

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING

August 19, 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 Jim Welsh, Dan Bethel, Ty Danison, Janie DePinto, Dave Pletcher, Debbie Hooper and Bob Spencer. Also present were Administrator Emmert, Police Commander Biggers, and Fire Chief Fain.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to approve the minutes for the August 5, 2024 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson Hooper who abstained due to being absent from the August 5, 2024 meeting. Motion carried.

Renee Young introduced herself to Council as a candidate for Perry County Commissioner in the November election. Young stated she is a lifelong resident of Perry County. Young stated she wants to serve God, Country and Perry County. Young informed Council she is an Army Veteran which she believes has given her leadership, negotiation and budgeting experience. While in the Army Young worked for the Adjutant General's Office. Young stated she also worked for the EMA.

Mayor Thompson stated he attended kids' day at the hunting and fishing club, FIDO Fest, back to school bash, Alzheimer's Walk and meetings at the school. Thompson stated Senator Shane Wilkin visited the Village on August 16, 2024.

Administrator Emmert discussed opening an alley on Fowler St. Emmert stated the Village sent a letter of intent for the Amler grant for \$4,000,000 for the first phase at the park. Emmert reported the Village received a letter of acceptance for the request and should hear something back by the end of September 2024. Emmert stated the Village has some major water lines that need to be replaced. ODOT will be paving South Main Street in April 2025. This is where the most vulnerable lines are. Emmert stated the Village already has a ten-inch line in this area. Emmert reported they are looking into hooking up other residents to the ten-inch line and abandoning the six- and four-inch lines. Another problem area is in the Mellwood area. Emmert informed Council he received a quote from Heavener Excavating to switch several houses in the area from a two-inch line to a four-inch line. The cost to do six houses would be \$19,000. Council agreed for Emmert to move forward with the Mellwood waterline replacement. Emmert presented Council with a Resolution to participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement. Emmert stated the Workforce Development is going to start fixing things inside of the pool starting with the restrooms. Councilperson Welsh asked Emmert if two dead pine trees at the New Lexington Cemetery could be removed. Emmert stated he would look into it. Councilperson Hooper inquired about the meeting with the PUCO. Emmert updated Hooper on the meeting.

Commander Biggers reported on behalf of Police Chief Gill. Biggers presented Council an update on all the trainings being done within the department. Biggers stated they had their first successful use of the drone for assistance with a felony apprehension. Biggers stated car seat

safety week is in September. They are planning an event with the Perry County Health Department which will include training, education, and seat checks. There will be a booster seat check on September 17, 2024 at the schools. Biggers reported kids' day will be September 28, 2024. Biggers stated they had a random audit by OHLEG which went great. Biggers stated the auditors were pleased with their organization and preparedness. Biggers presented Council an update on code enforcement. Councilperson Hooper asked if the department conducts training with the school for situations like active shooters. Biggers stated "yes" and stated the school asked if they could do more trainings this year.

Fire Chief Fain reported they were called to help find a missing child in Crooksville with the drone, but it was canceled due to they found the child. Fain stated they participated in the Alzheimer's Walk and the FIDO Fest.

Councilperson DePinto stated she received two calls concerning Fire Chief Fain not purchasing tools locally. Councilperson Pletcher received the same in a text message. They stated he did not check local pricing. Fain stated he did call to see if they carried the tools he was looking for and they did not. Council discussed purchasing local, when possible but to also be fiscally responsible if there is a big difference in cost.

Mayor Thompson stated he was asked to put a porta-pot at MacGahan Park. All Council agreed they do not want a porta-pot at the park. Thompson stated he was also asked to make the alley behind Huddles Auto Part up to Walnut Street one way. Council decided this is not feasible.

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 6:30 PM.



Mayor



Council Clerk