

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING

August 3, 2020

6:30 PM

MUNCIPAL BUILDING

The Village of New Lexington met in regular session with Mayor Thompson presiding and the meeting being called to order at 6:30 PM. Council Members present were Dan Bethel, Susan Boyle, Susan Goodfellow, Doug Fox, Jeff Danison and James Welsh. Also present were Finance Director Rockwell, Police Chief Ervin, Fire Chief Fain and Administrator Powell. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic the public was invited to view the meeting live online through the Village website and Facebook page. Absent was Councilperson Chute.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to excuse Councilperson Chute from the August 3, 2020 meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to approve the minutes for the July 20, 2020 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilpersons Fox and Danison who abstained due to being absent from the July 20, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

Randy Ayers of National United Brokers, Inc. presented Council with information regarding the Village's dental and vision insurance. Ayers stated he took over as the agent of record for the health insurance with Anthem in January. Ayers stated he is working on switching the agent of record for the dental and vision to have direct access to the insurance carrier. Ayers stated currently the Village has Delta Dental and VSP for their dental and vision insurance respectively. Anthem is offering the Village a 2½ % discount if dental and vision is added to the current medical policy. Ayers recommended the Village stay with their current broker for life insurance at this time. Ayers informed Council that if the Village would like to change to Anthem for dental and vision insurance he would like to begin the process in October 2020.

Mayor Thompson reported the Pleasant Street Bridge may open on August 4, 2020. Administrator Powell stated they still need to put up signage. Powell stated the final inspection for the bridge is scheduled for August 12, 2020.

Finance Director Rockwell presented Council copies of the swimming pool reports. Rockwell stated she would supply the Mayor with a current pool report after the current payroll is posted. Rockwell requested a motion to approve the June financial statements and bank reconciliation. Rockwell informed Council that BWC grants are on hold due to the COVID 19 pandemic. Rockwell presented Council with an Ordinance for 2020 supplemental appropriations for a fire grant and a pay resolution requested by the Finance Committee.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to approve the June 2020 financial reports and bank reconciliation. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Administrator Powell stated Dave Couch from the Perry County Board of Developmental Disabilities donated \$15,000 for the Streetscape Project. Powell stated since all the sidewalks are handicap accessible, Couch stated the Village could use the money for anything related to the project. Powell stated Councilperson Chute thought they may want to purchase more benches and have a plaque on one dedicated to the PCBDD. Powell stated they are able to move the location of the trees being planted on Main Street so they are not in front of the entrances to establishments. Powell stated he is getting estimates for landscaping in front of the Municipal Building, by the Fire Department, MacGahan Park and at the sign by Ridenour Motors. Powell stated he received a bid from Dave's Landscaping in Morgan County of \$4,900 to do all four sites. Councilperson Bethel stated he would like to have someone local do the job. Bethel stated something should be posted to let local businesses have a chance to bid. Powell informed Council the new baby swings and the net for the tennis court arrived today. Powell stated he spoke with Bruce Ridenour about the lights on the welcome sign in front of his business. Powell stated the Village was going to repair them but they are connected to Ridenour's electric. Ridenour

stated he would pay for the electric for the lights. Powell informed Council Charles VanHorn requested to close some alleys. Powell stated a Municipal Concerns Committee meeting is scheduled for August 5, 2020 at 1:00 pm at the Municipal Building. Powell stated County Engineer Cannon would like to know what streets the Village wants to submit for paving with the Issue 1 funding. Council discussed what streets should be paved. Councilperson Bethel asked how they should prioritize what streets should be paved first. Bethel suggested going by how bad the street is and the amount of traffic on that street. Powell informed Council the plant where the Public Service Department purchases hot mix is closed for two weeks. Council decided to choose ten of the worst streets needing paved and decide from there.

Police Chief Ervin reported the Village IT has communicated with the State LEADS on installing the LEADS computer. Ervin stated he is planning on going live with the police dispatch November 1, 2020. Mayor Thompson stated since the second wave of the Village systems being compromised, the Village has partnered with a non-profit entity that specializes in forensics to help. Thompson stated Finance Director Rockwell contacted the Village's insurance company and the Village has \$250,000 in coverage for cyber crime. Rockwell stated the specialist performing the forensic analysis is free. The organization operates with grant funding through the Department of Homeland Security.

Fire Chief Fain stated the department has been very busy. Fain stated they responded to 202 runs in July with 116 transports, 8 false alarms and 2 DOA's. Mayor Thompson reported the Water Department, Police Department, EMS and the Income Tax Department have laptop computers to be able to maintain some limited functions. Finance Director Rockwell asked Fain what time the meeting with Medicount is on Thursday. Fain stated he would have to let her know.

Finance Director Rockwell stated she is waiting for Councilperson Chute to approve the minutes from the Finance Committee meeting held on July 23, 2020.

Councilperson Goodfellow stated the Municipal Concerns Committee will discuss the flood plain down at the old soccer field at their meeting on August 5, 2020. Goodfellow inquired if the campaign signs at the intersection of State Route 13 and Broadway Street should be removed until closer to election time. Mayor Thompson asked Administrator Powell to send a letter requesting the signs be removed. Welsh asked if the signs exceed the temporary sign limit established by the Village.

Councilperson Boyle informed Council the Fall Festival Committee made the difficult decision to cancel the Fall Festival for 2020 due to the COVID 19 pandemic. Boyle stated with all of the regulations they would have to follow it is just not feasible. Various vendors and partners in the festival have already indicated they are unable to participate for 2020. Boyle stated she spoke to each vendor and they stated they would be here next year.

Councilperson Fox asked about the pipe sticking out of the ground on W. Water Street. Powell stated it is laying flat and they are going to cover it with hot mix. Fox asked if they have started the yellow curb painting yet. Councilperson Welsh asked to have the curb at the corner of Long Street and W. Brown Street painted. Councilperson Boyle asked to have the curb painted at the corner of Woods Avenue and Park Avenue. Fox asked about the status of the hydrant testing. Fain stated they tested another hydrant near Ridenour Motors. Thompson stated he is still working on a solution for the flagpole light. Fox asked about the status of the parking signs near Saint Rose Church. Powell stated this won't be complete until the sidewalks are done. Fox asked about the second quote for the employee parking lot. Powell stated a quote was provided from McKee Paving for \$18,000 to blacktop the lot. Another quote was provided for \$49,000 to pour new concrete. Council discussed the different options for the parking lot.

Councilperson Danison asked if Council approved handicap accessibility changes by the Board of Elections. Council did approve the changes. Powell stated the County was supposed to begin this in the fall. Mayor Thompson stated he would have to contact the Perry County Commissioners about the status..

Council Clerk Spohn started to read the first Ordinance and Councilperson Bethel asked for someone to explain the Ordinance and Resolution. Finance Director Rockwell explained Ordinance No. 20-14 and Resolution No. 20-23 to Council.

Mayor Thompson asked Chief Ervin if anyone has applied for the Sergeant and dispatcher positions in the Police Department. Ervin stated "yes".

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 20-14 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance No. 20-14: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 20-8 TO INCREASE FUNDING IN THE FIRE & EMS LEVY FUND WITHIN THE VILAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY TO MAINTAIN NORMAL OPERATIONS OF THE VILLAGE.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 20-14 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Fox. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 20-12 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 20-12: **A RESOLUTION SETTING WAGES FOR EMPLOYEES NOT OTHERWISE COVERED BY CONTRACTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 20-12 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Fox. 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 7:35 PM.


Mayor
Council Clerk