



LEBANON BOROUGH COMMON COUNCIL
Wednesday, June 17, 2026
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 and First Responders 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 Baldinger, Councilman Burton, Councilman, Berger, Councilwoman Porcello, Councilman Valliere and Councilwoman Durange

Absent:

Also, Present: Administrator/Clerk Karen M Romano RMC,
Borough Attorney Joesph Novak Esq.

Mayor Pittinger appointed Lisa Orr Saharic to the Recreation Committee.

RESOLUTION #77-2026:

Council President Baldinger made a motion to approve Resolution 77-2026 the Consent Agenda. With a second by Councilman Berger.

**BOROUGH OF LEBANON
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION #83-2026

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 matters. If discussion is desired that item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

1. Animal Control
2. Fire Dept Report

Introduction and adoption: June 17, 2026

Ayes: Durange, Baldinger, Burton, Berger, Porcello, Valliere

Nays:

Absent:

LEBANON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Marlene G. Baldinger,
Borough Council President

ATTEST:

Karen Romano, RMC

Borough Administrator/ Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Karen M. Romano, Borough Clerk hereby certify that this resolution was duly adopted by the Borough of Lebanon Council at a meeting duly held on the 17th day of June 2026; that this Resolution has not been amended or repealed; and that it remains in full force and effect as of the date I have subscribed my signature.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: June 17, 2026

Karen M. Romano, RMC
Borough Administrator/ Clerk

The Motion was passed by the following vote:

YES: Councilwoman Durange, Council President Baldinger, Councilman Berger, Councilman Burton, Councilwoman Porcello, and Councilman Valliere

NO:

Abstain:

Absent:

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION #1:

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

Corey Smith offered to help with the Borough website and offer his photograph skill. Administrator Karen Romano asked if he would be interested in covering the July 4th Parade. Corey said that would be great.

Good evening. I'm **Jenn Fink**, Vice Chair of the Lebanon Borough Recreation Committee. I'm proud to serve alongside a dedicated group of volunteers focused on creating events and programs that strengthen our community, celebrate our town's history, and provide opportunities for residents of all ages to come together.

I want to address the cancellation of the Somerset Patriots Centennial event by the Recreation Committee and provide some context regarding how that decision was made.

The Patriots game was proposed as a community event to celebrate Lebanon Borough's Centennial and provide residents with an opportunity to come together and participate in a memorable part of our town's history. The Recreation Committee devoted significant time and effort to developing the event and ensuring it would be accessible and beneficial to residents.

Throughout the planning process, a number of questions and concerns were raised regarding the event's cost, funding, and overall appropriateness. As volunteers, Recreation Committee members rely heavily on the guidance and expertise of Borough officials and professionals when evaluating the viability of an event. When concerns are raised by those individuals, we take them seriously and work to address them.

The committee did exactly that.

On April 29, additional information was provided outlining the event details, explaining the funding approach, and clarifying that only a limited number of discounted tickets would be

available to residents. These updates were made in direct response to feedback that had been received. The committee listened, adapted, and attempted to address the concerns that had been identified.

Despite those efforts, uncertainty remained regarding the level of support for the event and whether it could move forward successfully. As a result, the Recreation Committee ultimately concluded that canceling the event was the most responsible course of action.

That is why the current discussion regarding funding has been somewhat surprising.

Today, there appears to be greater interest in supporting the event than was perceived during the planning process. Had that level of support and clarity existed earlier, the outcome may have been different. While it is impossible to know for certain, it is reasonable to believe that the Patriots game might still be part of the Recreation Committee Centennial calendar.

The issue is not whether funding can be identified today. Rather, it is that volunteers made decisions based on the information, feedback, and circumstances that existed at the time those decisions needed to be made.

Our goal has always been to create meaningful events for the residents of Lebanon Borough. We remain committed to that goal and will continue moving forward with Bingo, Music in the Park, and the Centennial Gala while evaluating other Centennial-focused opportunities that may still be possible.

I hope this serves as a reminder that when volunteers step forward to serve their community, clear communication, collaboration, and support are essential. When uncertainty exists, opportunities can sometimes be lost. Unfortunately, the Somerset Patriots event became one of those opportunities.

Before this discussion ends, I would ask everyone to remember one thing: every Centennial event, every recreation program, and every community celebration happens because residents volunteer their time, energy, and talents to make them happen.

Volunteers do not do this for recognition, compensation, or personal gain. They do it because they care deeply about this town and want to create opportunities for their neighbors to come together and celebrate what makes Lebanon special.

If we want a vibrant town with meaningful events and engaged residents, we must continue fostering an environment where volunteers feel encouraged, respected, and supported—even when there are differing viewpoints. The cancellation of the Patriots game is not just about one event. It is also a reminder of how important communication, collaboration, and mutual support are to the success of any community effort.

I hope moving forward we can work together even more effectively, because Lebanon's greatest asset has never been its buildings, its budget, or its government. It has always been the residents who are willing to raise their hand and serve.

Thank you for your time.

Councilman Burton made a motion to close the public session. Councilman Berger seconded the motion with the unanimous approval of Council the floor was closed.

The Motion was passed by the following vote:

YES: Councilwoman Durange, Council President Baldinger, Councilman Berger, Councilman Burton, Councilwoman Porcello, and Councilman Valliere

NO:

Abstain:

Absent:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Burton made a motion to approve the May 2026, Regular and Executive minutes s seconded by Councilman Valliere.

The Motion was passed by the following vote:

YES: Council President Baldinger, Councilman Berger, Councilman Burton, Councilwoman Porcello, and Councilman Valliere

NO:

Abstain: Councilwoman Durange

Absent:

ORDINANCE 2026-05

Re-INTRODUCTION

Councilman Valliere made a motion to approve Resolution 84-2026. With a second by Councilman Burton.

