

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING

February 3, 2020

6:30 PM

MUNCIPAL 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, Susan Goodfellow, James Welsh, Susan Boyle and Doug Fox. 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 Bethel made a motion to excuse Councilperson Danison from the February 3, 2020 meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Fox. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel asked Kathy Chute to explain to Council why she was not present at the table for Council members. Chute stated she retired on January 31, 2020 and to receive her retirement from OPERS she must resign from Council and then be reappointed to Council to finish her term. Councilperson Bethel made a motion to reappoint Kathy Chute for the remainder of her Council term. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to approve the minutes for the January 21, 2020 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Corlyn Altier presented Council with the 2019 end of year EMS Billing report. Altier reported on the collections for EMS with the Ohio Attorney General's office. Council asked questions about length of time to collect revenue and run revenue vs billable runs. Altier explained the revenue difference between Medicaid and private insurance. Council informed Altier that her 2020 contract was approved.

Councilperson Bethel reported on the Planning Committee/Economic Development meeting held on January 29, 2020. Bethel requested Jenny LaRue make changes to Resolution 20-4 for the Complete Streets Policy. LaRue stated all projects will be done according to the Village zoning requirements. LaRue stated they need the Resolution passed by March 6, 2020. Bethel stated they discussed the Carroll Street Corridor project. Bethel stated the Health Department is giving the Village \$2,000 to help with safety improvements to the area. No financial contribution is needed from the Village at this time. Bethel stated they reviewed the list of things the Village can do at little or no cost to the Village. Bethel stated the committee discussed getting a quote on painting a double yellow line on Lincoln Park Dr. Bethel stated the project is a potential five year project. LaRue stated the Village needs to prepare a letter for the Carroll Street Corridor project. Mayor Thompson stated he will meet with Administrator Powell to prepare the letter. Larue will see if ODOT can help with signage. Bethel reported signage for new businesses and projects will be enforced according to the Village zoning requirements. Bethel stated the Committee discussed recognizing businesses within the community and welcoming new businesses. Councilperson Chute stated the Village has magnets to give to new businesses. Bethel stated for the month of January Theisen Ellis Heating and Cooling will be recognized, for the month of February Roberts – Winegardner Funeral Home and for the month of March Thompson Insurance.

Mayor Thompson stated he has a card for everyone to sign to send to Councilperson Danison. Mayor Thompson reported he was asked by Frank Newlon if the Village still had the safe that Newlons left in the building when the Village bought the property. Newlon stated he would like to have the safe if the Village is not using it. Police Chief Ervin stated the safe is in his area and they are not using it.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion for Frank Newlon to remove the safe at his expense from the Municipal Building. Seconded by Councilperson Fox. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Thompson stated he met with Jenny LaRue at State Street to discuss sidewalks. Thompson stated it is a challenging area. LaRue stated a bike path would be better. The Village may consider including this in the HAPCAP Grant.

Finance Director Rockwell presented Council with the December 2019 Bank Reconciliation and the December 2019 Financial Statements. Rockwell stated she is approximately fifty percent done closing out the 2019 calendar year. Rockwell stated the company developing the new Village website would like photos and brief biographies of each Council member and the Mayor. Police Chief Ervin asked if the agenda for Council meetings could be posted on the website. Rockwell stated the Ordinances and Resolutions are on the website but there are no titles. Rockwell stated on the new website they will be able to search the titles. Rockwell stated the website developers are working to make all Village forms to be filled out online and submitted to the Village. Rockwell stated the Income Tax forms need to be completely reformatted. Rockwell stated she and Chute discussed an intern to convert the forms. Mayor Thompson asked Rockwell if she was confident in her 2019 year end amount for the General Fund. Rockwell stated "yes". Rockwell stated the remaining task is compiling the information into financial statements.

Administrator Powell stated he would like to schedule a Parks & Recreation Committee meeting to discuss the 2020 swimming pool season. Powell stated he advertised for a pool manager for the 2020 season. Several applications have been received. Powell stated he spoke with Perry County Engineer Kent Cannon and the bucket truck that caught on fire has been repaired. Cannon stated the Village could still use it. Cannon stated he purchased a new bucket truck and is willing to let the Village use it if necessary. Powell stated Shelly Company had not been paid for the paving that they completed for the Village. Finance Director Rockwell stated she was waiting on the permissive tax and the Village just received the check. Rockwell stated the bill is scheduled to be paid this week. Powell stated he had a Resolution for permissive tax and the second reading for the legal services Resolution. Powell stated he was going to get quotes from McKee Paving and Shelly Company for paving some of the short streets within the Village. Rockwell stated the Village has received an increase in revenue from the gasoline tax that can be used for this project. Mayor Thompson and Administrator Powell will look at streets that are short to decide on what streets the Village might be able to pave. They are looking at Monument Square, Saint Clair Street, Madison Street and Center Street.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion for Administrator Powell to get quotes to pave streets that are chosen by Council to pave. Seconded by Councilperson Fox. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Council stated they need to know how much of the revenue from the street fund can be spent on street repair. Rockwell stated they need to do purchase orders as soon as the budget is passed to encumber those funds so they can not be used for anything else. Powell informed Council he and Chuck Hicks would be attending the 811 Safety Meeting in Zanesville on February 19, 2020. Powell stated he would be attending the Flood Plain Management Workshop in Athens on February 20, 2020. Councilperson Chute informed Powell that the Resolution for the Nuzum Bridge was not correct. Chute stated a letter had to be attached to the Resolution stating the \$38,000 gets the Village through December 2020. Chute stated Lee Conkle of Poggemeyer Design Group requested he be the only contact with the company for the Village so there is no confusion on projects.

