

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING

March 7, 2022

5:30 PM

MUNICIPAL BUILDING

The Village of New Lexington met in regular session with Mayor Thompson presiding and the meeting being called to order at 5:30 PM. Council Members present were Jim Welsh, Dan Bethel, Jeff Danison and Janie DePinto. Councilperson Debra Hooper and Susan Boyle arrived late. Also present were Police Chief Ross, Administrator Emmert and Fire Chief Fain. Absent was Councilperson Susan Goodfellow.

Councilperson Danison made a motion to approve the minutes for the February 22, 2022 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson stated he received a complaint about the flags on monument square. Thompson informed them the Veteran's Association is responsible for the flags in the park. Thompson reported he attended the Perry County Housing Coalition meeting regarding the homeless shelter and the Fire Departments training on Narcan. Thompson stated he received a complaint from a resident that gravel is needed on Shawnee Street. He also received a complaint about the Tile Plant Road trailer court. Thompson was asked a question about zoning within the Village, and he directed them to Administrator Emmert. Thompson stated he sent a letter to Mount Aloysius in support of the outdoor sporting complex and amphitheater project. Thompson reported he received a complaint on the property on the corner of Eastern Ave. and Maple Hts. Thompson reported the Alzheimer's association asked him about the Alzheimer's walk in August. Thompson stated he was asked about a dog park in the Village. Thompson referred them to Councilpersons Bethel and Boyle. Thompson stated he spoke with Judy Cannon regarding the 4th of July Committee. Thompson stated there is an issue with a streetlight on Mill St.

Administrator Emmert reported he received a letter from Wastewater Plant Superintendent Steve Cologie that he will be retiring July 29, 2022. Emmert stated he sent a certified letter to Steve Zanazzi informing him he has until March 15, 2022 to reply regarding the purchase of the mower and medic. Emmert stated Katie Perani from Buckeye Hills Regional Council will be here tomorrow for a meet and greet with the Village. Emmert stated the EPA will be touring the Water Treatment Plant on Thursday, March 10, 2022. Fire Chief Fain stated the medic that was sold needs to be moved off the Fire Department lot by the end of March. Councilperson Bethel asked Councilperson Welsh and Emmert if they could add the dog park to the HAPCAP park grant they are applying for. Emmert stated he would check on this. Bethel stated meetings were previously held regarding the dog park and some were for the park and others were against it.

Police Chief Ross reported 643 calls for service in the month of February. Ross stated he went through the CAD sheets and some of the incidents in February were 70 traffic stops, 18 domestic violence, 7 thefts, 11 warrants, 8 alarm drops, 8 threats and harassment, 9 wellbeing checks, 5 accidents, 3 fights, 4 overdoses and 3 drug arrest. Ross stated Finance Director Milner gave the department a blanket purchase order for vehicle maintenance which has made things easier. Ross stated he spoke with Milner and Administrator Emmert about getting fuel tanks at the Public Service Department for the police and fire department to get gas. Currently the departments get their gas from the County. Ross stated they could save money if they had their own tank. Ross stated the dispatch CAD system is almost completed. Ross stated he was able to get 9 dispatch licenses for \$2,000 for the CAD system instead of the \$1,500 per license.

Fire Chief Fain stated they had a meeting over the weekend for Narcan training. The department will have Narcan on hand to distribute to families. Fain stated they are one of the few departments in the state to do this. Fain stated they are going to work with the police department to give them access to the Narcan also. Fain stated in February they responded to 139 runs with 87 transports. Fain reported the Fire Department responded to 65 runs in February which is a record for the department. Fain stated most of those runs were in two days due

to the ice storm. Fain stated he has the signed contract for the Village of Shawnee and that the contract for Saltlick Township has been signed, but he does not have a copy.

J.D. Tracy and Grady Smeltzer from Troop 257 of the Boy Scouts introduced themselves to Council and stated they were there to earn a merit badge.

Councilperson Welsh stated they will need to schedule a Finance Committee meeting.

Judy Cannon will be holding a 4th of July Committee meeting on Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 6:00 pm at the New Lexington Elementary School.

Mayor Thompson asked Councilperson Danison if anyone has reported any pothole issues to him. Danison stated not at this time. Most of the potholes have been filled. Councilperson Hooper inquired about a storm drain issue on Jefferson Street. Thompson stated the road that the Board of Elections removed and replaced with concrete when redoing the entrance is decaying. Emmert stated he will address these issues. Councilperson Bethel asked if the list of streets on the white board are to be paved this summer. Emmert stated he would like to change this. Bethel stated Mechanic Street is in bad shape and needs paved. Council discussed ways to try and pave more streets.

Councilperson DePinto asked if Council had thought anymore about putting a replacement fire levy on the ballot. Councilperson Bethel stated that would let the voters decide. Mayor Thompson stated this should be discussed at a Finance Committee meeting and asked for it to be placed on the working document.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to enter into executive session per ORC 121.22(G)(1) regarding personnel with Council, Mayor, Administrator, Police Chief, Fire Chief present. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting suspended at 6:15 pm for executive session.

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

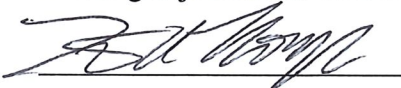
Meeting resumed at 6:49 pm.

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

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to excuse Councilperson Goodfellow from the March 7, 2022 meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 PM.



Mayor



Council Clerk