BOROUGH OF LEBANON

COUNTY OF HUNTERDON

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE #2026-05

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS TO ROADS AND MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES, IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF LEBANON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$300,000 THEREFOR

**AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$285,000 BONDS OR
NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF**

**BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE
BOROUGH OF LEBANON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY** (not
less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) **AS FOLLOWS:**

SECTION 1. The improvements or purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are hereby authorized to be undertaken by the Borough of Lebanon, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey (the "Borough") as general improvements. For the said improvements or purposes stated in Section 3 hereof, there is hereby appropriated the principal amount of \$300,000, said amount being inclusive of a down payment in the amount of \$15,000 now available for said improvements or purposes as required by the Local Bond Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:2-1 et seq., as amended and supplemented, (the "Local Bond Law"), by virtue of a provision in a previously adopted capital budget or budgets of the Borough for down payment or for capital improvement purposes.

SECTION 2. For the financing of said improvements or purposes described in Section 3 hereof and to meet the part of said \$300,000 appropriation not provided for by application hereunder of said down payment, negotiable bonds of the Borough are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of \$285,000 pursuant to, and within the limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law. In anticipation of the issuance of said bonds and to temporarily finance said improvements or purposes, negotiable notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$285,000 are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to, and within the limitations prescribed by, said Local Bond Law.

SECTION 3. (a) The improvements hereby authorized and the purposes for the financing of which said obligations are to be issued are for various improvements to roads and

municipal properties throughout the Borough. The improvements shall include, as applicable, milling and paving (including through street intersections and curb ramps), repaving, regrading, curb replacements, upgrades to storm water pipes and inlets, traffic signage, storm water back flow prevention, and traffic stripping, and all other related improvements, engineering and design work, surveying, mapping, construction planning, preparation of plans and specifications, permits, bid documents, construction inspection, contract administration, and all work, materials, equipment, accessories, labor and appurtenances necessary therefor or incidental thereto.

(b) The estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued by the Borough for said improvements and purposes is \$285,000.

(c) The estimated cost of said improvements and purposes to the Borough is \$300,000, the excess thereof over the estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued therefor being the amount of \$15,000, which is the amount of the down payment available for said improvements or purposes.

SECTION 4. In the event the United States of America, the State of New Jersey, and/or the County of Hunterdon make a contribution or grant in aid to the Borough for the improvements and purposes authorized in Section 3 hereof, and the same shall be received by the Borough prior to the issuance of the bonds or notes authorized in Section 2 hereof, then the amount of such bonds or notes to be issued shall be reduced by the amount so received from the United States of America, the State of New Jersey, and/or the County of Hunterdon. In the event that any amount so contributed or granted by the United States of America, the State of New Jersey and/or the County of Hunterdon shall be received by the Borough after the issuance of the bonds or notes authorized in Section 2 hereof, then such funds shall be applied to the payment of the bonds or notes so issued and shall be used for no other purpose. This Section 4 shall not apply, however, with respect to any contribution or grant in aid received by the Borough as a result of using funds from this bond ordinance as "matching local funds" to receive such contribution or grant in aid.

SECTION 5. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough, provided that no note shall mature later than one (1) year from its date. The notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough. The Chief Financial Officer of the Borough shall determine all matters in connection with the notes issued pursuant to this bond ordinance and the signature of the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough upon the notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time in accordance with the provisions of the Local Bond Law. The Chief Financial Officer of the Borough is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the notes from time to time at a public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchaser thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price and accrued interest thereon from their dates to the date of delivery thereof. The Chief Financial Officer of the Borough is directed to report in writing to the governing body at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the notes pursuant to this bond ordinance is made. Such report must include the principal amount, the description, the interest rate, the maturity schedule of the notes so sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

SECTION 6. The Borough hereby certifies that it has adopted a capital budget or a temporary capital budget, as applicable. The capital or temporary capital budget of the Borough is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this bond ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. To the extent that the purposes authorized herein are inconsistent with the adopted capital budget or temporary capital budget, a revised capital budget or temporary capital budget has been filed with the Division of Local Government Services.

SECTION 7. The following additional matters are hereby determined:

(a) The improvements or purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are not current expenses and are improvements or purposes which the Borough may lawfully

undertake as general improvements, and no part of the cost thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefited thereby.

(b) The period of usefulness of said improvements or purposes within the limitations of said Local Bond Law, according to the reasonable life thereof computed from the date of the said bonds authorized by this bond ordinance, is ten (10) years.

(c) The supplemental debt statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly made and filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Borough and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the Office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, and such statement shows that the gross debt of the Borough as defined in the Local Bond Law is increased by the authorization of the bonds or notes provided for in this bond ordinance by \$285,000, and the said obligations authorized by this bond ordinance will be within all debt limitations prescribed by said Local Bond Law.

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$30,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under Section 40A:2-20 of the Local Bond Law is included in the estimated cost indicated herein for the purposes or improvements hereinbefore described.

SECTION 8. The full faith and credit of the Borough are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and the interest on the obligations authorized by this bond ordinance. The obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Borough and, unless paid from other sources, the Borough shall be obligated to levy *ad valorem* taxes upon all the taxable property within the Borough for the payment of the obligations and the interest thereon without limitation as to rate or amount.

