

NO:

Abstain:

Absent: Councilwoman Baldinger

**RESOLUTION #66-2024:**

**Council President Burton made a motion to approve Resolution 66-2024 With a second by Councilman Berger.**

**BOROUGH OF LEBANON  
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
RESOLUTION # 66-2024**

**Lebanon School District Tax Levy**

**WHEREAS**, regulations of the State of New Jersey provide for the deferral of school taxes in an amount not to exceed fifty percent of the annual school tax levy when such taxes are raised on a fiscal year basis (school year July 1 through June 30); and

**WHEREAS**, said taxes subject to deferral have not been requisitioned by or paid to the school district; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire and intent of the governing body of the Borough of Lebanon, County of Hunterdon, to avail the Borough of the deferral as permitted by regulations promulgated by the Local Finance Board, Division of Local Government Services, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs; and

**WHEREAS**, fifty percent of the school tax levy of the Lebanon School District is \$1,466,615.50.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Lebanon, County of Hunterdon, hereby authorize the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough to defer \$1,466,615.50 of school taxes as permitted by the aforementioned regulation; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough and the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs.

Introduced and adopted: March 20, 2024

LEBANON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Ayes: Burton, Berger, Crawford, Kirchofer, Porcello

Nays: 0

Absent: Baldinger

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Richard J. Burton  
Borough Council President

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Karen M. Romano, Lebanon Borough Administrator/ Clerk hereby certify that this resolution was duly adopted by the Borough of Lebanon Council at a meeting duly held on the March 20, 2024 force and effect as of the date I have subscribed my signature.

Date: March 20, 2024

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Karen M. Romano, RMC  
Borough Administrator/Clerk

**The Motion was passed by the following vote:**

YES: Council President Burton, Councilman Berger, Councilwoman Porcello and Councilman Kirchofer and Councilman Crawford

NO:

Abstain:

Absent: Councilwoman Baldinger

**RESOLUTION #67-2024:**

**Council President Burton made a motion to approve Resolution 67-2024 With a second by Councilman Berger.**

**BOROUGH OF LEBANON  
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
RESOLUTION # 67-2024**

**2024 Grants Revenue**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Lebanon desires to anticipate as an item of general revenue with prior written consent of the Director of Local Government Services and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Governing Body of the Borough of Lebanon that the prior written consent of the Director of Local Government Services be requested to include as an item of general revenue in the 2024 Budget under the following caption and amount:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Local Recreational Improvement Grant	\$100,000.00
ARP Firefighter Grant	\$75,000.00

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that TWO certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Office of the Director of Local Government Services

\* \* \* \* \*

Introduced and adopted: March 20, 2024

LEBANON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Ayes: Burton, Berger, Crawford, Kirchofer, Porcello

Nays: 0

Absent: Baldinger

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Richard J. Burton  
Borough Council President

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

### CERTIFICATION

I, Karen M. Romano, Lebanon Borough Administrator/ Clerk hereby certify that this resolution was duly adopted by the Borough of Lebanon Council at a meeting duly held on the March 20, 2024 force and effect as of the date I have subscribed my signature.

Date: March 20, 2024

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Karen M. Romano, RMC  
Borough Administrator/Clerk

### **The Motion was passed by the following vote:**

YES: Council President Burton, Councilman Berger, Councilwoman Porcello and Councilman Kirchofer and Councilman Crawford

NO:

Abstain:

Absent: Councilwoman Baldinger

### **RESOLUTION #68-2024:**

**Councilman Berger made a motion to approve Resolution 68-2024 With a second by Councilman Crawford.**

**BOROUGH OF LEBANON  
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
RESOLUTION # 68-2024**

## GRANT RECEIVABLES AND GRANT RESERVES

**WHEREAS**, a special item of revenue was approved provided N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 and grant receivables and grant reserves; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to formally cancel the receivable balance and their offsetting appropriation balance from the balance sheet and special items of revenue which were approved provided N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Lebanon, County of Hunterdon, that the following grant receivable and appropriation balance be cancelled:

<u>Grant</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Amount</u>
DOT Main Street Section 2	N.J.S.A.40A 4-87	\$53,583.00
DOT Main Street Section 1	N.J.S.A.40A 4-87	\$125,000.00
Recycling Tonnage Grant	Receivable & Appropriation	\$2,701.26

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough and the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs.

