

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING
January 6, 2020
6:30 PM
MUNCIPAL BUILDING

The Village of New Lexington met in regular session with Mayor Thompson presiding and the meeting being called to order at 6:30 PM. Council Members present were Dan Bethel, Susan Goodfellow, Kathy Chute, James Welsh and Susan Boyle. Also present were Finance Director Heather Rockwell, Police Chief Scott Ervin, Administrator Bo Powell and Fire Chief Jim Fain. Absent was Councilperson Jeff Danison.

Councilperson Chute made a motion to excuse Councilperson Danison from the January 6, 2020 meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to enter executive session per ORC 121.22(G)(1) for personnel with Council and the Mayor present. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting suspended at 6:32 pm for executive session.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to exit executive session. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting resumed at 6:52 pm.

Councilperson Bethel stated no decisions were made as a result of the executive session.

Councilperson Goodfellow made a motion to appoint Doug Fox to retain the vacant Council seat. Seconded by Councilperson Chute. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson Boyle who abstained. Motion carried.

Councilperson Chute made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 16, 2019 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson Goodfellow who abstained due to being absent from the December 16, 2019 meeting. Motion carried.

Councilperson Chute made a motion for Councilperson Welsh to serve as Council President for the 2020 calendar year. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Welsh accepted.

Mayor Thompson stated the Village Charter states the Mayor is to provide an annual report to Council. Thompson stated some areas of major concern: the carryover in the General Fund is not as high as previous years due to projects, the water fund is good, and Fire/EMS is improving. Councilperson Bethel asked how much was carried over in the General fund. Finance Director stated approximately \$250,000, but the year end financial statements are not complete.

Finance Director Rockwell stated a meeting is scheduled with Fire Chief Fain and Rockwell with Rhonda Church from the BWC on Monday, January 13, 2020 at 1:00 pm to discuss BWC Grant for

Fire/EMS. Rockwell stated we have gone live on the new payroll software and there are a few issues to work on. Rockwell stated she has received a second invoice for the 911 telephone bill and electric bill for the lift station in Rehoboth. Council stated Administrator Powell would have to return them to the County. Rockwell presented Council with a 2020 Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources. Rockwell explained to Council the changes that were made. Rockwell presented Council with an Ordinance for 2020 supplemental appropriations.

Administrator Powell informed Council that Bob Heavener reviewed and signed his contract. Council still needs sign. Powell stated Alyssa Parrott does not wish to continue being the Village Law Director. Parrott recommended Brian Evert of Dagger Law for the position. Powell stated Evert would honor the same contract terms the Village had with Parrott. Powell stated the Village must prove ownership of the Nuzum Bridge before any grants can be used for repairs. Powell stated he has not been able to locate any documentation stating the Village owns the bridge. Powell would like permission to move forward with having Andy Knisley survey the property. Powell stated the Village may have to purchase a right of way and an easement through the property. Powell stated the Village would lose the funding if they could not prove ownership by February 28, 2020. Chute stated Knisley will need to move quickly with the survey. Mayor Thompson requested a key to the offices in the Municipal Building. Councilperson Chute asked Powell about a then and now purchase order for \$3,200 for the Streetscape design for Poggemeyer. Chute stated they need to know if this was included in the estimates or 2020 by Poggemeyer or if this is another invoice for \$3,200. Powell stated he would check into it. Chute stated they did budget \$3,200 but not \$6,400 and the budget is tight for 2020. Councilperson Chute stated the Village received an invoice from ODOT for \$75,328. Chute asked Powell if this is part of the estimated \$126,000 Village match. Powell stated "yes". Powell stated everyone who qualified for funding for the Rehoboth sewer project has been hooked up. Powell stated 18 out of 32 qualified for low income funding. Powell stated all the taps are installed. Councilperson Bethel asked who applied for the money from the low-income housing funding. Powell stated it was part of the project. Rockwell asked if the funding was for the sewer line connecting the resident with the sewer tap. Powell stated "yes". Councilperson Chute stated the Village needs to start billing for the people using the sewer in Rehoboth. Finance Director Rockwell stated they should to establish a separate fund to track this project. Rockwell stated it takes sixty days to establish a fund through the State of Ohio. Chute stated until a separate fund can be set up to track the revenue from the sewer in Rehoboth, Water Clerk Saffell will have to track it manually. Rockwell stated she would need a motion to establish a new fund for the Rehoboth sewer through the state. Rockwell stated once the request has been submitted to the state it takes sixty days to find out if it is approved. Councilperson Chute stated it is the Counties responsibility to make sure everyone in Rehoboth is hooked up to the sewer. Chute asked Powell if he got a written statement from Mitch Altier stating the project was funded 100%. Powell stated "yes". Chute stated the Village has a one-year contract beginning on 12-22-2019 to 12-22-2020 before the Village takes over the Rehoboth sewer project.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion for Finance Director Rockwell to request a separate sewer fund for Rehoboth from the State of Ohio. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to bill the residents that are currently tapped into the sewer in Rehoboth starting with the February 2020 billing. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Police Chief Ervin reported the Police Department met with New Lexington School Administration to review their safety plan. Ervin stated they are required to review the procedures every three years. Ervin

