

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING

February 18, 2020

6:30 PM

MUNCIPAL BUILDING

The Village of New Lexington met in regular session with Mayor Trent Thompson presiding and the meeting being called to order at 6:30 PM. Council Members present were Susan Boyle, Dan Bethel, Susan Goodfellow, Kathy Chute, James Welsh and Doug Fox. Also present were Finance Director Heather Rockwell, Police Chief Scott Ervin, Administrator Bo Powell and Fire Chief Jim Fain. Absent was Councilperson Jeff Danison.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to excuse Councilperson Danison from the February 18, 2020 meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to approve the minutes for the February 3, 2020 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Thompson informed Council he attended the Pike Township meeting to represent Fire Chief Fain due to a conflict of several Township meetings on the same night. Thompson stated the contract for services for Pike Township with the New Lexington Fire/EMS has been completed. Thompson stated on February 12, 2020 he and Councilperson Welsh attended the afterschool program hosted by Penny Murray.

Finance Director Rockwell stated the Annual Financial reports are complete and uploaded to the state. Rockwell stated the next project is the permanent budget and the annual report to USDA. Rockwell presented Council with the January 2020 financial statements, bank reconciliation, credit card statement and the blanket purchase order activity reports for Bob Heavener. Rockwell stated one purchase order is for water and one is for sewer. Rockwell stated each purchase order is highlighted to show how much has been spent and how much is remaining. Rockwell presented Council with an Ordinance for 2020 Supplemental Temporary Appropriations. Rockwell reminded Council to prepare a biography and have a photo ready for the website. Mayor Thompson asked if they could see a demo of what it looks like. Rockwell stated they do have a demo and she will get the URL. Rockwell asked if she could have a copy of all Township contracts when they are complete. Rockwell stated the percentages of the levies determine some items she needs for reporting. Rockwell requested a motion to approve the December financial statements and bank reconciliation.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to approve the December financial statements and bank reconciliation. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Administrator Powell informed Council that Nathan and John from HAPCAP will attend the April 20, 2020 meeting to inform Council what they expect Administrator Powell and Councilperson Welsh to do to apply for a grant through HAPCAP. Powell stated the State of Ohio is thinking about raising the grant from \$750,000 to \$1,000,000. Powell stated Vince Crawford of Waste Management met with him February 18, 2020 to see if residents had any complaints about service. Crawford informed Powell Waste Management would like to donate \$1,000 to the Village in the spring and \$1,000 in the fall. Powell stated he thought maybe the donation in the spring could be used to purchase brackets for the hometown hero banners and the fall donation could be used for the stage for the Fall Festival. Powell informed Council Dave Couch from MRDD met with him and stated they would like to donate \$15,000 toward the Village match on the Streetscape Project. Powell stated ODOT is raising their cost of the project \$6,400. Powell stated MRDD would like to be involved with any upgrades to the park. They would like some handicap swings. Powell stated Heavener is close to completing the work on Maple Heights. Powell informed Council he would be attending the Excavating Safety meeting in Zanesville on February 19, 2020 and the Flood Plain meeting in Athens on February 20, 2020. Powell stated he spoke with Attorney Baughman and she requested Powell send letters to the people who have liens on the property at 327 Elizabeth Street. Council discussed different options to have the house demolished at 327 Elizabeth Street. All liens must be waived before anyone can proceed. Council requested Powell follow up with

