

# VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING

October 3, 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, Susan Goodfellow, Debra Hooper, Janie DePinto, Dan Bethel, Susan Boyle, and Jeff Danison. Also present were Police Chief Ross, Finance Director Lewis, and Fire Chief Fain.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to approve the minutes for the September 19, 2022 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilpersons Bethel and Boyle who abstained due to being absent from the September 19, 2022 meeting. Motion carried.

Jenny LaRue from the Perry County Health Department presented Council with a Memorandum of Understanding on the OHIZ (Ohio Health Improvement Zone). LaRue stated the Health Department would like to give the Village \$10,000 to be a community action partner. LaRue would like for the Village to help get people involved in meetings and events for the assessment on what the community needs to be healthy. LaRue stated they will need one person from the Village to be involved in meetings. The assessment needs completed by January 2023. Police Chief Ross volunteered to represent the Village. LaRue stated they would like to name the bike park after Councilperson Susan Boyle since she was instrumental in finding a place for the park. LaRue asked Council to vote on several names and Councilperson Bethel suggested letting Sue pick the name. Sue decided to name the park Susie Q.

Mayor Thompson stated he attended the Dolly Parton Imagination Library fundraiser, KAT Foundation fundraiser and the Classic Riders bike show. Thompson stated he is still receiving complaints about the traffic light at Walnut and Main Street not working properly. Currently the light is flashing yellow on Main Street and flashing red on Walnut Street. Council decided to leave the lights flashing until further notice. Thompson stated he attended the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration dinner at the Fire Department which went great. Thompson informed Council the Finance Committee was invited to attend a work session on October 6, 2022 from 9:30 am-1:30 pm at the Work Force Development Center. Thompson reminded everyone that the car show fundraiser is rescheduled for Saturday, October 8, 2022.

Finance Director Lewis stated she received notice from the state that the Village failed to file unemployment insurance for the last three quarters by the previous Finance Director. Lewis stated this cost the Village \$2,600 in late fees and interest. Lewis presented Council with an Ordinance for amending annual appropriations. Lewis issued a warning to the Fire Department about their budget and spending for the rest of the year. Lewis reported she transferred money from the ARPA funds to income tax for new software. Lewis stated she completed ten hours of Government Accounting CPE credits. Lewis informed Council she and Administrator Emmert are moving forward with an official quote from Spectrum for phone service. Lewis stated she is going to perform an in-house audit. Councilperson Danison asked Councilpersons Bethel and DePinto if they receive reports from Assistant Finance Director Milner on the Brownfield project. Both stated "yes". Councilperson Welsh stated he receives them also. Police Chief Ross inquired about the 2023 budget. Lewis stated Milner is going to get with her next week. Lewis stated she is currently working on it.

Mayor Thompson reported on behalf of Administrator Emmert that Emmert met with Jenny LaRue concerning bed tax. Thompson stated the only things left to do on Balls Court is the poles, backboards, and the top for the "Dr. Ball Memorial" signage. Thompson reported Emmert wanted to thank Brian Fisher, Adam Funk- Funk

Fencing, TTAD LLC and Tunnel Hill Landfill for all their work and donations. Thompson reported Emmert stated they are going to move forward with Spectrum for the phone service which will save the Village approximately \$2,000. Emmert wanted to thank Public Service Director Ross and his crew for locating water leaks on State Route 37 and Commerce Drive. They fixed three leaks in this location which is saving 20,000 gallons of water per day. Thompson stated the low service pump at the Water Treatment Plant will be repaired in the next couple of weeks by Electric Motor Company at a cost of \$30,000. Thompson stated a card reader has been installed at the WTP for bulk water. Customers will no longer be able to use coins. A grinder has been installed at the Wastewater Treatment Plant as a temporary fix until a mechanical bar screen is complete. Emmert met with Verdantas to modify the \$1,000,000 contract for the waterline project. After meeting with Verdantas Emmert stated we are back to the beginning of the project. Thompson reported the Village should receive a start date for the Issue I Paving project by the end of the month. Councilperson Welsh asked if the Fire Department fuel tank had been installed yet. Police Chief Ross stated it was supposed to be installed last week but has not yet been installed. Councilperson Hooper thanked Administrator Emmert for fixing the street light issue.

Police Chief Ross reported 1,608 calls for service in the month of September. Ross reported 12,446 calls for service in 2022 as of tonight. Ross reported the Finance Committee and Council had approved the purchase of another cruiser. Ross stated the cruiser has been ordered but he needs Council to approve by motion the purchase for Ford credit.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to approve the purchase of a police cruiser for 2023. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Ross stated at the Christmas Committee meeting a lot of ideas were discussed. Ross stated the committee is going to join with the Community Club to decorate the Village this year. The next meeting is scheduled for October 11, 2022 at 5:00 pm at the Municipal Building. Ross stated he held a staff meeting today. Ross reported the department needs to order new uniforms.

Fain reported the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration was a good event. Fain stated around 100 people attended. The car show fundraiser for the department has been rescheduled for October 8, 2022. Fain stated October and November are busy months for the department with Trunk or Treat, Trick or Treat and they are working on medicount issues. Councilperson Danison asked Fire Chief Fain and Police Chief Ross if they have plans for campaigning for the levies. Ross stated he has people from Zanesville coming to help him do door to door canvassing and is going to do an infomercial. Councilperson Hooper asked if they could get signs. Ross stated he already has the police levy signs coming. Fain stated he is working on the signs. Hooper expressed to Fain how nice the celebration was.

A Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for October 12, 2022 at 4:30 pm at the Municipal Building.

Councilperson Goodfellow reported on the Municipal Concerns Committee meeting held on September 23, 2022. The committee discussed posting no parking in front of the Eagles during certain hours for deliveries. The committee recommended to Council to leave it the same as it is currently.

Finance Director Lewis reported she, Administrator Emmert and Assistant Water Clerk Saffell had a phone conference with John Tate from Optimere about archiving Facebook posts since this is considered a public record.

Councilperson Danison asked Councilperson Depinto and Fire Chief Fain if they had talked to New Straitsville about Fire/EMS services. They stated "no". Councilperson DePinto stated that is Coal Township. Councilperson DePinto stated her, and Fire Chief Fain will go talk to them.

Mayor Thompson asked Council when they would like to hold Trick or Treat in the Village. Councilperson Danison stated he thought they should keep it on Halloween.

Councilperson Danison made a motion to hold Trick or Treat on October 31, 2022 from 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson stated Coach Board wants his staff and players to get involved with community activities. They are willing to help with Halloween where needed.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 22-10 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.  
Ordinance No. 22-10: **ODOT PROJECT TITLE MUNICIPAL BRIDGE INSPECTION PROGRAM.**  
Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 22-10 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 22-11 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.  
Ordinance No. 22-11: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TO APPLY FOR AN AMENDED CERTIFICATE.** Councilperson Danison made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 22-11 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. 22-33 as a seconded reading. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried. Resolution No. 22-33: **A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A “BROWNFIELD LEMPCO REMEDIATION” CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND.** Councilperson Danison made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-33 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

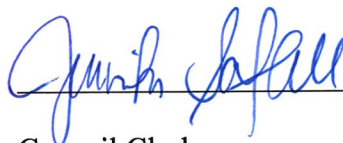
Mayor Thompson entertained a motion to adjourn.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.



Mayor



Council Clerk

Acting Clerk