

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING

March 4, 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, Kathy Chute 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 Jeff Danison.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to excuse Councilperson Danison from the March 4, 2019 meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson Chute who voted "no". Motion carried.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to approve the minutes for the February 19, 2019 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Chute made a motion to appoint Doug Fox to fill the vacant Council seat. Chute stated Fox recently moved back to the area and has already helped with the Fall Festival and other projects in the community. Chute stated Fox is the son of Councilperson Boyle and they checked with the ethics commission and this is not an issue. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson Boyle who abstained. Motion carried.

Judy Cannon addressed Council about the 4<sup>th</sup> of July committee projects. Cannon stated if the Village could commit to paying for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration Fireworks, the committee could use the money they raised to expand the back area of the swimming pool for patrons to have shade. Cannon stated they have partnered with Ludowici Celadon Inc. for this project. Cannon stated the project could take up to two years to complete. Cannon asked Council if they could add three or four more 220V electrical outlets at the park on the south side of the shelter house for vendors during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration. Administrator Powell stated he called Hamburg Fireworks and they stated \$10,000 would purchase a comparable fireworks display to last year. Councilperson Bethel made a motion for the Village to pay \$10,000 for fireworks for the 2019 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee to move forward with the swimming pool expansion project. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel asked Administrator Powell to research putting more 220V electrical outlets at the park.

Mayor Thompson reported to Council that he attended the Perry County Historical Society meeting on February 20, 2019. Thompson stated there were Mayors from other municipalities in attendance. Thompson stated the Society discussed having a Historical Museum in the area.

Finance Director Rockwell stated the year end OCBOA Financial statements are complete and uploaded to the Hinkle system. Rockwell reported the auditors will be in the office on March 6, 7 and 8, 2019 to collect physical data for the 2018 audit. Rockwell requested a motion to approve the December Financial Statements presented at the last meeting. Rockwell presented Council with the January 2019 Bank Reconciliation and the January 2019 Financial Reports. Rockwell presented Council with a Resolution for a lease agreement with Stryker Sales Corporation for the LifePaks. Rockwell informed Council a motion was passed at the last Council meeting to approve the lease agreement, but having a Resolution in place is

better for audit. Councilperson Bethel made a motion to approve the December 2018 Financial Statements and the December 2018 Bank Reconciliation. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Administrator Powell informed Council Brittney Binkley requested to use the shelter house for LAFF Camp June 17, 2019 through June 21, 2019 at no charge. Councilperson Bethel made a motion to waive the fee for the shelter house LAFF Camp June 17, 2019 through June 21, 2019. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Powell reported Poggemeyer is waiving inspector fees on the Wastewater Treatment Plant project and will only use an inspector when needed. Powell informed Council Ryan Lewis was hired as the 2019 pool manager. Powell stated the cost of the metal for the ceiling in the shelter house is \$2,788.60. Powell informed Council the Street Department bucket truck was inspected and in need of repairs. Powell stated he inquired about a bucket truck with the County that may be donated.

Powell stated the school wants to turn over property by the football field and baseball field to the Village. Council discussed possible electrical issues with the property. Councilperson Bethel stated he would like more information before making a decision accepting the property. Mayor Thompson stated he would have Bill Padgett attend the next Council meeting to answer any questions about the property.

Powell presented Council with Ordinance 19-3 amending the Personnel Policy Manual and Resolution 19-3 to contract for Law Director. Finance Director Rockwell reported to Council that the Fire Department has software that could be utilized for payroll for the Fire Department. The pay date for monthly payroll would have to be changed. Rockwell asked Council if they would agree to change the monthly pay date from the first business day of the month to the third business day of the month. Council had no issue with this. The language to change the pay date is included in Administrator Powell's Resolution.

Administrator Powell stated the pipe for the West Brown Street Bridge is to be delivered on March 12, 2019 with a pre-construction meeting held at the site at 10:30 am. Powell stated HAPCAP removed the brush from the bridge area and the contractor stated he could have the bridge project done in two weeks. Councilperson Chute asked Powell if Water Plant Supervisor Richard Kleinert had contracted with Somerset to have someone replace him when he is on vacation. Kleinert requested another full time employee. Chute stated this is a temporary fix until we can hire another person. Councilperson Chute asked Powell to draft the contract for the person from Somerset. Bethel would like to review the contract before it is signed. Chute inquired what the EPA penalty is if we don't have an operator when Kleinert is on vacation. The Ohio EPA would not provide a clear answer.

