

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING
July 1, 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, Dave Pletcher, Ty Danison, Debra Hooper, Janie DePinto and Bob Spencer. Also present were Administrator Emmert, Police Chief Gill, Finance Director Lewis, and Fire Chief Fain.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to approve the minutes for the June 17, 2024 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted “yes” except for Councilperson DePinto who abstained due to being absent from the June 17, 2024 meeting. Motion carried.

Barb Fox from Holy Trinity Lutheran Church addressed Council regarding the upcoming Holy Trinity Fall Festival. Fox asked to have half of Brown and High Streets closed for the festival. Fox thanked the Public Service Department, Police Department and Fire Department for all their help last year. Fox stated the festival will be on September 14, 2024 from 9:00 am till 4:00 pm.

Mayor Thompson thanked everyone who has sponsored free pool days for the community.

Finance Director Lewis informed Council the COVID money that has to be paid back for non-compliance has to come out of the Fire/EMS due to that is where the money was deposited when it was received. Lewis stated if Council wants the funds to come out of the general fund for repayment the money will have to be transferred to the Fire/EMS fund. Council discussed what fund the money should come out of for repayment. Council decided the money should come out of the general fund.

Administrator Emmert informed Council the Administration offices will be open on July 4, 2024 and closed on July 5, 2024. Emmert stated he is receiving calls from residents asking if a date has been set for the town yard sale.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to hold the town yard sale on August 3, 2024. Councilperson Danison second the motion. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Emmert stated McKee paving is working on paving at the park but due to bad weather it is behind schedule. Emmert reported the drainage problem at the park has been fixed. Emmert presented Council a resolution to apply for a grant from T-Mobile for improvements to the Madison Park on Broadway St. and a resolution for Perry County Engineer Cannon to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvements. This is for paving next year. Emmert stated Homeland Security visited the Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Water Treatment Plant. They suggested updating the cameras which they are in the process of doing. Emmert reported the Public Service Department is going to mow off a place on the property the Village just purchased for Village employees to watch the 4th of July fireworks. Emmert stated the rain date for fireworks is July 5, 2024. Councilperson DePinto asked how the pool was doing and how they charge when someone sponsors a pool day. Emmert stated the pool is doing good and the fee is \$300 to sponsor a pool day for the community. Mayor Thompson stated he would like to have a short meeting before the 4th to discuss fireworks. Mayor Thompson and department heads will meet on Wednesday, July 3, 2024 at 8:45 am. Councilperson Bethel asked Emmert if the landfill had donated anything for the swimming pool yet. Emmert stated they asked for a W9 which is a good sign.

Police Chief Gill stated the number of calls for service in the month of June was 590. Gill presented Council a breakdown of the calls. Gill stated the new officer will complete her training at the end of July. Gill stated monthly K-9 and drone training is still being done. Gill reported the annual firearms training was completed on

June 28, 2024 for all officers and other county villages and taser training was completed on June 24. Gill and Commander Biggers attended Advance CIT training on June 26, 2024 and are assisting local boards in creating advance CIT for our area. Gill reported Biggers is working to create car seat and CIT training for CPT credit through OPOTA. Gill reported there will be another car seat check on July 17, 2024 from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm at the fire department. Gill stated the department received stickers to give to anyone with a child that has difficulty communicating to put on the house, stroller or other devices a child might use. Gill stated the Lexipol policy implementation was completed at the end of June and daily training bulletins will start in July and will count for CPT credit. Gill stated five applications were submitted to the Perry County Health Department for assistance for possible demo and clean up from grant money, but the board tabled any discussion due to concerns they had. Four residences that received citations are being demoed by the owners. One resident who received a citation is being submitted for court action. Gill presented Council a patch from the New Lexington City Schools to wear on their uniforms at sporting events.

Fire Chief Fain reported the department had 31 fire runs in the month of June. Fain stated they have five newly carded firemen who passed their test. Fain reported there are two other employees who possess a fire card who are now working for the department. This gives the department seven new firemen.

Councilperson DePinto asked about the sign for Justin Gall. Mayor Thompson stated it would be completed tomorrow. DePinto stated she spoke with Jeanie Addington from Ludowici about the playground equipment at their facility. Addington informed DePinto they are not getting rid of the equipment. Addington told DePinto to write a letter of need for new playground equipment for Arethusa Springs Park to Ludowici. DePinto asked Council for approval to write the letter. All Council agreed for DePinto to write the letter. Administrator Emmert stated there was an inspector at the park a few weeks ago and the main concern was new mulch is needed around the equipment.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 24-9 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.
Ordinance No. 24-9: 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. 24-9 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 24-21 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.
Resolution No. 24-21: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PERRY COUNTY ENGINEER TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND/OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM(S) AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 24-21 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. 24-22 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.
Resolution No. 24-22: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT THE T-MOBILE HOMETOWN GRANT TO FUND IMPROVEMENTS AT MADISON PARK ON BROADWAY STREET AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 24-22 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 24-23 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted “yes” except for Councilpersons

Danison and Pletcher who abstained and Councilperson DePinto who voted “no”. Motion carried. Resolution No. 24-23: **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO TRANSFER \$11,592.37 FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE FIRE AND EMS LEVY FUND AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 24-23 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Councilperson DePinto asked Councilperson Spencer about the ORC where if a Councilperson is indirectly involved in a department through family if they are allowed to vote on legislation. Spencer explained where and DePinto stated she read something different. Finance Director Lewis is going to ask the Village attorney.

Mayor Thompson entertained a motion to adjourn.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 PM.



Mayor



Council Clerk