

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING
October 19, 2020
6:30 PM
MUNCIPAL BUILDING

The Village of New Lexington met in regular session with Mayor Thompson presiding and the meeting being called to order at 6:30 PM. Council Members present were Susan Boyle, Susan Goodfellow, Kathy Chute, James Welsh, Doug Fox, Dan Bethel and Jeff Danison. Also present were Finance Director Rockwell, Police Chief Ervin, Administrator Powell and Fire Chief Fain. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic the public was invited to view the meeting live online through the Village website and Facebook page.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to approve the minutes for the October 5, 2020 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried

Mayor Thompson stated he attended the Community Club meeting and they are going forward with the Christmas Parade and walk. Thompson stated he offered help from the Village if needed. Thompson stated the landscaping in front of the Municipal Building, MacGahan Park and the Welcome sign look great. Mayor Thompson requested an executive session.

Finance Director Rockwell stated tomorrow is the deadline for reporting the progress of the CARES Act funds received by the Village. Rockwell stated she submitted the information today. Rockwell presented a binder containing information on all CARES Act expenditures for Covid to review. Rockwell presented Council with an Ordinance for 2020 Supplemental Permanent Appropriations and the October credit card statement.

Administrator Powell informed Council the street lights for Main Street will be in the end of October or the first of November. Powell stated the Hometown Hero Banners will be taken down after Veterans Day and replaced with the Christmas Banners. Powell informed Council that Poggemeyer finished the hydrant testing except for Old Somerset Road and Rehoboth due to no mapping for these areas. Powell stated Lee Conkel will be here tomorrow. Powell stated they had an emergency hydrant replacement while testing due to an old hydrant breaking. Powell stated there are signs posted at the Public Service Garage for leaf drop off and asked Finance Director Rockwell to post it on the website. Rockwell asked what date to put on the website for the deadline to drop off leaves. Mayor Thompson stated November 30, 2020. Powell stated Bob Heavener can rent an auger for approximately \$150.00 to \$200.00 a day and vacuum gravel out of the holes to plant the trees on Main Street. Powell stated the Public Service Department will help with the planting. They plan on planting seven trees per day. Councilperson Welsh stated the trees should be here the end of October or the first of November. Jenny LaRue is going to have the trees delivered to the Public Service Department. Councilperson Fox reminded them certain trees are to be planted in certain areas. Councilperson Chute stated LaRue has a map of where the trees go. LaRue has scheduled tree trimming for October 23, 2020. Mayor Thompson asked Powell the status of the Issue I paving. Powell stated McKee paving will be working on the intersection crosswalks on Thursday and Brown Street on Friday. The company doing the striping will also be working on Thursday or Friday. Mayor Thompson stated he received a call from Ron Baker about the dumpster that has been at the fairgrounds since July 4, 2020. Powell stated he will contact Waste Management to remove it. Councilperson Bethel asked Powell if all work has been completed on Main Street. Powell

stated they were going to replace the sidewalks in front of the buildings owned by Steve Thompson on Brown Street. Powell stated Shelly and Sands is going to remove trees for the Court House also.

Police Chief Ervin informed Council LEADS is up and running. Ervin stated Mariah Ross is working on her training for LEADS. Ervin stated the radio equipment has been ordered and is in Zanesville waiting to be installed. Ervin stated they are working with AT&T and the County on transferring the police phone line. Ervin stated they may have to contact a third party from Cincinnati Bell. Ervin reported they may have to get a new phone number. Ervin stated seven people were interviewed for part time dispatch positions. He stated he is still looking for a few more. Ervin stated he is still shooting for November 1, 2020 to start police dispatch from the Municipal Building. Ervin stated all but one open officer position has been filled. Ervin reported call volume has been steady.

Fire Chief Fain stated currently the department is working well. Mayor Thompson asked Fain if any money has been received from Medicount. Fain stated the billing booklet they received was from 2016 and they requested one from 2019. Fain stated they were having a meeting with Medicount tomorrow.

Councilperson Chute reported a Finance Committee Meeting is scheduled for October 28, 2020 at 5:30 at the Municipal Building.

Councilperson Goodfellow reported on the Municipal Concerns Committee meeting held on October 7, 2020 at the Board of Elections Building. The committee discussed the ADA access to the building. No action was taken. The Board of Elections is going back to their architect to discuss the handicap ramps and the distance of the new sidewalk due to committee concerns with impeding traffic on Jackson Street.

Councilperson Boyle scheduled a Parks and Recreation meeting on October 26, 2020 at 5:30 pm at the Municipal Building.

Councilperson Chute reviewed the working document. Chute stated she e-mailed Attorney Everitt concerning the language for the homeless shelter. Administrator Powell stated the two new hires for the Public Service Department started today. Councilperson Danison asked who was hired. Powell stated Clayton Hinkle and Jerred Hammond. Councilperson Welsh stated they attended the Commissioners meeting concerning the application for the HAPCAP Grant. Welsh stated they were informed two other applications were received for the grant. Welsh stated he informed the Commissioners the Village has never applied for this grant previously and it would help greatly to make improvements. Councilperson Chute asked Finance Director Rockwell if she was ready to start working with Mayor Thompson on the 2021 budget. Rockwell stated "yes".

Mayor Thompson reported he was contacted by a citizen about the old road in front of where the New Lexington Elementary School used to be. Thompson stated it is full of weeds and holes and should not be driven upon. Thompson stated some signs need to be posted. Councilperson Goodfellow stated since Chuck Owens owns the property he should be the one to post signs. Councilperson Bethel stated a letter should be sent to Owens and the Village should also post signs.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 20-18 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance No. 20-18: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE APPROPRIATION**

ORDINANCE 20-8 TO PROVIDE REALLOCATED FUNDING IN THE FIRE LEVY AND INCREASED FUNDING IN FIRE & EMS LEVY FUND 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. 20-18 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Chute made a motion to enter into executive session per ORC 121.22(G)(1) regarding investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee with Council, Mayor and Administrator Powell present. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting suspended at 7:12 pm for executive session.

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

Meeting resumed at 7:38 pm.

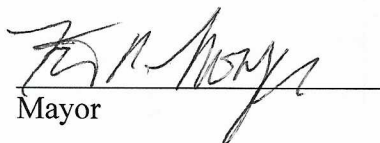
Councilperson Chute stated no decisions were made as a result of the executive session.

Councilperson Danison informed Council that he may not be at the November meetings for medical reasons.

Mayor Thompson entertained a motion to adjourn.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 PM.


Mayor


Council Clerk