DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE
100 NORTH SENATE AVENUE
IGC-N, ROOM N1058
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

IN THE MATTER OF THE REVIEW)
OF PROPOSED LANGUAGE FOR A)
BALLOT QUESTION REGARDING) No. 26-040-REF
CITY OF LEBANON, BOONE COUNTY)

FINDINGS AND FINAL DETERMINATION ON PROPOSED QUESTION SUBMITTED JULY 20, 2026

---

1. The City of Lebanon, Indiana ("City") proposes to issue bonds or enter into a lease to finance the design, construction, and equipping of a new police headquarters in the City, together with the acquisition of related real property, as required, and any related improvements thereto, which is estimated to cost not more than $52,165,000 in principal debt and an additional $35,918,413 in financing costs including interest and fees, and is estimated to increase the property tax rate for debt service by a maximum annual levy of $4,454,550 for no more than 20 years.

2. Under Indiana law, the voters in the area served by the City will vote in a referendum to approve or deny borrowing for the project and raise property taxes to support it.

3. Indiana law governs the format and wording of the ballot question for the referendum.

4. Under Indiana law, "the **following question shall** be submitted to the eligible voters at the election":

   "Shall _________ (insert the name of the political subdivision) increase property taxes paid to the ________ (insert the type of political subdivision) for no more than ______ (insert the number of years immediately following the holding of the referendum) years for the purpose of funding ________ (insert a brief description of the project use or purpose) for which the principal debt amount for the project will cost no more than ______ (insert the total cost of the project principal amount) and the financing cost including interest and fees will cost no more than an additional ______ (insert the total financing costs including interest and fees) and is estimated to increase the property taxes paid to the ______ (insert the type of political subdivision) by imposing a property tax rate that results in a maximum annual amount that does not exceed ______ (insert maximum amount of annual levy). If this capital referendum public question is approved by the voters, for a median residence of ______ (insert the political subdivision's median household assessed value, rounded up to the next fifty thousand dollars ($50,000)), the property's annual property tax bill would increase by ______ (insert dollar amount, rounded up to the next whole dollar) per year."

5. The ballot question then must contain eight parts:

- The name of the political subdivision.
- The number of calendar years for which the tax will be in effect.
- The purpose of the funding.
- The maximum amount of annual levy.
- The median household assessed value for the City.
- The estimated increase to the property tax bill of a median residence if the referendum is approved by the voters.
- The year in which the most recent operating referendum was held (if one was held in the previous five years).
- Whether the most recent operating referendum passed or failed (if one was held in the previous five years).

6. The law requires the Department of Local Government Finance ("Department") to review the language for compliance with IC 6-1.1-20-3.6. The Department may either approve or reject the language.

7. On July 10, 2026, the Department received the City's proposed question from the City. The proposed ballot question is as follows:

> "Shall the City of Lebanon, Indiana increase property taxes paid to the City for no more than 20 years for the purpose of funding all or any portion of the cost of the design, construction and equipping of a new police headquarters in the City, together with the acquisition of related real property, as required, and any related improvements thereto, for which the principal debt amount for the project will cost no more than $52,165,000 and the financing cost including interest and fees will cost no more than an additional $35,918,413 and is estimated to increase the property taxes paid to the City by imposing a property tax rate that results in a maximum annual amount that does not exceed $4,454,550. If this capital referendum public question is approved by the voters, for a median residence of $250,000, the property's annual property tax bill would increase by $216 per year."

8. On July 10, 2026, the Department received from the City, pursuant to IC 20-46-1-10.3, a certification by the Boone County Auditor of the median household assessed value in the City and the property tax increase on the median household should the referendum pass.

Median Household Assessed Value and Property Tax Increase

9. As certified by the Boone County Auditor under IC 20-46-1-10.3, the median household assessed value is determined to be $250,000. If the City imposes a maximum annual referendum tax rate of $0.1903 and a maximum annual referendum tax levy of $4,454,550, should the referendum pass, the property tax increase on the median household is $216.

Compliance of Language

10. The Department must review the proposed language for compliance with IC 6-1.1-20-3.6. The Department may either approve or reject the language. The Department concludes that the language is in compliance with IC 6-1.1-20-3.6.

Final Determination

WHEREFORE, based on the above findings and applicable law, the Department finds that the proposed language is in compliance with IC 6-1.1-20-3.6 and approves the language as proposed.

Dated this 20th day of July, 2026.

STATE OF INDIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE

____

Jason Cockerill, Commissioner
Department of Local Government Finance