

# VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING

January 3, 2023

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

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to approve the minutes for the December 19, 2022 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to excuse Councilpersons Danison and Goodfellow from the January 3, 2023 meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion for Councilperson Welsh to serve as Council President for the 2023 calendar year. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Ron Nash addressed Council with concerns about Waste Away the current trash company with the Village. Nash asked what the procedure is when the Village contracts with a trash company. Councilperson Bethel stated it is put out for bid every three years. Nash asked if it was a closed bid and Mayor Thompson stated "yes". Nash stated if your trash is picked up on Friday and there is inclement weather, they tell you it won't be picked up until the following Friday. He feels this is unacceptable. Mayor Thompson stated there used to be a clause in the trash removal contracts that state in inclement weather trash will be picked up one to three days after the incident. After the bad weather it is at the Villages discretion if pick up is delayed longer. Thompson stated Waste Away has been sold and the Village is requesting the new owner come speak to Council before any contract is signed.

Mayor Thompson reported on the state of the Village budget. Thompson stated the budget looks good. Thompson stated he received complaints regarding trash removal and calls about water main breaks.

Finance Director Lewis stated according to this year's pay schedule ten holidays fall on a Monday. Lewis asked Council since Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday next year if they wanted the employees to take the Friday before or the Tuesday after the holiday. It was decided the employees will take the Friday before the holiday. Lewis presented Council with several resolution's concerning pay increases and a resolution to sell the dump truck at the Public Service Department. Lewis stated since they are selling the truck to the New Lexington City Schools, another government entity it does not have to go out for bid. They are purchasing the truck for \$3,500. Lewis stated the 2023 budget is complete.

Council Clerk Spohn presented Council with resolutions for Heidi Milner to apply for Surface Transportation Block Grant and Safe Streets and Roads Grant program on behalf of Administrator Emmert.

Police Chief Ross presented Council with a 2022 annual report. Ross reported 16,817 calls for service in 2022. Ross stated there were three overdoses last week with two only thirty minutes apart. Ross stated he hired two officers. Ross stated the thermostat in his office was not working. Administrator Emmert contacted Folk & Sons to repair it. They had to replace a motor in the heating system at a cost of \$550. Councilperson Welsh asked how the new K-9 was doing. Ross stated he is doing great.

Fire Chief Fain stated the department is doing better financially. Fain stated in 2022 the Fire/EMS had 2,339 runs. Fain stated he is requesting the department sell Medic 1. Fain stated it is costing too much to make repairs to keep it. Fain stated he will have an annual report for Council at the next meeting. Fain stated he will speak to

Finance Director Lewis on preparing a resolution for Medic 1 to be up for bid. Fain stated they have received lots of applications for EMS since the Village increased wages and made this a full-time position with benefits.

Finance Director Lewis reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on December 27, 2022.

Mayor Thompson reported on the Charter Revision Committee meetings held on December 29, 2022.

Mayor Thompson reported on the Records Committee meetings held on December 29, 2022.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 23-1 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 23-1: **A RESOLUTION AMENDING WAGES FOR RICHARD KLEINERT (WATER TREATMENT SUPERINTENDENT) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 23-1 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. 23-2 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 23-2: **A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE CONTRACT OF CHELSEY N. LEWIS AS NEW LEXINGTON FINANCE DIRECTOR AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 23-2 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 23-3 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 23-3: **A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE CONTRACT OF ERIC EMMERT AS NEW LEXINGTON VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 23-3 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 23-4 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 23-4: **A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE CONTRACT OF TIMOTHY (TJ) ROSS AS NEW LEXINGTON POLICE CHIEF AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 23-4 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 23-5 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 23-5: **A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION 22-40 THE RATES OF PAY FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 23-5 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 23-6 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 23-6: **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING HEIDI MILNER TO APPLY ON BEHALF OF THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON FOR THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT THROUGH BUCKEYE HILLS REGIONAL COUNCIL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 23-6 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 23-7 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.  
**Resolution No. 23-7: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING HEIDI MILNER TO APPLY ON BEHALF OF THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON FOR THE SAFE STREETS AND ROADS GRANT PROGRAM THROUGH OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 23-7 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. 23-8 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Resolution No. 23-8: **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF 1992 INTERNATIONAL DUMP TRUCK AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 23-8 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Police Chief Ross requested an executive session.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to enter executive session regarding employment with Council, Mayor, Police Chief, Fire Chief, Finance Director and Council Clerk present. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting suspended at 6:30 pm for executive session.

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

Meeting resumed at 6:55 pm.

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

Mayor Thompson entertained a motion to adjourn.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:56 PM.

  
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Mayor

  
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Council Clerk