Councilperson Bethel asked if a motion was needed to repair the ceiling in the shelter house. Finance Director Rockwell stated a motion was not needed it just had to be put in the permanent budget. Rockwell stated the permanent budget needs passed at the next Council meeting. A Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for March 15, 2019 at the Municipal Building at 4:35 pm.

Councilperson Chute stated she e-mailed Attorney Parrott to inquire about her experience with small governments such as Villages with charters and personnel manuals. Parrott replied that she did not have experience with the issues Chute inquired about, but she had experience in drafting codes, regulation and rules for private communities. Chute asked if she had access to someone within the law firm with this type of experience and Parrott stated "yes".

Police Chief Ervin stated the Police Department partnered with the New Lexington City School Staff to help with some educational events. Ervin stated the joint investigation on Harrison Street is moving forward. Ervin reported he met with the IT Company and provided information as to the Police

Department needs. Ervin stated he was involved with interviews at Children's Services to help hire a new Director due to the current Director's retirement. Ervin stated there is currently a full time vacancy in the Police Department and he has posted the position in-house according to Village policy. Ervin informed Council there has been a slight increase in breaking and entering and one person has been apprehended.

Fire Chief Fain reported that EMS responded to 93 runs in the month of February with 60 of them being transports. Fain informed Council the date for the Red Cross and Fire Department to conduct a smoke alarm canvass in the Village is April 6, 2019. Fain reported the department rescued a cat from a tree for the second time this morning. Councilperson Chute asked if the department has hired anyone. Fain stated they have hired three EMS and are waiting on six to eight background checks to hire more. Fain stated two firemen have been hired.

Councilperson Bethel stated committees were approved by Council for the 2019 calendar year, but with Thompson being appointed Mayor the committees needed updated. Councilperson Bethel appointed Jim Welsh to the Finance Committee and Doug Fox to the Public Safety Committee. Chris Harbaugh will be appointed to the Public Safety Committee due to the resignation of Josh Givens. Bethel asked Mayor Thompson to approve the committee appointees. Mayor Thompson approved. Councilperson Bethel made a motion for approval of committee recommendations. Seconded by Councilperson Chute. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Boyle stated Parks and Recreation Committee would hold a meeting on March 11, 2019 at 6:30 pm. Councilperson Boyle stated she has the pole numbers for the poles on Mill Street. Boyle stated the Village would start accepting applications for the Hometown Hero Banners on April 1, 2019.

Mayor Thompson stated he would like for the Hometown Hero Banners to be hung back to back. Councilperson Bethel scheduled a Planning Committee/ Economic Development meeting on March 12, 2019 at 5:15 pm at the Municipal Building.

Mayor Thompson reported some citizens are very unhappy about the drainage on State Street and Fowlers Street. Thompson stated the Village needs to investigate to see if this issue can be resolved. Thompson stated the Village needs to look into annexing some streets into the Village.

Councilperson Bethel inquired about the portable restrooms that the Village provides at the baseball fields. Mayor Thompson stated Aaron Mitchell is going to schedule to address Council on this issue.

Councilperson Chute inquired about the pot holes on East Brown Street. Chute stated the pavement is cracking and it was just done in 2016. Powell stated they will repair the pot holes with hot mix once the temperatures are warm enough.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 19-3 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance No. 19-3: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS OF THE PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL ADOPTED BY THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Chute made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 19-3 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 19-3 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Chute. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution 19-3: **A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR LEGAL SERVICES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 19-3 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Chute. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

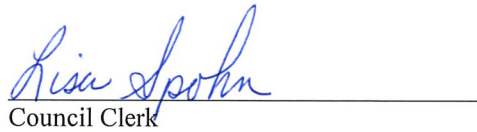
Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 19-4 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Chute. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.  
Resolution 19-4: **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH FLEX FINANCIAL, A DIVISION OF STRYKER SALES CORPORATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO LIFEPAK 15 V 4 MONITORS AND NECESSARY ACCESSORIES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Chute made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 19-4 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson entertained a motion to adjourn.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Council Clerk