SECTION 9. The Borough reasonably expects to reimburse any expenditures toward the costs of the improvements or purposes described in Section 3 hereof and paid prior to the issuance of any bonds or notes authorized by this bond ordinance with the proceeds of such

bonds or notes. This Section 9 is intended to be and hereby is a declaration of the Borough's official intent to reimburse any expenditures toward the costs of the improvements or purposes described in Section 3 hereof to be incurred and paid prior to the issuance of bonds or notes authorized herein in accordance with Treasury Regulations §1.150-2.

SECTION 10. The Chief Financial Officer of the Borough is hereby authorized to prepare and to update from time to time as necessary a financial disclosure document to be distributed in connection with the sale of the obligations of the Borough authorized herein and to execute such disclosure document on behalf of the Borough. The Chief Financial Officer of the Borough is further authorized to enter into the appropriate undertaking to provide secondary market disclosure on behalf of the Borough pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Rule") for the benefit of holders and beneficial owners of the obligations of the Borough authorized herein and to amend such undertaking from time to time in connection with any change in law, or interpretation thereof, provided such undertaking is and continues to be, in the opinion of a nationally recognized bond counsel, consistent with the requirements of the Rule. In the event that the Borough fails to comply with its undertaking, the Borough shall not be liable for any monetary damages, and the remedy shall be limited to specific performance of the undertaking.

SECTION 11. The Borough covenants to maintain the exclusion from gross income under Section 103(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, of the interest on all tax-exempt bonds and notes issued under this bond ordinance.

SECTION 12. This bond ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days after the first publication of this bond ordinance after final adoption, and approval by the Mayor, as applicable, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

ADOPTED ON FIRST READING

DATED: June 17, 2026

KAREN M. ROMANO,
Borough Clerk

ADOPTED ON SECOND READING

DATED: July 1, 2026

KAREN M. ROMANO,
Borough Clerk

APPROVAL BY THE MAYOR ON THIS 1 DAY OF July , 2026

JAMES J. PITTINGER, Mayor

BOROUGH OF LEBANON
IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PENDING BOND ORDINANCE AND SUMMARY

The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, was introduced and passed upon first reading at a regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Lebanon, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey (the "Borough") on June 17, 2026. It will be further considered for final passage, after public hearing thereon, at a special meeting of the governing body to be held at Borough Hall, 6 High Street, Lebanon, New Jersey, on July 1, 2026 at 7:30 p.m. During the week prior to and up to and including the date of such meeting, copies of the full bond ordinance will be available at no cost and during regular business hours at the Clerk's office for the members of the general public who shall request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance follows:

Title: BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS TO ROADS AND MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES, IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF LEBANON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$300,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$285,000 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

Purpose(s): The bond ordinance provides for various improvements to roads and municipal properties throughout the Borough. For a complete description of the improvements to be undertaken, please refer to the full text of the bond ordinance.

Appropriation: \$300,000

**Bonds/Notes
Authorized:** \$285,000

Down Payment: \$15,000

Section 20

Costs: \$30,000

Useful Life: 10 years

KAREN M. ROMANO,

Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF LEBANON
IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF FINAL ADOPTION OF BOND ORDINANCE AND SUMMARY

The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, has been finally adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Lebanon, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey (the "Borough") on July 1, 2026 and the twenty (20) day period of limitation within which a suit, action or proceeding questioning the validity of such bond ordinance can be commenced, as provided in the Local Bond Law, has begun to run from the date of the first publication of this statement. Copies of the full bond ordinance are available at no cost and during regular business hours at the Clerk's office for members of the general public who request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance follows:

Title: BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS TO ROADS AND MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES, IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF LEBANON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$300,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$285,000 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

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Appropriation: \$300,000

**Bonds/Notes
Authorized:** \$285,000

Down Payment: \$15,000

**Section 20
Costs:** \$30,000

Useful Life: 10 years

**KAREN M. ROMANO,
Borough Clerk**

**BOROUGH OF LEBANON
IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

CERTIFICATE OF SUPPLEMENTAL DEBT STATEMENT

I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Borough of Lebanon, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey (the "Borough"), DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the attached Supplemental Debt Statement was prepared, executed and sworn to by William Colantano, Chief Financial Officer of the Borough, as of October 22, 2025, and that such Supplemental Debt Statement was filed in my office on or prior to October 22, 2025 and with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs on _____, 2026.

KAREN M. ROMANO,
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF LEBANON
IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DOWN PAYMENT CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Lebanon, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that prior to final adoption of the bond ordinance entitled,

“BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS TO ROADS AND MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES, IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF LEBANON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$300,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$285,000 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF”,

there was \$15,000 available as a down payment for the purposes authorized by said bond ordinance by a provision in a previously adopted budget of the City for down payment or for capital improvement purposes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand on behalf of the Borough as of this ____ day of _____, 2026.

WILLIAM COLANTANO,
Chief Financial Officer

LBCC
6-17-2026

BOROUGH OF LEBANON
IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

CERTIFICATE OF INTRODUCTION OF BOND ORDINANCE

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Borough of Lebanon, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey (the "Borough"), DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is an extract from the Minutes of a regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough duly called and held on June 17, 2026 and that the following was the roll call:

Present: Durange, Baldinger, Berger, Burton, Porcello, Valliere

Absent:

I FURTHER CERTIFY that the foregoing extract has been compared by me with the original minutes as officially recorded in my office in the Minute Book of the Borough Council and is a true, complete and correct copy thereof and of the whole of the original minutes so far as they relate to the subject matters referred to in the extract.

LBCC
6-17-2026

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the corporate seal of the Borough as of this ____17__ day of __June____, 2026.

