

**LEBANON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**November 13, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.**

The council met in regular session at city hall was called to order 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Wright.

Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Fero, Trinka, Washington, Wilkens and Witty – present  
Mayor Wright requested to enter executive session per the two citations listed below, which were read.

- Request to go into Executive Session under 5 ILCS 120 Sec 2(c)(1) of the Open Meeting Act the consideration of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.
- Request to go into Executive Session under 5 ILCS 1140 Sec. 7(m) Communications between a public body and an attorney or auditor representing the public body that would not be subject to discovery in litigation.

Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Fero, Trinka, Washington, Wilkins and Witty – Yes  
MOTION passed 8-0

Enter Executive session at 6:32.

Return from executive session at 7:44.

Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Fero, Trinka, Washington, Wilkens and Witty – present

Alderperson Fero/Bennett Motioned to approve the omnibus agenda, which included the agenda, approval of the bills and minutes from 9/11/2023 council meeting, with a change in the minutes that VOIP (Voice of Internet Protocol) should be (Voice over Internet Protocol)

Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Fero, Trinka, Washington, Wilkins and Witty – Yes  
MOTION passed 8-0

**Audience –**

The following citizens made statements:

1. Lori Cummins stated that many people are burning at all times of the day They are burning items that shouldn't be burned. She also stated that she has been told that there shouldn't be burning in the ditches which she didn't know.
2. John Cummins read a statement about how he has always burned in the easement area and that now has been told that it is illegal.
3. Jack Cruthis stated that the request for a new ordinance about vaping on the school property wasn't on the agenda.
4. Debbie Trame brought up the topic that the ordinance concerning a pedicab business being established in town should have three readings if the billboard sign ordinance must have three readings. There was later a motion to suspend the three readings for both ordinances.
5. Mary Wilkins read a statement with questions that she would like to have answered concerning the writing of the "five-minute speaking" ordinance and request for a new employee handbook. She wanted to know who requested the lawyers produce those items. (See under alderperson # 3. for a response)

6. Ron Trame asked about any development concerning Dollar Tree. He also asked how a person is supposed to get answers or information to their question besides doing a FOIA request. Alderperson Wilkins said to call your alderperson and that she would talk to anyone contacting her even if they weren't in her Ward.

**Alderperson (Ald.) –**

1. Ald. Fero brought up a previous subject about the council exploring the possibility of having a City Administrator again. Alderperson Wilkins said she was waiting for him to engage her on the topic.
2. Ald. Witty once again asked the council to get their ideas for the website to him. Only one person has informed him of any ideas.
3. Ald. Wilkins said she would like to address the questions from D. Trame and M. Wilken reported above and how they came about. She relayed information that during the last contract negotiations there was a discussion of our current handbooks' lack of clarity in many areas. The "draft" of a new handbook was a product of those ideas and discussions. It became an item on our lawyers to do list.
4. Ald. Trinka stated that the state and county, in his opinion, has strict regulations about what maybe placed on the electronic billboard under consideration for Ace Hardware property.

**PLAN COMMISSION:**

1. Plan Commission approved the awning and sign for Paisley Place located at 106 N St Clair.
2. Plan Commission recommended that an ordinance be written for pedicabs to operate on the city streets of Lebanon. An ordinance has been prepared to be submitted.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Streets/Alleys – MEET December 4, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.**

1. Committee recommended to approve the price and installation of more lights in the southeast quadrant, Summerfield, and Merrill St.  
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Fero, Trinka, Washington and Witty – Yes  
Alderperson Davis – Abstain  
MOTION passed 7-1
2. Committee recommended to move forward on applying for the TIP grant through the East-West Gateway, Monroe St from Schuetz to West St. Louis.  
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Fero, Trinka, Washington and Witty – Yes  
MOTION passed 8-0

**Finance – MEET November 20, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.**

**Ordinance – MEET December 4, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.**

1. Alderperson Fero/Davis Motioned to suspend the three reading of the *ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF LEBANON MUNICIPAL CODE TO PERMIT BILLBOARDS IN C-1 ZONING DISTRICT BY SPECIAL USE PERMIT*.  
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Fero, Trinka, Wilkins and Witty – Yes  
Alderperson Davis and Washington – No  
MOTION passed 6 – 2

