

APPROVED

**MUNICIPALITY OF MT. LEBANON
PLANNING BOARD MINUTES**

DATE: Tuesday, July 24, 2018

TIME: 7 p.m.

PLACE: Mt. Lebanon Municipality – Commission Chambers

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Suzanne Sieber, Matthew Simonds, Dennis Pittman, James Cannon, Andrew George

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Municipal Planner Ian McMeans

1. Minutes

- a. June 26, 2018 meeting. Mr. Pittman moved and Mr. Cannon seconded to approve the minutes, as amended, of the June 26, 2018, Planning Board Meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Old Business

None

3. New Business

- a. Discussion of an amendment to the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance. In December 2017, Allegheny County Council adopted Act 167: Stormwater Management Plan. The plan included county-wide standards that need to be adopted into local ordinances governing development. The municipal solicitor and engineer have prepared an update to Chapter XVI of the Mt. Lebanon Code, Subdivision and Land Development, to reflect the standards of Allegheny County Act 167.

Mr. Cannon moved and Mr. George seconded to recommend approval of an Ordinance to update Chapter XVI of the Mt. Lebanon Code, Subdivision and Land Development, to reflect the Stormwater control standards of Allegheny County Act 167. The motion carried unanimously.

- b. Annual report on the Mt. Lebanon Comprehensive Plan. In October of 2013, the municipality adopted *Elevate Mt. Lebanon* as the municipality's comprehensive plan. The comprehensive plan guides public policy in terms of transportation, utilities, land use, recreation and housing.

Each year the planning board will review the status of various items contained in the plan and offer recommendations on possible items to be considered as priorities to assist the Commission in their annual budget and Capital Improvement Program decisions.

Mr. McMeans said this is the half-way point of the Comprehensive Plan which was passed in 2013. Many of the goals have been accomplished in previous years, and he gave a summary of the goals that have been accomplished this year.

1) CONNECT is an organization started at the University of Pittsburgh to talk about issues concerning the urban core of the region. This group has been in existence for approximately 10 years, and is doing a lot of good work. Recently they received a grant through Port Authority and the RK Mellon Foundation to hire a consultant to study transit-oriented development throughout the Pittsburgh region – Mt. Lebanon being one of 11 communities taking part in this study. The hired consultant is Dover, Kohl & Partners, out of Miami, FL. The municipality's transit-oriented development above the LRT station has been stalled since 2014, when it received only one bid, and the Economic Development Council did not recommend approval. The study is in progress and there is a meeting scheduled for July 25, in the Commission Chambers if any of the board members are interested in attending.

2) A grant was received to do a traffic study with Dormont for a smart traffic solution on Washington Road, through Carnegie Mellon. PennDOT announced they are also conducting their own traffic signal upgrade on Washington Road, so it may not be necessary for Mt. Lebanon and Dormont to go through with their study.

3) A grant of \$220,000 was received for the Green Light Go program, also through PennDOT. Last year the municipality received over \$900,000; the municipality has received over \$1.1 million over the last two years for traffic signal upgrades. The grant received this year is specifically for the Bower Hill Road/Firwood Drive/North Wren Drive intersection, to be in conjunction with the St. Clair Hospital project. This grant program is a 90/10 match so the hospital is covering the 10%, therefore the municipality will not need to expend any funds.

4) In 2017 Mt. Lebanon received a SAFE Communities America designation from the National Safety Council.

5) Another community was added to the animal control cooperative bringing the total to 14 communities sharing the service.

6) In 2017 the municipality passed an amendment to the zoning ordinance, and Mr. McMeans said he will be bringing a proposed update to the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance before the Planning Board later this year.

7) The Historic Preservation Board and the Public Information Office hired a consultant to produce a design guide primarily for the historic district, but may be used by any resident in the municipality who would like to upgrade their home but keep with the historic character and nature of the neighborhood. This will be an on-line-only document; it is currently available as PDF document and will be developed for the website.

8) Another recommendation in the comp plan is to have a joint meeting between the Planning Board and the Historic Preservation Board (HPB). Such a meeting took place last week. The HPB invited members of the planning board to their meeting, which some board members did attend. There are plans to invited HPB members to an upcoming planning board meeting.

9) The Historical Society of Mt. Lebanon is continuing work on Phase 2 of 794 Washington Road, planning to open later in 2018. A large traveling WWII exhibit from the Smithsonian will be coming to the historical society.

10) There is normal street reconstruction and paving taking place.

11) The public works master plan project is underway with full approval from the Commission. All three phases of the project have been awarded. The site work, earthwork and dirt moving will be wrapping up in the next few weeks, and the salt storage building will be available for this winter. The addition to the existing building and the firing range building will be constructed in 2019.

12) The municipality continues to work with ALCOSAN on the wet weather plan, and are awaiting the new consent order; the interim consent order expired in June.

13) Approximately \$1 million in infrastructure improvements to the municipal storm sewer system were made in 2017, with more funds allocated for 2018.

14) Recycling was increased from 2016 to 2017 by 20%, through a heavy messaging through *mtl magazine*. These numbers most likely will change due to changes in the international trade market in recycling which are passed down to recycling communities.

15) Upgrades to the ice rink were completed on budget and one month ahead of schedule in 2017. The ice rink is again open to the public. Some events for this year were: John Henry Kugler, silver medalist of 2016 Olympics, made a few appearances and brought his medal. His mom was a learn-to-skate teacher, and he learned to skate at the municipal ice rink.

16) Community Development Block grant funding of \$94,000 for long-awaited ADA accessibility upgrades to North Meadowcroft Park.

Mr. Pittman asked if there plans for the open space at the end of the public works property.

Mr. McMeans said the Commission has not decided on a use, yet.

Citizen Comments

No were no citizen comments.

Mr. Simonds moved and Mr. Canon seconded to provide the annual update on the Comprehensive Plan to the Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Citizen Comments

There were no citizen comments.

5. Next Meeting — The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Mt. Lebanon Planning Board is **Tuesday, August 28, 2018**, at 7:00 p.m.

6. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.