Introduced and adopted: March 20, 2024

LEBANON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Ayes: Burton, Berger, Crawford, Kirchofer, Porcello

Nays: 0

Absent: Baldinger

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Richard J. Burton  
Borough Council President

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Karen M. Romano, Lebanon Borough Administrator/ Clerk hereby certify that this resolution was duly adopted by the Borough of Lebanon Council at a meeting duly held on the March 20, 2024 force and effect as of the date I have subscribed my signature.

Date: March 20, 2024

\_\_\_\_\_  
Karen M. Romano, RMC  
Borough Administrator/Clerk

**The Motion was passed by the following vote:**

YES: Council President Burton, Councilman Berger, Councilwoman Porcello and Councilman Kirchofer and Councilman Crawford

NO:

Abstain:

Absent: Councilwoman Baldinger

**RESOLUTION #69-2024:**

**Council President Burton made a motion to approve Resolution 69-2024 With a second by Councilman Crawford.**

**BOROUGH OF LEBANON  
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
RESOLUTION # 69-2024**

**ABATE INTEREST**

**WHEREAS**, the Boro of Lebanon went through a financial audit to prepare the annual debt statement and annual financial statement; and

**WHEREAS**, during that audit several tax payments had been returned from the bank for various reasons that the tax collector was unaware of; and

**WHEREAS**, the checks have now been voided creating substantial interest and delinquent charges for property owners; and

**WHEREAS**, the homeowners should not be penalized with interest when they were not made aware of these checks being returned, therefore the following amounts of interest shall be abated as follow:

Block 13 Lot 507	\$601.98
Block 6 Lot 12	\$297.86
Block 10 Lot 2 C5123	\$106.22
Block 10 Lot 2 C7062	\$51.65; and

**WHEREAS**, interest is still currently accruing on these accounts because they are now delinquent; and

**WHEREAS**, upon successful approval of this resolution the tax collector will send out a letter to each homeowner alerting them to this issue with the corrected balance that will be due; and

**WHEREAS**, the letter will give the homeowner 30 days to pay the account current; and

**WHEREAS**, if the property owner pays within the 30 days of receipt of said letter the Boro will waive the current interest as well, if not the current interest will continue to accrue.

**NOWHEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Boro of Lebanon, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that the above amounts of interest be waived.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that current interest is being waived if the property owner pays the account balance within 30 days of being notified of the delinquent balances.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the tax collector now has access to the bank statements so this issue will be corrected moving forward.

Introduced and adopted: March 20, 2024

LEBANON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Ayes: Burton, Berger, Crawford, Kirchofer, Porcello

Nays: 0

Absent: Baldinger

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Richard J. Burton  
Borough Council President

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

### CERTIFICATION

I, Karen M. Romano, Lebanon Borough Administrator/ Clerk hereby certify that this resolution was duly adopted by the Borough of Lebanon Council at a meeting duly held on the March 20, 2024 force and effect as of the date I have subscribed my signature.

Date: March 20, 2024

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Karen M. Romano, RMC  
Borough Administrator/Clerk

### **The Motion was passed by the following vote:**

YES: Council President Burton, Councilman Berger, Councilwoman Porcello and Councilman Kirchofer and Councilman Crawford

NO:

Abstain:

Absent: Councilwoman Baldinger

### **RESOLUTION #70-2024:**

**Council President Burton made a motion to approve Resolution 70-2024 With a second by Councilman Berger.**

**BOROUGH OF LEBANON  
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
RESOLUTION NO. 70-2024**

**FAST FIRE AND SECURITY TECH**

**Emergent Repair to Sprinkler System**

**WHEREAS** the Borough finds the need to repair the sprinkler in the basement of the Municipal Building at 6 High Street; and

**WHEREAS**, Fast Fire and Security Technologies 217 Halls Mill Road Lebanon, NJ 08833 being the contractor to be awarded the contract: and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Lebanon Borough Council that a contract for the provision of repair the Sprinkler be entered into with Fast Fire and Security Technologies not to exceed \$3855.00.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor, Council President and Administrator/Clerk are authorized to execute such Contract on behalf of the Borough of Lebanon.