2. Alderperson Fero/Bennett Motioned to approve the *ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF LEBANON MUNICIPAL CODE TO PERMIT BILLBOARDS IN C-1 ZONING DISTRICT BY SPECIAL USE PERMIT*.  
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Fero, Trinka, Washington and Witty – Yes  
Alderperson Branch, Davis, and Wilkins – No  
MOTION passed 5 - 3
3. Alderperson Fero/Bennett Motion to amend the *ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF LEBANON MUNICIPAL CODE, CHAPTER 32 – TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES, ARTICLE III – OPERATION OF VEHICLES, ADDING DIVISION 7 – PEDICABS* to correct the written words to match the numerical symbols in Sec 32-164(k) i. and ii.  
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Fero, Trinka, Washington and Witty – Yes  
MOTION passed 8-0
4. Alderperson Branch/Wilkins Motioned to approve the amended *ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF LEBANON MUNICIPAL CODE, CHAPTER 32 – TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES, ARTICLE III – OPERATION OF VEHICLES, ADDING DIVISION 7 – PEDICABS*.  
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Trinka, Washington and Witty – Yes  
Alderperson Fero – Abstain  
MOTION passed 7-1
5. Alderperson Fero/Wilkins Motioned to amend the *ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF LEBANON MUNICIPAL CODE, CHAPTER 2 ADMINISTRATION, ARTICLE II – CITY COUNCIL, ADDING SECTION 2-67 – TELEPHONIC PARTICIPATION BY AUDIENCE AT OPEN MEETINGS*.  
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Fero, Trinka, Washington, Wilkins and Witty – Yes  
MOTION passed 8-0
6. Alderperson Fero/Davis Motioned to suspend the three reading of the amended *ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF LEBANON MUNICIPAL CODE, CHAPTER 2 ADMINISTRATION, ARTICLE II – CITY COUNCIL, ADDING SECTION 2-67 – TELEPHONIC PARTICIPATION BY AUDIENCE AT OPEN MEETINGS*.  
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Fero, Trinka, Washington, Wilkins and Witty – Yes  
MOTION passed 8-0
7. Alderperson Fero/Davis Motioned to write a vaping ordinance  
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Fero, Trinka, Washington, Wilkins and Witty – Yes  
MOTION passed 8-0

Water/Sewer – MEET November 20, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

Cemetery – MEET December 4, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Health/Safety – MEET November 20, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

Public Property – MEET December 4, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

1. Committee recommended the purchase of a new flagpole and flags for the City of Lebanon, not to exceed \$800.00. Monies to come from Maintenance Equipment.  
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Fero, Trinka, Washington, Wilkins and Witty – Yes  
MOTION passed 8-0
2. Committee recommends purchase and setup of a VOIP (Voice over internet protocol) phone. The cost will be 599.00 for phone and installation with a monthly charge for another line. Monies to come from Administrative.  
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Fero, Trinka, Washington, Wilkins and Witty – Yes  
MOTION passed 8-0

**Personnel** – MEET November 20, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

**Clerk** –

**Treasurer** –

1. Treasure asked for the approval of the Tax Ley Resolution. Alderperson Fero/Bennett Motioned To approve the Tax Ley Resolution.  
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Fero, Trinka, Washington, Wilkins and Witty – Yes  
MOTION passed 8-0

**Mayor** –

1. The Mayor requested approval of the nomination of Mike Tigo to the Plan Commission to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Jane Cotts.  
Alderperson Fero/Witty Motioned to approve the appointment of Mike Tigo to the Plan Commission.  
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Fero, Trinka, Washington, Wilkins and Witty – Yes  
MOTION passed 8-0

**Dept. Heads**

Chief –

Water/Sewer –

Streets/Alleys –

Accountant –

**Unfinished Business** –

1. Victorian Holidays would like to amend the street closure for Saturday November 18<sup>th</sup>.  
AJ Dontigney stated to amend the street and parking lots closure request to include all day Saturday. West St Louis St from Madison to Monroe will be closed. Alderperson Fero/Witty Motioned to approve the requested closure request starting at 9 am and continuing to 9 pm.  
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Fero, Trinka, Washington and Witty – Yes  
MOTION passed 7-0

**New Business** –

**Adjournment** – With no further business to be conducted, Aldermen Fero/Washington Motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 p.m. by voice vote. MOTION passed by voice. All were in favor.