

LEBANON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
December 11, 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, Wilkins and Witty – present

Alderperson Fero/Bennett Motioned to approve the omnibus agenda, which included the agenda, approval of the bills and minutes from 11/27/2023 council meeting.

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

Audience –

1. John Cummins stated his opposition to the allowing of electronic billboards at 765 True Value Dr. The electronic billboards should be kept to along interstates.
2. Barb Cioni stated her concern over the non-issuing of traffic tickets after her car was hit on West St Louis St in front of her house. The Police Chief stated the issuing of tickets is at the discretion of the officer.
3. Lori Cummins stated she sympathized with Mrs. Cioni situation. She too was opposed to the Electronic billboards and that Lebanon is starting to look like Vegas.
4. Bill Millikin of Ace Hardware informed the audience of some off the mistaken facts that are going around. He stated the billboards are not as bright as the BP lights .
5. Robert Wilhelm spoke about his support for the Biker/pedestrian Trail being discussed. This went back to committee and was talked about later in the meeting under Unfinished Business.
6. Tanner Wolk stated the brightness of the billboards will only be 1.3 foot candles which has sensors That will keep the light at a regulated brightness.
7. Debra Trame stated she is not against the trail but it would be hard to justify spending money on the bike path when the city's limited funds are having a hard time keeping the infrastructure in repair let alone making plans for any expansions.

Alderperson –

1. Dale Trinka stated that many people are in favor of a trail but we don't have the necessary funds.
2. George Fero stated that the city needs to research and implement some methods to slow down the traffic speeding through town. He suggested some "traffic calming" measures and other methods to slow down cars.
3. Ulanda Branch questioned the "no issuing of citations" at traffic accidents. She wanted a legal explanation of the statement Chief Roth said about "the discretion of the officer".

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS –

1. The ZB of A granted a variance to the rule of a 4 foot fence in front of a residence to the owner of #1 Locust Hill Woods based on safety concerns.

PLAN COMMISSION REPORT –

1. Recommended approval of the permit for signs on window and door for Kristina Cipolla Photography at 218 W. St Louis St. as they fell withing our specifications. Alderperson Fero/Washington Motioned to approve PC recommendation allowing sign application for Kristina Cipolla Photography.
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Fero, Trinka, Washington, Wilkins and Witty – Yes
MOTION passed 8-0
2. Recommended approval of a Special Use Permit for two electronic billboards at 765 True Value. Alderperson Fero/Washington Motioned to approve PC recommendation allowing a Special Use Permit to Bill Millikin for 2 electronic signs at 765 True Value Drive.
Roll Call: Alderperson Fero, Trinka, Washington, and Witty – Yes
Alderperson Fero - Bennett, Branch, Davis and Wilkins – No
Motion: 4 – 4 Mayor Wright voted Yes so the Resolution Passed 5 – 4
3. Recommended approval of a Special Use Permit to allow a pedicab business at #2 Harmon Dr Alderperson Washington/Davis Motioned to approve PC recommendation allowing a Special Use Permit to George Fero to operate a pedicab business at #2 Harmon Dr.
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Trinka, Washington, Wilkins and Witty – Yes
Alderperson Fero - Abstain MOTION passed 7-1
4. Recommended approval of the presented updating/reconfiguring plans of the electronic marque on the square. Alderperson Fero/Bennett Motioned to approve PC recommendation for the electronic updating of the Marque at the square.
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Fero, Trinka, Washington, Wilkins and Witty – Yes
MOTION passed 8-0

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Streets/Alleys – MEET January 2, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

Finance – MEET December 18, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

Ordinance – MEET January 2, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

1. Alderperson Fero/Witty Motion to approve the ordinance *PROVIDING FOR THE ANNUAL TAX LEVY OF THE CITY OF LEBANON, COUNTY OF ST. CLAIR, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING ON THE FIRST DAY OF MAY, 2023 AND ENDING APRIL 30, 2024.*
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Fero, Trinka, Washington, Wilkins and Witty – Yes
MOTION passed 8-0
2. Alderperson Fero/Davis Motions to approve *AN ORDINANCE REGARDING THE ILLINOIS PAID LEAVE FOR ALL WORKERS ACT FOR THE CITY OF LEBANON, ILLINOIS*
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Fero, Trinka, Washington, Wilkins and Witty – Yes
MOTION passed 8-0
3. The topic of a “Children Playing: sign being place near 217 Meyer St was sent back to committee.