(SEAL)

KAREN M. ROMANO,
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF LEBANON
IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

CERTIFICATE OF FINAL ADOPTION OF BOND ORDINANCE

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Borough of Lebanon, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey (the "Borough"), DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is an extract from the Minutes of a special meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough duly called and held on July 1, 2026 and that the following was the roll call:

Present: Durange, Baldinger, Berger, Burton, Porcello, Valliere

Absent:

I FURTHER CERTIFY that the foregoing extract has been compared by me with the original minutes as officially recorded in my office in the Minute Book of the Borough Council and is a true, complete and correct copy thereof and of the whole of the original minutes so far as they relate to the subject matters referred to in the extract.

LBCC
6-17-2026

23

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal
of the Borough as of this __1__ day of __July_____, 2026.

(SEAL)

KAREN M. ROMANO,
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF LEBANON
IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

CERTIFICATE AS TO BOND ORDINANCE
ADOPTION PROCESS

I, KAREN M. ROMANO, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that I am the Clerk of the Borough of Lebanon, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey (the "Borough"), a municipal corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New Jersey, and that, as such, I am duly authorized to execute and deliver this certificate on behalf of the Borough. In such capacity, I have the responsibility to maintain the minutes of the meetings of the governing body of the Borough and the records relative to all resolutions and ordinances of the Borough. The representations made herein are based upon the records of the Borough. I DO HEREBY FURTHER CERTIFY THAT:

1. Attached hereto is the bond ordinance introduced on June 17, 2026 and finally adopted on July 1, 2026 by the Borough Council of the Borough and, if applicable, approved by the Mayor on ____ July _____ __1__, 2026.
2. After introduction, the bond ordinance was published as required by law on June 18, 2026 on the Borough's official website.

3. Following the passage of the bond ordinance on first reading, and at least seven (7) days prior to the final adoption thereof, I caused to be posted in the principal municipal building of the Borough at the place where public notices are customarily posted, a copy of said bond ordinance or a summary thereof and a notice that copies of the bond ordinance would be made available to the members of the general public of the Borough who requested copies, up to and including the time of further consideration of the bond ordinance by the Borough Council. Copies of the bond ordinance were made available to all who requested same.

4. After final passage, the bond ordinance was duly approved by the Mayor of the Borough and published as required by law on July 2, 2026 on the Borough's official website. No protest signed by any person against making any improvement or incurring the indebtedness authorized therein, nor any petition requesting that a referendum vote be taken on the action proposed in the bond ordinance has been presented to the governing body or to me or filed in my office within twenty (20) days after said publication or at any other time after the final passage thereof.

5. The bond ordinance has not been amended, added to, altered, or repealed and said bond ordinance is now in full force and effect.

6. A certified copy of the bond ordinance and a copy of the amended capital budget or temporary capital budget form have been filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, as applicable.

7. The official seal of the Borough is the seal, an impression of which is affixed, imprinted or reproduced opposite my signature on this Certificate.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed, imprinted or reproduced the official seal of the Borough as of this __1__ day of __July__, 2026.

(SEAL)

KAREN M. ROMANO,
Borough Clerk

The Motion was passed by the following vote:

YES: Councilwoman Durange, Council President Baldinger, Councilman Berger, Councilman Burton, Councilwoman Porcello, and Councilman Valliere

NO:

Abstain:

Absent:

RESOLUTION #84-2026:

Councilman Valliere made a motion to approve Resolution 84-2026. With a second by Councilman Burton.

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

RESOLUTION #84-2026

SALARIES YEAR 2026

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Lebanon Borough Common Council the following is a schedule of salaries and wages for the various positions in the Borough of Lebanon for the year 2026

Borough Administrator	\$1,955.50 per month
Borough Clerk/PB Sec/BOH Sec/Assess Search Officer, HR, Treasurer	\$110,417.30
Deputy Clerk/Recreation/Environmental Secretary, Asst. Treasurer	\$63,475.25
Senior Club, Shade Tree Committee and Historical Committee Secretary	
CFO	\$25,709.00
QPA	\$3,072.74
Tax Assessor	\$20,114.50
Dog/Cat Licensing Agent	\$1,020.00
Registrar of Vital Statistics	\$1,210.25
Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics	\$1,210.25
Zoning Officer	\$17,754.00
Adult School Crossing Guard Supervisor	\$28.50/hr.
Adult School Crossing Guards	\$25.00/hr.
Special & Part Time Patrol Officers	\$ 38.00 to 175.00/hr.
Summer Park Program Director - Contract	\$3,600.00
Recycling Coordinator	\$ 4,744.00
Summer Park Counselors	\$ 15.20 to 20.00/hr.
Clerical Temporary Staff	\$ 16.00 to 25.00/hr.
General Labor	\$ 16.00 to 35.00/hr
Custodial/Cleaning Service - Contract	Full Service: \$150.00 per job Partial Service: \$75.00 per job
Mileage	Rate as determined by IRS per mile standard

Introduced and adopted: June 17, 2026

Ayes: Durange, Baldinger, Berger, Burton, Porcello, Valliere

Absent:

LEBANON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Abstain:

Marlene G. Baldinger, Council President

CERTIFICATION

I, Karen 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 17th day of June 2026; 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 to my signature.

Dated: June 17, 2026

Karen M. Romano, RMC
Borough Administrator / Clerk

The Motion was passed by the following vote:

YES: Councilwoman Durange, Council President Baldinger, Councilman Berger, Councilman Burton, Councilwoman Porcello, and Councilman Valliere

NO:

Abstain:

Absent:

RESOLUTION #85-2026:

Councilman Burton made a motion to approve Resolution 85-2026. With a second by Councilman Berger.

