

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING

August 5, 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, Jeff Danison, Doug Fox, Kathy Chute and James Welsh. Also present were Finance Director Heather Rockwell, Police Chief Scott Ervin, Administrator Bo Powell and Fire Chief Jim Fain.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to approve the minutes for the July 15, 2019 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson Goodfellow who abstained due to being absent from the July 15, 2019 meeting. Motion carried.

Bob Jablonski of Poggemeyer Design Group addressed Council per Mayor Thompson's request about Village projects. Jablonski introduced Steve Wonderly, Lee Conkle and Michelle Hister. Jablonski stated the group would like Council's input on how to prioritize the projects for funding. Wonderly spoke to Council about the Wastewater Treatment Plant Phase II project. Conkle presented Council with the Nuzum Street Bridge probable project cost. Conkle also discussed water meters and modeling of the water system. He stated there was some discrepancy in water loss and they were going to continue modeling the water system. Councilperson Welsh stated he was working on a Critical Infrastructure Grant through HAPCAP to help fund the water pressure project. Michell Hister stated Council needs to prioritize the projects to avoid duplicate grant applications. Conkle discussed the State Route 13 project with Council. Administrator Powell stated the Pleasant Street Bridge project match is paid in full. Councilperson Danison asked when the Pleasant Street Bridge project was going to begin. Danison stated Council was informed the project was going to start by the end of July 2019. Jablonski stated ODOT controls the project now and Shelley and Sands was awarded the contract. The start date will depend on the contractor's schedule.

Mayor Thompson introduced Jennifer Saffell as the new Water Clerk for the Village. Thompson stated he worked a shift on Thursday night at the gate at the Perry County Fair.

Finance Director Rockwell presented Council with a packet of legislation. Rockwell stated the Finance Committee has been busy with changing the cost allocation plan, a loan agreement they are working on and several other projects. Rockwell presented Council with a 2019 Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources to make adjustments to Park and Recreation's revenue. Rockwell stated she would need a motion to file the estimated resources with the Perry County Auditor. Rockwell presented a 2019 Supplemental Appropriations Ordinance to make adjustments to the budget as recommended by the Finance Committee. Rockwell also presented a 2019 Supplemental Appropriations Ordinance to reserve a stage for the Fall Festival. Rockwell presented a Resolution to make changes to the cost allocation plan and a Resolution for a loan agreement with Peoples State Bank. Rockwell informed Council the bank contacted her and estimates closing on the loan on Friday, August 9, 2019. Rockwell reported that the IT upgrade project is about 60% complete. They are currently waiting for Time Warner to schedule a service call. Rockwell stated the time keeping software is tentatively scheduled for installation the second week of September. Once installed, payrolls will be processed in tandem for at least two pay periods. Rockwell stated everyone will be trained on the time keeping software. Councilperson Chute asked about having Finance Committee meetings on the opposite weeks as Council meetings. Council decided to cancel the standing Finance Committee meetings prior to the Council meetings.

Administrator Powell informed Council paving on Kennedy Dr. will begin on August 6, 2019 (weather permitting). Powell stated it should be completed within two days. Powell stated he and Councilperson Welsh met with Nathan Simons and John Brooks, grant writers from HAPCAP, and walked through the park and swimming pool areas. Powell stated they were very knowledgeable about the needs in these areas. They also gave them other ideas where the \$700,000 grant could be used if the Village was awarded. Powell stated if the

Village was awarded the grant, we would be responsible for 10%. Powell reported he and Mayor Thompson walked the creek along Fowlers Lane with Dave Snyder from Rushcreek Conservation District. Powell stated they asked who is responsible for clearing log jams: the property owner, the railroad or the Village. Powell stated he met Josh from the railroad and walked along the creek showing him where the water is backing up into residents' yards. Josh gave permission for the Village to clear out the log jams. Mayor Thompson stated there is room for improvement in this area. Thompson stated the Village will try to correct some of these issues with the equipment we have. Thompson stated he was contacted by a resident with the name of a person in Athens who has experience with these issues. Powell requested a Municipal Concerns meeting. Thompson asked Powell for a status update on the list of concerns that was given to him at the previous meeting. Powell updated Mayor Thompson and Council on the status of the list. Councilperson Welsh stated there are still a lot of potholes that need repaired. Thompson asked Powell to tell Council what has been done on W. Brown Street to help with the traffic. Powell stated they put a triangle crossbar sign with a stop sign and stop bars at every stop sign. Council discussed if this was enough or if more needed done in that area. Thompson inquired if the painting machine had been received yet. Powell stated "yes" and the crosswalk lines by Saint Rose have been completed. Mayor Thompson stated he received an e-mail from ODOT stating the Pleasant Street Bridge project was pushed back to 2020. Thompson stated it is still on the books for 2019 with ODOT and they think the problem is with Shelley and Sands who was awarded the contract to repair the bridge. Thompson contacted Representative Householder to see if he could do anything to get the project moved back to 2019.

