

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING
February 21, 2017
6:30 PM
MUNCIPAL BUILDING

The Village of New Lexington met in regular session with Mayor Ratliff presiding and the meeting being called to order at 6:30 PM. Council Members present were Dan Bethel, Richard Anderson, Susan Goodfellow, Kathy Chute, Tim Fiore and Susan Boyle. Absent was Councilperson Danison. Also present were Finance Director Heather Rockwell, Fire Chief Jordan Hollingshead and Police Chief Scott Ervin.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to excuse Councilperson Danison from the February 21, 2017 meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Fiore. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to approve the minutes for the February 6, 2017 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson Chute who abstained due to being absent from the February 6, 2017 meeting. Motion carried.

Lejay Ratliff addressed Council about the Youth Baseball. Ratliff stated they would like permission to pour a concrete pad by the concession stand at the baseball field. Ratliff also stated they would like permission to put in new steps that were not replaced when the school did upgrades to the football field. Mayor Ratliff informed Ratliff that he needed to check with the school to see if they would help pay for the replacement of the steps. Fiore also informed Ratliff they would need to check on any regulations they would need to follow on the steps. A motion was made by Councilperson Bethel to allow the Youth Baseball program to pour a concrete pad and to replace the steps at their cost. Seconded by Councilperson Fiore. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Rachael and Randy Barnette addressed Council about the alley by their property at 308 W. Broadway St. New Lexington, Ohio. Barnette presented Council with pictures of the property. Barnette stated she was told the part of the alley in question had been vacated by the Village. Barnette checked with the County Engineers office and the Perry County Recorder's office. Both said there was no record stating the property had been vacated. Barnette stated Chuck Hicks gave her a map of the alleys the Village maintains. Barnette stated she would like the pot holes repaired and gravel put down. Council stated the Public Service Committee should review this. Councilperson Anderson stated he would speak with Councilperson Danison and set up a meeting.

Mayor Ratliff stated he received a citizen request form requesting payment for damage to a vehicle caused by pot holes on E. Brown St. Councilperson Fiore stated he was under the impression once the pot hole was reported the Village had thirty days to repair the hole. Fiore also stated they would have to contact the Village insurance company. Councilperson Bethel asked Mayor Ratliff if the pot hole had been reported to the street department. Mayor Ratliff stated he would contact the street department to make them aware of the pot hole.

Finance Director Rockwell stated during the transition of taking the Village credit card out of Bryant's name the statement was lost. Rockwell stated she called to request removal of the late fees. Late fee removal was granted and the statement is paid in full. Rockwell requested a motion to approve the January 2017 Financial Reports and the January 2017 Bank Reconciliation. Rockwell stated she should have the permanent budget ready to present to Council at the next meeting. She would like a Finance Committee meeting to review the permanent appropriations draft. Rockwell presented Council with papers that Chuck Hicks gave her pertaining to the sewer tap that the County wants reimbursed for. Rockwell stated she and Council Clerk Spohn search council minutes regarding the sewer tap. No recommendation was made to refund the fee. The Public Service Committee will review this at their meeting. Councilperson Fiore stated Hicks should attend the meeting. Councilperson Boyle stated she spoke with Finance Director Rockwell about shelter house rental fees being put in the parks and recreation fund. Currently the fee goes to the general fund. Rockwell stated she could retro back to the first of the year and put the fees in the parks and recreation fund. A motion was made by Councilperson Boyle for the fee for the shelter house to go into the Parks and Recreation fund. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Councilperson Bethel made a motion to approve the January 2017 Financial statements. Seconded by Councilperson Chute. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Police Chief Ervin stated the department had sixty-one calls over the weekend. Ervin stated he wanted to speak to Council about property maintenance. Ervin informed Council since 2011 they have had forty-two complaints at the same address. Ervin stated they have done what the department can do and that it is time to set up a Board of Nuisance Abatement. The Village would be able to clean up the property and charge the owner under codified ordinance 1331. Mayor Ratliff stated he wanted to move forward with this. Councilperson Chute asked Mayor Ratliff if he would like the Municipal Concerns Committee to help. Mayor Ratliff stated yes. A Municipal Concerns Committee meeting was scheduled for February 27, 2017 at 5:30 pm at the Municipal Building.

Fire Chief Hollingshead stated they received three bids for the purchase of SCBA air packs that the department will purchase with the FEMA grant they received. The lowest bid was from Finley Fire for \$135,513.00. This price also includes a free four hour training session on the use of the equipment. Hollingshead presented Council with another quote on the washer and dryer that the Fire Department wants to purchase. The estimate was from HM Company and was higher than the estimate from Finley Fire. Hollingshead inquired if they could still get a loan from the General Fund which would be paid back from the Fire Levy when the money is received. Councilperson Goodfellow asked Finance Director Rockwell if she brought the paperwork so this could be done through the general fund. Rockwell stated after the last meeting she was unclear on what she was supposed to bring back to Council, so she contacted Council President Bethel. Bethel told her to wait until they received the other quote. Councilperson Bethel stated he and Mayor Ratliff spoke with Fire Chief Hollingshead on Saturday about the quote. Councilperson Bethel asked Mayor Ratliff if he contacted Finance Director Rockwell after speaking with Hollingshead. Ratliff stated he had not. Finance Director Rockwell will bring the paperwork to the next meeting so the Fire Department can purchase the washer and dryer. A motion was made by Councilperson Goodfellow to purchase the washer and dryer from Finley Fire. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Fire Chief

Hollingshead stated the money left after purchasing the SCBA equipment will be used to purchase six face pieces with thermal imaging camera and lens. They will place two in each truck. Councilperson Chute inquired about when the siren will be moved. Hollingshead stated the electrician came and took measurements and they are waiting for a quote.

Police Chief Ervin informed Council there was a stabbing in the Village last week but the response time for emergency personnel was great. Ervin stated within sixteen minutes the suspect was apprehended and the victim was in emergency care.

Finance Director Rockwell asked to schedule a Finance Committee Meeting. A meeting was scheduled for February 27, 2017 at 4:30 at the Municipal Building.

Councilperson Boyle stated there would be a Pool Committee meeting on February 23, 2017 at 4:30 at the Municipal Building.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel contracts. Seconded by Councilperson Chute. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned for executive session.

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

Councilperson Bethel stated no decision was made at this time.

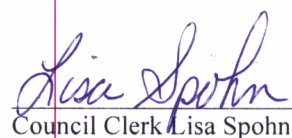
Mayor Ratliff stated he met with the Village Attorney Steve Davis on Friday. Davis informed Ratliff he had been receiving calls from Village employees concerning inappropriate behavior. Davis stated at this time he will not charge the Village for these calls but if it continues he would. Ratliff stated there is a procedure to follow and he will give all department heads a sign to hang up in each department stating no one is to call the attorney and procedures need to be followed. They are to contact their department head with any concerns. Councilperson Chute asked if we have an issue with inappropriate behavior. Mayor Ratliff stated the sign will also say if an employee contacts the attorney without going through the proper procedures they will be charged personally for the call.

Mayor Ratliff entertained a motion to adjourn.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.


Mayor Kevin Ratliff


Council Clerk Lisa Spohn