

**VILLAGE OF NEW LEBANON
COUNCIL MEETING
June 4, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.
Council Chambers**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Vice-Mayor Adkins. The invocation was given by Council member Back, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

VERBAL ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Members

Timothy L. Back	Present
Gale B. Joy	Present
Tammy Loch	Present
Lyndon Perkins	Absent
Melissa Sexton	Present
Nicole Adkins	Present
David Nickerson	Absent

Others Present

Police Lieutenant Wortman
Interim Law Director McNamee
Acting Village Manager Anderson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Approval of the May 21, 2024, regular meeting minutes. Council Member Sexton made the motion to approve the May 21, 2024, minutes. Council Member Back seconded.

3 yes and 2 no votes, minutes approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council member Sexton thanked the service department and Interim Municipal Manager Anderson for resolving the issue on Parkview stating the problem was

ongoing for almost two years. Council member Sexton stated this is another reason why she is on council, to serve the community.

Council member Back inquired into the salt barn not having permits. Council member Back also brought up the ongoing issue with the lighting not working down Industrial Park for a few years. He asked that this be looked into because it is a safety issue pulling out of the new Dollar General.

Council member Sexton also commented on the Industrial Park lighting not working stating she has had discussions with the Cass Center director and his frustration with this being ongoing and not getting adequate responses when he has called in.

NEW BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Theresa Cooper, 443 Hazelhurst, gave thanks for taking care of the pond stating the condition of the pond has been talked about many times and is very excited it is finally being done.

Joshua Farley, 136 Bronwood Street, informed council of the Facebook posts regarding vandalism around homes and asked who the acting police chief was. Mr. Farley inquired into starting a Neighborhood Watch program. He stated the lug nuts on one of his tires was loosened and discovered while driving to the meeting.

Lieutenant Wortman stated they hold meetings one to two times a year for the Neighborhood Watch program to see if there is interest. They only had one and that only lasted a few months.

Mr. Farley asked Lieutenant Wortman to schedule a meeting.

Lieutenant Wortman reminded everyone to call the police and not post on Facebook if there are issues.

Natasha Farley, 136 Bronwood Street, expressed her gratitude and appreciation for changes in the village. Mrs. Farley addressed Council members Loch and Joy stating

she is ashamed, and they are an embarrassment. She then referenced the lug nuts being loosened on her tire and someone could have killed her and her three children if something happened while she was driving. She further stated someone put nails in her driveway and stressed the importance of a Neighborhood Watch program. Mrs. Farley expressed her displeasure with Lieutenant Wortman.

Shannon Bemis, 130 Bronwood Street, addressed Mr. Farley's inquiry into a Neighborhood Watch program stating they have tried multiple times, and a certain percentage of a street must participate to have one and there has not been enough interest in the past. Mrs. Bemis gave thanks for working on the pond, stating it looked nice. She addressed the ongoing issue in the Industrial Park with the lighting not working and stated this has been going on for many years and has never been fixed. Mrs. Bemis stated the last thing she heard from previous manager Madden was that there was a short in the electric wirings and nobody could find it but was having a larger electric company come out to look at it, but they never did. Mrs. Bemis stated the Cass Center is through the county the same way our court building was and reminded everyone when Judge Piergies was at a council meeting stating one of the issues they had when they decided to move to Trotwood was the lack of maintenance and repairs we were responsible for stating she would hate to see the county have issues with our village again in relation to the Cass Center. Mrs. Bemis reiterated why she is in support of the new council for completing things and previously everyone was given the runaround so many times with people not getting calls back, emails returned, and people pleading. She appreciated the new council hearing us and doing something referencing the Parkview residence and how awful it looked and was blown off and thanked the council for getting it fixed. Mrs. Bemis asked why Council members Joy and Loch voted no on approving the meeting minutes and how that infuriates her.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF COMMENTS

None

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

Council member Loch stated she knows there are a lot of public records requests Interim Municipal Manager Anderson is being bombarded with and a lot are proton emails. She requested what has been requested from 4/1/24 to now.

Interim Municipal Manager Anderson informed everyone that the service department

would be flushing hydrants during the week and to expect some discoloration of water and encouraging people to avoid washing white clothing during this time. Mr. Anderson thanked the service department for hanging the Hometown Hero banners in town and stated they looked terrific. Mr. Anderson said that there were some hometown hero banners ordered that are still not in, so those people will be given an additional three years for the inconvenience. Mr. Anderson said he was testing out the village YouTube channel this meeting so people could watch live, and citizens don't have to hold their phones to record. The channel is @villageofnewlebanon.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Council member Loch expressed continued prayers to the community, police, fire, Mr. Perkins, and Mr. Gauvey.

VICE-MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Vice-Mayor Adkins extended prayers for Mr. Perkins and prayers to keep our community, police, and fire safe.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

None

ADDED TO AGENDA

Christopher Sands - Absent

Shannon Bemis, 130 Bronwood Street, asked Council member's Loch and Joy to email her on why they keep voting no on meeting minutes and stated instead of voting no they should at least state why and it is irresponsible of them as a council member to not give a reason. Mrs. Bemis asked Council member Loch how many public records requests she did last year. Mrs. Bemis stated she did one and it was a personnel record of someone running in the election that she posted and feels it is election interference with ill intent and not for the betterment of the community. Mrs. Bemis further questioned why Council member Loch has a sudden interest in public records requests and questions and does not understand why she is more worried about protecting friends rather than what's good for the village. Mrs. Bemis discussed collusion and feels Council members Loch and Joy are in dereliction of duty.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Sexton motioned to adjourn; Council member Back seconded.

Roll Call:

Council member Sexton	Yes
Council member Joy	Yes
Council member Back	Yes
Council member Loch	Yes
Vice-Mayor Adkins	Yes

5 yes 0 no, motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.by Vice-Mayor Adkins.


Approved:



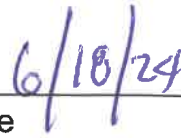
Mayor



Date



Clerk of Council



Date