Police Chief Ervin reported fair week was uneventful. Ervin informed Council with the help of Perry Behavioral Health, the Public Service Department completed painting of the curbs. Ervin reported he attended a Perry Multi-County Juvenile Facility Board meeting. Ervin stated he was contacted by the Elks for the Police Department to host a training seminar with their employees which was completed. Ervin stated he attended the quarterly meeting with Family and Children First. Ervin informed Council the 4th of July Committee has started on the shelter house at the New Lexington swimming pool. Ervin reported on August 1, 2019 he attended an Active Transportation meeting discussing a grant with ODOT for sidewalks and bicycle shareways. Ervin stated he sent the request to the State of Ohio for the permit to close State Route 93 during the Fall Festival. Administrator Powell stated he spoke to Todd with the State of Ohio, but has not received confirmation about the permit. Ervin reported on August 14, 2019 there is a Carroll Street Safety Audit meeting with McDowell Engineering from 9:00 am to 11:00 am at Job and Family Services. Ervin stated they specifically asked law enforcement to be in attendance. Mayor Thompson asked about the time frame on this project so the Village could consider adding a sidewalk on State Route 345 leading up to the school. Ervin stated the Active Transportation and the Carroll Street grants are two different grants, but they would like to tie them together at some point. Ervin stated that the Village needs to enforce the zoning laws on sidewalks. Calls for the Police Department have been steady.

Fire Chief Fain requested a Public Safety Committee meeting. Fain stated EMS responded to 155 calls in July and Fire responded to 61 calls. Fain stated the New Lexington Fire Department was the only department at the Perry County Fair every day. Fain reported they received the equipment and have started performing the hydrant testing. Fain stated the department made Cameron Vasquez an honorary firefighter. Fain stated according to his family this had a great affect on his health. Fain stated Cameron wanted to start attending the Fire Department meetings on Tuesday nights, but his dream is still to be a policeman. Fain stated he needed to meet with Administrator Powell to get a sign to put on MacGahan Street stating it is a fire lane. Fain reported Medic 14 is back in service. Councilperson Chute asked if they were painting the hydrants as they were checking them. Fain stated they were waiting until they have completed testing before painting them. Fain stated he would prepare a spreadsheet to compile the results of the hydrant testing.

Councilperson Bethel stated a Finance Committee meeting was held on August 5, 2019. Bethel stated Finance Director Rockwell covered the meeting when reporting on Finance.

Councilperson Boyle stated there is a Parks and Recreation meeting Sunday, August 11, 2019 at 1:00 pm at the Municipal Building.

Councilperson Goodfellow scheduled a Municipal Concerns Committee meeting August 8, 2019 at 4:35 pm at the Municipal Building.

Councilperson Chute scheduled a Public Safety Meeting August 14, 2019 at 5:00 pm at the Municipal Building.

Councilperson Chute inquired about the survey of the alley off Summit Street. Powell stated Knisley will perform the survey as soon as possible. Knisley is very busy at this time and a survey date has not been set.

Council Clerk Spohn reported the papers have been filed with the Board of Elections for the Electric Aggregation.

Mayor Thompson stated he received a certified letter from Mr. and Mrs. Jones, owners of Southeastern Shafting. Jones stated when he paved his parking lot, he also paved Clayton Street. Thompson stated he spoke to Mrs. Jones and she stated the Village paved where they weren't supposed to causing a drainage issue on their property. Jones informed Thompson the issue has cost them over \$20,000 in repairs. Thompson presented Council with receipts and invoices along with a letter explaining the incident. Councilperson Bethel asked if the Village has insurance to protect the Village in these situations. Finance Director Rockwell stated "yes", through the Public Entity Pool. Bethel stated it should be turned over to the insurance company to investigate. Administrator Powell is to contact the insurance company and Mayor Thompson asked to be copied on the e-mail. Powell was asked to bring any response to Council.

Mayor Thompson requested an executive session after legislation is passed.

Councilperson Chute made a motion to file the 2019 Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources as presented with the Perry County Auditor. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 19-11 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. **Ordinance No. 19-11: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 19-4 TO REALLOCATE AND INCREASE FUNDING IN THE GENERAL, STREET, PARKS & RECREATION LEVY, FIRE & EMS LEVY, WATER OPERATING AND SEWER OPERATING FUNDS WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY TO MAINTAIN NORMAL OPERATIONS OF THE VILLAGE.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 19-11 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 Ordinance No. 19-12 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson Bethel who abstained due to a conflict of interest. Motion carried. **Ordinance No. 19-12: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 19-4 TO REALLOCATE AND INCREASE FUNDING IN THE GENERAL AND PARKS & RECREATION LEVY FUNDS WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY TO MAINTAIN NORMAL OPERATIONS OF THE VILLAGE.** Councilperson Chute made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 19-12 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson Bethel who abstained due to a conflict of interest. Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 19-9. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. **Resolution No. 19-9: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO IMPLEMENT CHANGES TO THE COST ALLOCATION PLAN AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 19-9 with changes to Section 2. 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. 19-10 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 19-10: **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A LOAN AGREEMENT WITH PEOPLES STATE BANK TO PURCHASE BUNKER GEAR AND RADIOS TO BE USED BY THE NEW LEXINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 19-10 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to enter executive session per ORC 121.22 (G)(1) regarding discipline of a public employee or official with Mayor Thompson, Police Chief Ervin and Council present. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting suspended for executive session at 8:38 pm.

Councilperson Danison made a motion to exit executive session. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting resumed at 8:55 pm.

Councilperson Bethel stated no decisions were made as a result of executive session.

Mayor Thompson entertained a motion to adjourn.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 pm.



Mayor



Council Clerk