

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING
March 16, 2026
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 Ty Danison, Debra Hooper, Dave Pletcher, Janie DePinto, Dan Bethel, Mike Kimble and Bob Spencer. Also present were Administrator Emmert, Finance Director Lewis, Fire Chief Fain and Police Chief Gill.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to approve the minutes for the March 2, 2026 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Hooper. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Nicole Enright addressed Council to discuss a community clean-up day. Enright stated she would like to do something where the residents could volunteer to help with beautification and clean-up in the Village. Mayor Thompson stated that when we get the dumpster grant, we can try and pick an area that needs cleaned up. Administrator Emmert stated Perry County Chief Probation Officer Brad Agriesti is going to have workers cleaning up State Street. Emmert asked Enright to contact Administrative Assistant Browning to work on setting something up for a community clean-up day.

Mayor Thompson reported he attended the Perry County Health Department Advisory meeting. Thompson stated he has been present on water leaks and storm drain issues.

Administrator Emmert presented Council with an Ordinance to go into a contract with the Regional Income Tax Agency for income tax collection. Emmert stated they have training in Newark on Wednesday, March 18, 2026. Emmert updated Council on the grant for the fluoride room at the Water Treatment Plant. Emmert reported after speaking to some insurance brokers they decided to go with the Hummel Group. A representative from the Hummel Group attended the Finance Committee meeting held on March 16, 2026. Councilperson Spencer stated he could not attend the training on March 18, 2026. Councilperson Bethel stated he would take Spencer's place.

Finance Director Lewis presented Council the bank reconciliation. Lewis requested a motion to approve the February financial statements.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to approve the February 2026 financial statements. Seconded by Councilperson Kimbel. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Lewis presented Council a payment listing and an Ordinance amending appropriations.

Code Enforcement Officer Wilkins reported he was able to get the property at 218 N. Main St. signed over to the Perry County Land Bank by the owner. Wilkins stated hopefully they can get the funding for it to be demolished and then give it back to the Village. Wilkins presented Council an update on the current court cases for property maintenance. Wilkins stated a mobile home at 611 S. Main St. is being torn down and an application to secure funding to demo two mobile homes behind the Panther Drive In has been submitted. Wikins stated he attended the

Land Bank meeting on March 12, 2026 and the Ohio Code Officials Board Meeting on March 12, 2026. Councilperson Kimble asked Wilkins to contact him to schedule a time they can visit properties that have privately owned fire hydrants that need replaced.

Police Chief Gill reported they have two candidates for the internship program at Tri County. Gill stated they are currently doing background checks on applicants for the part-time OPS manager. Gill reported that the department hosted taser training last week. The cost of the training was \$850, but since the Village was the host, we were secured two attendees for free. This saved the department \$1,600. Gill presented Council an update on the department's trainings and events. Gill stated after completing the taser training Captain Newlon and Sergeant Wiseman are certified to be taser instructors.

Fire Chief Fain stated the department has been very busy the last couple days. They had 15 calls for service in one afternoon. Fain stated they attended the Artist Co-op in Somerset. Fireman Kinsel won the chili cook off. Fain stated they need to have a work session soon to discuss IT.

Councilperson DePinto reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on March 15, 2026. DePinto stated Public Service Director Ross presented the committee with two invoices for two new truck beds. DePinto stated the committee recommends to Council they approve the purchase.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to approve two invoices from Truck Pro Enterprises for two new truck beds. Seconded by Councilperson Kimble. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Hooper stated a resident asked her about a slow-children playing sign to be put on Kennedy Dr. Police Chief Gill stated Public Service Director Ross informed him the new speed limit signs for the Village have been received and will be installed soon.

Councilperson Spencer stated they have got more people for the Parks and Recreation Committee. Spencer stated it is a good group.

Councilperson DePinto asked if the Easter Egg Hunt was going to be at Arethusa Springs Park and who gave them permission to host it there. Mayor Thompson stated he gave them permission. DePinto stated someone asked about putting up a sign in the Village for the New Lexington Wrestling State Champions. Mayor Thompson stated they would need to put one up for Leilah Castro also. Council discussed signs that have been put back up after paving and some are missing. Police Chief Gill stated there were some concerns with the Ohio Department of Transportation on the placement of signs.

Mayor Thompson stated he would like to see our hometown hero banners put on aluminum with decals. If the Village could purchase the aluminum and the residents purchase the decal. This would help with the deterioration of the banners.

Councilperson Pletcher asked Enright if she would like to try and have a week dedicated to a Community Clean-up Day. Enright stated that it would be great.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance No. 26-3 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Danison. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance No. 26-3: **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH A REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADMINISTRATION AND COLLECTION OF MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX IN THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON, OHIO DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Danison made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 26-3 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 Ordinance No. 26-4 and declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson DePinto. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance No. 26-4: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TO APPLY FOR AN AMENDED CERTIFICATE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Councilperson Danison made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 26-4 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Pletcher. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Mayor Thompson entertained a motion to adjourn.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 PM.



Mayor



Council Clerk