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

RESOLUTION # 85-2026

SOCIAL PERMIT
JULY 4TH PARADE

WHEREAS, an application for Social Permit has been made by the Lebanon Borough July 4th Parade, 6 High Street, Lebanon NJ.; and

WHEREAS, the submitted form is complete and all fees have been waived;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Lebanon Borough Common Council to approve the above-named application and authorize the Borough Clerk to sign said application and file it with the NJ Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

Introduced and adopted: June 17, 2026

Ayes: Durange, Baldinger, Berger, Burton, Porcello, Valliere

Nays: 0

Absent:

LEBANON BOUROUGH COUNCIL

Marlene G. Baldinger
Borough, Council President

ATTEST:

Karen Romano, RMC
Borough Administrator/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 17th of June

2026; 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: June 17, 2026

Karen M. Romano, RMC
Borough Administrator /Clerk

The Motion was passed by the following vote:

YES: Councilwoman Durange, Council President Baldinger, Councilman Berger, Councilman Burton, Councilwoman Porcello, and Councilman Valliere

NO:

Abstain:

Absent:

RESOLUTION #86-2026:

Councilwoman Durange made a motion to approve Resolution 86-2026. With a second by Councilman Valliere.

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

RESOLUTION #86-2026

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE
CLOSING OF STREETS ON JULY 4TH**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough of Lebanon close the following streets on July 4th, 2026, from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM:

MAIN ST from MYRTLE AVE all the way East to the Borough line.
All of MYRTLE AVE
All of BRUNSWICK AVE
All of MAPLE ST.
All of HIGH ST.
All of SUTTON PL.
CHERRY ST. from MAIN ST. to EDGERTON DR.
COKESBURY RD. from MAIN ST. to ROUTE 22

Introduced and adopted: June 17, 2026

Ayes: Durange, Baldinger, Berger, Burton, Porcello, Valliere

Nays:

Absent:

LEBANON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Marlene G. Baldinger, Borough
Council President

ATTEST:

Karen Romano, RMC
Borough Administrator/ Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Karen M. Romano, Borough Clerk hereby certify that this resolution was duly adopted by the Borough of Lebanon Council at a meeting duly held on the 17th day of June, 2026; 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: June 17, 2026

Karen M. Romano, RMC
Borough Administrator/ Clerk

The Motion was passed by the following vote:

YES: Councilwoman Durange, Council President Baldinger, Councilman Berger, Councilman Burton, Councilwoman Porcello, and Councilman Valliere

NO:

Abstain:

Absent:

RESOLUTION #87-2026:

Councilman Valliere made a motion to approve Resolution 87-2026. With a second by Councilman Berger.

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

RESOLUTION #87-2026

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING PERMISSION FOR THE DEDICATION BY RIDER
FOR ACCUMULATED ABSENCES LIABILITY TRUST FUND REQUIRED BY NJPAC
5: 30-15**

WHEREAS, permission is required of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval as a Dedication by rider of revenues received by a municipality when the revenue is not subject to reasonable accurate estimates in advance: and,

WHEREAS, NJ AC-5: 30-15 provides for receipt of municipal budget appropriations by the municipality to provide for the operating cost to administer this act: and,

WHEREAS, NJ SA-40A: 4-39 provide the dedicated revenues anticipated from the accumulate absences liability trust fund are hereby anticipated as revenue and are hereby appropriated for the purpose to which said revenue is dedicated by statute or other legal requirement:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing body of the Borough of Lebanon, County of Hunterdon, New Jersey as follows:

1. The Governing Body does hereby request permission of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to pay expenditure of the Accumulated Absences Liability Trust Fund.
2. The Clerk, of the Borough of Lebanon, County of Hunterdon is hereby directed to forward two certified copies of this Resolution to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

Introduced and adopted: June 17, 2026

Ayes: Durange, Baldinger, Berger, Burton, Porcello, Valliere

Nays:

Absent:

LEBANON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Marlene G. Baldinger, Borough
Council President

ATTEST:

Karen Romano, RMC
Borough Administrator/ Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Karen M. Romano, Borough Clerk hereby certify that this resolution was duly adopted by the Borough of Lebanon Council at a meeting duly held on the 17th day of June, 2026; 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: June 17, 2026

Karen M. Romano, RMC
Borough Administrator/Clerk

The Motion was passed by the following vote:

YES: Councilwoman Durange, Council President Baldinger, Councilman Berger, Councilman Burton, Councilwoman Porcello, and Councilman Valliere

NO:

Abstain:

Absent:

RESOLUTION #88-2026:

Councilman Burton made a motion to approve Resolution 88-2026. With a second by Councilman Berger.

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

RESOLUTION #88-2026

Millstone Shared Service

WHEREAS, the Borough of Lebanon approved a shared service agreement with the Borough of Millstone on August 19, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Lebanon amended the original agreement and approved a second term through October 31, 2026

WHEREAS, the Borough of Lebanon has decided to increase the compensation for the position along with all other employees; and

WHEREAS, due to the increase the original agreement needs to be amended as follows:

9. FUNDING

Lebanon shall pay Millstone \$37,459.00 of the salary and fringe costs, including pension, of the Tax Collector/Financial Assistant for the calendar year covered under this contract which has been deemed agreeable to both parties.; and

WHEREAS, all other language in the agreement remains in effect.

Introduced and adopted: June 17, 2026

LEBANON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Ayes: Durange, Baldinger, Berger, Burton, Porcello, Valliere

Nays:

Absent:

Marlene Baldinger, 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 June 17, 2026.

Karen Romano
Borough Clerk

The Motion was passed by the following vote:

YES: Councilwoman Durange, Council President Baldinger, Councilman Berger, Councilman Burton, Councilwoman Porcello, and Councilman Valliere

NO:

Abstain:

Absent:

RESOLUTION #89-2026:

Councilman Burton made a motion to approve Resolution 89-2026. With a second by Councilman Berger.

