

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING

January 3, 2022

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 Jim Welsh, Dan Bethel, Susan Boyle, and Debra Hooper. Also present were Police Chief Ross, Administrator Emmert and Fire Chief Fain. Absent was Councilpersons Jeff Danison, Susan Goodfellow and Janie Depinto.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to excuse Councilpersons Danison, Goodfellow and Depinto from the January 3, 2022 meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion for Councilperson Welsh to serve as Council President for the 2022 calendar year. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson reported on the state of the Village budget. Thompson stated they will need to watch the spending within the General Fund. Thompson stated they need to look at options to increase the funding in the General Fund. Thompson reported the Fire/EMS fund is in good shape starting the new year. Thompson stated the increase in the minimum charge for sewer has helped the sewer fund. Thompson stated he accompanied the Fire Department on the Santa Cade in December, and it was well received within the community. He stated they visited with about 700 children.

Administrator Emmert reported the hydrant project is complete. Emmert stated they replaced eleven hydrants. Emmert stated they delivered the new dump truck today for the Public Service Department. The cost of the truck was \$78,572. Mayor Thompson asked how soon they will be able to equip it for winter. Emmert stated they need to get the truck that was ordered from Ridenours last year for the Public Service Department, replace the Administrator truck and the backhoe first. Emmert reported he canceled the contract with Unifirst today and will be contracting with Cintas for services. Emmert asked Thompson if it would be possible to move up the time of Council meetings. Thompson stated they can discuss this later when all of Council is present. Emmert stated he thought they should continue the working document moving forward. Mayor and Council agreed. Emmert stated he has a conference this week regarding the Nuzum bridge project. Emmert stated everything is ready for the project. Emmert stated the State Route 13 waterline project goes out to bid in two weeks. Mayor Thompson thanked Administrator Emmert for securing the purchase of the new dump truck on his day off. Councilperson Welsh asked Emmert to check on the HAPCAP grant for the parks. Emmert asked if they pave yearly. Thompson stated "yes". Thompson asked Emmert to prepare a Resolution to request permissive tax for the cost of the paving. Councilperson Hooper asked if the gas company will repair the damage to the street from where they replaced gas lines. Thompson stated "yes" but it depends on the weather how soon it will be done.

Police Chief Ross stated the department has several cars down. Ross reported Unit 6 is at Dutro Ford for repairs. Ross stated they are waiting on parts to make the repairs. Unit 5 is at Sniders for a water pump and Unit 4 is waiting to go to Sniders for a new alternator. Ross reported 5,725 calls for service in 2021. As of January 3, 2022 there have been 50 calls for service. Ross stated theft is currently high in the Village. Councilperson Welsh asked if the new cruiser was ordered. Ross stated "yes" but doesn't expect to get it until 2024. Welsh asked about the CAD system. Ross stated he is waiting to hear from the company. Ross stated he is looking into trying to find some used vehicles for the department. Ross stated he was going to reach out to Lt. Caplinger of the Ohio State Highway patrol to see if he could help him find anything. Ross stated he is going to start a monthly maintenance check list for the cruisers. Ross stated he interviewed applicants for the Sergeants position today and will notify whoever gets the position tomorrow.

Fire Chief Fain asked if the Village has ever considered hiring a mechanic to perform all the maintenance on Village vehicles. Mayor Thompson stated that was a good idea. Councilperson Welsh stated they need to

investigate this. Fain stated the Santa cade went great. Fain stated they received several requests through e-mail and Facebook asking them to stop on their street. Fain stated the Fire Department responded to 435 calls for service in 2021 and the EMS Department responded to 2,036 calls for service in 2021 with 1,167 transports. Fain stated fire runs were down compared to last year and EMS runs were up. Fain stated they have been going to New Straitsville a lot on runs. Councilperson Bethel asked if they have levy funding. Fain stated they need talk to them about this. Fain stated Medic 4 is still at Ridenours waiting on parts and a mechanic to be repaired.

Mayor Thompson reported on the Records Committee meeting held on December 28, 2021. Thompson stated the committee reviewed the records retention policy. Thompson stated they are further in the process of records retention than they thought. The committee discussed the EMS records in the Administration office that need categorized, recorded, numbered, and then placed upstairs in the records room at City Hall.

Mayor Thompson reported on the Charter Revision Committee meeting held on December 28, 2021. Thompson stated they discussed asking voters to change legislation and legal notices to be electronically published instead of the newspaper which is very costly to the Village.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:06 PM.



Mayor



Council Clerk