Attorney Baughman on the letters he sent. Chute asked Powell how he was going to forward the confirmation to ODOT from Council agreeing to the extra \$6,400 by noon on February 19, 2020. Powell stated he would e-mail them from his phone. Councilperson Chute inquired about the standing water on Maple Heights and Park Ave. Chute stated she thought when Heavener did work on Maple Heights it would take care of the issue. Mayor Thompson stated it was due to the way the street was paved. Chute stated moving forward, the Village needs to make sure the streets are properly prepped before paving. Chute asked Powell if the light on the flag pool in front of the Municipal Building was repaired. Powell stated it was still being worked on. Chute asked about the light above the employee entrance door not working properly. Powell stated the exit light needs replaced. Chute asked Powell and Rockwell about creating new employee badges. Chute stated water clerk Jenny Saffell can work on these during her slower times of the month. Chute stated she will also be able to do the pool passes. Rockwell stated each department needs to work with Jenny to design their badges. Chute asked Powell to start the process and report back in two weeks. Mayor Thompson asked Powell to investigate a complaint from a resident on Hutchinson Court and report back to him. Thompson stated the resident stated she has called with concerns about a water issue. She stated they come and walk around the house but never call or let her know what they found. Thompson informed Powell he had complaints on potholes on Fox Run Alley, Parkside Dr. and the alley behind the Municipal Building. Thompson reported a streetlight was out at 103 Highland Dr. Councilperson Goodfellow inquired about the house between Johnson and Kennedy Dr. where a freestanding wood structure with no sides has collapsed. Goodfellow asked if Powell asked them to tear it down or if it just fell. Powell stated it fell on its own. Goodfellow stated the property looks terrible.

Police Chief Ervin presented Council with a draft for an Ordinance prepared by Attorney Baughman amending the traffic code for parking by Saint Rose Church. Ervin stated he thought it looked good and once Council had a chance to review the Ordinance, Ervin suggested moving forward with painting the lines when the weather gets better. Ervin stated they sent letters to 109 E. Water St., 313 E. Water St., 315 W. Water St. and 225 Fairview St. regarding cars sitting on the property. Councilperson Goodfellow asked about the property on Water St. with all the junk in front of it. Ervin stated he thought they moved out. Ervin stated he sends a courtesy letter first letting the resident know the property needs cleaned up. If this does not work, the police department will visit the residence. Ervin stated this usually gets them to clean up the property for a while. Ervin stated the next step is abatement. Ervin stated the Village must take a stand on these types of situations and it will get better. Administrator Powell stated the Health Department has more pull to get trash removed. Ervin stated the Village needs to start the process and then go to the Health Department if they need help. Councilperson Welsh stated if it is a rental property, the landlord and tenant should be notified.

Mayor Thompson reported on behalf of Fire Chief Fain that the department has been very busy. Thompson stated they had nine calls for service today. Thompson stated last week they had 57 calls for service. Thompson reported the second medic is staying busy. Councilperson Fox inquired about the turbo on ladder 7. Thompson stated it is \$7,000.

Councilperson Chute reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on February 11, 2020. Chute stated Lee Conkel of Poggemeyer Design Group provided handouts with the upcoming Village projects, estimated engineering fees and Village matching funds. Chute stated the projects are the State Route 13 Waterline Replacement, Water Distribution Analysis, Streetscape and Nuzum Street Bridge. Chute informed Council the committee discussed a five-year plan including Phase II of the Wastewater Plant and possible upgrades to the Water Treatment Plant.

Councilperson Chute reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on February 13, 2020. Chute stated Fire Chief Fain reported the turbo needs repaired on Ladder 7. Finley Fire quoted the repair at \$7,000. The committee requested a second quote. Finance Director Rockwell was asked to prepare Supplemental Appropriations for the next Council meeting for the \$7,000 quote. Chute stated the status of the BWC Grant for the Jaws of Life tools for the Fire Department will require a match from the Village of \$10,807.75. The Committee agreed to pay the matching funds from the Fire Levy Fund. Chute reported Police Chief Ervin needs a plan for Dispatching for the permanent budget. Chute stated the committee discussed a contract for Police

Services with the Village of Shawnee. Chute stated she requested Police Chief Ervin provide Council with a written proposal for dispatching for them to review. Chute stated Administrator Powell requested \$5,720 to repair the traffic light at Walnut and Main Streets. Powell received the quote from Jess Howard Electric. The Committee requested a second quote. Chute reported Powell would like a part time cleaning person for the Municipal Building for two hours a week. Powell also would like to create an Assistant Superintendent position for the Public Service Department and pay them \$3.00 more per hour. Chute stated the committee discussed the Lead Operator position. Chute stated the committee wants more planning before this is approved. Chute stated Powell received a quote for paving the Municipal Building parking lot, but the company does not want to pave the lot until the drainage is repaired. Chute stated the committee approved an intern to update the Personnel Policy Manual and change the format of the tax forms currently on the website for \$3,000. Chute informed Council the electric bill for the Rehoboth Sewer lift station has not been paid yet and is being returned to the County Commissioners for payment again. Chute stated the Village will take responsibility for the electric on the April bill which would be March usage.