**BOROUGH OF LEBANON
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION # 89-2026**

**AWARDING OF SNOW REMOVAL AND ICE CONTROL SERVICES FOR
THE 2026-2028 WINTER SEASONS**

WHEREAS, the removal of snow and ice control services are required for maintenance of public roads and property during the coming winter seasons; and

WHEREAS, a quotation solicitation package was prepared, and quotes for snow and ice removal services were received; and

WHEREAS, the quotes have been reviewed, and it has been determined and recommended that Balaney Contracting, LLC, PO Box 916, Greenbrook, NJ 08812 is a qualified provider of such necessary services, based upon its equipment, manpower, and previous provision of the services to the Borough of Lebanon at the lowest price, and based upon their quote of June 2, 2026 upon which this recommendation is made.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Lebanon Borough Council that a contract for the provision of snow removal and ice control services for the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 winter seasons be entered into with Balaney Contracting, LLC.

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 June 17, 2026:

Ayes: Durange, Baldinger, Berger, Burton, Porcello, Valliere

Nays: 0

Absent:

Marlene G. Baldinger, 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 June 17, 2026 and is in full force and effect as of the date I have subscribed my signature below.

Date: June 17, 2026

Karen M. Romano, RMC
Borough Administrator/Clerk

The Motion was passed by the following vote:

YES: Councilwoman Durange, Council President Baldinger, Councilman Berger, Councilman Burton, Councilwoman Porcello, and Councilman Valliere

NO:

Abstain:

Absent:

RESOLUTION #90-2026:

Councilman Burton made a motion to approve Resolution 90-2026. With a second by Councilman Berger.

**BOROUGH OF LEBANON
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION NO. 90-2026**

**Awarding an Insurance Contract to EA Boniakowski Insurance
On behalf of
BALANEY CONTRACTING LLC
Snow Plowing Insurance**

WHEREAS the Borough, under New Jersey DCA Directives and Guidelines, must provide insurance to its snow and ice removal contractor; and

WHEREAS, Belaney Contracting, LLC has been chosen to provide snow and ice removal services under a two year Contract with the Borough for 2026-27 and 2027-28 winter seasons; and

WHEREAS, a quotation solicitation package was prepared, and upon receipt and review of submitted quotes, it is recommended that E.A. Boniakowski Agency Inc, 929 N. Washington Ave. ,Green Brook NJ 08812 is a qualified provider of such services and should be awarded the said contractor coverage insurance contract; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Lebanon Borough Council that a insurance policy for the provision of snow plowing and ice removal insuring the Borough's contractor for a two year period be entered into with EA Boniakowski Insurance for an amount not to exceed \$8,437.50;

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 June 17, 2026:

Ayes: Durange, Baldinger, Berger, Burton, Porcello, Valliere

Nays: 0

Absent:

Marlene G. Baldinger, 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 June 17, 2026 force and effect as of the date I have subscribed my signature.

Date :June 17, 2026

Karen M. Romano, RMC
Borough Administrator/Clerk

The Motion was passed by the following vote:

YES: Councilwoman Durange, Council President Baldinger, Councilman Berger, Councilman Burton, Councilwoman Porcello, and Councilman Valliere

NO:

Abstain:

Absent:

RESOLUTION #91-2026:

Councilman Valliere made a motion to approve Resolution 91-2026. With a second by Councilwoman Durange.

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

RESOLUTION # 91 -2026

**PARK BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS (Re-Bid)
HOLJES SHEPPARD MEMORIAL PARK
Change Order for Scuttle Hole**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Lebanon has determined the playground and various site improvements are necessary to Holjes Sheppard Memorial Park, and

WHEREAS, the Borough has entered into a contract with Dutchman Contracting LLC, in the total amount of \$293,351.00, in accordance with the resolution of award; and

WHEREAS, also during the course of construction of the building improvements, it was determined that a second access door on the east end of the pavilion ceiling was necessary and should be completed as part of Dutchman Contracting's scheduled installation of the park buildings; and this supplemental item of work is to be added to the contract for said work, and

WHEREAS, the proposed supplemental work is not part of the original contract bid; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Lebanon that Change Order #1 in the amount of \$755.69, as based on a proposal by Dutchman Contracting, LLC., be approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the contract amount for the **Holjes Sheppard Memorial Park Building Improvements** (Re-Bid) be increased to \$294,106.69; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute Change Order #1 for the above contract and work;

Introduced and adopted: June 16, 2026

LEBANON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Ayes: Durange, Baldinger, Berger, Burton, Porcello, Valliere

Nays:

Absent:

Marlene G. Baldinger,

Borough Council President

ATTEST:

Karen M. Romano
Borough Administrator/Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Karen M. Romano Lebanon Borough Clerk hereby certify that this resolution was duly adopted by the Borough of Lebanon Council at a meeting duly held on June 16, 2026, 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: June 16, 2026

Karen M. Romano
Borough Administrator/Clerk

The Motion was passed by the following vote:

YES: Councilwoman Durange, Council President Baldinger, Councilman Berger, Councilman Burton, Councilwoman Porcello, and Councilman Valliere

NO:

Abstain:

Absent:

RESOLUTION #92-2026:

Councilwoman Baldinger made a motion to approve Resolution 92-2026. With a second by Councilman Berger.

