

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING  
April 15, 2024  
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 Janie DePinto, Jim Welsh, Dan Bethel, Bob Spencer, Ty Danison, Dave Pletcher and Debra Hooper. Also present were Administrator Emmert, Police Chief Gill, Finance Director Lewis, and Fire Chief Fain.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to approve the minutes for the April 1, 2024 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted “yes” except for Councilperson Pletcher who was just appointed to Council and Councilperson Hooper who was absent from the April 1, 2024 meeting. Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson expressed his gratitude for the Patriotic Employer Award that was presented to him by the Office of the Secretary of Defense on Monday April 8, 2024. Police Chief Gill nominated Mayor Thompson for the award.

Finance Director Lewis stated she emailed the March 2024 financial statements and requested a motion to approve the March 2024 financial statements.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to approve the March 2024 financial statements. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Lewis informed Council the fire department cannot be paid more than 20% of EMS wages per run. Lewis stated Attorney Barclay is researching the issue. Lewis explained the breakdown sheet of dispatch savings she presented to Council. Lewis reported the first half of the levy money was received today. Lewis presented Council an Ordinance for appropriations and a Resolution for establishing a special revenue fund. Lewis stated Police Chief Gill reported for a new cruiser it would be 6.5% interest for a loan through Peoples State Bank and it would be 10% interest through Statewide Municipal Leasing. Lewis stated she needs a decision on what financial institution Council would like to use so she can appropriate funds.

Administrator Emmert stated he attended two meetings with the Perry County Health Department on creating healthy communities. Emmert informed Council Vera Anderson an intern through the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission will start working for the Village on May 15, 2024. Emmert reported Administrative Assistant Saffell, Finance Director Lewis and himself will attend a training on AI paid for by a grant through Buckeye Hills. Emmert stated he has been attending the Appalachian Community Grant meetings. Emmert stated the Village was approved for \$25,000 from the Ohio Department of Health’s fluoride assistance program for rehabilitation of the fluoride room at the Water Treatment Plant. Emmert stated the Village submitted a request for funding through Representative Balderson’s office for upgrades to the Water Treatment Plant and the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Emmert informed Council Brown Street will be closed by the courthouse on April 17, 2024 for renovation work.

Police Chief Gill reported the sheriff's department has taken over the dispatch operations today and everything seems to be working. Gill stated the department still has one full time patrol position open. Gill stated they are creating new positions for operations managers I, II, III. Gill stated he will be posting the position for operations manager I. Gill stated Code enforcement officer Wilkins has been serving regular notices to residents. He has also been reviewing several permits. Gill reported Commander Biggers is working with the Village, Perry County Transit, and the Perry County Health Department regarding a grant proposal. Gill stated they received the radios that were ordered in 2023 and all radios have been updated that could be. Gill reported car six has been returned from repairs. Ford Motor Company is helping with the cost of repairs lowering it from \$7,087.71 to \$3,120.03.

Fire Chief Fain reported they have been very busy. Fain stated there have been a lot of bad accidents. Fain stated the department participated in the K-9 training, prom promise in Crooksville, and the derby at Crooksville.

Councilperson DePinto reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on April 10, 2024. DePinto stated the committee recommends purchasing a new police cruiser.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to finance the new police cruiser through Peoples State Bank. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

DePinto stated the committee recommended paying for the carpet in the Municipal Building out of ARPA funds. The roof for the Public Service Department will be paid for out of the water, street, and sewer funds.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to pay Hannah Brothers for the carpet in the Municipal Building out of ARPA funds. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson DePinto requested a motion to combine the Municipal Concerns Committee and the Public Service Committee. With Councilperson Hooper chairing the committee.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to combine the Municipal Concerns Committee and the Public Service Committee. Seconded by Councilperson Hooper. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Administrator Emmert stated Coleman McCoy's class at the high school is looking at doing some upgrades to the swimming pool. Emmert stated the cost to replace the windows would be around \$500 a piece. There are a lot of windows and they discussed boxing some of them in. Emmert stated the shelter house at the reservoir is complete.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance 24-4 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance No. 24-4: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TO APPLY FOR AN AMENDED CERTIFICATE AND**

**DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 24-4 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. 24-11 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted “yes” Motion carried. Resolution No. 24-11: **A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A “POLICE LEVY” SPECIAL REVENUE FUND AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 24-11 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson entertained a motion to adjourn.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:27 PM.

  
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Mayor

  
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Council Clerk