**ORDINANCE NO: \_\_\_\_**

**ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF LEBANON CODE, CHAPTER 2 – ADMINISTRATION, ARTICLE II, CITY COUNCIL, AND ADDING SECTION 2-66 – MAXIMUM OF THREE MINUTES FOR EACH SPEAKER DURING PUBLIC COMMENT OF OPEN MEETINGS FOR THE CITY**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Lebanon, St. Clair County, Illinois (hereinafter “City”), is a non-home rule municipality duly established, existing and operating in accordance with the provisions of the Illinois Municipal Code (Section 5/1-1-1 et seq. of Chapter 65 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes); and

**WHEREAS**, City has determined the City Code needs to be amended to provide clarity as to how long each speaker may speak during public comment of open meetings conducted by the City; and

**WHEREAS**, City has determined that members of the general public who choose to speak during public comment of open meetings of the City may speak for a maximum of three (3) minutes, to be determined by the Mayor, Clerk, President of the Board, and/or City Attorney, depending on the open meeting and to be determined by the Mayor or the Mayor’s designee; and

**WHEREAS,** the City Council finds that the Mayor should be authorized and directed, on behalf of the City, to execute whatever documents are necessary to amend the City Code to allow a maximum of three (3) minutes for each speaker to speak during public comment of any open meeting of the City.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Lebanon, Illinois, as follows:**

*Section 1.* The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as findings of the City Council of the City of Lebanon, Illinois.

*Section 2.* City Code, Chapter 2 – Administration, Article II – City Council, Section 2-66 – Maximum of three (3) minutes for each speaker to speak during Public Comment of all Open Meetings of the City, shall now state:

Section 2-66 - Maximum of three (3) minutes for each speaker to speak during Public Comment of all Open Meetings of the City.

1. City has determined there is Public Comment during City Open Meetings where members of the general public are welcome to speak to the City Council, Committee, Board, and/or Commission under the Open Meetings Act of the State of Illinois;
2. City has determined it necessary to limit each speaker to a maximum of three (3) minutes to speak during Public Comment of Open Meetings of the City;
3. The time allowed for each speaker, three (3) minutes, shall be kept by the Mayor, Clerk, President of the Board, and/or City Attorney, depending on the Open Meeting and to be determined by the Mayor or the Mayor’s designee;
4. When the three (3) minutes have expired for any speaker, the speaker shall be asked to stop speaking and return to their seat.
5. Should any speaker refuse to cease speaking after three (3) minutes, the police will be asked to intervene to keep order during the Open Meeting;
6. Should the police be met with resistance, the speaker in question shall be charged with disorderly conduct, removed from the Open Meeting, charged with a City Ordinance Violation, and subject to the any penalties permitted by the law.

*Section 3.* That this Ordinance shall be known as Ordinance No: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and shall be effective upon adoption with implementation date of **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

This Ordinance adopted by the City Council of the City of Lebanon, Illinois and deposited and filed in the office of the City Clerk on the \_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023, the vote taken by ayes and nays and entered upon the legislative records as follows:

AYES:

NAYS:

APPROVED:

Cheri Wright

Mayor

City of Lebanon,

St. Clair County, Illinois

ATTEST:

Luanne Holper,

City Clerk

City of Lebanon,

St. Clair County, Illinois