Water/Sewer – MEET December 18, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

Cemetery – MEET January 2, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

1. Alderperson Trinka presented three new images that are being considered for the new sign for the College Hill Cemetery.

Health/Safety – MEET December 18, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

Public Property – MEET January 2, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

Personnel – MEET December 18, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

Clerk –

1. Alderperson Washington/ Davis Motioned to cancel the Dec. 56, 2023 meeting.
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Fero, Trinka, Washington, and Witty – Yes
Alderperson Wilkins – Nea MOTION passed 7-1

Treasurer –

Mayor –

Dept. Heads

Chief – Water/Sewer – Streets/Alleys – Accountant –

Unfinished Business –

1. Fero/Davis Motioned to proceed in having Moran increase the Mid America Enterprise Zone to match the Business District with the stipulation that this cost no more that \$12,000 if the city is the only participant.
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Fero, Trinka, Washington, and Witty – Yes
Alderperson Wilkins – Nea MOTION passed 7-1
2. Nuisance vehicle ordinance was sent back to Committee meeting.
3. Trolley Trail Connector Grant was sent back to Committee meeting with the understanding there would be a future meeting with St Clair County Transit and a few other entities. The city has stated that there is a need to gather more facts before preceding.

New Business –

1. Alderperson Witty/Washington Motioned to approve the *RESOLUTION MAKING SEPARATE STATEMENT OF FINDINGS OF FACT IN CONNECTION WITH ORDINANCE GRANTING SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO GEORGE FERO, D/B/A CYCLING BY GEORGE, LLC, FOR THE OPERATION OF A BICYCLE REPAIR / SERVICE BUSINESS, AND PEDICAB SERVICE, AT 2 HARMON DRIVE, LEBANON ILLINOIS*
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Trinka, Washington, Wilkins and Witty – Yes
Alderperson Fero - Abstain MOTION passed 7-1
2. Alderperson Davis/ Witty Motioned to approve the *ORDINANCE GRANTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO GEORGE FERO, D/B/A CYCLING BY GEORGE, LLC, FOR THE OPERATION OF A BICYCLE REPAIR / SERVICE BUSINESS, AND PEDICAB SERVICE, AT 2 HARMON DRIVE, LEBANON, ILLINOIS*
Roll Call: Alderperson Bennett, Branch, Davis, Trinka, Washington, Wilkins and Witty – Yes
Alderperson Fero - Abstain MOTION passed 7-1

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3. Alderperson Fero/Witty Motioned to approve the *RESOLUTION MAKING SEPARATE STATEMENT OF FINDINGS OF FACT IN CONNECTION WITH ORDINANCE GRANTING SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO MILLIKIN PROPERTIES FOR THE OPERATION OF DIGITAL BILLBOARDS AT 765 TRUE VALUE DRIVE, LEBANON, ILLINOIS*

Roll Call: Alderperson Fero, Trinkka, Washington, and Witty – Yes

Alderperson Fero - Bennett, Branch, Davis and Wilkins – No

MOTION: 4 – 4 Mayor Wright voted Yes so the MOTION Passed 5 – 4

4. Alderperson Witty/Fero Motioned to approve the *ORDINANCE GRANTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO ORDINANCE GRANTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO MILLIKIN PROPERTIES FOR THE OPERATION OF DIGITAL BILLBOARDS AT 765 TRUE VALUE DRIVE, LEBANON, ILLINOIS*

- . Roll Call: Alderperson Fero, Trinkka, Washington, and Witty – Yes

Alderperson Fero - Bennett, Branch, Davis and Wilkins – No

Motion: 4 – 4 Mayor Wright voted Yes so the MOTION Passed 5 – 4

Adjournment – With no further business to be conducted, Aldermen Fero/Washington Motioned to adjourn the meeting 8:22 p.m. by voice vote. MOTION passed by voice. All were in favor.