

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING

June 15, 2020

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 Dan Bethel, Doug Fox, Susan Goodfellow, Jeff Danison, Kathy Chute and James Welsh. Also present were Police Chief Ervin and Fire Chief Fain. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, Administrator Powell and Councilperson Susan Boyle attended the meeting virtually via zoom, and the public was invited to view the meeting live online through the Village website and Facebook page.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to approve the minutes for the June 1, 2020 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson stated he attended the MacGahan ceremony at the New Lexington Cemetery. Thompson stated it was a small private event due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Thompson stated the swimming pool looks great. Thompson reported the Pleasant Street Bridge and Streetscape projects are going well.

Mayor Thompson presented Council with the May 2020 credit card statement, back reconciliation and Financial Statements on behalf of Finance Director Rockwell. Thompson stated the Ohio EPA has terminated the water shut off order due to the COVID 19 pandemic starting on July 10, 2020.

Councilperson Chute made a motion to delay water shut offs until August 16, 2020 to allow the water office to send notices to customers regarding the EPA order. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Thompson, on behalf of Rockwell, presented Council with a 2021 Certificate of Estimated Resources, an ordinance for reallocation of water and sewer funds, a resolution for pay rates for the swimming pool and a resolution for the Cares Act. Councilperson Chute stated the reallocation of the water and sewer funds does not increase the rates. Chute stated she would like the storm sewer fee to be in its own line item to track how much is brought in by this fee. Councilperson Bethel asked the amount to be reallocated from the water fund to the sewer fund. Chute stated \$0.85.

Councilperson Chute made a motion to separate the storm sewer fee into its own fund. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Administrator Powell stated he met with Shelly Company to get a second bid on paving the parking lot. Powell stated they requested the Village use concrete instead of paving the parking lot if they want it to last. Powell stated Shelly Company stated it would cost around \$49,000 to concrete the parking lot. Powell stated he is going to ask Shelly and Sands to give him a bid to concrete the parking lot. Powell stated he will speak to Nate Gunsler from Shelly and Sands and report back to Council at the next meeting. Powell reported Bob Heavener did not install a water tap. Heavener just prepared the ground for the Public Service Department to install the tap. Powell asked Council about a senior hour for swimming at the pool. Councilperson Bethel stated if they do a senior hour it should be published so any

senior can swim. The rate to swim will be the senior admission rate. Powell asked Council if the pool was going to offer swimming lessons. Bethel stated it would have to be financially beneficial. Councilperson Chute stated anything the pool subcommittee decides must be brought back to Council as a recommendation. Mayor Thompson stated the subcommittee meeting that was held was to introduce Dave Ratliff as the new pool manager and they discussed giving the head lifeguard a raise since the head lifeguard will be in charge if the pool manager is not available.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to allow the pool manager to coordinate and choose a senior swimming hour. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Powell stated the Pleasant Street Bridge project is ahead of schedule. Powell reported there have been some issues with the Streetscape project, but everything is looking great. Mayor Thompson stated the pool passed the Health Department inspection. Thompson informed Powell he has received complaints that Powell is not returning phone calls. Thompson requested Powell make sure he returns calls. Thompson requested Powell have the grass cut in front of the Municipal Building, have the Public Service Department clean along fences in the park by the ball fields, check a possible gas line sticking out of the ground on Maple Heights and clean around the storm drain on the corner of North Ave. and Summit St. Councilperson Boyle asked Powell if the Wollenberg banner had been replaced. Powell stated "yes".

Police Chief Ervin stated they are getting busy. Ervin reported they are working on property maintenance. Councilperson Danison asked Ervin if all the cruisers are running. Ervin stated not at this time.

