

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING
November 21, 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, Susan Goodfellow, Debra Hooper, Janie DePinto, Dan Bethel, and Susan Boyle. Also present were Police Chief Ross, Finance Director Lewis, Administrator Emmert and Fire Chief Fain. Absent was Councilperson Jeff Danison.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to excuse Councilperson Danison from the November 21, 2022 meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to approve the minutes for the November 7, 2022 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson stated he received a complaint about the pavement risers on W. Water St. Thompson reported he attended a meeting at New Lexington City Schools and the Veterans Day Ceremony. Thompson reported he received two police complaints.

Finance Director Lewis reported the revenue budget was overstated by \$400,000 which was addressed at the Finance Committee meeting held on November 16, 2022. Lewis stated this has been resolved. Lewis stated they are ready to discuss appropriations and to hold meetings with department heads for their wish list. Lewis reported they have not received any money from the bonus grant for the Police Department. Lewis spoke with Heidi Milner who stated there was paperwork missing.

Administrator Emmert stated the digester at the Wastewater Treatment Plant will be empty after tomorrow. It will be inspected next week. Emmert reported the Village was not awarded the funding for the mechanical bar screen for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Emmert reported he will be meeting with engineers from Poggemeyer Design Group tomorrow to discuss funding for the project. Emmert presented Council with a picture of a tractor that the Village needs to purchase to mow at the reservoir to avoid violations with the EPA. Emmert stated the Village is required to mow around the dams twice a year to be compliant with the EPA and to avoid fines.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to approve the purchase of a tractor. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Administrator Emmert reported the road at the Water Treatment Plant will be grated tomorrow. Emmert stated the Public Service department has been working on the Holiday decorations on Main Street. Emmert presented a new fee schedule to Council regarding all fees charged by the Village. Emmert recommends the fees take effect January 1, 2023. Council discussed raising some of the fees and agreed with Emmert. Emmert will bring a resolution to the next Council meeting to change some of the fees.

Police Chief Ross reported 15,056 calls for service in 2022 as of tonight. Ross reported 1,090 calls for service so far this month. Ross stated he had a couple of people reach out to him about employment with the Police Department. Ross stated he attended the PAWS fundraiser which he is a board member. Ross reported he is preparing for the Christmas Parade and is reaching out to the Somerset Police Department for help with traffic control. Ross stated he may have the Public Service Department help also.

Fire Chief Fain reported he attended the PAWS fundraiser and the Veterans Day Ceremony. Fain stated they put up a Christmas Tree in front of the Municipal Building. They are planning a tree lighting ceremony. Fain informed Council the department is hosting a toy drive on December 3, 2022 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Fire Department. Fain stated they will be doing the Santa Cade again this year. Dave Boyd from the fire department stated the department would like to do a Christmas light display contest fundraiser with the judging taking place on December 9, 2022.

Councilperson Welsh stated Finance Director Lewis covered everything discussed in the Finance Committee meeting that was held on ~~December~~^{November} 16, 2022. Mayor Thompson stated they need to schedule a meeting to discuss the 2023 budget. A Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for November 28, 2022 at 4:30 pm at the Municipal Building.

Councilperson Boyle reported everything is in place for the Cocoa bar with the Grinch and Martha May Whovier fundraiser on December 3, 2022 at the Perry Behavioral Health Activity Center from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Councilperson Bethel reported on the annexation being discussed by the Planning Committee. Bethel spoke with one of the Perry County Commissioners and they suggested he speak with Pike Township. Bethel stated he is going to try to attend one of their meetings. Administrator Emmert stated he spoke with Commissioner Householder about the annexation.

Councilperson Hooper asked what the status was on the bed tax. Administrator Emmert stated he is still working on it and hopes to have an Ordinance prepared by the first of the year.

Councilperson Bethel asked about the status of the funds for the cement pads at the golf disc course at Arethusa Springs Park. Thompson stated the funds had been previously approved for the project.

Mayor Thompson thanked the citizens of New Lexington and Pike Township for the passage of the Fire/EMS and Police levies.


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 6:05 PM.



Mayor



Council Clerk