

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING
October 6, 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 Commander Biggers.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to approve the minutes for the September 15, 2025 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Hooper. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Heidi Milner presented Council an update on the LEMPCO project. Milner stated she is waiting for the final quarterly test results. Eleven out of twelve wells tested were cleared. The twelfth well must wait for the carbon to clear before being tested again. Milner stated they are going to manually flush this well due to the lack of rain. This will be tested in mid-October. Milner reported she has drafted a no further action plan. This will be sent to the EPA once final test results have been received. Milner stated she will send Council a final copy for review before being sent to the EPA. Milner reported she has spoken to the owners of the property to get an action plan as to what they plan to do with the property which has to be part of the report being submitted to the EPA. It takes approximately six months for the EPA to review the report. Once this has all been completed there will be a covenant not to sue. Milner stated the top part of the building can only be for commercial use and the back half can be restricted residential or commercial.

Mayor Thompson reported he attended the Family Fun Day, Prayer Vigil, Kat Foundation Benefit, performed a marriage, Court House grand opening, bridge replacement, water leaks and fire runs and High Street Community Church War Monument Revitalization Ceremony.

Finance Director Lewis presented Council an ordinance to amend appropriations and a payment listing.

Administrator Emmert reported that the Village received an EPA grant for \$350,000 to help identify lead and cooper in the Village, \$2,000 from the Perry County Health Department for benches that will be placed at Balls Court and Arethusa Springs Park and \$20,183.74 from the Active Living project infrastructure for upgrades for transit at Balls Court, Broadway Park and Arethusa Springs Park. Emmert presented a resolution for the Carroll Street/Broadway sidewalk project through ODOT. The Village was awarded \$3,160,000 for this project. A tentative date for construction to begin in the fall of 2026. Emmert presented Council a resolution to work with Anthony Fiore, an attorney with Grossman & Kelly LLC, to prosecute on a contingency basis civil legal claim for negligence resulting in injuries and property damage in MDL 2873 (PFAS). Emmert stated there are old fire hydrants that need repaired. The cost to repair the hydrants is \$50,000 and \$50,000 to install the hydrants. The money is in the fund it just needs appropriated. Emmert informed Council they submitted for the AMLER (Abandoned Mine Land Economic

Revitalization) grant today. Emmert thanked the police department for flying the drone over the park to get pictures to submit with the grant. Emmert explained to Council the \$61,887.47 given to Dodson's Restaurant is money that is held in trust from their insurance company from the fire and once all repairs have been made the Village gives the money back to the claimant. Emmert explained to Council and guest the Village Ordinance on political signs. Mayor Thompson asked Emmert if he knew anything about the County spraying mosquitoes. Thompson stated he was asked by a resident. The resident stated they called the Perry County Health Department, and they said this was a Village problem. Emmert stated he will call the Health Department to inquire about spraying for mosquitoes. Councilperson Hooper asked Emmert if he would investigate a streetlight out on Academy Street. Emmert reported the paving on W. Brown Street is complete. He stated McKee Paving does a great job.

Police Commander Biggers presented Council a breakdown of the department's calls for service in the month of September. They had 786 total calls for service. Biggers updated Council on the department's training and events. Biggers stated the new body cameras arrived and they should be in use by mid-October. Biggers stated with the completion of the Perry County Courthouse parking enforcement will resume. Biggers stated the department migrated to SOLVE THIS WEEK which is a crash reporting system.

Fire Chief Fain reported the department has been very busy. Fain updated Council on the events the department has attended. Fain reported that the department had 49 fire runs and 192 EMS runs in the month of September 2025. Fain stated their run volume continues to increase. Fain stated since the closure of the bridge on Broadway Street the number of accidents on Tile Plant Rd. has increased immensely. Council discussed ways to get people to slow down on the road. Administrator Emmert is going to check into the cost for striping on Tile Plant Rd.

Councilperson Hooper stated the Municipal Concerns members looked at the alley behind Highland Dr. Administrator Emmert stated the truck is still not running. Emmert stated it has electrical issues, and they are having trouble finding someone to fix it. Mayor Thompson stated it needs repaired.

Councilperson Spencer reported that only two members showed up for the Parks & Recreation Committee meeting. Spencer is trying to recruit new members.

Councilperson DePinto stated according to the Village Charter there is only a Zoning Board of Appeals Committee. Changes to the zoning laws should go through the Planning /Economic Development Committee. Code Enforcement Officer Wilkins has a list of changes to recommend. Councilperson Bethel stated he will speak to Wilkins. DePinto stated the Zoning Board of Appeals is for disputes only.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 25-15 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance No. 25-15: **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. 25-15 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. 25-15 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried. Resolution No. 25-15: **PRELIMINARY LEGISLATION CONSENT.** Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 25-15 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. 25-16 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried. Resolution No. 25-16: **A RESOLUTION ASSESSING COST OF WATER AND WASTEWATER CHARGES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 25-16 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. 25-17 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Pletcher. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried. Resolution No. 25-17: **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A LEGAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH GROSSMAN & KELLY, LLP TO PROSECUTE ON A CONTINGENCY BASIS CIVIL LEGAL CLAIMS FOR NEGLIGENCE RESULTING IN INJURIES AND PROPERTY DAMAGE IN MDL 2873 (PFAS); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 25-17 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Pletcher. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 25-18 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried. Resolution No. 25-18: **PRELIMINARY LEGISLATION PARTICPATORY.** Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 25-18 as read. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson entertained a motion to adjourn.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:46 PM.


Mayor


Council Clerk