

VILLAGE OF NEW LEXINGTON COUNCIL MEETING

April 2, 2017

6:30 PM

MUNICIPAL BUILDING

The Village of New Lexington met in regular session with Mayor Ratliff presiding. Council Members present were Dan Bethel, Trent Thompson, Susan Goodfellow, Kathy Chute, Jeff Danison and James Welsh. Also present were Finance Director Heather Rockwell, Police Chief Scott Ervin, Administrator Bo Powell and Fire Chief Jordan Hollingshead. Absent was Councilperson Boyle.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to excuse Councilperson Boyle from the April 2, 2018 meeting. Second by Councilperson Goodfellow. All Council voted "yes" except for Councilperson Chute who voted "no". Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel made a motion to approve the minutes for the March 19, 2018 meeting as read. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Corlyn Altier gave Council an update on EMS. Altier also reported on the collections for EMS and Mayors Court with the Ohio Attorney General's office.

Finance Director Rockwell reported to Council that she did not have the monthly reports and bank reconciliation due to conflicts with the water software and invoice cloud. Rockwell stated the 2017 audit is 60% complete. The Village will receive two citations due to the Fire/EMS deficit.

Administrator Powell reported he would be out of the office on April 4, 2018 for a Safety meeting in Zanesville and April 6, 2018 for a meeting at Buckeye Hills in Marietta. Powell stated the Village needs to perform repairs from storm damage before getting reimbursed by EMA. Powell stated the cost to repair the Fowlers Lane catch basin and for the County Engineers office to chip and seal the alleys would be \$44,000. Powell report they may need a little more money to level the base of the alleys before the chip and seal. Council asked where the money was coming from and Councilperson Chute stated \$40,000 was already put in the budget. Powell informed Council that Pipelines Inc. quoted 15 fire hydrants for \$35,953 and Bob Heavener Excavating would install 15 fire hydrants for \$32,000 which would be a total of \$67,953 for fire hydrants. Powell stated the Street Department would do any reclaiming of property. Finance Director Rockwell stated replacement of fire hydrants have not been put in the permanent budget. Powell asked Council what their decision was on the Rehoboth sewer project. Powell stated the project is 100% funded through EPA and that he had Attorney Sitterley review the contract with the County. Attorney Sitterley stated the contract looked fine. Councilperson Chute asked if Powell had paperwork stating it would not cost the Village any money. Powell stated Andy Knisley is going to start the survey at the Community Building. Powell asked about contracting with Patterson Pools to open and close the swimming pool. Councilperson Bethel stated the Rehoboth project should go to a committee. Councilperson Chute inquired if the residents in that area would be able to afford to hook into the sewer line. Powell stated grants are available through HAPCAP. Councilperson Bethel stated everyone would have to be hooked into

the sewer line before the Village would take over the project. Administrator Powell will ask Mitch Altier to speak before Council again on the project. Councilperson Chute asked Powell to have Altier check with HAPCAP to make sure grants are available. Powell asked Council if he could get a motion to have Patterson Pools open and close the pool. Finance Director Rockwell informed him it was already put in the permanent budget for this to be done so a motion is not necessary. Councilperson Bethel stated they would talk about the fire hydrants at the next Finance Committee meeting. Finance Director will prepare appropriations for fire hydrant for the next meeting.

Police Chief Ervin informed Council that a new part time officer needed sworn in after the meeting. Ervin reported the issues he is having with property maintenance violations and enforcement. Ervin reported the department is averaging forty or more calls on the weekends. Ervin stated there were two overdoses over the weekend. Ervin stated the 911 contract needs to be reviewed. This will be reviewed by the Public Safety Committee. Ervin stated they need to move on property maintenance. A Nuisance Abatement Committee meeting was scheduled for April 18, 2018 at 4:30 pm at the Municipal Building.

Fire Chief Hollingshead reported the fire siren had been moved and was working properly. Hollingshead stated the new medic should be ready between April 9, 2018 and April 16, 2018. Hollingshead presented Council with a Resolution for a Procurement Policy. Hollingshead stated he had Attorney Sitterley review the Resolution. Councilperson Chute asked if the Resolution was for FEMA grants only. Finance Director Rockwell stated she and Jordan discussed if it should be for FEMA grants only. Hollingshead will make corrections to the Resolution so it is for AFG FEMA Grants only. Hollingshead stated he gave Mayor Ratliff the information on equipment, inspections and maintenance that he was asked to provide.

Councilperson Bethel reported on the Finance Committee Meeting that was held on March 19, 2018. Bethel stated Finance Director Rockwell presented the Committee with permanent appropriations that included projects and equipment. The Committee reviewed a sample procurement policy from Liberty Township, the upcoming project list and what is included in appropriations. The Committee also discussed EMA reimbursement. The meeting was suspended at 6:25 pm and did not resume.

Councilperson Bethel reported on the Finance Committee Meeting that was held on April 2, 2018. Bethel stated the committee discussed forecasts to be prepared for the April 9, 2018 meeting. The committee also discussed a property maintenance officer, issues with property maintenance and the authority the Village has with the Nuisance Abatement Committee. Bethel reported that Finance Director Rockwell is going to prepare supplemental appropriations for \$30,000 for property maintenance and Nuisance Abatement. Administrator Powell, Police Chief Ervin and Bobby Wolfe are the members of the Nuisance Abatement Committee with Powell serving as the Chairman. The Nuisance Abatement Committee meeting that was previously scheduled was canceled and Administrator Powell will schedule a meeting.

Councilperson Goodfellow scheduled a Municipal Concerns Committee meeting on April 11, 2018 at 4:30 pm at the Municipal Building to discuss water issues.

Councilperson Chute asked Mayor Ratliff to make copies of the checklist that Fire Chief Hollingshead provided him with for the Public Safety Committee.

Councilperson Chute asked Mayor Ratliff if he had met with Fire Chief Hollingshead concerning the Facebook Post and grievances. Mayor Ratliff stated “yes” and the Facebook post was on a private page for Fire/EMS employees only. Chute inquired if an executive session was needed to discuss the grievances. Chute informed Council that the equipment that the grant writer took from the Village was signed off on by the Fire Chief and several others. Mayor Ratliff asked if it was legal to do this with the equipment if it was purchased with FEMA grants. Chris Spencer stated you can give them away as long as it is not used in the United States. Finance Director Rockwell explained a similar situation with the old ladder truck. Councilperson Chute stated they need to discuss the e-mail that was submitted to Council by Larry Hatem at the last Council meeting. Mayor Ratliff stated they would discuss it in executive session.

Councilperson Chute made a motion to go into executive session to discuss discipline of personnel under ORC 121.22 (G) (1) with Council, Mayor, Administrator, Police Chief and Fire Chief present. Seconded by Councilperson Bethel. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned for executive session.

Councilperson Thompson made a motion to come out of executive session. Seconded by Councilperson Welsh. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Councilperson Bethel stated no decision was made as a result of the executive session.

Councilperson Chute requested Administrator Powell contact the attorney for further guidance on the grievances.

Mayor Ratliff entertained a motion to adjourn.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.



Mayor Kevin Ratliff



Council Clerk Lisa Spohn