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

**RESOLUTION #92-2026
Seasonal Employees**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Lebanon Borough Common Council that the Borough Administrator/Clerk is authorized to retain two part time seasonal summer Park Camp Counselors, in addition a Full Time Seasonal Park Camp Director.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Lebanon Borough Council that the salary range for the Park Camp Counselor/seasonal employees and Director having been established and set forth in Ordinance #2024-06;

Ryan Wetzel	\$15.92 per hour
Mallory Mondoro	\$15.92 per hour
Grace Harvey	\$15.92 per hour
Avery Borzelli	\$15.92 per hour
Valentina Deloroche	\$15.92 per hour
Daniel Arntz	\$15.92 per hour
Noelle Arntz	\$15.92 per hour

Introduced and adopted: June 17, 2026

Ayes: Durange, Baldinger, Berger, Burton, Porcello, Valliere

Nays: 0

Absent:

Abstain:

LEBANON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Marlene G. Baldinger, 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 17th day of June 2026; 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.

Dated: June 17, 2026

Karen M. Romano, RMC
Borough Administrator/ Clerk

The Motion was passed by the following vote:

YES: Councilwoman Durange, Council President Baldinger, Councilman Berger, Councilman Burton, Councilwoman Porcello, and Councilman Valliere

NO:

Abstain:

Absent:

RESOLUTION #93-2026:

Councilman Valliere made a motion to approve Resolution 93-2026. With a second by Councilwoman Porcello.

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

RESOLUTION #93-2026

Emergency Inlet Repair on Sutton Place

WHEREAS, the Borough of Lebanon as part of its continued roadway maintenance and operation of its storm drainage system that drainage structures are from time to time in need of repair, and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer has advised the Council that a certain inlet on Sutton Place has deteriorated to the point where inlet blocks have failed, resulting in an open hole in the pavement at the inlet, and,

WHEREAS, the Borough has received one quote for an emergency repair to the inlet, and;

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer has recommended repairs be done to the inlet for safety reasons and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer has advised the Borough that KDP Developers Inc. 424 Coventry Drive Phillipsburg NJ 08865, has agreed to perform the inlet repair upon authorization to proceed, and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer has recommended the award of a contract to KDP Developers, Inc. in the amount of \$6,700.00 for the inlet repair, and,

WHEREAS, sufficient funds have been appropriated to undertake the said project.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Lebanon that a contract be awarded to KDP Developers, Inc. in the amount of \$6,700.00 for the emergency inlet repair.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are hereby authorized to execute said contract, after review and approval by Borough Attorney, and upon submittal of a Certificate of Insurance, and all other documents required for the contract.

Introduced and adopted: _____

LEBANON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Ayes: Durange, Baldinger, Berger, Burton, Porcello, Valliere

Nays:

Absent:

Marlene G. Baldinger
Borough Council President

ATTEST:

Karen M. Romano
Borough Administrator/Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Karen M. Romano Lebanon Borough Clerk hereby certify that this resolution was duly adopted by the Borough of Lebanon Council at a meeting duly held on June 17, 2026 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: June 17, 2026

Karen M. Romano
Borough Administrator/ Clerk

The Motion was passed by the following vote:

YES: Councilwoman Durange, Council President Baldinger, Councilman Berger, Councilman Burton, Councilwoman Porcello, and Councilman Valliere

NO:

Abstain:

Absent:

STREET OPENINGS:

Councilman Burton made a motion to approve Elizabethtown Gas Company Street Openings for 59 Brunswick Ave. With a second by Councilman Berger.

The Motion was passed by the following vote:

YES: Councilwoman Durange, Council President Baldinger, Councilman Berger, Councilman Burton, Councilwoman Porcello, and Councilman Valliere

NO:

Abstain:

Absent:

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES: Councilman Berger made a motion to approve the Bill list for June 2026. Councilwoman Porcello seconded the motion.

The Motion was passed by the following vote:

YES: Councilwoman Durange, Council President Baldinger, Councilman Berger, Councilman Burton, Councilwoman Porcello, and Councilman Valliere

NO:

Abstain:

Absent:

DISCUSSION:

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION:

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

Rebecca Newman of Hillsborough, NJ: Throughout my professional career, I have worn many different hats. Growing up in a family business taught me early on the qualities that earn respect, build trust, and lead to success. Preparation, planning, attention to detail, material availability, project analysis, and accountability were all critical to completing projects effectively and on time. Equally important were qualities such as reliability, a strong work ethic, a willingness to go above and beyond, and the ability to work collaboratively with others.

While working in my family's business, I was determined to learn every aspect of the operation. When I transitioned into the public sector, I brought that same mindset and commitment with me. Over the years, I have rarely encountered individuals who share the same level of dedication and drive. That is why working with Karen Romano for nearly five years has been such a remarkable experience. To say that Karen matches that commitment would be an understatement.

Karen has consistently demonstrated fairness, professionalism, and an unwavering commitment to both Borough employees and the taxpayers of Lebanon. I have watched her negotiate with vendors, contractors, and service providers to ensure the Borough receives the highest level of service while remaining fiscally responsible. There is truly nothing that comes across her desk that she does not handle. If she does not immediately have an answer, she finds it—whether that means contacting the State or reaching out to one of the many clerks in her extensive professional network.

Beyond her official responsibilities, Karen is deeply involved in supporting education, mentoring fellow clerks, and strengthening professional organizations. In all the years I have worked alongside her, I have never seen anyone devote themselves so completely to their community. In fact, I have never once seen her take a lunch break. I continue to be amazed by everything she does for Lebanon.

As a Municipal Clerk myself, I look up to Karen and the way she manages her office, her staff, and the countless community initiatives she leads. She is always willing to step in wherever she is needed. One example is the Garden Club, which was established within the last eighteen months and has quickly grown into a thriving community organization. Karen routinely stayed late to keep Borough Hall open for meetings and never hesitated to help clean up after events. These may seem like small gestures, but they reflect her character and her commitment to serving others.