Councilperson Boyle reported on the Fall Festival Committee meeting held on February 10, 2020. Boyle stated the committee discussed flyers for the Wine and Welcome fundraiser and the bowling fundraiser. Boyle stated Lauryn Chute called several ride companies for quotes, but they are all booked for the day of the Festival. Boyle reported Kevin Clifton is sending the contract for the stage for the Festival. Boyle stated the committee discussed entertainment for the festival.

Councilperson Bethel stated changes have been made to the Complete Streets Policy Resolution that is being presented tonight if Council would like to review it. Bethel stated the policy must be adopted before the Village can apply for the grant.

Councilperson Chute asked Mayor Thompson if he heard from the County Commissioners. Thompson stated not at this time, but he is expecting an answer soon. Councilperson Bethel inquired about the letter Councilperson Chute delivered to the County Commissioners. Chute stated they have 14 days to reply to the letter from the date she delivered it. Chute stated she delivered the letters to the Commissioners, Rita Spicer, Derek Kaylor and Sheriff Barker on February 5, 2020.

Councilperson Chute inquired about the estimates for paving the short streets in the Village. Mayor Thompson stated Administrator Powell presented him the estimates February 18, 2020. Powell reported the estimate to pave the streets was \$91,000. McKee paving stated if the Village did all the streets at one time the cost would be \$89,000. Some of the streets are Center Street, Mechanic Street, Monument Street, Clayton Street and Saint Clair Street. Mayor Thompson asked which of the streets need repaired the most. Council discussed asking McKee paving to come back and give an estimate on doing a couple of the streets once Council decides which streets are in the most need of repair. Councilperson Chute asked Finance Director Rockwell for the status of the timeclock for the swimming pool. Rockwell stated she found several on Amazon and could order this week. Chute asked if the Township contracts for Fire & EMS were complete. Councilperson Welsh stated Fire Chief Fain said they were almost complete. Chute inquired about the HAPCAP Grant for waterlines. Councilperson Welsh stated that should be removed from the working document. Chute added the ID Badges, Pool passes, flagpole light, employee entrance light and getting an estimate for the drainage problem in the employee parking lot and paving to the working document.

Administrator Powell requested an executive session.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to un-table Resolution No. 20-4. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to un-table Resolution No. 20-5. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 20-5 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance No. 20-5: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 19-23 TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING TO THE PERMISSIVE TAX, WATER OPERATING AND SEWER OPERATING FUNDS WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY TO MAINTAIN NORMAL OPERATIONS OF THE VILLAGE.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 20-5 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 20-4 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Fox. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 20-4: **A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A COMPLETE STREETS POLICY IN THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 20-4 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. 20-5 and declaring an emergency. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 20-5: **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON AND POGGEMEYER DESIGN GROUP TO PROVIDE OWNERSHIP AND ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE NUZUM STREET BRIDGE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 20-5 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 20-6 as a second reading. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution 20-6: **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO FILE FOR PERMISSIVE TAX FUNDS FROM THE PERRY COUNTY ENGINEER.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 20-6 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to enter executive session per ORC 121.22(G)(8) to consider confidential information with Council and the Mayor present. Seconded by Councilperson Chute. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting suspended at 8:04 pm for executive session.

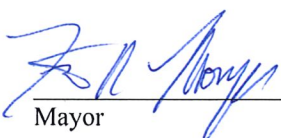
Councilperson Chute made a motion to exit executive session. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

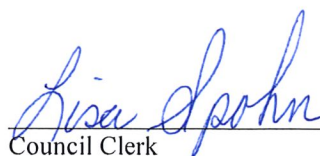
Meeting resumed at 8:45 pm.

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.



Mayor

Council Clerk