Introduced and adopted: March 20, 2024:

LEBANON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Ayes: Burton, Berger, Crawford, Kirchofer, Porcello

Nays: 0

Absent: Baldinger

Richard J. Burton, Council President

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Karen M. Romano, Lebanon Borough Administrator/ Clerk hereby certify that this resolution was duly adopted by the Borough of Lebanon Council at a meeting duly held on the March 20, 2024 force and effect as of the date I have subscribed my signature.

Date: March 20, 2024

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Karen M. Romano, RMC  
Borough Administrator/Clerk

**The Motion was passed by the following vote:**

YES: Council President Burton, Councilman Berger, Councilwoman Porcello and Councilman Kirchofer and Councilman Crawford

NO:

Abstain:

Absent: Councilwoman Baldinger

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Councilman Kirchofer made a motion to approve the February 21, 2024 regular minutes seconded by Council President Burton.**

**The Motion was passed by the following vote:**

YES: Council President Burton, Councilman Berger, Councilwoman Porcello and Councilman Kirchofer and Councilman Crawford

NO:

Abstain:

Absent: Councilwoman Baldinger

**APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES: Councilman Berger made a motion to approve the Bill list for March 2024. Council President Burton seconded the motion.**

Meeting Date: 3/20/2024 For bills from 2/29/2023 to 3/20/2024

256 - STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TREASURY	PO 13245 MARCH PENSION & HEALTH	3,276.00	<b>3,276.00</b>
929 - KYLE MCMANUS ASSOCIATES LLC	PO 13246 General Planning Board: 121 Main Street	36.75	<b>36.75</b>
953 - MUNICIPAL INFORMATION SYSTEM	PO 13247 Software/Service License - Microsoft	416.00	<b>416.00</b>

