

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING
January 17, 2023
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 Boyle, Dan Bethel, Susan Goodfellow and Janie DePinto. Also present were Administrator Emmert, Police Chief Ross, Finance Director Lewis, and Fire Chief Fain. Absent was Councilpersons Jeff Danison and Debbie Hooper.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to excuse Councilpersons Danison and Hooper from the January 17, 2023 meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Boyle.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to approve the minutes for the January 3, 2023 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to approve the minutes for the January 9, 2023 special council meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Hooper arrived late.

Howard Dishon addressed Council concerning a water leak. Dishon stated he owns the trailer court at 208 E. Jefferson Street. He noticed a lot of water standing near the water meter. Assuming it was a leak he called the Public Service Department. This was after normal business hours. The Village sent Zach Euman to check it and after pumping water out from around the meter did not find a leak in the meter. The water was not going through the meter. Dishon stated he called a plumber to repair the leak. Once the plumber dug out from around the meter, he found a crack in the meter. Dishon stated since this was a meter leak he feels he should be reimbursed the \$320 he paid for the plumber. Administrator Emmert stated Zach was confident the meter was not leaking when he was there. Public Service Director Ross stated it could have started leaking after Euman was there. Ross stated the leak was in the meter bottom. Councilperson DePinto asked how Dishon was responsible. Ross stated there is a \$75 after hours fee and a meter bottom is \$15. Ross stated the owner is responsible for the meter not freezing. Dishon presented Council with the invoice from the plumber. Councilperson Welsh stated it seems the Village is responsible.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion for the Village to reimburse Howard Dishon \$320.00 for plumber fees to repair a meter and waive after hour fees. Seconded by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Finance Director Lewis will mail the check to Dishon.

Heidi Milner updated Council on the progress of the Brownfield grant and the Carroll Street Corridor grant. Milner stated she applied for the Office of Criminal Justice Services grant for

training for two police officers. There is no match for this grant. Milner stated she is going to apply for a grant for equipment for the Public Service Department. Milner reported she is going to apply for the Workers Compensation Grant which has a 10% - 15% match for a Vac Trailer. This trailer can be utilized by all departments.

Mayor Thompson stated he received complaints about zoning and potholes. Thompson thanked Public Service Director Ross and his employees who are mostly new, for the great job they have done on all the recent water leaks. Welsh thanked all departments for a great job. Council discussed with Ross equipment needed at the Public Service Department.

Finance Director Lewis stated she is working on closing out the 2022 calendar year. Lewis requested a motion to approve the December Financial Statements and Bank Reconciliation. Lewis reported she should have the W2's completed this week. Lewis stated she was notified the health insurance went up 14% and our broker is working to try and reduce this. The Vision and Dental remained the same.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to approve the December 2022 financial statements and bank reconciliation. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Administrator Emmert stated he has been working with Amanda Bollinger from Poggemeyer Design Group on waterlines and water pressure on Airport Road. Bollinger is looking into quotes, funding and grants available for these projects. Emmert stated they also looked at the intersection of Brown Street and State Street. Emmert stated the digester tank that needs repaired at the Wastewater Treatment Plant has had some issues due to a concrete barrier. Emmert stated they may have to use a spray lining for a temporary repair. Emmert stated the WWTP needs a mechanical bar screen first and then a new digester tank. Emmert stated Milner has done a great job with the grants for the Village. Emmert presented Council with an Ordinance to make Susie Q's Bike Park tobacco free. Emmert reported there is a meeting on February 1, 2023 with the Health Department to discuss the results of the community meetings the Health Department hosted. Emmert stated he was able to make contact with the caretaker of the Pamida Building to repair the water meter. Emmert stated the phone upgrade will be completed by the end of February.

Police Chief Ross reported that Folk and Sons is still working on the heating system. Ross stated Patrolman Nestor resigned effective January 29, 2023. Ross stated he has a new officer starting January 30, 2023. Mayor Thompson asked how the training of the new officers was going. Ross stated they are doing a great job. Councilperson DePinto asked if this will cut down on the overtime pay.

Fire Chief Fain stated run numbers are up. Fain reported staffing is currently good. Fain stated they are looking into applying for some grants with no monetary match for the department. Fain stated he and Councilperson DePinto met with Pike Township to have a multiyear contract.

Councilperson Welsh asked if Council members wanted to remain on the same committees. All Council stated "yes". Welsh asked chairpersons of these committees to update him on committee members.

Mayor Thompson stated the owner of the waste removal company is supposed to attend the first meeting in February.

Councilperson Hooper asked the status of the bed tax. Administrator Emmert stated he will bring an Ordinance to the next meeting.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 23-2 as a first reading. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance No. 23-2: **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO REQUIRE 'SUSIE Q'S BIKE PARK' A TOBACCO FREE PARK.**

Mayor Thompson entertained a motion to adjourn.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:58 PM.



Mayor



Council Clerk