

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING

April 1, 2024

5:30 PM

MUNICIPAL BUILDING

The Village of New Lexington met in regular session with Mayor Thompson presiding and the meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM. Council Members present were Janie DePinto, Jim Welsh, Dan Bethel, Bob Spencer, and Ty Danison. Also present were Administrator Emmert, Police Chief Gill, Finance Director Lewis, and Fire Chief Fain. Absent was Councilperson Hooper.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to approve the minutes for the March 4, 2024 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to approve the minutes for the March 18, 2024 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson stated he attended a meeting with Representative Troy Balderson and a meeting at the New Lexington CSD. Thompson stated he attended the Easter Egg hunt at the football field.

Finance Director Lewis informed Council the Village has received the bed tax. Lewis stated a check for \$223.70 was received from the Opioid settlement. Lewis reported the 2024 budget has been approved by the Perry County Auditor. Lewis requested Council members update their emergency medical forms with her. Lewis presented Council an updated payment list.

Administrator Emmert presented Council with an ongoing project list. Emmert stated this is the list that was used for the meeting with Representative Balderson. Emmert reported that Phase I of the water improvement project is the top priority. Emmert stated the Village has applied for grants for each project. Emmert informed Council that effective April 1, 2024 the lobby hours will be from 8:00 am till 4:00 pm. The door will be locked at 4:00 pm. Emmert stated a letter was sent to the PUCO asking for Madison Street railroad crossing to be approved as an exempt crossing. Emmert stated the village will be working with the Building Trades Class at the New Lexington High School on doing repairs at the swimming pool.

Police Chief Gill reported the dispatchers were given their notice today for employment ending. Some dispatchers have got employment with the 911center. Gill stated Chad Wilkins the new code enforcement officer was present at the meeting if Council had any questions for him. Gill presented Council with a list of vehicles for destruction.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion for Police Chief Gill to destroy several vehicles for scrap. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Gill stated the K-9 first aid training hosted by Sgt. Dodd will be on April 6, 2024 from 8 am till 4 pm. Gill reported the Suicide/Human Trafficking/Drug Coalition meeting was held on March 19, 2024 at the municipal building. Gill stated Commander Biggers attended the needs assessment meeting for the Injury Prevention Grant. Gill reported the distracted driving event at the New

Lexington High School will be on April 23, 2024. Gill stated on May 3, 2024 there will be two basketball games at the New Lexington High School. Entry to the game will be donations to benefit the dog shelter. The teams playing will be the NLPD v. the Auditors office followed by the NLPD v. Somerset FD. Gill reported cruiser 6 is currently out of service for major repairs. Gill stated he and Commander Biggers have joined the OAPC and will be attending the annual training conference this month. Gill stated he created a Perry County Chiefs Association and hosted the first meeting today. Gill stated the department had 657 calls for service in the month of March. Gill presented Council with a breakdown of the calls.

Fire Chief Fain reported they had 35 fire runs in the month of March. Currently he does not have the number of calls for service for EMS due to issues with printing. Fain stated the new medic should arrive at the beginning of May. Fain stated the department will be hosting fire training classes at the Village.

Councilperson DePinto scheduled a Finance Committee meeting on April 17, 2024 at 1:00 pm at the Municipal Building. DePinto stated she will have a resolution at the next meeting to combine the Public Service and Municipal Concerns committees.

Councilperson Bethel discussed the current park and recreation levy. Bethel stated he and Administrator Emmert spoke with Perry County Auditor Householder about the difference in a replacement levy or a renewal levy.

Councilperson DePinto asked Administrator Emmert if there were any updates on the possibility of Win Waste Innovations contributing to repairs at the New Lexington Swimming Pool. Emmert stated he received an email from Sarah Matthews at Win Waste requesting more information.

Code enforcement officer Wilkins reported the 2009 version of the property maintenance code is being replaced with the 2024 changes. Wilkins updated Council on the progress of changes he is implementing to update the process.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance 24-3 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance No. 24-3: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1313 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 24-3 as read. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted "yes" Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to excuse Councilperson Hooper from the April 1, 2024 meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "no" except for Councilperson Bethel who voted "yes" and Councilperson Spencer who abstained. Motion failed.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to enter executive session per ORC 121.22(G)(1) regarding personnel with Mayor, Council, Administrator, Finance Director, Police Chief, Fire Chief and Council Clerk present. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel.

Meeting suspended at 6:12 pm for executive session.

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

Meeting resumed at 6:22 pm.

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

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to enter into executive session per ORC 121.22(G)(1) regarding personnel with Mayor, Council, Administrator, Finance Director, Police Chief, Fire Chief and Council Clerk present. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting suspended at 6:23 PM for executive session.

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

Meeting resumed at 6:33 PM.

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

Councilperson DePinto stated Roger Hooper and Dave Pletcher are interested in the open Council seat due to the passing of Councilperson Danison. DePinto stated Council Clerk Spohn would pass out blank papers to Council members and they should write who they would like to hold the open seat. She will then collect the papers and go to the back of the room and count the votes. She will only name the person who shall fill that seat.

Council Clerk Spohn stated Dave Pletcher.

Councilperson DePinto made a motion to appoint Dave Pletcher to fulfill the unexpired term of Councilperson Jeff Danison. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson entertained a motion to adjourn.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:38 PM.



Mayor



Council Clerk