

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING  
December 5, 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, and Dan Bethel. Also present were Police Chief Ross, Finance Director Lewis, Administrator Emmert and Fire Chief Fain. Absent was Councilpersons Jeff Danison, Janie DePinto and Susan Boyle.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to excuse Councilpersons Danison, DePinto and Boyle from the December 5, 2022 meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to approve the minutes for the November 21, 2022 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson stated he attended a meeting at the New Lexington City Schools. Thompson received a water complaint. Thompson reported he received a request for a pedestrian sign by Sideliners. Administrator Emmert stated he would look into it. Thompson stated he participated in the Christmas Parade, and it was outstanding. Thompson attended the Cocoa with the Grinch Fall Festival fundraiser and the Fire Department toy drive. Thompson reported he received a complaint about the light on Main and Mill Street. Emmert stated it should be fixed this week. Thompson stated the Christmas decorations look great. Thompson stated he would like to thank the sponsors for the Christmas Decorations: Auto Obsession, Trotter's, People's State Bank, Seals Flowers and Gifts, Thompson Insurance, Snider Flautt Lumber, Holiday Farm, The Kinsel Family, The Lewis Family and Janie DePinto. Thomson also thanked the Public Service Department for all their work on decorating and everyone who helped with the wreaths.

Finance Director Lewis reported she emailed the monthly financial reports to Council. Lewis stated the Village has received \$1,200 in donations for Christmas decorations and we are under budget. Lewis stated she has an appropriations ordinance that will need read at the next meeting due to not enough Council members present to pass legislation.

Administrator Emmert stated they are nearing the end of the first submission for the Appalachian grant which is due Saturday. Emmert stated he and Lewis had a meeting with Spectrum about phones for the Village. Emmert stated the Village will save \$32,000 - \$36,000 a year by switching to Spectrum. Emmert stated he met with Taylor Carpenter from Ohio EPA to update the contingency plan at the Water Treatment Plant. Emmert stated the plant is up to date with the EPA regulations. Emmert stated he spoke with Ben Boyer from ODOT who informed him the safe routes to school should start in August 2023. Emmert stated he received a request to make the alley on the corner of Carroll Street and Center Street a one-way alley. Councilperson Bethel stated his only concern is if a business was to open on the corner property the Village may have to revisit the one-way alley.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to make Valentine Street one-way East to West. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Hooper asked if there is anything that can be done at the intersection of Brown Street and State Street. Administrator Emmert stated he could look into doing a feasibility study. Mayor Thompson stated there is no good way to fix the intersection. Police Chief Ross stated he agreed with Emmert on a feasibility study. Emmert will speak with MORPC about the study.

Police Chief Ross reported 15,729 calls for service in 2022 as of tonight. Ross reported 1,545 calls for service the month of November and 221 calls for service so far this month. Ross stated the department had a traffic stop today which resulted in confiscation of bulk amounts of methamphetamine and cocaine. Ross informed Council with the grant they received and the match some of the money was used to purchase another police canine. Ross stated Bill Dodd is training the dog and Officer Fox will be his handler. Ross stated he would like to thank the Public Service Department and Administrator Emmert for helping with traffic control during the Christmas Parade so he could participate. Ross stated the department has two applications. Another candidate is finishing up the Academy and has been doing ride alongs with the officers. Ross stated they hosted a canine fundraiser on December 3, 2022 where pictures were taken with Santa.

Fire Chief Fain stated the Christmas Parade was great. Fain stated he has heard nothing but great comments about the parade. Fain stated he would like to thank all those who donated decorations to the department. Fain thanked Jeremy Seals for donating ice cream for the public. Fain stated they have discussed ways to improve it and make it even better next year. Fain stated Santa Cade will be on December 17, 2022. Mayor Thompson congratulated Fain and Dave Boyd for achieving EMT certification.

Mayor Thompson stated they need to schedule a finance committee meeting. A Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for December 15, 2022 at 4:30 pm at the Municipal Building.

Councilperson Goodfellow asked about the condition of the Cheney building on Main Street. Councilperson Bethel stated if the building is in violation of any property maintenance codes, he will address them. Bethel stated there is a process in place for property maintenance and he thinks this should be followed not addressed in a Council meeting

Mayor Thompson stated he will be scheduling a records committee meeting.

Administrator Emmert stated he is going to renew the contract with MAPSYS for IT services.

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 6:08 PM.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Council Clerk