

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING
April 18, 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. Councilperson Susan Boyle attended via zoom. Also present were Police Chief Ross, Administrator Emmert, Finance Director Wion and Fire Chief Fain. Assistant Finance Director Milner attended via zoom.

Councilperson Danison made a motion to approve the minutes for the April 4, 2022 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson stated he attended the 4th of July Committee meeting and informed them of the commitment of \$10,000 donation for fireworks. Thompson stated he attended the Planning/Economic Committee meeting. Thompson stated he received two complaints on water bills.

Finance Director Wion requested a motion to approve the March financial statements.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to approve the March 2022 financial statements. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Assistant Finance Director Milner stated the new fire truck was supposed to cost \$430,000 and ended up costing \$500,000. After grant money was applied the Village needs \$50,000 more. The amount due is above what was budgeted. Fire Chief Fain stated the previous grant writer did not remove some things on the truck to cut the cost. Milner stated they need to schedule a Finance Committee meeting to find the funds. A Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for April 20, 2022 at 4:30 pm at the Municipal Building. An Emergency Council meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2022 at 4:30 pm at the Municipal Building.

Administrator Emmert stated the Water Treatment Plant, and the Public Service Department will be flushing hydrants the week of May 9, 2022. Emmert stated Kyle Gabbard has obtained his Class II water license. Emmert reported the Water Treatment Plant was inspected by the EPA and there were no violations. Emmert stated Seth Guisinger started at the Public Service Department today. Emmert reported Medic 10 was sold on Gov deals for \$7,800. Emmert informed Council he had a meeting with ODOT pertaining to the Nuzum Bridge project. Construction will start on the bridge May 25, 2022. Emmert stated he attended the Mayors Partnership for Progress meeting for the Appalachian Region. The committee discussed broad band for the region which the Village is covered and the firefighter volunteer task force.

Police Chief Ross reported 2304 calls for service in 2022 as of tonight. Ross stated they had 350 calls in March 2022. Ross stated he applied for a body armor grant through the Attorney Generals office. The grant has a 25% match. Ross stated he received a quote for twelve vests for

\$7,188. Ross stated he received an email stating he was accepted for the grant. The match for the Village is \$1,797. Ross stated he is looking into a Nature Works grant. If he is able to get the grant, he would like to use it to make improvements at the New Lexington Reservoir with picnic tables, shelter house, a dock for kayaks and other things. These are just some suggestions. Ross stated he read an article where there is funding out there for law enforcement and he is going to start looking into how to apply. Ross stated they are still waiting for the new cruiser to be outfitted. Councilperson Bethel asked Ross if he had anyone for the property maintenance position. Ross stated "yes". Storm Rushing is going to fill the position. Council discussed property maintenance and zoning. Councilperson Hooper asked about the people always around the dumpster down by Perry County Dental group. Ross stated he will have officers patrol the area. Councilperson DePinto asked how many members are on the zoning board. Dave Pletcher stated himself, James Welsh and Rhett Winegardener. Council informed Pletcher Clay Hooper volunteered to be on the committee. Pletcher stated they need one more volunteer. They also need five volunteers for the Zoning Board of Appeals committee. Ross will post on the Village Police Department Facebook page for volunteers.

Fire Chief Fain stated he asked Milner to prepare a Resolution rescinding the most recent pay increase for the department. Fain stated they had thirty-five fire runs in the month of March. Fain stated he attended the Easter Egg hunt at the New Lexington football field on April 16, 2022.

Councilperson Boyle asked Council if they could cancel the 2022 Fall Festival and have the committee on hiatus until fall.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to cancel the 2022 Fall Festival and put the committee on hiatus until Fall. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel reported on the Planning/Economic Committee meeting held on April 6, 2022. Bethel stated the committee discussed annexation. Bethel stated public safety is a priority when annexing out of town areas. Bethel stated the committee discussed the dog park in an area of Arethusa Springs Park. Bethel stated he spoke to Tim Deavers and he is going to host a disc golf tournament to raise money for the dog park. Bethel stated Police Chief Ross may have his real estate business sponsor a pool party to raise money for the park. Bethel stated they discussed making the Village ATV and golf cart friendly. Bethel reported the members of the public that attended the meeting were in favor of allowing ATVs and golf carts on the Village roadways. Bethel asked Council if they had any comments on the subject. Councilperson Welsh asked about the laws pertaining to driving ATVs and golf carts on the Village roadways. Police Chief Ross stated they would follow state laws. A Planning/Economic Committee meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2022 at 5:00 pm at the Municipal Building.

Councilperson Danison asked Administrator Emmert if they started working on the swimming pool. Emmert stated "yes". Emmert stated they are currently draining the pool to get it ready for the 2022 season. Emmert stated he will contact Dave Ratliff tomorrow. Fire Chief Fain presented Council with the Clayton Township Fire/EMS Contract for services with the Village. Mayor Thompson asked if we could get brackets to hang more Hometown Hero Banners. Emmert stated they have been ordered. Emmert stated they are going to contact the owners of the banners that need replaced due to deterioration from weather.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 22-9 as a second reading. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 22-9: **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REQUEST FOR AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE.** Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-9 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 22-10 as a second reading. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 22-10: **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REQUEST FOR AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-10 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. 22-11 as a second reading. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 22-11: **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REQUEST FOR AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE.** Councilperson Danison made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-11 as read. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Hooper requested an executive session.

Councilperson Hooper made a motion to enter into executive session regarding personnel with Council and Mayor present. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting suspended at 6:50 pm for executive session.

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

Meeting resumed at 7:10 pm.

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.



Mayor



Council Clerk