

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING

December 21, 2020

6:30 PM

MUNICIPAL 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, Dan Bethel, Doug Fox and Susan Goodfellow. Councilpersons Welsh and Chute attended the meeting virtually. Also present were Finance Director Rockwell, Police Chief Ervin and Fire Chief Fain. Administrator Powell joined the meeting virtually. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic the public was invited to view the meeting live online through the Village website and Facebook page. Absent was Councilperson Danison.

Councilperson Boyle made a motion to excuse Councilperson Danison from the December 21, 2020 meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Fox. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to approve the minutes for the December 7, 2020 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Fox. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilpersons Goodfellow and Chute who abstained due to being absent from the December 7, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson stated he was glad to have Councilperson Chute back. Thompson stated the Santa Cade and Santa visitation at the Fire Station went well. Thompson reported he attended a zoom retirement ceremony for Barb Mooney who was employed by the Perry County District Library for 49 years. Thompson stated Finance Director Rockwell typed a proclamation which Thompson presented to Mooney. Thompson stated Administrator Powell and himself attended a meeting at the Perry County Commissioners office regarding Issue I paving. Mayor Thompson stated he will be the Mayor representing Perry County.

Finance Director Rockwell presented Council with the November credit card statement, bank reconciliation and monthly reports. Rockwell stated the monthly report does not reflect the reallocation of EMS wages, but it will be reflected on the December monthly report. Rockwell presented Council with an Ordinance for Temporary 2021 Appropriations and an Ordinance for 2020 Supplemental Permanent Appropriations. Mayor Thompson asked Rockwell to review the Fire/EMS monthly report. Councilperson Fox asked what the street lighting line item was for. Rockwell explained that is to pay the electric bill for the streetlights. Thompson asked if the EMS revenue was in the monthly report. Rockwell stated "yes". Rockwell stated Medicount revenue will not show up until December. Councilperson Bethel asked if Fire/EMS was out of a deficit and if so, would they stay there. Rockwell stated they were out of the deficit and she thinks they could remain in the black.

Administrator Powell stated the Nuzum Bridge has been repaired and inspected. Powell stated it passed inspection but is still limited to passenger cars only. Powell reported the Streetscape is complete and some tree grates are still being powder coated. Powell stated he contacted ODOT about the outlets on the streetlights not working. Powell stated he posted the part time water clerk position and laborer position in-house. Powell reported he received a quote to remove the trees on Nuzum Street Bridge for \$3,800 from Terry's Tree Service. Mayor Thompson asked Powell to unplug the working Christmas lights until they are fixed. Mayor Thompson asked if people applying for the laborer job would have to resubmit an application if they turned one in a few months ago. Powell stated he saves the applications for one year. Powell will get clarification from the PPM on this subject.

Police Chief Ervin reported 711 calls have come through dispatch. Ervin stated the department responded to a robbery on December 5, 2020 at McDonalds. Ervin stated the suspect had a weapon. Ervin stated they are working on the case. Several warrant arrests have been made.

Fire Chief Fain stated the Santa Cade and visits with Santa at the Fire Station were a success and everyone practiced social distancing. Fain asked Finance Director Rockwell the cost for the keyless entry project.

Rockwell stated \$70,000. Fain expressed his concerns to Council on things keeping him from performing his job duties. Fain stated he does not know how to prepare a wish list for the budget for his department without knowing what is in his budget. Fain stated he needs reports and has difficulty getting them. Fain stated the last round of CARES Act funds was not shared with them until the last minute. Rockwell stated the Village received the check the morning of the Finance Committee meeting. Mayor Thompson asked Fain what reports he needs. Fain stated he needs monthly budget reports and fund activity reports. Finance Director Rockwell stated all the information is in the reports she gives Council and department heads every month and she will e-mail him the fund activity report. Mayor Thompson stated no one has received reports until this month due to the IT problems the Village was having. Thompson stated everyone must work together and communicate with each other. Rockwell stated she is not able to give an accurate monthly report until that month's bank reconciliation is complete. Mayor Thompson stated he had Fain set him up to log into Medicount and it currently does not look good online. Rockwell stated Water Clerk Saffell is having a hard time reconciling EMS payments with Medicount reports. Rockwell asked how often Medicount will remit payments to the Village. Councilperson Chute stated the keyless entry was discussed in previous meetings. Chute stated CARES Act money cannot be spent on wish list items for a departments budget. Mayor Thompson stated he apologized for missing the Finance Committee meeting where the keyless entry was approved. Thompson stated after speaking to several Council members they were not ok with the cost of the keyless entry. Chute stated had she been able to attend the meeting where a UTV was approved to purchase with CARES Act money for the Fire/EMS Department she would have been against it. Councilperson Fox stated the Finance Committee meeting broke down dollar for dollar the last CARES Act funding at the Finance Committee meeting where they approved the keyless entry. Councilperson Welsh stated people need to start paying more attention and ask questions if they do not agree on an issue. Welsh stated the CARES Act money can only be used for COVID related items. Councilperson Chute stated the Fire/EMS Department requested a second Lucas device with the last CARES Act funding which was approved. Chute and Welsh both asked if they needed a second Lucas device why it was not asked for before a UTV. Council agreed to leave the purchases the same.

Mayor Thompson stated he would hold a Charter Revision Committee and Records Committee meeting immediately following the Council meeting.

Councilperson Chute reviewed the working document.

Police Chief Ervin thanked Administrator Powell for having the curbs painted.

Council discussed if job applicants need to reapply for a job position even if they have applied within the last year for a position. Council agreed they would need to reapply.

Mayor Thompson requested an executive session.

Councilperson Goodfellow made a motion to enter into executive session per ORC 121.22(G)(1) regarding disciplinary action with Council and Mayor present. Seconded by Councilperson Fox. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting suspended at 7:30 pm for executive session.

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

Meeting resumed at 7:57 pm.

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

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 20-22 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.  
Ordinance No. 20-22: **AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 20-22 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Fox. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 20-23 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.  
Ordinance No. 20-23: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 20-8 TO PROVIDE REALLOCATED FUNDING IN THE GENERAL, CEMETERY, WATER OPERATING AND SEWER OPERATING FUNDS AND INCREASED FUNDING IN THE FIRE & EMS LEVY FUND WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY TO MAINTAIN NORMAL OPERATIONS OF THE VILLAGE.** Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 20-23 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Fox. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

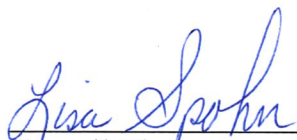
Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 20-24 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. Or All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.  
Ordinance No. 20-24: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 05-16, AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FEES FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 20-24 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Fox. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

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 8:04 PM.

  
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Mayor

  
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Council Clerk