

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING

January 4, 2016

6:30 PM

MUNCIPAL BUILDING

The Village of New Lexington met in regular session with Mayor Ratliff presiding. Council Members present were Dan Bethel, Richard Anderson, Jeff Danison, Susan Goodfellow, Kathy Chute, Susan Boyle and Tim Fiore. Also present were Village Administrator Scott Bryant, Finance Director Heather Rockwell, Police Chief Scott Ervin and Fire Chief Jordan Hollingshead.

Councilperson Anderson made a motion to accept the rules of Council. Seconded by Councilperson Chute. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Fiore made a motion for Kathy Chute to serve as Council President for the 2016 calendar year. Seconded by Councilperson Anderson. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Chute accepted.

Councilperson Chute made a motion to approve the minutes for the December 21, 2015 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Anderson. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilpersons Danison and Fiore who abstained due to being absent from the previous meeting and Councilpersons Goodfellow, Boyle and Bethel who abstained due to their term in office had not started. Motion carried.

Steve Davis addressed Council about renewing his contract with the Village. He informed Council that he is now with the law firm Sitterly, Vandervoort and Davis. Finance Director Rockwell stated that Jennifer Sitterly helped the Village with the new Income Tax Ordinance. Davis stated that the fees would remain the same.

Finance Director Rockwell presented Council with the December 2015 bank reconciliation and December 2015 financial reports. Rockwell also gave Council a guide for reading the budget. Rockwell also presented Council with a 2016 Supplemental Temporary Appropriations Ordinance. Administrator Bryant stated this Ordinance was necessary to repair sewer lines that are affecting a business and some residents. Rockwell informed Council that Local Government Services requested a meeting with the new Council members and Mayor. A meeting was scheduled for January 25, 2016 at 4:30. Rockwell also stated she would be willing to have a work session with new Council members and the Mayor to help them understand the financial reports.

Administrator Bryant informed Council that he received an invitation from the Chamber of Commerce for all officials to a Groundhog breakfast. Councilperson Anderson asked Bryant if the new Council members would have to take the Rural Community Assistance Program test. This test is required to receive grants from the EPA. Councilperson Chute

stated that the training was very informative for Council members. Bryant stated he would check with the EPA to see if the new members are required to take the test.

Police Chief Ervin reported that the total of calls for 2015 were 5,247 as of December 31, 2015.

Fire Chief Hollingshead gave Council an update on EMS runs for the 2015 calendar year. He stated he is waiting on fire reports to come in for year-end totals.

Finance Director Rockwell stated that we do not have our Income Tax Board of Review in place. Council Clerk Spohn stated it was posted on our website and Rockwell stated it was also posted on the Village Facebook page. Spohn stated she did not receive any calls from people interested in serving on the board. Councilperson Fiore made a motion to approve the previous recommendations of Jane Halaiko and Brittney Ross. Seconded by Councilperson Anderson. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Chute stated she would like to create a Fire/EMS committee consisting of one Councilperson, a resident and a member of the Fire/EMS. Chute stated since Trent Thompson was so involved in putting together a recovery plan that he should serve as the resident on the committee. Chute also stated the committee would keep Council informed of the progress of the recovery. Councilperson Danison does not think the committee is necessary. Councilperson Fiore stated he liked the idea of the committee to keep everyone connected and informed. Mayor Ratliff stated he also was in favor of the committee and would like for all departments to keep the lines of communication open. A motion was made by Councilperson Chute to create a new committee. Seconded by Councilperson Fiore. All Council vote "yes" except for Councilperson Danison who voted "no". Motion carried.

Councilperson Chute reported on the Municipal Concerns Committee meeting that was held on December 23, 2015. Councilpersons Thompson and Chute met with Bruce McConaha to discuss adding two handicap spaces in front of the Eagles. After speaking with Councilperson Danison, Councilpersons Chute, Thompson and Danison recommended no additional handicap spaces on Main St. at this time.

Councilperson Chute requested Council create an economic development position for Al Vandewater. Chute stated he will be working with no compensation. Chute also stated she would like to give him the title of Officer of Economic Development for the Village of New Lexington. Councilperson Chute asked if it would be possible for Vandewater to use a Village vehicle to attend meetings with MORPC. After some discussion it was decided that Steve Davis will produce a draft contract for Council to review. A motion was made by Councilperson Fiore for Steve Davis to draft a contract for Council to review. Seconded by Councilperson Chute. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Chute also reminded Council that when a Monday council meeting occurs on a holiday, the meeting will be held the following Tuesday.

Finance Director Rockwell asked Council if they would like to schedule a work session to discuss financial reports. A work session was scheduled for January 25, 2016 at 5:30.

Councilperson Fiore made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 16-1 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Chute. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance No. 16-1: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 15-19 TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING TO THE SEWER OPERATING FUND WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY TO MAINTAIN NORMAL OPERATIONS OF THE VILLAGE.** Councilperson Fiore made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 16-1 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Chute. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Fiore made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 15-20 as a second reading. Seconded by Councilperson Chute. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 15-20: **A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR LEGAL SERVICES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Anderson made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 15-20 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Chute. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Council President Chute asked all Council members to stay after the meeting to discuss committees on which they would like to serve.

Mayor Ratliff entertained a motion to adjourn.

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

Meeting adjourned.



Mayor Kevin Ratliff



Council Clerk/Lisa Spohn