

CITY OF LEBANON
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
June 2, 2022

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Council of the City of Lebanon, Missouri, met in Work Session on June 2, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall located at 401 South Jefferson.

ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

Upon roll call, the following City Council Officers were present: Gib Adkins, Ken Eldridge, Sheila Mitchell, Randy Wall, Chuck Jordan, Bob Garner, and Mayor Carr. Absent: Jonathan Reagan and Jeffrey Mutchler.

A quorum was declared.

Councilman Mutchler joined the Work Session at 6:04 p.m.

Staff members and others in attendance: City Administrator Mike Schumacher, Communications Manager Derek Gean, Tourism Director Rebecca Rupard, Lebanon REDI President/CEO Brian Thompson, Human Resource Director Kathy Milliken, Code Administrator Joe Berkich, City Counselor Chris Allen, and Deputy City Clerk Lacey Brackett.

Minutes were taken by Deputy City Clerk Lacey Brackett.

AGENDA AMENDED

Mayor Carr requested to amend the agenda to move Health Insurance Renewal before Group 5 Goals- Economic Development and Tourism. Garner moved and Jordan seconded to amend the agenda as requested by Mayor Carr. Motion carries as follows: Yea: (6) Adkins, Eldridge, Mitchell, Wall, Jordan, and Garner; Nay: (0) None; Abstain: (0) None, Absent: (2) Reagan and Mutchler.

HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL

First State Insurance Agency Producer Chris Meckem presented packets to Mayor Carr and the Council. The packets included insurance carrier information and renewal premiums. Meckem explained that due to the increase in claims, insurance premiums would increase. He stated that there were few insurance carriers that would consider insuring the City due to the increased claim volume; however, the insurance company, Auxiant, provided a lower premium at renewal than the current provider, Meritain. Meckem also stated that the City could utilize the SHARx Attack Prescription Spend program, which would be beneficial for high-cost prescriptions. Utilizing the SHARx Program was projected to decrease prescription spending cost, which would benefit the cost that the City would incur.

First State Insurance Agency Employee Benefits Agent Cory Herzog spoke to the Mayor and Council via Zoom. He expressed that Auxiant had a phone application, called Health Joy App. The purpose of the application was to have information for all products and

services in one place. Herzog shared that Auxiant had a Providers Database that advised the customer of the ratings for their provider.

City Administrator Mike Schumacher stated that administration would be looking at deductible and co-payment amount options. Schumacher advised that no changes to deductibles or co-payment amounts would happen immediately; however, the Insurance Carrier Agreement would have to be approved by July 1, 2022.

Human Resource Director Kathy Milliken explained that according to high-cost claimant reports, in the year of 2021, only eight claimants were listed. Milliken stated that she ran the report for 2022, and 22 employees were listed on the report. Milliken stated that was an increase from last year, which affected the renewal rate.

Councilwoman Mitchell asked if a wellness program would help with the premiums and wanted to know how Auxiant rated the providers through their database system.

Councilman Eldridge stated that the City should check into Emergency Room deductibles and expressed concerns regarding the cost difference between Emergency Room visits and Urgent Care visits.

GROUP 5 GOALS- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Tourism Director Rebecca Rupard and Lebanon REDI CEO Brian Thompson gave a presentation to the Mayor and Council.

Rupard expressed that their plan would be to continue promoting the City of Lebanon. She stated that opportunities were implemented with Ft. Leonard Wood and Lake of the Ozarks to have billboards at both locations. Rupard shared that KY3 filmed Lebanon segments for the KY3 program, The Place. She also stated that QR codes were created and stickers with the QR code would be placed in local businesses. When a citizen scanned the code, that would prompt them to the City of Lebanon webpage. Rupard expressed that the ticketing system for Cowan Civic Center events was not cost effective and wasn't implemented.

Thompson stated there were several projects for housing that were would be developed. Thompson shared information regarding a new leadership training where there would be a limited number of spots per program. He stated that employers would have to buy a spot in order to participate. Thompson expressed that there was growth over the past year in Lebanon. Thompson also expressed that the JAG program was a benefit to help our future workforce development, as individuals face many obstacles. Thompson advised that the Floyd W. Jones Airport worked on adding events such as Movie Night Airport and added that the airport worked on getting hangars delivered.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

Councilman Eldridge gave a presentation regarding gaming machines. Eldridge expressed his concern that gaming machines in the City of Lebanon would degrade the community's image. He expressed to the Mayor and Council that the community should be able to have

a voice regarding this issue. Eldridge also stated that Council needed to decide on the future of the gaming machines.

Code Administrator Joe Berkich expressed that Zoning and Planning Commission decided on which zones the gaming machines would be allowed to operate.

City Counselor Chris Allen shared that the prosecution for the gaming machines fell at the local level.

Councilman Wall stated that the community had a chance to express their opinion at the Zoning and Planning meeting that was held on April 14, 2022. Wall also commended Planning and Zoning Manager, Chris VanFosson, for all the work he had done regarding the Commercial Zoning Districts that were presented to Zoning and Planning Commission.

Councilman Garner shared that the Foam Party in the Downtown Business District was an excellent event. The event was held of Saturday, May 28th.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Carr declared the meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

ATTEST:



City Clerk Laina Starnes



Mayor Jared Carr

Minutes Approved July 11, 2022