

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING

May 6, 2019

6:30 PM

MUNICIPAL BUILDING

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

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to excuse Councilperson Chute from the May 6, 2019 meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to approve the minutes for the April 15, 2019 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Corlyn Altier presented Council with an update on EMS through April 30, 2019. Altier stated billable transports are down by 21% and revenue is down 27% compared to last year. Altier reported runs have increased which should improve these percentages. Altier stated \$64,165.52 has been recovered for the Village by the Ohio Attorney General's Office. Altier stated that CGS Medicare is starting a pilot program to pay for non-transports where services are provided. Altier will get more information about participating in the pilot program.

Donna Shipley addressed Council concerning an issue with a right-of-way in an alley by her house. Shipley stated her neighbor states he owns the property. Shipley stated she has a survey and her neighbor does not. The alley is between Summit Street and North Avenue. Finance Director Rockwell asked if the alley had been vacated. Administrator Powell stated "no", the Village still has utilities on the property. Councilperson Goodfellow stated they need to schedule a Municipal Concerns Committee meeting to address the situation.

Mayor Thompson reported he attended the Municipal Concerns Committee meeting on April 19, 2019 on W. Water Street with Don Epifano. Thompson stated he presented the Tree City Proclamation at the Arbor Day celebration at the Perry County Library on April 23, 2019. Thompson informed Council he attended the mock disaster at Ludowici on April 23, 2019. Mike Lollo, the principal at St. Rose School, contacted Councilperson Boyle about the crosswalks by the school that need repainted. Thompson stated he personally reached out to Lollo and assured him it would be addressed promptly. Thompson reported he met with Ivan Anchev regarding the events for the MacGahan festival. He also met with Bob Jablonski from Poggemeyer Design Group and discussed engineering projects they have with the Village. Thompson stated he attended the Finance Committee meetings that were held and worked on the budget. Thompson stated a lot of time and effort was put in to develop the budget and he would appreciate Council's passage of the budget.

Finance Director Rockwell presented Council with information on free Public Service Ethics Training being held on August 29, 2019 in Zanesville, Ohio. Rockwell stated only those Council members who have not previously attended Ethics training need to schedule to attend. Rockwell presented Council with a Resolution accepting amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission, a 2019 Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources and an Ordinance for 2019 Supplemental Appropriations. Rockwell requested a motion to approve the March financial statements present at the April 15, 2019 meeting. Councilperson Bethel made a motion to approve the March 2019 Financial Statements and the March 2019 Bank Reconciliation. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Administrator Powell presented Council with a drawing from the Perry County Commissioners on a renovation project they would like to do on the Perry County Board of Elections Office on the corner of Jackson Street and Januarius MacGahan Avenue. The Board of Elections has requested to change parking on Januarius MacGahan Ave. to the right side of the street. Currently parking is on the left. This request is the result of moving the main

entrance of the building and adding a handicap ramp. Powell stated the contract for Gary Hynus, the Class III Water Operator, was completed by Attorney Parrot with changes stipulated by the EPA. Powell informed Council the new filter was installed in the baby pool and that the swimming pool should be completely filled by the end of the week.

Police Chief Ervin stated the department has been very busy especially on the weekends. Ervin stated from 4:00 pm on Friday through midnight on Sunday they received 75 calls for service. Ervin reported he attended a meeting with the Health Department at Ludowici Tile Plant on April 16, 2019. Ervin stated he was able to get some help from the Common Pleas Court to clean up the park. Ervin stated an officer attended the Easter Egg Hunt hosted by the Community Club and an officer was also sent to Columbus for training. Ervin reported the department participated in the Mock Disaster Training on April 23, 2019. Ervin stated the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee had the pad poured for the shelter house at the pool. Ervin stated an officer spoke to the New Lexington Elementary School 4-H group about internet safety. Ervin stated he attended a meeting at Children's Services and a Nuisance Abatement meeting April 3, 2019. Ervin reported the department responded to a hostage situation on May 1, 2019 on N. High Street. Ervin stated with help from Fairfield County the incident was resolved in 28 minutes. Everything was completed within 5 hours and the suspect is still in jail. One officer was exposed to bodily fluids during the call. Ervin stated Career Day at the school went well.

