

**TOWNSHIP OF LEBANON
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON**

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-08

**AN ORDINANCE CREATING AN “EXCHANGE ZONE” FOR
INTERNET BASED TRANSACTIONS AT THE
LEBANON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lebanon, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that an “Exchange Zone” for Internet Based Transactions is established at the Municipal Building of the Township of Lebanon, located at 530 West Hill Road, Glen Gardner, New Jersey.

WHEREAS, ensuring the safety and security of the Township residents is a critical concern for the Township of Lebanon’s Mayor, Committee and Chief of Police; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, in-person sales, transactions and exchanges originating from on-line marketplaces have experienced an increase in violence and fraud; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to promote safer transactions between strangers, municipalities across the country have encouraged residents to use municipal parking facilities as a meeting place for the in-person transactions to occur; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Committee believe it to be in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of the Township’s residents to establish an “Exchange Zone” in the Lebanon Township municipal parking lot to facilitate a safer and neutral location for making in-person private transactions; and

WHEREAS, the parking lot outside of the Lebanon Township Police Headquarters is lighted and under recorded video surveillance 24 hours x 7 days per week, which provides

evidence to investigate potential crimes and, thereby, a safer area for such transactions to be conducted.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Lebanon, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that:

1. The Township of Lebanon hereby establishes an “Exchange Zone” for conducting in-person private transactions involving a Township resident that have been facilitated through on-line marketplaces to be located in an area of the Municipal Parking Lot of the Municipal Building, as designated by visible and appropriate signage, at 530 West Hill Road, Glen Gardner, New Jersey, to be designated the “Exchange Zone.”

2. Private exchange of motor vehicles, weapons, illegal substances or items that do not fit in a 10x10 parking space shall not be permitted.

3. Township officials will not provide police personnel or Township staff to witness any transaction in person, but the video recording surveillance and proximity to police headquarters is meant to increase the public’s peace of mind when engaging in such transactions with unfamiliar individuals in the Exchange Zone.

4. The Township of Lebanon makes no guarantees, assurances, or promises with respect to the condition or authenticity of any items exchanged between private parties.

5. The Township of Lebanon makes no guarantees, assurances, or promises as to the safety or security of any in-person transactions that may take place on Township property.

6. The Township of Lebanon makes no guarantees, assurances, or promises as to availability of the Exchange Zone at any particular date or time.

7 The Township encourages all persons to engage in such transactions in daylight hours only; to bring a cell phone along in case of an emergency; to notify friends and/or family of the

intention to meet to conduct such a transaction; to never invite strangers to their home or agree to meet at a stranger's home; and to reconsider any transaction with someone who refuses to meet at the Municipal Building Exchange Zone.

8. This Ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and publication in a time and matter prescribed by law.

Mike Schmidt, Mayor

ATTEST:

Karen J. Sandorse, RMC/CMC/CMR
Township Clerk

Date of Introduction and First Reading: September 5, 2018

Date of Second Reading and final adoption: September 19, 2018

I certify that the foregoing Ordinance is a true and accurate copy of an Ordinance adopted by the Lebanon Township Committee on September 19, 2018.

Karen J. Sandorse, RMC/CMC/CMR
Township Clerk

