

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING  
September 6, 2022  
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, Dan Bethel, Debra Hooper, Janie DePinto, Susan Goodfellow and Jeff Danison. Also present were Police Chief Ross, Administrator Emmert, and Finance Director Lewis. Absent was Councilperson Boyle.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to excuse Councilperson Boyle from the September 6, 2022 meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Danison All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Danison made a motion to approve the minutes for the August 15, 2022 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson Goodfellow who abstained due to being absent from the August 15, 2022 meeting. Motion carried.

Jenny LaRue from the Perry County Health Department informed Council they received funding for the OHIZ (Ohio Health Improvement Zone) project. LaRue stated they are in the first phases which is gathering data on what the community needs to be healthy. The initial funding is \$400,000 with \$100, 000 to be used in New Lexington for gathering residents' opinions on their health and how the area where they live affects their health. LaRue stated the community gets to decide what the assessment looks like and how they will accomplish the data gathering. LaRue stated they need partners within New Lexington to work with them to accomplish gathering the data. LaRue stated any up coming public events would be a good place to gather information. Councilperson Welsh stated the Fire Department has an open house October 1, 2022 to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the department. Administrator Emmert asked if they had surveys that he and Police Chief Ross could use when they are out in the community. Emmert asked if the Village could put something on the Village Facebook page. Welsh inquired if football games would be a good place to get information. LaRue stated these were all great ideas. LaRue thanked Council for installing the Boy Scouts bench at the bike park

Mayor Thompson reported he received a police complaint, complaint about flags at a private residence, property maintenance, trash company, traffic light not working on Walnut and Main St. and concerns about semis on residential streets. Thompson reported he officiated a wedding and attended a meeting with MORPC. Thompson stated he had a request for an escort out of town for the football team on September 9, 2022 for their game against West Muskingum. Thompson read a proclamation for childhood cancer awareness month. Thompson stated Bella Decot and her family will be attending the next Council meeting when he will read the proclamation again. Bella is currently undergoing treatments for childhood cancer.

Finance Director Lewis stated all Council members should have received the August bank reconciliation and financial reports on September 1, 2022. Lewis stated she found payments for insurance for people no longer employed by the Village. She immediately removed them at a savings to the Village of \$6,200 a month. Lewis stated she is instituting shredding bins at the Village. Lewis stated they are working on the budget for next year.

Administrator Emmert reported the Public Service Department had three new employees start this week. Tyler Ratliff, Nick Koonts and Josh Brill. Emmert stated if they see them out working to please introduce themselves to the new employees. Emmert stated they did the final inspection on the Nuzum Bridge today and the State Route 13 Waterline project was completed this week. Emmert stated the Issue One paving project will begin next week. Emmert reported the Carroll Street Corridor project is moving forward. Emmert presented Council with a resolution to join the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission. Emmert stated the Village needs their

help with projects. Emmert stated he spoke with Nate Simons from HAPCAP about the grant for the parks. Emmert stated they are going to start the process from scratch for the grant. Emmert reported there is an issue with the water pressure at the water tower on Airport Rd. Emmert stated Bob Jablonski from Poggemeyer Design Group is going to send someone to look at the issue. Councilperson Danison asked Emmert if he could arrange for him to talk to Assistant Finance Director Milner about the Brownfield project.

Police Chief Ross reported 10,985 calls for service in 2022 as of tonight. Ross stated the departments had 2,004 calls for service in the month of August. Ross stated they've had more calls than the City of Lancaster. Ross reported Unit 2 is now in service. Ross stated Mayor Thompson, Fire Chief Fain and himself attended the Never Alone Ohio walk. Ross stated there has been seven overdoses with one of them fatal, twenty-three domestic violence calls, twenty-two property maintenance, ninety-nine traffic stops and one suicide in August. Ross stated the Logan code enforcement officer has been very helpful working with Code Enforcement Officer Rushing on property maintenance. Councilperson Hooper inquired about the streetlight not working by the Perry County Dental office. Emmert stated he will look into that. Councilperson DePinto asked Ross about the Perry County Drug Task Force being dissolved and if they could do something at the Village. Ross stated he is working on something. Councilperson Danison asked if there is some way to control traffic after the football games. Ross stated he will address the issue

Mayor Thompson reported on the Finance Committee meetings held on August 15, 2022 and August 29, 2022. Thompson stated the committee discussed where to find funding for the needs of the Fire Department. Thompson stated the department was awarded \$160,000 in grants for radios. This grant has a \$16,000 match. Thompson stated they are going to reallocate money for the match, but other needs will have to wait till closer to the end of the year to see what the departments funds are.

Police Chief Ross asked the status of annexation. Councilperson Bethel stated he needs to meet with Perry County Engineer Cannon to discuss this. Councilperson Hooper asked about the bed tax. Administrator Emmert stated he will look into this.

Councilperson DePinto reviewed the working document. DePinto stated she received a call from Frank Correll from the Perry County Board of Elections about fixing the sidewalk across the street from the Board of Elections. Administrator Emmert stated he needs to contact him. DePinto asked if the fire department has got their fuel tank yet. Emmert stated "no". Depinto informed Council, Councilperson Jeff Danison will be inducted into the New Lexington Hall of Fame at the September 16, 2022 football game. Emmert stated the cost to rent the shelter house does not cover the cost of the employee to get it ready. Emmert stated Council may want to review the rental cost in 2023.

Council Clerk Spohn presented Council with a Resolution for income tax bankruptcy write offs and a Resolution for delinquent accounts write offs.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 22-9 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance No. 22-09: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TO APPLY FOR AN AMENDED CERTIFICATE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 22-9 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. 22-28 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 22-28: **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE NECESSARY PAPERWORK TO HAVE THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON JOIN THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-28 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. 22-29 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 22-29: **PRELIMINARY LEGISLATION RESURFACING AND RELATED WORK.** Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-29 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. 22-30 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 22-30: **A RESOLUTION FOR VERDANTAS TO ASSIST IN THE WATERLINE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AND AUTHORIZING VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Danison made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-30 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. 22-31 as a first reading. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. **AUTHORIZATION TO WRITE OFF NEW LEXINGTON, OHIO, INCOME TAX BANKRUPTCY BAD DEBT/ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLES.**

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 22-32 as a first reading. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 22-32: **AUTHORIZATION TO WRITE OFF NEW LEXINGTON, OHIO, INCOME TAX DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLES.**

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 6:55 PM.



Mayor



Council Clerk