

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING
December 1, 2025
5:30 PM
MUNICIPAL BUILDING

The Village of New Lexington met in regular session with Mayor Thompson presiding and the meeting being called to order at 5:30 PM. Council Members present were Dave Pletcher, Bob Spencer, Jim Welsh, Janie DePinto, Dan Bethel, Ty Danison and Debbie Hooper. Also present were Administrator Emmert, Finance Director Lewis, Fire Chief Fain and Police Chief Gill.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to approve the minutes for the November 17, 2025 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Hooper. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson stated he has been present for several water leaks, checked on the bridge replacement on Broadway, replacement of hydrants, decoration of the Fire Department and pictures with Santa.

Perry County Commissioner Chase Bennett presented Council an update on the progress to try and keep Cooper Standard Automotive in the County. Bennett stated he and Commissioner Owen, and several State of Ohio representatives have tried to contact Cooper Standard's Corporate office with no success. Bennett stated they will not speak to them. Bennett stated he met Matt Abott from Southeast Ohio Economic Development about trying to get another company in the facility. Bennett stated the Juvenile facility on Commerce Dr. will be closing at the end of the year. Councilperson DePinto asked how we can make sure these empty facilities are listed. Administrator Emmert stated Matt Abbott is working on this. Emmert asked Bennett about the OPWC paving. Emmert stated no Villages were included in the Issue 2 funding for the 2026 paving. Emmert stated it is a hardship on the Villages to try and pay for paving. Emmert asked if this was going to affect the Villages moving forward in the future.

Finance Director Lewis presented Council a payment listing, an ordinance to amend appropriations and an ordinance to make permanent appropriations for the 2026 calendar year. Councilperson Bethel asked if all department heads agreed with the budget. All department heads stated "yes". Council discussed the budget for 2026.

Administrator Emmert reported the 4th of July falls on a Saturday in 2026. Emmert informed Council he needs to know if Council wants him to sign the contract with Hamburg Fireworks for the 2026 4th of July celebration. Emmert stated he needs a monetary amount for the contract and payment is due by March 1, 2026. Council decided on \$30,000 for the fireworks. Emmert stated the Village received a grant for community clean-up from the Health Department. Emmert stated the dumpsters will be placed at the same locations as the last clean-up and will begin on December 12, 2025. Emmert stated New Lexington Classic Riders will be doing a town canvas on December 6, 2025 for their Classic Claus.

Police Chief Gill informed Council Commander Biggers last day was November 18, 2025 and he is currently interviewing for a Police Captain position. Gill presented Council an update on the department's training and events. Gill reported the department had a total of 752 calls for service in the month of November. Gill presented Council a breakdown of calls. Gill stated out of the speeding violations only warnings were issued unless they were 11 miles or more over the speed limit then they were issued a citation.

Fain stated the department participated in escorting the New Lexington Football team leaving for their playoff game. Fain reported EMS had 168 calls for service in November and the Fire Department had 30 fire runs. Fain stated the Fire Department has had 416 fire runs from January 2025 till the end of November. Fain reported he has directed EMS to have two trucks on duty on New Years Eve. Fain stated the Christmas Parade will be held on December 6, 2025. The fire department will have hot chocolate and soup with help from the VFW Ladies Auxiliary.

Councilperson Hooper stated they have discussed contacting Pike Township regarding a contract for the New Lexington Police Department to patrol the New Lexington Cemetery due to insufficient coverage from the Perry County Sheriffs Department. Councilperson Spencer asked if they should proceed with contacting Pike Township. Mayor Thompson stated he would speak with Pike Township after the first of the year.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 25-20 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance No. 25-20: **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. 25-20 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Pletcher. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

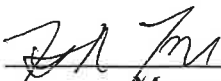
Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 25-21 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Pletcher. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance No. 25-21: **AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 25-21 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Pletcher. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 25-28 as a first reading. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 25-28: **A RESOLUTION TO WRITE OFF NEW LEXINGTON, OHIO INCOME TAX DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLES.**

Mayor Thompson entertained a motion to adjourn.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:37 PM.



Mayor



Council Clerk