54 - NJ ADVANCE MEDIA	PO 13248 Advertising: Budget Meeting 3/11/2024	17.80	
	PO 13299 Advertising: Buget Meeting 3/11/2024	17.80	
	PO 13300 Advertising: Ordinance 2024-01 (To exce	28.70	
	PO 13301 Advertising: Recreation Meeting, Thursda	17.80	82.10
765 - TeleCloud LLC	PO 13252 Monthly Phone Service: 3/1/2024 - 3/31/2	441.95	441.95
952 - Experienced IT Solutions	PO 13253 Network Support: March 2024	399.00	399.00
907 - Dorsey & Semrau, LLC	PO 13254 Special Tax Counsel: Tax Appeals Februar	720.00	720.00
718 - VIKING PEST CONTROL	PO 13255 Monthly Pest Control: 6 High Street & 96	146.86	146.86
401 - JOINT COURT BETHLEHEM/BLOOMSBURY	PO 13256 Shared Service Court 1st Qtr. 2024	5,424.06	5,424.06
16 - JCP&L	PO 13258 Electricity Master Account	684.47	
	PO 13287 Electricity	900.00	1,584.47
39 - ELIZABETHTOWN GAS	PO 13259 6 High Street: Natural Gas (1/19/2024 -	723.71	723.71
652 - CONSTELLATION NEWENERGY INC	PO 13260 Electricity: 1/13/2024 - 2/12/2024	406.62	406.62
39 - ELIZABETHTOWN GAS	PO 13261 96 Main Street: Natural Gas 1/19/2024 -	123.06	123.06
910 - Office Concepts, Inc.	PO 13262 Copier Maintenance: 2/15/2024 - 3/14/202	127.05	127.05
597 - JERSEY ELEVATOR COMPANY INC.	PO 13263 Monthly Maintenance February 2024	162.41	
	PO 13304 Monthly Maintenance March 2024	162.41	324.82
81 - JERRY HAAG	PO 13264 Reimbursement: Lawn Mower supplies (see	159.86	159.86
59 - LEBANON BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION	PO 13265 Local School Tax March 2024	293,323.10	293,323.10
70 - NO HUNTERDON-VOORHEES REG HS DIST	PO 13266 Regional School Tax March 2024	279,777.00	279,777.00
830 - Republic Services	PO 13267 Residential Service 2/1/2024-2/29/2024 /	7,947.17	7,947.17
291 - STORM WATER COMPLIANCE SOLUTIONS LL	PO 13268 Municipal Compliance Services	900.00	900.00
20 - QUILL CORPORATION	PO 13269 Office Supplies / Building & Grounds	140.92	
	PO 13293 Office Supplies / Building & Grounds	112.13	253.05
119 - LEBANON FIRE COMPANY	PO 13270 2024 Annual Contribution March 2024	10,000.00	10,000.00
31 - NOVAK & NOVAK LLC	PO 13271 Legal Services March 2024	4,865.00	4,865.00
167 - KAREN ROMANO	PO 13272 Cell Phone reimbursement March 2024	100.00	
	PO 13273 Reimbursement: Brass Keys	14.94	
	PO 13288 Reimbursement: Recreation gift cards for	80.00	
	PO 13296 Reimbursement: Recreation/Building & Gro	19.04	
	PO 13309 Reimbursement: Deposit Hard Rock Hotel (	112.48	326.46
176 - SHOPRITE OF HUNTERDON COUNTY	PO 13274 Building & Grounds	13.68	13.68
899 - Boswell Engineering, Inc.	PO 13275 Engineering Retainer February 2024	208.33	208.33
132 - COUNTY OF HUNTERDON	PO 13282 Food Inspections 4th Qtr. 2023	2,000.00	2,000.00
955 - BALA Partners, LLC	PO 13283 Redemption of tax sale certificate/premi	3,750.07	3,750.07
954 - Pro Cap 8 FBO Firsttrust Bank	PO 13284 Redemption of tax sale certificate/premi	1,916.96	1,916.96
2 - MGL FORMS-SYSTEMS, LLC	PO 13285 Checks: Operating Green	246.00	246.00
559 - LANZA & LANZA LLP	PO 13286 Litigation Clinton Water	55.50	55.50
369 - STICKEL KOENIG & SULLIVAN & DRILL L	PO 13291 Land Use Board	40.00	40.00
912 - De Lage Landen Financial Services, INC	PO 13292 Copier Lease: 3/1/2024 - 3/31/2024	140.00	140.00
176 - SHOPRITE OF HUNTERDON COUNTY	PO 13294 Recreation: Easter /Finance: Budget Meet	261.21	261.21
766 - BRC CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS	PO 13297 Performance of Statutory audit for the y	11,800.00	11,800.00
2 - MGL FORMS-SYSTEMS, LLC	PO 13298 Minute Books/11" Filler Sheets 250/pk	408.00	408.00
247 - COMCAST	PO 13302 96 Main Street: Phone/Internet 3/1/2024	246.44	
	PO 13303 6 High Street: Phone/Internet 3/1/2024-3	458.10	704.54
808 - Thermal Service of New Jersey Inc.	PO 13305 Monthly Billing of PM Service Contract:	349.00	349.00
27 - WASTE MANAGEMENT OF NJ INC	PO 13306 Municipal Waste: 2/1/2024 -2/29/2024	4,820.56	4,820.56
540 - STATEWIDE INSURANCE FUND	PO 13307 2nd Installment of 2024	10,270.75	10,270.75
814 - Municipal Clerks Association of NJ	PO 13308 2024 MCANJ Membership (ID#9302) / 2024 E	525.00	525.00



Ron Gulok of Brunswick Ave stated the Grills in the park need to be removed. They are in disrepair. He also requested a crosswalk at Brunswick and Cherry Street. Council President Burton stated the Engineer would look into the best placement.

