

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING
April 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 Dan Bethel, Susan Goodfellow, James Welsh, Jeff Danison and Janie DePinto. Also present were Administrator Emmert, Police Chief Ross and Finance Director Lewis. Absent were Councilpersons Susan Boyle and Debra Hooper.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to excuse Councilpersons Boyle and Hooper from the April 3, 2023 meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to approve the minutes for the March 20, 2023 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilpersons Danison and Welsh who abstained due to being absent from the March 20, 2023 meeting. Motion carried.

Assistant Finance Director Milner provided Council with an update on the remediation of the ground water at the Lempco building. Milner stated they solicited for bids for this process and received three back. Milner presented Council a Resolution to go into contract with Regensis to do the ground water remediation at a cost of \$274,640.55.

Mayor Thompson reported he received a traffic pattern concern on Eastern Ave. Thompson gave an update on the progress of the repairs to the girls' softball field.

Finance Director Lewis presented Council with an Ordinance for the permanent budget. Lewis stated once this is passed, she will be able to pay the invoices for the girls' softball field. Lewis stated the EMS employees are talking about taking vacation time. Lewis asked how much time they were to receive since they went from part time to full time. Lewis reported she and Assistant Fire Chief Morrow thought they had two weeks, but one of the police officers went from part time to full time and the Personal Policy Manual states they get one week. Councilperson Danison stated they need to go by the PPM. Council stated they would go by the PPM and this states one week until your one-year anniversary as a full-time employee.

Administrator Emmert stated to add a handicap port a let at the park the cost would be \$225.00 a month and to add just a single would be \$100.00 a month. Emmert stated he and Finance Director Lewis feel the Village cannot afford to add a handicap port a let. Councilperson Bethel stated he may have someone that would donate to pay for a handicap port a let. Emmert stated there is damage to the roof at the shelter house and bathroom at the park from the recent high winds. Emmert stated the insurance deductible is \$2,500. Emmert stated he is getting two estimates. Emmert stated a disc golf tournament will be held at the park on June 17, 2023. Emmert stated the gentleman hosting the event is going to donate the money back to the parks. Emmert stated he received an estimate to upgrade the electric at the park from John Saffell. The estimate is \$35,000 and for the work that AEP would have to do would be \$3,000. Emmert stated they submitted a profile to Buckeye Hills for all the projects that the Village is receiving loans for. Emmert reported he had a meeting with Amanda from Poggemeyer Design Group, and they went and looked at the water towers. Emmert stated the water towers on Airport Road and Highland Dr. both have a leak. They also reviewed the alley reconstruction that needs to be done, park revitalization, downtown revitalization, walking trails and sidewalks, new waterlines, and the streetscape. Emmert stated that currently the most important projects are the sewer plant upgrades and new waterlines. Emmert stated AEP is going to be working on a project at the courthouse and they need to cross the road near the Village parking lot. Emmert stated if they put the poles high enough you could use them to hang banners. Councilperson Danison stated at one time you were not permitted to hang banners across the road. Emmert is going to check with ODOT. Emmert reported they started training on the new software today.

Emmert thanked Council for approving the purchase of the software. Emmert reported Amanda from Poggemeyer Design Group is doing a great job.

Police Chief Ross reported 6,166 calls for service for the year and 2,494 calls for service in March. Ross stated the body camaras purchased at the end of last year are up and running. Ross stated he and K-9 Mack attended the career day at the New Lexington Elementary School. The kids loved Mack. Mayor Thompson asked Ross if the new MARC's radios have been ordered. Ross stated they were waiting on the permanent budget to be passed.

Mayor Thompson stated Fire Chief Fain, Assistant Fire Chief Morrow and officer Hooper were attending a meeting at the EMA. Thompson stated EMS had 37 fire runs in the month of March and EMS had 163 calls for service in March. EMS has 484 calls for service this year. Thompson reported the department received a grant of \$10,000 for turn out gear.

Councilperson DePinto asked if the Village could put a replacement levy on the ballot in November for Parks and Recreation. Administrator Emmert stated they should ask Pike Township to be a part of the levy for Parks and Recreation. Councilperson Bethel asked if they should ask the Perry County Auditor how much revenue this would create.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 23-4 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance No. 23-4: **AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 23-4 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. 23-13 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 23-13: **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING, ACCEPTING, AND ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT WITH REGENSIS FOR THE GROUND WATER REMEDIATION OF THE FORMER LEMPCO PROPERTY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Danison made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 23-13 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson entertained a motion to adjourn.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:38 PM.



Mayor



Council Clerk