Fire Chief Fain reported the department participated in the Mock Disaster Training at Ludowici Tile Plant. Fain stated it was a huge learning experience. Fain reported himself and other Fire Chiefs in the area are discussing hosting another mock disaster for more training. Fain stated they had 140 EMS runs with 92 transports. Fain reported 41 runs were advance life support runs. Fain informed Council the Fire/EMS Department total combined runs are 182. Fain reported to Council the EMS department has had 100% coverage for the last three weeks. He stated the department had 35 runs today with 24 of those being transports. Fain stated since the Fire/EMS Department is not included in the budget amendments due to their deficit he would like to request a meeting with Public Safety Committee or the Finance Committee to discuss things needed by the department. Fain stated they continue to have issues with the 911 Dispatch Center, some of which is due to the new software. Active 9-1-1 notices are not working properly and the department pays for this service. Fain stated area Fire Chiefs will hold a meeting within the next couple of weeks and meet with the Perry County Commissioners to discuss the 911 issues. Councilperson Danison asked the status of the Village contract with 911 Dispatch Center. Finance Director Rockwell stated the contract is ongoing with no expiration date. If either party wants to terminate the contract, the contract stipulates that a year's notice must be provided in writing. Police Chief Ervin stated the Village is not receiving services that we are paying for. Ervin stated it is a safety issue for the public, officers and first responders. Ervin stated he would like to meet with Fire Chief Fain to discuss the issues and come up with a solution to present to Council. Councilperson Bethel scheduled a combined Public Safety Committee and Finance Committee meeting for May 15, 2019 at 5:00 pm at the Municipal Building.

Mayor Thompson congratulated Firefighter Ryan Saegert for completing Firefighter I Training at the top of his class.

Councilperson Bethel reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on April 23, 2019. Bethel stated the committee discussed the updated project list and match amounts prepared by Administrator Powell. Councilperson Chute stated projects should not be placed on the list until the project has Council's approval. The Committee reviewed the project list and decided the Wastewater Phase II project should be put on hold until information is provided by Poggemeyer Design Group. Bethel stated the committee directed Finance Director Rockwell to budget for the Water Distribution Analysis, Brown Street Bridge, Asset Management, and Pleasant Street Bridge projects. Bethel stated the committee stated still needs to see information from Poggemeyer Design Group on the State Route 13 Waterline project. The committee directed Rockwell to budget \$33,000 for the project for now. Bethel stated the committee discussed possibly paying off some of the water debt to reduce the Village's debt to income ratio.

Councilperson Bethel reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on May 2, 2019. Finance Director Rockwell presented the committee with loan information for the water fund. Bethel stated the committee decided to pay off five loans for the water fund. Bethel stated the committee reviewed draft supplements to the 2019 permanent appropriations presented by Rockwell. Bethel reported the committee discussed the importance of not changing the 2019 permanent appropriations once the supplements are added. A preliminary date of June 1, 2019 was set to accept 2020 budget requests. The tentative deadline for requests is June 30, 2019. These dates will allow the committee to begin working on the 2020 budget. Bethel stated the committee directed Finance Director Rockwell to prepare a Supplemental Appropriations Ordinance as an emergency for the May 6, 2019 Council meeting.

Councilperson Goodfellow scheduled a Municipal Concerns Committee meeting for May 10, 2019 at 5:00 pm at the alley off of Summit Street. Goodfellow stated the family that won the pool pass donated by the Village for the AR Auction at the New Lexington Elementary School has three children and thanked the Village for their donation.

Boyle stated a Parks and Recreation Committee meeting is scheduled for May 13, 2019 at 6:30 pm at the Municipal Building. Councilperson Fox asked Administrator Powell if the contract for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks was completed. Powell stated "yes". Fox stated the pad for the pool patio that the 4<sup>th</sup> of July committee is working on was poured. Fox stated the committee is looking for the old lights that were taken down from the baseball field to put up by the patio. Powell stated he would ask the Street Department Supervisor about the lights. Fox stated the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee asked about the status of the new outlets for the park. Mayor Thompson stated the funds were not available to budget for the project for this year. Councilperson Bethel asked Administrator Powell if he obtained a quote for upgrading the outlets. Powell stated he had a verbal quote from Ryan Stenson for approximately \$10,000. Mayor Thompson requested Powell get a written estimate to upgrade the outlets at the park. Fox requested the written estimate be provided to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee also.

Councilperson Danison stated the Public Service Committee met with Don Epifano on April 19, 2019 at 541 W. Water Street to look into water drainage issues at the property. The committee also looked at drainage issues on Hutchinson Court. Danison stated they were going to try and use hot mix or concrete to help the issue on Hutchinson Court and future paving projects need to include preparation and grinding of the old road surface to avoid issues with drainage on properties due to no curbs left.

Councilperson Bethel requested an executive session after legislation is passed.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 19-8 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.  
Resolution No. 19-8: **RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**  
Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 19-8 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to file the Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources with the 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. 19-5 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.  
Ordinance No. 19-5: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 19-4 TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING TO THE GENERAL, STREET, STATE HIGHWAY, CEMETERY, PARKS & RECREATION, PERMISSIVE TAX, WATER, SEWER AND WATERWORKS BOND FUNDS WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY TO MAINTAIN NORMAL OPERATIONS OF THE VILLAGE.**

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 19-5 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to enter executive session per ORC 121.22 (G)(1) regarding compensation of a public employee or official with Mayor Thompson and Council present. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting suspended for executive session at 7:25 pm.

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

Meeting resumed at 7:50 pm.

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

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 7:55 pm.

  
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Mayor

  
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Council Clerk