Police Chief Ervin stated their call volume has been steady. Ervin reported he is working with Attorney Baughman on the parking at Saint Rose Church. Ervin stated the department received the new cruiser on January 22, 2020. Ervin stated he is working on getting the information needed to get a purchase order to get the cruiser marked. Ervin reported the department has been working with Ohio State Highway Patrol and other Villages on the stolen vehicle issue in the area. Ervin stated he is working with LaRue from the Health Department on safe sidewalks. Ervin reported the department sent officers to the Stop the Bleed training at the EMA office. Ervin informed Council the department attended the local SIMS meeting review. Ervin stated he attended a meeting on Friday January 31, 2020 with a group gathering information on Domestic Violence. Ervin reported they executed search warrants on Monday, February 3, 2020 and arrested six people. Councilperson Goodfellow asked about the status of the house that needs demolished on Elizabeth Street. Councilperson

Bethel stated he is partially responsible for the situation. Bethel stated if the Village pays \$7,600 to have the house demolished with taxpayer's money, the owner of the property will still own the property and will probably not take care of it after the house is down. Bethel stated he would like to put the property on the list for the Land Bank to demolish it. Police Chief Ervin stated he does not disagree with Councilperson Bethel if the Village can save money. Ervin stated what does concern him is the property has been through the Nuisance Abatement. Ervin stated once the process starts, they need to be consistent. Ervin stated he does not believe any one person should hold up the process. Bethel stated they could vote on what to do with this situation. Council asked Administrator Powell to speak with Attorney Baughman about the property.

Fire Chief Fain stated in the month of January the EMS responded to 155 runs with 89 transports and 66 non-transports. Fain reported on February 2, 2020 the department put the second medic in service and received two runs within 45 minutes. Fain stated the New Lexington Fire and EMS set the standard with the smoke detector project they did last year. Fain stated the NFPA which is a governing body that determines the rules and regulations for the department is having their summit meeting in March. Fain stated they are using the New Lexington Department as the national standard and they will be featured in their slide show. Mayor Thompson asked if they would be doing the smoke detectors again. Fain stated they are working on getting more. Fain informed Council the BWC grant was submitted. Fain stated he should be uploading it to their system soon. He stated their safety check for the grant will be performed on February 12, 2020. Once the safety check is complete Fain will submit it and they will be done with the requirements for the BWC grant. Fain reported they should hear back about the grant with two weeks after the safety check has been submitted. Fain requested a Finance Committee meeting. Fain stated they attended the Stop the Bleed training at the EMA on January 30, 2020. Council told Fain he is doing a good job with the Fire and EMS department.

Councilperson Chute scheduled a Finance Committee meeting for February 11, 2020 at 5:30 at the Municipal Building. The meeting is for Lee Conkle from Poggemeyer Design Group help the committee with a five year plan for projects. A second Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for February 13, 2020 at 5:30 at the Municipal Building.

Councilperson Boyle reported on the Fall Festival Committee meeting that was held on January 26, 2020. Boyle stated Albanese Amusement provided a contract for the same rides they had last year. The price increased from \$3500 to \$4545. Boyle stated she was going to contact Durant Amusement for a list of rides and a quote. Boyle reported the committee has several fundraisers planned. They will host a wine and painting session at Trotters on March 21, 2020 for \$35 per person, Touchstone Crystal party, bowling tournament in April, golf scramble in May and a color run in June. Boyle stated she has the pole numbers from W. Brown Street and Swigart Street if needed for banners. Boyle reported she attended a Veterans Board meeting and asked if they could place a soft glow angel in Veterans Park at Christmas. The Veterans Board stated they had no objections. They requested the display take place from December 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020.

Councilperson Chute reported on the Public Safety meeting held on January 28, 2020. The committee discussed the 911 dispatching. Mayor Thompson and Police Chief Ervin gave the committee some background of the 911 dispatching. Chute stated the Village received a letter from the Perry County Commissioners terminating the contract with the Village for 911 dispatching services effective November 30, 2020. Chute stated Ervin would like the Village to perform their own dispatching again. Chute stated the committee agreed to draft a letter which Councilperson Chute will hand deliver to the Perry County Commissioners, Derrick Keylor, Sheriff Barker and Rita Spicer. Chute stated Rita Spicer gave one of the committee members a list of the dispatching services they are providing to the Village for \$100,000. Chute stated the list states what they do for the New Lexington Police Department. Chute informed Council some of the services are already required under 911. Chute reported the letter she is delivering is requesting a quote from the Perry County Commissioners for dispatching services. Chute stated they are requesting a response from the Commissioners within fourteen days of delivery of the letter. Chute stated at the end of the fourteen days, they will schedule another Public Safety meeting. Chute recommended they invite the commissioners and others involved to the meeting.

Councilperson Chute reviewed the working document.

Councilperson Boyle asked about the criteria to have a curb painted. Mayor Thompson stated for Boyle to just report it. Boyle stated the curb coming out of Woods Avenue onto Park Avenue needs painted. Thompson stated it would have to be done during warmer weather.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 20-06 as a first reading. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 20-06: **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO FILE FOR PERMISSIVE TAX FUNDS FROM THE PERRY COUNTY ENGINEER.**

Councilperson Chute made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 19-03 as a seconded reading. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 20-03: **A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR LEGAL SERVICES.** Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 20-03 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Chute. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Chute asked when they were going to have Public Service Department Supervisor Hicks attend a Council meeting. Council thought there were some issues they wanted to discuss with him in an executive session. Councilperson Bethel asked if the issues had been addressed outside of Council. Chute stated any Council members that have concerns need to address them to Administrator Powell before the next Council meeting and go from there. Mayor Thompson stated the Public Service Department has good employees, but they aren't being managed properly.

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 8:26 pm.



Mayor

Council Clerk