

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING

November 6, 2023

5:30 PM

MUNICIPAL BUILDING

The Village of New Lexington met in regular session with Mayor Thompson presiding and the meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM. Council Members present were James Welsh, Janie DePinto, Dan Bethel, Jeff Danison, Debra Hooper. Also present were Finance Director Lewis, Police Chief Gill, and Fire Chief Fain. Absent were Councilpersons Susan Goodfellow and Susan Boyle.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to excuse Councilpersons Goodfellow and Boyle from the November 6, 2023 meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Danison made a motion to approve the minutes for the October 16, 2023 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson Welsh who abstained due to being absent from the October 16, 2023 meeting. Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson stated he attended Trunk or Treat, Trick or Treat, Caring for Kids Auction and school funding meetings. Thompson thanked Perry County Engineer Kent Cannon and his office for all their help with repairing the alleys in the Village.

Fire Chief Fain reported the department is preparing a house on Marietta Road to burn for training on December 9, 2023. All departments in the county have been invited to attend. Fain stated there will be a driver sim lab at the fairgrounds on November 11, 12, 2023 to experience driving a fire engine. Fain stated he does not have a scheduled time for the event yet. Fain stated the EMS Department is having a party at the bowling alley on November 17, 2023 and invited the Mayor and Council.

Finance Director Lewis informed Council she received two resignations. Officer Rushing and Dispatcher Hill. Lewis stated the Personnel Policy Manual does not state that employee personal days need to be used by the end of the year. Past practice has been they had to be taken by the end of year or you lose them. Mayor Thompson stated he thought you should be able to carry them over to the next year if not used. Councilperson Bethel asked if there should be a limit on how many days you can carry over. Council discussed several options. Lewis will look into different options. Lewis asked for a motion to approve the October Financial Statements and Bank Reconciliation that she emailed to Council.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to approve the October Financial Statements and Bank Reconciliation. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Lewis stated Administrator Emmert would like to get quotes for a window washer at the Municipal Building. Council agreed.

Mayor Thompson reported on behalf of Administrator Emmert that the paving within the Village has been completed. Emmert has been receiving complaints about the cross walk on Mill Street by Roberts Funeral Home during Trick or Treat. Police Chief Gill stated they have issues there during the football games and he parks a cruiser there so pedestrians can cross safely. Gill stated there is not enough lighting in the area. Thompson stated the Operations Manager for Win Waste is Anthony Liston, a New Lexington native. Liston visited the Administration office to introduce himself. There was a water break near Kroger which caused a pump to shut down leaving a lot of the Village without water. They are working on a solution to avoid this in the future. Emmert received a quote of \$6, 755.13 from Hannah Brothers for carpet in Council Chambers. Council discussed new carpet in the administration offices.

Councilperson Danison made a motion for Hannah Brothers to replace carpet in the municipal building at a cost of up to \$20, 000. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Thompson reported Administrative Assistant Saffell attended the recent Mobility Management meeting. They discussed funding available to villages in the county, the possibility of primitive campgrounds along the bike routes in Perry County and other items. A schedule to bring the Village in compliance with the dams has been submitted to ODNR.

Police Chief Gill stated the department had 728 calls for service in the month of October. Gill presented Council with a breakdown of the calls. Gill stated there are two open patrol positions that were posted today, and they already have two potential candidates. Jamie McGrew from the Mental Health & Recovery Board Services presented Police Chief Gill with a check for \$4,500 for decals for the cruisers. Commander Biggers, Officers Brettrager and Arnold completed trainings in October. Gill stated Biggers and himself are working on the departments 2024 budget. Gill reported he received a quote from ATT First Net for first responders of \$32.99 monthly for a hot spot and \$37.99 monthly for a cell phone. Gill attended several meetings and events in the month of October. Gill stated he purchased a New Lexington High School football helmet signed by the team at the Caring for Kids Auction which he placed in the lobby case and Commander Biggers purchased a signed basketball which she will place in the case. Gill stated he would like to recognize Herb Minshull who was a Perry County Sherriff that lived in New Lexington Ohio and was killed in the line of duty in 1945. Gill stated the MARCS radios should be received by the end of November. Gill informed Council a Veterans Ceremony will be held at noon on Saturday November 11, 2023 at Memorial Park.

Councilperson DePinto reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on October 25, 2023. DePinto stated they discussed the budget for the Fire/EMS. The committee gave approval for EMS to purchase two new medics. Bethel who attended the meeting stated he was impressed with the presentation. Finance Director Lewis stated she, and Administrator Emmert are working on the 2024 budget and once this is complete, they will meet with Police Chief Gill to present the budget to the Finance Committee.

Councilperson Danison made a motion for EMS to purchase two medics from Burgess. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Councilperson Hooper reported Timberpeg Tree Farm is donating Christmas trees for Memorial Park for decorating. Mayor Thompson told Hooper to invite the owner of the tree farm to a Council meeting so they could thank her for the donation. Hooper stated she contacted the railroad about the tracks that need repaired. They came and made some repairs but they need to come back and do more.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 23-18 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried. Ordinance No. 23-18: **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. 23-18 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. 23-33 as a first reading. Second by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried. Resolution No. 23-33: **A RESOLUTION AMENDING WAGES FOR FULL TIME EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL.**

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 23-16 as a second reading. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried. Ordinance No. 23-16: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE**

OF NEW LEXINGTON AND CHELSEY N. LEWIS. Councilperson Danison made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 23-16 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 Ordinance No. 23-17 as a seconded reading. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried. Ordinance No. 23-17: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON AND ERIC EMMERT.** Councilperson Danison made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 23-17 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 23-30 as a second reading. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted “yes” except for Councilperson DePinto who abstained. Motion carried. Resolution 23-30: **A RESOLUTION INCREASING THE COMPENSATION OF THE MAYOR.** Councilperson Danison made a motion to adopt Resolution 23-30 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted “yes” except for Councilperson DePinto who abstained. Motion carried.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution 23-31 as a second reading. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried. Resolution 23-31: **A RESOLUTION INCREASING THE SALARY OF COUNCIL.** Councilperson Danison made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 23-31 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 23-32 as a second reading. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried. Resolution 23-32: **A RESOLUTION SETTING WAGES FOR EMPLOYEES NOT OTHERWISE COVERED BY CONTRACTS.** Councilperson Danison made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 23-32 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson entertained a motion to adjourn.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM.



Mayor



Council Clerk