stated he sent Attorney Baughman an e-mail requesting she prepare an Ordinance for the parking in front of Saint Rose Church. Ervin stated once committees are in place for the 2020 calendar year, they need to discuss property maintenance and the 911 dispatching.

Fire Chief Fain reported for the month of December the EMS had 146 runs and the Fire Department had 31 fire runs. Fain stated the department set a record in 2019 with EMS having 1,619 runs and the Fire Department having 512 fire runs. Fain presented Council with two Ordinances and two Resolutions.

Councilperson Chute reported on the Public Safety/Finance Committee meeting held on December 30, 2019. Chute stated Fire Chief Fain presented a Power Point presentation regarding the future of EMS. Chute informed Council the Fire Chief Fain requested Council consider Primary Provider contracts with surrounding Communities and Townships. The Village would bill for runs in these areas but receive no payments from the localities. Chute stated Fire Chief Fain requested a second EMS crew to work twelve hours per day seven days per week as part time staff. Chute stated the committees agreed this would be on a trial basis to see the effect it has on the Fire & EMS fund. Chute stated there is still some concern with the department's deficit. Chute stated Fain and Spencer would monitor expenses. Fire Chief Fain discussed the department's plan for covering the south part of the County. Chute stated the committee discussed updating the Ordinance establishing EMS billing rates. Chute stated the committees decided Fain and Spencer are to provide an Ordinance for updated transport fees. Chute stated Mayor Thompson requested that firefighters be paid \$10.00 per run. Fain will prepare a Resolution for the increase in pay. Chute stated there are other fees the department can collect. Fain stated Corlyn Altier will collect the fees for the Fire Department. Chute stated the Personnel Policy Manual needs updated for Fire & EMS regarding overtime. Rockwell stated time keeping sections in the PPM need updated also. Police Chief Ervin asked if this will affect everyone's overtime. Council stated "no", it will just be for Fire & EMS and that it needs completed before the next Council meeting. Chute stated when they add a second crew to EMS, Fire Chief Fain will present reports to Council monthly on expenses and revenue. Chute stated they received an e-mail from Local Government Services stating the Fire & EMS Department is starting the year with a \$44,000 deficit. Chute stated LGS wanted Council to lend the money to the Fire & EMS department out of the General Fund. Chute stated that was not going to take place. Chute stated that Fain is aware of the deficit and believes with the changes being made they can be out of the deficit by the end of 2020. Fire Chief Fain stated the Fire Department is going to start charging people for services outside of the community. Fain stated this will be done only if the individual has insurance. Councilperson Goodfellow asked what changes were made on the Resolution Fain presented. Fain stated the only change was the rate of pay for fire fighters. Mayor Thompson thanked Fire Chief Fain and Assistant Fire Chief Spencer for contacting Corlyn Altier to get the financial figures before presenting the changes to Council. Spencer stated the contract for EMS billing with Corlyn needs updated. Councilperson Chute stated Altier usually presents Council with a new contract. Spencer stated she presented it to Council in November. Finance Director Rockwell asked if Altier's contract was presented as just a contract or in Resolution form. Goodfellow stated just a contract. Rockwell stated if it was just a contract Council could, by motion, approve for Mayor Thompson to enter into the contract. Councilperson Bethel made a motion for Mayor Thompson to renew the contract with Corlyn Altier for EMS billing. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Goodfellow reported on the Municipal Concerns Committee meeting held on December 30, 2019. Goodfellow stated Larry Nash would like to put an illuminated sign on West Broadway Street near the intersection of State Route 13. Goodfellow stated per zoning requirements of the Village no illuminated sign is permitted. Goodfellow reported the Ohio Department of Transportation has requirements on certain types of signs due to them being a distraction hazard for drivers. Goodfellow