Fire Chief Fain stated the brush truck is back in service and is 90% complete. Fain reported that Village Law Director Everitt thinks the Village has reached a point that they are able to terminate the EMS billing contract with CSA. Fain stated with Council's approval he will have Attorney Everitt send a letter to CSA regarding the termination of the contract. Fain stated CSA is not staying on top of the EMS billing. Councilperson Chute stated there were obvious reasons why they were not staying on top of the billing due to the loss of Corlyn. Councilperson Bethel stated he hated to eliminate a local business and he asked if this vote tonight is just to put them on notice. Fain reported the other company he is looking at to do the EMS billing is cheaper than CSA. Bethel asked if having two medics running is beneficial. Mayor Thompson stated due to the current situation with the covid 19 they may not be able to determine if having two medics is beneficial until things return to normal again.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to have Attorney Everitt send a letter of intent to terminate the Village EMS billing contract with CSA. Seconded by Councilperson Fox. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Chute reported on the combined Finance/Public Safety Committee meeting held on June 9, 2020. Chute stated the committee agreed to have the Village Attorney send a copy of the electric bill and a letter for the Rehoboth sewer to the Perry County Commissioners. Chute reported they discussed several options for dispatching. Chute stated they asked the Perry County EMA to extend the Villages current dispatching contract for one year. Mayor Thompson stated Derrick Keylor of the EMA Dispatch Center indicated they would not grant a one-year extension to the current contract.

Councilperson Chute reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on June 10, 2020. Chute stated Lee Conkel from Poggemeyer Design Group reported they are still working on the Water Distribution report. Chute stated Conkel reported the Water Treatment Plant upgrades would cost approximately \$700,000. Conkel discussed the Phase 2 Wastewater Plant project. Chute stated the committee asked Conkel which project was the most pressing. Conkel stated the Wastewater Plant Phase 2 project is the most critical. Chute stated the committee asked Conkel about the status of the water meter project. Conkel stated he still needs the number of meters, sizes and whether they are installed inside or outside of the homes. Chute referred Council to the copy of the minutes that all Council received for further information.

Susan Boyle stated the Parks and Recreation Committee and Fall Festival Committee are going to see how things go with the Perry County Fair before finalizing the Fall Festival. Boyle requested Administrator Powell get stain or paint for the gazebo at Arethusa Springs Park to be redone by community service workers, arranged by Police Chief Ervin, on Thursday, June 18, 2020. Boyle stated she would like to redo the flower bed at the corner of State Route 13 and Broadway Street, but somebody will need to check the electric for the lights that aren't working before she starts digging. Councilperson Chute requested Powell investigate.

Councilperson Bethel reported on the Pool Subcommittee meeting held on June 5, 2020. Bethel stated Administrator Powell introduced the new pool manager, Dave Ratliff, to the committee. Bethel stated the committee discussed lifeguard hours, cleaning and sanitizing the pool. Bethel reported Administrator Powell was requesting all attendees at the pool sign waivers.

Councilperson Chute reviewed the working document. Chute stated she completed checking the grammar in the Personnel Policy Manual. Chute requested the Personnel Policy Manual Committee schedule a meeting to make some changes to the policy. A meeting was scheduled for June 19, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Municipal Building.

Mayor Thompson stated a resident suggested hosting the 4th of July fireworks at the Perry County Fairgrounds. Thompson stated he spoke to Ron Baker of the Perry County Fair Board and he thought it was a good idea. Thompson stated he spoke to Police Chief Ervin, Fire Chief Fain and Perry County Commissioner Owens. Thompson stated he spoke with Hocking College about setting off the fireworks from behind the college. He also spoke to the farmer that leases land from the college. Hocking College agreed to let the Village use their property to set off fireworks. Thompson stated he spoke with Perry County Sheriff Barker also since having the fireworks outside the Village would require additional signatures on the contract along with Fire Chief Fain. Thompson stated Hamburg Fireworks will have to approve the site and will send a revised contract. Thompson reported Hocking College will provide 1,000 flyers to be distributed.

Councilperson Goodfellow made a motion to have the Village 4th of July fireworks display set off behind Hocking College with the spectators viewing them from the Perry County Fairgrounds. Seconded by Councilperson Fox. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to file the 2021 Official Certificate of Estimated Resources with the Perry County Auditor. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 20-12 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance No. 20-12: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS OF ORDINANCE 18-10 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 20-12 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Danison asked if parts of Resolution 20-10 should be removed since the Village is not selling pool passes this year. All Council agreed to remove membership language.


Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 20-10 with amendments and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 20-10: **RESOLUTION OMITTING ORDINANCE 18-7 RESETTING THE RATES OF PAY FOR THE MUNICIPAL SWIMMING POOL EMPLOYEES AND FEES FOR MUNICIPAL SWIMMING POOL SERVICES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 20-10 as read with amendments. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 20-11 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 20-11: **CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion adopt Resolution No. 20-11 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson entertained a motion to adjourn.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM



Mayor



Council Clerk