

**TOWNSHIP OF LEBANON  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
BUDGET WORK SESSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 12, 2026  
6:00 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Jay Wojcik called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m. and stated that in compliance with the “Open Public Meeting Act” this is a Budget Work Session Meeting of the Township Committee as published in the Hunterdon Review, the agenda has been posted at the Municipal Building and as a courtesy posted on the Township website.

**FLAG SALUTE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Mr. Wojcik asked everyone to please stand for the Flag Salute and for a moment of silence for service men and women.

**ROLL CALL**

The following officials were present:

Mr. Abe Abuchowski  
Ms. Beverly Koehler  
Mr. Jay Wojcik  
Mr. Tom McKee  
Mr. Rich Webb

Also present were:

Ms. Lorraine England, Township CFO  
Ms. Carolynn Budd, Township Clerk  
8 Member of the Public

**PUBLIC COMMENT – Agenda Items Only (limited to four minutes per speaker)**

Mr. Wojcik asked for a motion to open Public Comment.

Motion to Open: Ms. Koehler  
Second: Mr. Webb  
Ayes: Mr. Abuchowski, Ms. Koehler, Mr. McKee, Mr. Webb, Mr. Wojcik

Seeing and hearing no one wishing to speak, Mr. Wojcik asked for a motion to close Public Comment.

Motion to Close: Mr. Abuchowski  
Second: Ms. Koehler  
Ayes: Mr. Abuchowski, Ms. Koehler, Mr. McKee, Mr. Webb, Mr. Wojcik

### **UNFINISHED NEW BUSINESS**

Preparation of the 2026 Budget. Ms. Lorraine England, CFO, provided the Committee with updated copies of the proposed 2026 budget. Ms. England advised that at the last meeting the budget was \$300,000.00+ over the appropriation cap. After reviewing with department heads and making cuts the budget presented today is under the appropriation cap. As the budget stands the tax increase would be 3 cents. The Committee reviewed and would like to keep the tax increase to 2 cents. Ms. England advised in order to get down to the 2 cent increase \$73,300.00 would need to be cut from the budget. The Committee discussed options to decrease the budget including: combining the Planning Board and Board of Adjustment, outsourcing the Department of Public Works, cutting Library operating hours and cutting capital improvement requests. The Committee discussed further and after making cuts to capital improvement requests the tax increase was at 2.4 cents. To get down to a 2 cent tax increase approximately \$36,000.00 more needs to be cut from the budget.

Ms. Budd asked the Committee if they would be open to adding a budget meeting on 3/5 since the budget must be introduced during the 3/11 Committee Meeting. The Committee agreed, Ms. Budd to advertise the additional date. The next Budget Meeting is 2/26.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT (limited to four minutes per speaker)**

Mr. Wojcik asked for a motion to open Public Comment.

Motion to Open: Mr. McKee  
Second: Mr. Webb  
Ayes: Mr. Abuchowski, Ms. Koehler, Mr. McKee, Mr. Webb, Mr. Wojcik

Public comment: Library operating hours.

Seeing and hearing no one else wishing to speak, Mr. Wojcik asked for a motion to close Public Comment.

Motion to Close: Mr. Abuchowski  
Second: Ms. Koehler  
Ayes: Mr. Abuchowski, Ms. Koehler, Mr. McKee, Mr. Webb, Mr. Wojcik

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business to conduct, Mr. Wojcik made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion to Adjourn: Ms. Koehler  
Second: Mr. McKee

Ayes: Mr. Abuchowski, Ms. Koehler, Mr. McKee, Mr. Webb, Mr. Wojcik

Meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Carolynn Budd, RMC  
Township Clerk

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Jay Wojcik  
Mayor

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Date Approved