

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING

July 20, 2026

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 Ty Danison, Dave Pletcher, Dan Bethel, Debra Hooper, Janie DePinto, Mike Kimble and Bob Spencer. Also present were Administrator Emmert, Finance Director Lewis, Fire Chief Fain and Police Captain Newlon. Police Chief Gill joined the meeting by zoom.

Councilperson Danison made a motion to approve the minutes for the July 6, 2026 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Pletcher. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Solicitor Adam Barclay stated that a new bond for a fire truck needed to be implemented. He stated that two steps needed to occur to make that happen. First, an emergency needs to be declared. And the second step is for the bank to purchase the bond.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to proceed with the emergency bond for funding the fire truck. Seconded by Councilperson Pletcher. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson Danison who abstained due to a conflict of interest. Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 26-10 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Pletcher. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson Danison who abstained due to a conflict of interest. Motion carried. Ordinance No. 26-10: **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$496,778.73 OF BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING THE COST OF ACQUIRING A FIRE TRUCK AND RELATED EQUIPMENT, WITH ALL NECESSARY APPURTENANCES THERETO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Danison made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 26-10 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson Danison who abstained due to a conflict of interest. Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson reported he attended a Luncheon with Administrator Emmert, Deputy Administrator Browning, Finance Director Lewis, and Public Service Superintendent Ross.

Mike Shoults and Kasey Thomas inquired if the Village could close the alley behind Fowler's Lane. Council decided to leave it open. Kasey Thomas also stated that it has not been maintained. Administrator Emmert gave them information on how to obtain a petition to close the alley. Emmert informed them any resident adjacent to the alley would have to be in agreement to close the alley.

Finance Director Lewis requested a motion to approve the June 2026 financial statements.

Councilperson Danison made a motion to approve the June 2026 financial statements. Seconded by Councilperson Depinto. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Lewis presented Council Resolution No. 26-7 regarding the tax budget for 2027. This is for the commission for the Perry Auditor's Office listing. Lewis presented Council a payment listing.

Administrator Emmert presented Council Resolution No. 26-8 for the park levy renewal. He also mentioned the new bucket truck is working well Emmert also informed Council of 13 applications for the Water Plant Position. He also stated that a flag fell onto a car which will be a \$1,000 insurance claim. Emmert stated a sinkhole on Wilbren Rd that requires the repair of a culvert. Emmert stated that he attended MORPSY training in Columbus with Deputy Administrator Browning, Finance Director Lewis, and Intern Zielinski regarding an

attempt to receive a \$50,000 grant for planning. Emmert also stated that this will be Council Clerk Spohn's last meeting.

Mayor Thompson apologized for technical difficulties and stated that no business was discussed after a brief pause in the meeting due to lost connection.

Code Enforcement Officer Wilkins stated that some foreclosed properties are now being mowed by the banks. He also stated that the house at Center St and E Lincoln St got demolished as a new duplex is being built by Jim Bryant.

Police Chief Gill stated that they hired Nevin Anderson for the Part-Time SRO Officer position. Gill updated Council on the department's training and events. He also stated that the Flock Camera Grant got approved and will be implemented only at the schools as they will be privately owned cameras by the school.

Councilperson Spencer informed Chief Gill that the MOU from Pike Township regarding the NLPD patrolling New Lexington Cemetery can go into effect immediately. Spencer thanked Chief Gill for getting this done and working with him. Solicitor Adam Barclay stated that it should go through the County Prosecutor's Office and that he will let the Sheriff's Office know the village signed an MOU with Pike Township.

Fire Chief Fain attended the National Association of Mental Illness meeting. Fain also stated that his department will be very busy with fair week. Fain requested an executive session.

Councilperson Depinto requested an executive session.

Councilperson Spencer reported it is official the 4th of July committee has given the duties to the Parks and Recreation Committee to plan the celebration at the park on the 4th of July next year. Spencer stated the equipment for Madison Park must be ordered by the end of July to receive a 10% discount. Spencer stated he has 14,000 from the Health Department. Spencer applied for a \$5,000 grant from the Foundation of Appalachian Ohio. Spencer asked Council for \$8,000 to cover the difference in cost of the equipment for the Madison Park improvements. The committee has also applied for another \$5,000 grant for the parks.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to use \$8,000 of Cannabis money for the Madison Park improvements. 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. 26-7 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Hooper. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.
Resolution No. 26-7: A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2027 TAX BUDGET FOR THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Councilperson Danison made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 26-7 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. 26-8 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson Depinto who abstained due to a conflict of interest. Motion carried.
Resolution No. 26-8: A RESOLUTION DECLARING IT NECESSARY TO LEVY A RENEWAL TAX IN EXCESS OF THE TEN-MILL LIMITATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF PARKS AND RECREATION OF THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 5705.19(8), REQUESTING. Councilperson Bethel made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 26-8 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Pletcher. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson Depinto who abstained due to a conflict of interest. Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to enter executive session per ORC 121.22(G)(1) for personnel. Seconded by Councilperson Hooper. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting suspended at 7:07pm for executive session.

Councilperson Depinto made a motion to exit executive session with Mayor and Council present. Seconded by Councilperson Hooper. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting resumed at 7:34 pm.

Councilperson Danison stated no decisions were made as a result of the executive session.

Councilperson Danison made a motion to enter executive session per ORC 121.22(G)(6) for security with Council, Mayor, Fire Chief Fain, and Council Clerk present. Seconded by Councilperson Pletcher. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting suspended at 7:35pm for executive session.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to exit executive session. Seconded by Councilperson Pletcher. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting resumed at 7:45 pm.

Councilperson Bethel stated no decisions were made as a result of the executive session.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to approve cybersecurity. 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. 26-9 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes. Motion carried.
Resolution No. 26-9: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE CYBERSECURITY PLAN DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Councilperson Danison made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 26-9 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Depinto. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson entertained a motion to adjourn.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM.



Mayor



Council Clerk