

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING

July 5, 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, Janie DePinto, Susan Goodfellow and Debra Hooper. Also present were Police Chief Ross, Administrator Emmert, Finance Director Wion, Assistant Finance Director Milner, and Fire Chief Fain. Absent was Councilpersons Boyle and Danison.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to excuse Councilpersons Boyle and Danison from the July 5, 2022 meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to approve the minutes for the June 21, 2022 meeting with corrections. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson reported several organizations have sponsored free swim days for the community. Mayor Thompson stated Police Chief Ross, Administrator Emmert and himself met with State Representative Kevin Miller on June 29, 2022. They gave Miller a tour of the Village showing him projects in process and projects that have been completed. Emmert stated Miller participated in the parade and cares about the community. Thompson stated they introduced Miller to Fire Chief Fain and EMS personnel, who explained EMS services provided by the Village. Thompson thanked Administrator Emmert, Public Service Department, Police Chief Ross, Fire Chief Fain, and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee for a great job with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration. Thompson also thanked Mount Aloysius for their generous donation.

Assistant Finance Director Milner presented Council with the Ohio Department of Development Brownfield Remediation Program Grant Agreement. Milner asked Council if they had any questions before signing the agreement. Councilperson Bethel asked if there was a match for the grant. Milner stated there is no match unless you go over the initial estimates. If the cost would go over the Village would be required to pay \$25,000. Milner stated you can meet with the owners or their agent to discuss this. Milner explained the details of the project to Council. Councilperson DePinto stated she has been asked what the Village gets out of the project. Milner stated this project will make the nine acres useable. Without moving forward with the project, the property will just sit there. DePinto asked who did all the research for the project. Milner stated she and Jim Smith. Milner stated she would be the project manager and would oversee the grant. The money will come to the Village and be disbursed through the finance office. Mayor Thompson asked about liability insurance. Milner stated any contractor awarded the bid to work on the project will have to show proof of insurance. Councilperson Hooper stated her biggest concern is if the Village would have to pay \$25,000. Milner stated she does not think this will happen, but if it does the Village can apply for other grants to help with the cost. Thompson stated this is the first time the Village has taken on a project like this to improve the Village. Administrator Emmert stated people he spoke with have all had positive comments about the project. Dave Pletcher stated this area is zoned industrial which is a positive. Milner stated at the end of the project there will be no guessing about what is good and what is not. Milner explained the steps of the project if passed by Council. Milner stated all questions about the project should be directed to her to alleviate any misconception.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion for Assistant Finance Director Milner to proceed with the Brownfield Grant. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Finance Director Wion presented Council with the May 2022 and June 2022 financial reports and bank reconciliations. Wion presented Council with a revenue report and expenditure report. Wion presented Council with an Ordinance for Amended Annual Appropriations and a Resolutions for setting wages.

Administrator Emmert stated he received eleven applications for the Finance Director position. Mayor Thompson asked if any Council members would like to sit in on interviews. Council members Welsh, DePinto, Hooper and Goodfellow stated "yes". Emmert stated the air conditioning unit on the Fire Department side is not working. Emmert is getting an estimate to repair the unit. Emmert informed Council surrounding areas charge more for hometown hero banners than the Village. Emmert stated with the cost of the brackets and the time it takes to hang the banners he thinks the Village needs to increase the cost. Councilperson Bethel suggested waiting until next year. Mayor Thompson stated the Village will wait until next year to see what the cost of materials will be. Emmert reported the Nuzum bridge project is going well and ODOT is going to pave from the bridge to Fairview Street. Emmert informed Council the State Route 13 waterline project should be complete before the next Council meeting. Emmert stated he is getting a quote for a phone for the swimming pool. Emmert stated Pike Township Trustees mowed State Street and the alley behind Ogden Insurance Agency has been repaired with hot mix. Emmert reported Engine 11 and Medic 4 have been posted on GOV Deals. Councilperson Hooper asked if the railroad tracks by Perry County Dental Group could be repaired. Emmert stated he will try to contact the railroad.

Police Chief Ross reported 6,909 calls for service in 2022 as of tonight. Ross stated they had 992 calls in the last two weeks. Ross stated Mifflin Township has to file for a lost title to the cruiser he is purchasing. Ross reported 9 fishing permits have been issued this week to fish at the reservoir at night. 43 permits have been issued since May. Ross stated they had 32 suspicious persons reports and a lot of thefts. Ross stated a scooter was stolen but later found abandoned. Ross reported 12 property maintenance reports. Ross stated the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration was great. Councilperson Goodfellow asked Ross about the owner of the trailer on Swigart Street. Ross stated he would look into it. Ross stated he contacted Attorney Barkley about the house on Jefferson Street. Barkley informed Ross the Village would have to establish an Abatement Board and an Appeals Abatement Board.

Fire Chief Fain reported they had a busy weekend. The department participated in the Junction City 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade, Somerset 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade and New Lexington's 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. Fain stated they participated in the festivities at Somerset and lost the trophy back to Somerset Fire Department. Fain stated they had a live feed to watch the fireworks at the park on the 4<sup>th</sup>. Fain reported they had rave reviews. Fain reported in June they responded to 144 runs with 104 transports. Fain reported the Fire Department responded to 31 runs in June.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 22-7 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance No. 22-7: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TO APPLY FOR AN AMENDED CERTIFICATE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 22-7 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

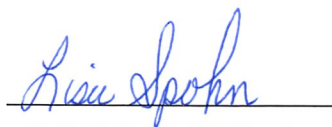
Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 22-19 as a second reading. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 22-19: **A RESOLUTION SETTING WAGES FOR EMPLOYEES NOT OTHERWISE COVERED BY CONTRACTS.** Councilperson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

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM.



Mayor



Council Clerk