

CITY OF LEBANON
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
APRIL 28, 2026

BE IT REMEMBERED that the City Council of the City of Lebanon, Missouri, met in Work Session on April 28, 2026 at 6:00 PM in the Council Chambers at City Hall located at 401 South Jefferson.

Call to Order, Roll Call, and Declaration of Quorum

Upon roll call, the following Officers were present: Jaret Scharnhorst, Mike Evans, Joe Berkich, Dan Mizell, Randy Wall, Chuck Jordan, Bob Garner, and Mayor Jared Carr. Absent: Jeff Mutchler.

A quorum was declared.

Staff members and others in attendance: City Administrator Troy Schulte, Public Works Director Richard Shockley, Police Chief Jerry Harrison, Fire Chief Sam Schneider, Assistant Public Works Director Mike Moore, Assistant Public Works Director Tammy Young, Electric Superintendent Travis Long, Code Administrator Christina Wagner, IT/Airport Director Jarrad Schomaker, Communications Manager Derek Gean, City Clerk Lacey Brackett, and City Counselor Chris Allen.

Councilmember Jeff Mutchler joined the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

Information Provided by Staff

Goals Presentation — Group No. 1 Public Safety

Fire Chief Sam Schneider presented an update on open burning regulations, noting that with increased development, more burning has been occurring and some may not always be in compliance with city regulations. Schneider explained that without a permit, residents may burn natural yard waste and have recreational fires using approved materials, provided the fire is 25 to 50 feet from any structure, attended at all times, no larger than three feet by three feet by three feet, and a water source is nearby. Schneider reported that prohibited materials include items such as construction and demolition debris, trash, tires, electrical wiring, furniture, and vehicles. He noted that upon receipt of a complaint regarding smoke, odor, ash, or similar concerns, the Fire Department will extinguish any fire regardless of compliance but does not actively patrol for fires.

Schneider discussed that a burn permit is required under state DNR regulations when clearing land for commercial development or when burning within 200 yards of a structure not owned by the burner. Permits are free and available through the Fire Department. Large commercial burns must use a pit of approximately 80 cubic yards and an air curtain disruptor to control smoke and ash. Schneider added that the city owns one such device, available to local developers at no charge. Chief Schneider presented photographs of non-compliant brush piles.

Deputy Fire Chief Andy Woody announced that effective August 2026, the department's ISO Public Protection Classification rating will improve from Class 4 to Class 3, placing Lebanon in the top 17 to 18 percent of fire departments nationwide. Woody reported that improvements were noted across different categories. Woody reported that areas identified for improving the next rating include installation of hydrants at specific locations, hydraulic modeling recalibration, implementation of AVL dispatching, a secondary dispatch circuit, completion of the new training facility, increased structural firefighting training hours, and additional on-duty staffing. Woody advised the Council of the possibility of requesting a re-grade within approximately five years if sufficient improvements are made.

In response to Councilmember Mizell's question regarding the impact on homeowners' insurance premiums, Deputy Chief Woody noted that the effect varies by carrier, as not all companies use ISO ratings.

Police Chief Jerry Harrison reported the following completed goals: new pistols and weapons are in service; the co-responder program is operational with staff beginning this week; new body cameras and the License Plate Recognition system have been deployed; active shooter and rescue task force training has been completed department-wide, with a refresher scheduled for May; and the in-car ticketing system has been deployed, with minor implementation issues being resolved

Code Administrator Christina Wagner updated the Council on the department's progress, noting staff are working toward inspector certification while conducting active construction inspections in coordination with the construction trade. Wagner reported that a utility records review flagged 440 potentially dangerous properties, including 132 long-term vacant residences, with the current dangerous buildings list sitting around 55 homes and expected to grow. Six buildings have been demolished, and several property owners proactively addressed issues with structures after being contacted. Wagner shared that Vacant properties are concentrated in Wards 2 and 4, and twelve contractors have already expressed interest in redevelopment of the property where the dilapidated structures are located.

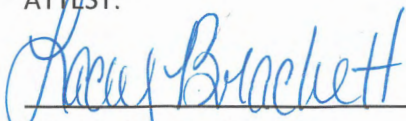
Round Table Discussion

None.

Adjournment

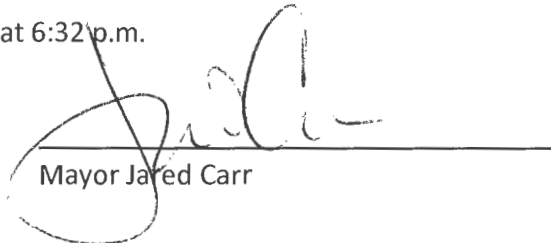
Mayor Carr declared the meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

ATTEST:



City Clerk Lacey Brackett

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Mayor Jared Carr

May 11, 2026

Minutes Approved