What truly stands out, however, is Karen's leadership in bringing the new playground and park project to life. This achievement did not happen overnight. It began years ago with vision, foresight, and careful preparation. Karen recognized a need within the community while also identifying an opportunity to benefit the local school system. She successfully navigated the complex process of securing grant funding, oversaw the design and planning stages, and helped ensure that the project included valuable additions such as a pavilion and storage facility that will serve both the Borough and community organizations for years to come.

She then guided the project through the challenging bidding process—accepting bids, rejecting bids when necessary, and refining the project to ensure it remained affordable for taxpayers. Each of these steps required significant time, coordination, communication, and paperwork, and Karen was at the center of it all.

And then came the construction phase.

This is where all the qualities I learned growing up—planning, preparation, project management, material coordination, attention to detail, and availability—became especially evident. Throughout the process, I watched Karen juggle an extraordinary number of responsibilities. It was not uncommon to see her on her cell phone coordinating one issue, speaking on the office phone about another, and simultaneously assisting residents who had walked into Borough Hall.

The amount of responsibility she carried was nothing short of remarkable. She continued to perform her daily duties, manage Borough operations, oversee this major park project, and support her staff—all at the same time. It was one of the most impressive displays of leadership and dedication I have witnessed in my career.

What impressed me even more was her willingness to continue giving her time after the project was nearly complete. When volunteers were needed to monitor the park, Karen's name appeared on the schedule multiple times despite everything else on her plate. I remember joking with her that perhaps it would be nice to simply sit there and enjoy a peaceful evening at the park she had worked so hard to create. Her response was, “Do you think the Wi-Fi from the building will reach so I can get some work done?”

That response perfectly captures who Karen is.

I was also present when a resident called and offered to take one of her volunteer shifts, saying, “You already do so much for this community. You do not need to sit in the park for us.” That moment spoke volumes about the respect and appreciation this community has for her.

In closing, all of the qualities I learned were essential to running a successful business—dedication, reliability, preparation, accountability, and service—are qualities that Karen Romano exemplifies every day. She is always available to help a resident, move a project forward, solve a problem, or support her staff.

So today, as we gather to celebrate the near completion of this incredible park, I would like to congratulate you, Karen. This was a tremendous undertaking—one that was delivered on time and is already being enjoyed by the community you worked so hard to serve.

I am truly in awe of everything you have accomplished while balancing so many responsibilities on behalf of Lebanon Borough. Thank you for being a source of inspiration to municipal clerks everywhere. Thank you for your unwavering commitment to this community. Thank you for helping facilitate cherished events such as our Fourth of July celebrations. Thank you for continuing to manage the countless day-to-day responsibilities that often go unseen.

And finally, thank you for being an exceptional leader, mentor, and boss.

The residents of Lebanon Borough are fortunate to have you, and those of us who work alongside you are grateful for the example you set every day.

Rebecca Newman
Tax Collector/ Assistant CFO

Christine Burton of Lebanon, NJ : Asked if the Policy to hire NJ Community Solutions LLC would require a first and second reading. Administrator Karen Romano stated it would be a resolution which is one reading and adoption the same night.

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

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

MISCELLANEOUS:

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT TO THE GOVERNING BODY June 17, 2026

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

- I wanted to Thank everyone who stepped up to help with the Rubber surface watch.
- Thank you to HCOEM for the use of the camera for the Rubber watch
- Thank you to Jim and Jesse Lance, Councilman Burton for taking down the snow fence on short notice
- All Park inspections have been completed
- Park Opened Friday June 12th
- Took the garbage can delivery
- Tables and chairs were delivered and assembled
- JCP&L installed on June 11th. Connected June 17th

- Requested the School pay for Garbage cans, picnic tables and table and chairs. They may pay for the picnic tables
- Mulch for around swing set complete
- Planting areas look fabulous thanks to the Garden Club
- KDP cleaned up fences and construction debris
- KDP is currently repairing the inlet on Sutton
- Councilman Burton set up the Garbage Cans
- Waiting for 4 picnic tables to be delivered

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

- Met with Councilwoman Porcello and Joe Cortese. Joe recommended equipment. Lisa was going to consult Jenn Fink.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Met with Fire, Rescue and HCOEM regarding July 4th Parade
- Radios for Fire Department delivered
- Met with Public Safety Committee
- Purchased Gloves, Hats and whistles for the crossing Guards

REGISTRAR

- 2 classes taken for VIP system

LICENSING

- ABC Licenses completed

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

- June 30th Street Sweeping

TAX RE-EVALUATION

- The Tax Maps are complete.
- The State has reviewed the Tax Maps. They have consulted with Boswell Engineering regarding changes.
- I have requested an extension for the revaluation order to be extended to tax year 2028.

SENIOR CLUB: Senior meeting was April 22, 2026

- **Summary**

After the business meeting the Seniors enjoyed a Singer provided by Rolling Hills Care Center

RECREATION:

Meeting: 5-28-2026

- History talk with Joe Hauck was a success. Everyone enjoyed the talk and hopes there will be future talks.
- Recreation will have a family night bingo in August.

ENVIRONMENTAL/SHADE TREE

- Meeting Canceled

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

- Meeting Canceled

WELCOME BAGS:

New Residents:

- One New Residents

ADJOURN:

Councilman Berger moved, and Councilman Burton seconded a motion to adjourn, there being no further business to come before Council. The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 pm by unanimous vote.

Karen M. Romano,
Administrator/Clerk

LBCC
6-17-2026

LBCC
11-20-2023
54