

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING

June 21, 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, Janie DePinto, Susan Goodfellow and Debra Hooper. Also present were Police Chief Ross, Administrator Emmert, Finance Director Wion and Fire Chief Fain. Absent was Councilperson Boyle.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to excuse Councilperson Boyle from the June 21, 2022 meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to approve the minutes for the June 7, 2022 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson reported he was asked about a drone flying at night on Mill Street. Police Chief Ross will investigate. Thompson was asked about the regulations for utility vehicles and other under speed vehicles. Thompson referred them to the Village website. Thompson stated he was asked by a group of women if they could have a key to the pool for morning swims. Thompson stated he told them no. Thompson stated the women offered to pay the cost to have a lifeguard present if they can swim in the morning. Thompson stated he received a complaint about a lack of a landline at the swimming pool. All Council agreed one should be installed. Administrator Emmert stated it is \$96.00 a month. Thompson stated he received complaints on property maintenance and trash. Thompson stated he and Councilperson DePinto attended the Pike Township meeting to discuss mowing the bank on State Street and for their Fire/EMS replacement levy to increase. Thompson stated the free admission at the pool was well received by the public last week when it was so hot. Thompson reported Bill Cozad from the Eagles contacted him about sponsoring a free pool day. Several other's have also inquired about sponsoring a free pool day. Thompson stated he was asked about a community yard sale. All Council agreed to a community yard sale on July 2, 2022. Councilperson Danison asked about a food truck day. Police Chief Ross stated he will speak to some food truck vendors.

Finance Director Wion presented Council with the April financial reports and bank reconciliation. Wion presented Council with a revenue report and expenditure report. Council asked Wion if she could bring these reports to every Council meeting. Wion asked if the Village had a contract with Shawnee for EMS services. Fire Chief Fain stated "yes". Wion asked if she could have a copy of the contract. She stated the Village received a check for services in the area. The amount was prorated since the contract was not for a full year. Wion reported the brackets for the Hometown Hero Banners should be here by the end of the week.

Administrator Emmert reported both dams were inspected this week by ODNR. Emmert stated there is a lot of work that needs done. Emmert informed Council an Emergency Action Plan needs created. Emmert stated he is going to work with Bob Jablonski of Poggemeyer Design Group to prepare the plan. Emmert stated the grass needs mowed and it has been two years since it was mowed. Emmert stated a mower capable of mowing the area is \$42,000 and takes a year to receive it. Emmert is going to get another quote. Emmert stated the gazebo at the dam needs a new roof and the drain valves need replaced. Emmert presented Council with an Ordinance for easement for Southern Perry Water. Emmert stated he had several calls about gravel being washed away from the recent rains. Emmert stated they are working on this issue. Emmert stated the sewer has backed up again on East Brown Street from the recent rainfall. Emmert reported the State Route 13 waterline replacement project should be complete in two weeks. Emmert stated the Nuzum bridge project is almost complete. Councilperson DePinto asked for an update on working with Tom Johnson on the Buckeye Hills Revitalization. Emmert stated they are going to be working together and that the guidelines have not been released yet.

Police Chief Ross reported 5,961 calls for service in 2022 as of tonight. Ross stated they had 984 calls since the last Council meeting. Ross stated there has been a 114% increase in calls this year compared to last year at this time. Ross stated Mifflin Township contacted him about purchasing a 2016 Ford Taurus police cruiser that is fully equipped with 45,000 miles for \$10,000.

Councilperson DePinto made a motion for Police Chief Ross to purchase a 2016 Ford Taurus police cruiser from Mifflin Township for \$10,000. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Ross stated part of the equipment for the new cruiser at Ridenours is still on backorder. Ross stated there has been seven car thefts this year. The most recent theft the individual left their keys in the car. The car was located around Washington Courthouse. The suspect was with the vehicle. Ross reported the Panther Drive-In was broken into on Sunday. The suspect was arrested due to the good security camera footage from the property. Ross stated the gas tanks at the Street Department Garage are up and running. Fire Chief Fain is going to speak to Randy Moore about installing a tank for the Fire Department. Administrator Emmert stated they need security cameras at the Street Department Garage and the Water Treatment Plant. Emmert stated he thought pool manager Dave Ratliff installed cameras at the pool last year.

Councilperson Danison made a motion to purchase security cameras for the Public Service Garage and the Water Treatment Plant. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Fire Chief Fain stated he attended the Fair Board meeting last week and he feels they have a good plan in place for the Perry County Fair. Fain thanked Mayor Thompson and Councilperson DePinto for attending the Pike Township meeting to discuss levies. Fain stated a medic is resigning. Fain reported he has hired someone to replace him. Fain stated he is making sure a squad is available 24/7. Fain informed Council EMT school is going to be available soon and he has asked the firemen if they would like to attend. Fain stated it is hard to compete with bigger cities for employees. Fain suggested finishing the bunk room. Council discussed the bunk room. Councilperson DePinto informed Fain that Pike Township wants reports. Mayor Thompson stated the ARPA funds should be here soon to pay for the medic the Fire/EMS is purchasing. Thompson stated if the funds are not available when it is time to pick up the medic the money will come out of the Fire/EMS funds and then replaced when ARPA funds are received.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to pay for the medic out of Fire/EMS funds with reimbursement when ARPA funds are received. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson DePinto inquired about the status of the levies and if Finance Director Wion completed the legal notice. Wion stated "yes".

Mayor Thompson and the Public Service Department are preparing for the 4th of July celebration. Thompson and Administrator Emmert are going to reserve a place for Mount Aloysius to park their vans.

Councilperson Bethel stated he spoke with Jenny LaRue about a bed tax within the Village. Bethel stated he is meeting with Perry County Engineer Cannon to discuss annexation. Mayor Thompson asked Emmert if the Public Service Department had started using hot mix yet. Emmert stated "yes".

Councilperson Danison thanked Code Officer Rushing for doing a great job at cleaning up the Village. Mayor Thompson commended two EMS employees who purchased popsicles to distribute to the public when it was so hot last week.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 22-6 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.
Ordinance No. 22-6: **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR AND**

FINANCE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE AN EASEMENT FROM THE SOUTHERN PERRY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT, OHIO, GRANTING A PERPETUAL EASEMENT REAL PROPERTY PARCEL 24009027000, AN OHIO NON-PROFIT CORPORATION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING AND MAINTAINING WATER LINES FOR \$1.00 AND OTHER VALUABLE CONSIDERATION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 22-6 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 22-16 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried. Resolution No. 22-16: **A RESOLUTION ASSESSING COST OF WATER AND WASTEWATER CHARGES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-16 as read. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

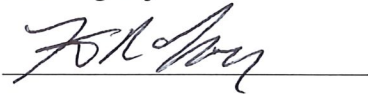
Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 22-17 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried. Resolution No. 22-17: **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REQUEST FOR AUDITOR’S CERTIFICATE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Danison made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-17 as read. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 22-18 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried. Resolution No. 22-18: **A RESOLUTION TO SURPLUS EQUIPMENT AND VEHICLES PER SECTION 721.15 OF THE ORC CHAPTER 7 MUNICIPAL CODE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Danison made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-18 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 22-19 as a first reading. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried. Resolution No. 22-19: **A RESOLUTION SETTING WAGES FOR EMPLOYEES NOT OTHERWISE COVERED BY CONTRACTS.**

Councilperson Goodfellow made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM.



Mayor



Council Clerk