stated Administrator Powell is going to contact Saffell's on Broadway Street and Kroger concerning their signs. Goodfellow reported the committee recommends not permitting the sign for Larry Nash. Powell stated Nash may file for a variance permit. Goodfellow stated the committee also discussed an alley behind Rush Street and Long Street. Goodfellow stated some residents are having trouble pulling into the rear of their property due to a fence that was erected years ago. Council stated these are rental properties and the owner of the property would have to contact the Village.

Councilperson Chute reviewed the working document. Councilperson Bethel stated when the department heads and Mayor are working on the budget, they need to consider employee raises. Finance Director Rockwell stated she must get the 2019 calendar year closed out before they can start working on the permanent budget. Councilperson Chute stated Poggemeyer needs to know if the Village wants to move forward with the State Route 13 Waterline Replacement Project. Councilperson Welsh stated that they should consider bidding engineering for future projects. Councilperson Chute made a motion for Poggemeyer to seek funding for the State Route 13 Waterline Replacement Project. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Chute stated they need to organize a committee for the Personnel Policy Manual. Police Chief Ervin, Administrator Powell, Finance Director Rockwell, Fire Chief Fain and the Mayor are on the committee. Councilperson Bethel volunteered to be on the committee along with Councilpersons Fox and Chute. A meeting was scheduled for January 13, 2020 at 5:00 pm at the Municipal Building. Police Chief Ervin asked if he needed bring anything for the meeting. Chute stated only if there is something he would like to change or clarify in the PPM.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to file the 2020 Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources with the Perry County Auditor. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 20-1. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance No. 20-1: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 19-23 TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING TO THE PERMISSIVE TAX, WATER OPERATING AND SEWER OPERATING FUNDS WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY TO MAINTAIN NORMAL OPERATIONS OF THE VILLAGE.** Councilperson Goodfellow made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 20-1. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 20-2. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance No. 20-2: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 05-12, AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FEES FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 20-2 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 20-3. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance No. 20-3: **AN ORDINANCE TO PROTECT THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON FROM EXTRAORDINARY EXPENSES RESULTING FROM THE UTILIZATION OF NEW LEXINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT RESOURCES IN RESPONSE TO CERTAIN PUBLIC SAFETY, FIRE, OR EMERGENCY INCIDENTS OR CONDITIONS, AND AUTHORIZE THE**

IMPOSITION OF CHARGES AND THE METHODS FOR COLLECTION FOR RECOVERING REASONABLE AND ACTUAL COST INCURRED IN RESPONDING TO SUCH INCIDENTS OR CONDITIONS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 20-3 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Chute. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

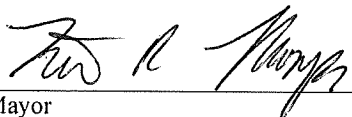
Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 20-1 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council vote "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 20-1: **A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION 17-17, RESETTING THE RATES OF PAY FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 20-1 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 20-2 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 20-2: **A RESOLUTION SETTING THE RATES FOR THE COST RECOVERY OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 20-2 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Chute. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson entertained a motion to adjourn.

Councilperson Goodfellow made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes." Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 pm.



Mayor



Council Clerk