

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING  
October 7, 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, Debbie Hooper, Dave Pletcher 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 September 16, 2024 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Hooper. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson Pletcher who abstained due to being absent from the October 16, 2024 meeting. Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson stated he attended the Kat Dodson Foundation fundraiser and the kid's day Touch the Truck event.

Finance Director Lewis presented Council an updated payment list. Lewis requested a motion to approve the August and September 2024 financial statements.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to approve the August and September 2024 financial statements. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Administrator Emmert stated Council had set the date for trick or treat on October 31, 2024 but did not designate a time. Council decided the time would be from 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to hold trick or treat on October 31, 2024 from 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Administrator Emmert reported Trunk or Treat will be held on October 23, 2024. Jenny Saffell has previously passed out candy to represent the Village but is unable to do it this year. Emmert asked if anyone would like to volunteer to hand out candy at this event. Council decided to give any donations or money for candy to the Village Police Department and Fire Department to pass out. Emmert stated Amanda Allen has agreed to continue to chair the Tree Commission. The committee is looking for volunteers. Emmert reported Kyle Gabbard from the Water Treatment Plant has volunteered to be on the committee. Councilperson DePinto stated Councilperson Spencer volunteered to be on the committee also. Emmert informed Council the Village was awarded funding from the Appalachian Regional Commission which will cover the cost to the Village for Phase I of the Broadway Streetscape project. Emmert presented Council a Resolution for Phase 2 of the Broadway Streetscape project. Emmert reported the PUCO has granted exemption on all railroad crossings at Madison St., N. Main St., W. Union St., and Carroll St. Emmert stated paving will begin in the Village this week. Emmert stated he spoke with Joe Foraker about logging at Airport Rd. and the reservoir. Emmert stated the Village could get around \$35,000 for the timber on Airport Rd. and around \$15,000 from the timber at the reservoir. Councilperson Bethel suggested starting with Airport Rd. first.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion for Forester Foraker to timber the property on Airport Rd. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson DePinto asked Emmert about the progress on fixing the parking lot at the Administration Building. Emmert stated it will be three to four weeks before the project starts. DePinto asked if they ever received the hot box. Emmert stated "no". DePinto inquired if the Village was going to borrow one from the Perry County Engineers to use. Emmert stated he will contact them and get a list together of streets needing repairs. DePinto asked if any decision had been made on the request from Keer Automotive. Emmert stated Attorney Barclay is reviewing it.

Police Chief Gill reported the department had 706 calls for service in September. Gill presented a breakdown of the calls. Gill stated they had around 103 kids in attendance at the Kids Day event on September 28, 2024. Gill stated he attended the Police Chiefs meeting on October 1, 2024 and the Juvenile Detention Board meeting on October 3, 2024. Gill reported two students from Hocking College will be completing their 50 hours ride-along-time around October – November. Gill stated they are still waiting on an answer about the SRO grant. Gill reported the books have been ordered for the Starfish program where the officers read to the students. They will start as soon as the books arrive. Gill stated the New Lexington Homecoming Parade will be Friday, October 11, 2024 with lineup at St. Rose. Gill stated the Police Department has an account at Park National Bank and he is requesting a motion to be put on the account.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion for Police Chief Gill to be placed on the police departments account at Park National Bank. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Fire Chief Fain reported the department had 47 fire runs and 177 EMS runs the month of September. Fain stated the department attended the Kids Touch the Truck event. Fain informed Council they are putting the final touches on the bunk room. Fain stated the Fire/EMS department sold t-shirts and sweatshirts for breast cancer awareness month with all proceeds going to the Kat Dodson Foundation fundraiser. Fain stated they raised \$2,688 for the event which should put the foundation fundraiser over their goal. Fain stated the EMS is wearing pink gloves this month in honor of breast cancer awareness. Fain stated he and Mayor Thompson are meeting with Pike Township tomorrow. Fain stated he attended the Fire Chiefs meeting with Somerset and Crooksville Fire Chiefs. They are going to meet with Clayton Township.

Councilperson DePinto reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on October 7, 2024. DePinto stated they discussed the police department budget. DePinto scheduled a finance committee meeting for October 16, 2024 at 2:00 pm at Village Hall to discuss the administration and fire department budget. DePinto stated she would like a raise for being Council President and chairing the finance committee. She stated it is a lot of work.

Councilperson DePinto stated they are going to work on the wreaths for Christmas on November 3, 2024. Councilperson Hooper stated she is working on Veterans Park for Christmas. DePinto stated Finance Director Lewis and water Clerk Towning are going to decorate MacGahan Park.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 24-27 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Hooper. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 24-27: **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO SUBMIT TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM GRANT AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING ASSISTANCE FOR THE BROADWAY STREET PHASE 2 STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 24-27 as read. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. Motion carried.

Councilperson Welsh made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution No. 24-26 as a second reading. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution No. 24-26: **RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR.** Councilperson Welsh made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 24-26 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 6:05 PM.



Mayor



Council Clerk