**There being no further public comment Council President Burton made a motion to close the public session. Councilman Berger seconded the motion with the unanimous approval of Council the floor was closed.**

### **COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

**Shade Tree:** Joe Hauck asked if anyone had suggestions where to plant trees. The council left the decision to Joe.

**Recreation:** Councilwoman Porcello said the Egg Hunt went well. Had a great turn out. The Recreation Committee is discussing having Country Line Dancing in the Park, Corn Hole, and Volleyball. Councilwoman Porcello asked if there was a Centennial Committee being put together. Karen said she would share the list of suggested individuals.

### **MISCELLANEOUS:**

## **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT TO THE GOVERNING BODY**

### **March 20, 2024**

#### **INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

- Met with Council President Burton regarding 2024 goals.
- Met with two playground companies to obtain possible playground, garage, and pavilion layouts.
- Met with the Engineer regarding what will be needed for the park renovation.
- Met with two contractors to renovate the Baseball field.
- Met with one contractor to repair the ceiling at 96 Main Street.
- Met with two contractors regarding the sprinkler repair at 6 High Street

## **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

- Met with Trooper Caemmerer regarding reading the Speed sign.
- Meeting with the Public safety Committee to discuss the Speed sign program.
- Scheduled to meet with the Fire Department, Public Safety Coordinator, Public Safety Committee and Mayor Bi-monthly.
- Scheduled to meet with Chief of South Branch Rescue on March 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Received a \$75,000 Grant. Will apply the Grant to the Fire Truck.

## **RIGHT TO KNOW**

- Submitted all Right to Know reports.

## **FDS**

- Prepared FDS roster

## **REGISTRAR**

- Attended a class on OPRA.
- Attended new Daniel's Law regulations.

## **ELECTIONS**

- Attended NJ Election Security and Preparedness TTX 2 Day conference.
- Presented NJ Election Security and Preparedness TTX to Hunterdon County Clerks

## **FOOD LICENSING**

- Updated all Food Applications

## **RECYCLING TONNAGE 2023 REPORTING**

- Collecting Data for all receiving companies.

## **STREET OPENINGS**

- Processed six Street Opening permits for Elizabethtown Gas

## **ZONING**

- Working with the Zoning officer to refine the Zoning application process to coincide with the Land Use Ordinance.
- Issued a Generator Installation for Hunterdon Hills Plaza.

### **SENIOR CLUB:**

- Meeting February 28th
- **Summary of Meeting:** The seniors had a speaker that spoke about home safety from checking extension cords to shutting off your water to your washing machine. She also spoke about how to make some simple repairs around the house and everyone was given a book Ann Thornton's Insider's Guide to Home Improvements.

### **RECREATION –**

- Date of Meeting: March 7, 2024
- Music in the Park will be Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. The band will be Reel to Real (Country Band). Time of the event still needs to be determined.  
In event of rain Music in the Park will be held at Sunken Silo.
- The Easter Egg Hunt will be in the park on Saturday March 16<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Greg Pardo will be the Easter Bunny.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL/SHADE TREE**

- Meeting March 7, 2024
- The committee approved \$700.00 to purchase trees to be planted throughout the Borough.
- Joe Hauck and the committee will be working on updating the tree inventory.
- Joe Hauck would like to prune smaller trees in the next two months.

### **HISTORICAL COMMITTEE**

- No meeting in February

### **WELCOME BAGS**

- **Date of Meeting:** No Meeting
- **New Residents:** 703 Clark Road, Welcome Bag Delivered

### **ADJOURN:**

Councilman President Burton moved, and Councilman Crawford seconded a motion to adjourn, there being no further business to come before Council. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm by unanimous vote.

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Karen M. Romano, RMC  
Borough Administrator/Clerk

