

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING

July 6, 2026

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 Ty Danison, Dave Pletcher, Dan Bethel, Debra Hooper, Janie DePinto, Mike Kimble and Bob Spencer. Also present were Administrator Emmert, Finance Director Lewis, Fire Chief Fain and Police Captain Newlon. Police Chief Gill joined the meeting by zoom.

Councilperson Danison made a motion to approve the minutes for the June 15, 2026 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted “yes” except for Councilperson Kimble who abstained due to being absent from the June 15, 2026 meeting. Motion carried.

Adam Pontius inquired if the Village owned the old Fisher Farm Equipment building. Adam stated his grandparents used to own the business and he would like to have the sign to give his grandfather for his birthday. Mayor Thompson informed him the Village did not own the property. Several Council members gave him information on how to obtain the owners’ information.

Mayor Thompson reported he attended the 4th of July parade, the festivities at the park and the fireworks display. He also attended the Junction City fireworks display. Thompson thanked Public Service Superintendent Ross and his department, Administrator Emmert, Police Department and the Fire/EMS Department for everything they did to make the 4th of July festivities a success. Thompson also thanked Judy Cannon, Lisa Houk and the 4th of July Committee for the wonderful job they did organizing the 4th of July celebration.

Finance Director Lewis presented Council the payment listing, Resolution 26-5 a description for the IT position and Ordinance 26-9 amending appropriations. Lewis stated the Village attorney will be at the next meeting to sign the bond for the new fire truck.

Administrator Emmert stated he invited Operations Manager Darbie Harris to attend the council meeting tonight. She might be interested in filling the Council Clerk position. Emmert presented Council Ordinance 26-8 updating the income tax. Emmert stated they had their final call with the Regional Income Tax Agency today dealing with the transfer of the income tax. Emmert presented Council a Resolution for the park levy and a letter from Buckeye Hills Regional Council stating the Village was awarded a grant for \$168,120 for the Perry County Fairgrounds Trail project. Emmert reported the Village received \$590,000 in grant money from the EPA for the waterline improvement projects on Carroll Street, Main Street and Shawnee Street.

Police Captain Newlon reported he has received a lot of good comments from the 4th of July celebration. Newlon stated they have two part-time SRO positions posted. They are currently reviewing applications. Newlon updated Council on the department’s training and events. Newlon stated they have replaced the officers vest patch with an updated patch showing “New Lexington Police”. Newlon stated Operations Manager/ Evidence Records Galleher went to London Ohio to drop off narcotics. Galleher stated this is the most narcotics he has ever had to transport. Newlon stated the department received four updated radar units from OSP. Newlon stated they submitted the Southcentral Power Grant for car build-out of mobile radios, MDT’s and printers. Newlon stated the department had 668 calls for service in the month of June. Newlon presented Council a breakdown of the calls. Councilperson Pletcher asked if Newlon had any feedback on the Silverback training. Police Chief Gill explained the training to Council via zoom. Gill stated the County was updating their CAD system so the volume of calls for June was probably higher than what the report was reflecting.

Fire Chief Fain stated they had concerns with the new CAD system. Fain reported there were several calls they were supposed to be toned on but he was told the system failed. Fain stated they participated in several parades

on the 4th of July. Fain thanked the Public Service Department for the great job they did getting the field ready to set off the fireworks for the 4th of July. Fain reported the fire department had 32 calls for service in the month of June. Fain stated two firefighters went to Michigan to inspect the new fire truck. Fain requested an executive session.

Councilperson Spencer stated Pike Twp. Trustees are going to sign the MOU for the cemetery tomorrow night and council will have it at the next meeting to be signed.

Councilperson DePinto scheduled a Finance Committee meeting on July 20, 2026 at 5:00 pm at Village Hall.

Councilperson Spencer reported it is official Judy Cannon, and the 4th of July committee has given the duties to the Parks and Recreation Committee to plan the celebration at the park on the 4th of July next year. Spencer stated they met with Judy on Saturday, the 4th of July at the park to update the vendors on who would be scheduling them next year. Spencer commended Judy and the committee for the hard work they have done over the years to make the New Lexington celebration a success. Spencer stated the Parks and Recreation committee received a \$7,000 grant to help update Madison Park. The committee has also applied for another grant for the parks. Mayor Thompson asked if the committee had a wish list for projects. Thompson stated they still need to upgrade the electricity at the park. They need to contact John Saffell about the project.

Fire Chief Fain asked Finance Director Lewis if she had the contract for Stryker that needs signed tonight. Lewis stated she was not given the contract. Lewis contacted Assistant Fire Chief Morrow, and he was going to send it to her so Administrator Emmert could sign it. The contract is for equipment needed for EMS.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to proceed with the contract for Stryker for EMS equipment. Seconded by Councilperson Hooper. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson Danison who abstained due to a conflict of interest. Motion carried.

Dr. Haggenjos arrived at the meeting and Mayor Thompson honored him for his 47 years of service as a physician in New Lexington. Haggenjos thanked the community for all their support through the years.

Mayor Thompson stated he was contacted again about the alley behind Fowler Lane. Administrator Emmert stated he would look into it.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 26-8 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Council Kimble. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance No. 26-8: **THIS ORDINANCE IS HEREBY DECLARED TO BE AN EMERGENCY MEASURE NECESSARY FOR THE IMMEDIATE USE OF RITA FOR THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON. THE EMERGENCY EXISTS BECAUSE IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION IS NECESSARY TO FACILITATE THE ORDERLY AND TIMELY TRANSITION OF THE VILLAGE'S MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX ADMINISTRATION TO THE REGIONAL INCOME TAX AGENCY (RITA); TO ENSURE THE UNINTERRUPTED ADMINISTRATION, COLLECTION, AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE VILLAGE'S MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX; TO AVOID DISRUPTION TO TAXPAYER SERVICES AND COMPLIANCE; AND TO PRESERVE THE REVENUES NECESSARY FOR THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF ESSENTIAL MUNICIPAL SERVICES. THEREFORE, THIS ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY UPON ITS PASSAGE AND APPROVAL BY THE MAYOR AS PROVIDED BY LAW.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 26-8 as read. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 26-9 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Council Hooper. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance No. 26-9: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TO APPLY FOR AN AMENDED CERTIFICATE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Danison made a

motion to adopt Ordinance No. 26-9 as read. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 26-5 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Hooper. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson Spencer who abstained. Motion carried. Resolution No. 26-5: **A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE POSITION DESCRIPTION FOR THE IT DIRECTOR/IT SUPPORT POSITION FOR THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Danison made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 26-5 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Pletcher. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson Spencer who abstained. Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution 26-6 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson DePinto who abstained due to a conflict of interest. Motion carried. Resolution No. 26-6: **RESOLUTION OF NECESSITY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 26-6 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson DePinto who abstained due to a conflict of interest. Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to enter executive session per ORC 121.22(G)(6) for emergency response protocols. Seconded by Councilperson Hooper. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting suspended at 6:21 pm for executive session.

Councilperson Danison made a motion to exit executive session. Seconded by Councilperson Kimble. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting resumed at 7:10 pm.

Councilperson Danison stated no decisions were made as a result of the executive session.

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 7:12 PM.



Mayor



Council Clerk