

**MUNICIPALITY OF NEW LEBANON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
April 1, 2025, at 7:30 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Nickerson. The invocation was given by Council Member Cooper, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Verbal Roll Call of Council Members Present for the Record

Council Members:

Timothy L. Back	Present
Charles Cooper	Present
Gale Joy	Present
Chris Sands	Present
Melissa Sexton	Present
Nicole Adkins	Present
David Nickerson	Absent

Others Present:

Village Manager Draugelis
Interim Law Director McNamee
Fire Chief Keyser
Service Director Easom
Code Enforcement Administrator Long

Approval of Minutes

- Approval of the March 18, 2025, regular council meeting minutes.

Council Member Cooper made a motion to approve the minutes. Council Member Sexton seconded the motion.

5 yes votes, 1 no vote, minutes approved as presented.

Unfinished Business

ORDINANCE 2025-02 - AN ORDINANCE REPEALING SECTIONS 36.20-36.34 OF THE VILLAGE OF NEW LEBANON CODIFIED ORDINANCES, TITLED "MUNICIPAL FINANCE AND TAXATION" AND ADOPTING THE PROPOSED LANGUAGE ATTACHED HERETO TO COMPLY WITH THE CHANGES ENUMERATED IN OHIO HOUSE BILL 33 (Second Reading & Public Hearing).

New Business

Appointment to Boards and Commissions:

Appoint Shannon Bemis to the Planning Commission and the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Council Member discussion on the appointment questioning if there was a conflict. Mr. McNamee will look into. Appointment tabled until the next meeting.

Vice-Mayor Adkins asked if there was a motion to add Resolution 2025-15 to the agenda.

Council Member Joy asked questions related to A Day at the Park and the liquor license permit resolution on the agenda.

Council Member Joy asked that adding Resolution 2025-15 be tabled because he received it at the meeting and wanted to review. Manager Draugelis explained it was the sewer meter rate increases that should have been added when the sewer rate was increased.

Council Member Joy motioned to table Resolution 2025-15. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Council Member Back motioned to add Resolution 2025-15 to the agenda. Seconded by Council Member Sexton.

Roll Call:

Council Member Cooper	Yes
Council Member Sexton	Yes
Council Member Joy	No
Council Member Sands	Yes
Council Member Back	Yes
Vice-Mayor Adkins	Yes

5 yes votes, 1 no votes, motion carries.

RESOLUTION 2025-13 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE REQUIRED LIQUOR LICENSE TO ALLOW BEER SALES AT A DAY AT THE PARK.

Council member discussion on the vendor and timing of liquor license.

Council Member Back's motion received a second by Council member Cooper.

Roll Call:

Vice-Mayor Adkins	Yes
Council Member Cooper	Yes
Council Member Sexton	Yes
Council Member Joy	Yes
Council Member Sands	Yes
Council Member Back	Yes

6 yes votes, 0 no votes, motion carries.

RESOLUTION 2025-14 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TEMPORARY WAIVER OF BUSINESS PERMIT FEES FOR AUGUST 9, 2025, AT A DAY AT THE PARK.

Council member discussion on permit fees others have already paid, waiving fees for this day only for this event, costs of permits, and encouraging vendors to come participate.

Council Member Back's motion received a second by Council member Sexton.

Roll Call:

Vice-Mayor Adkins	Yes
Council Member Cooper	Yes
Council Member Sexton	Yes
Council Member Joy	Yes
Council Member Sands	Yes
Council Member Back	Yes

6 yes votes, 0 no votes, motion carries.

RESOLUTION 2025-15 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF SANITARY SEWER METER RATE FROM \$2.00 PER MONTH TO \$3.60 PER MONTH AND THE MINIMUM CHARGE FROM \$20.00 PER MONTH TO \$24.00 PER MONTH.

Council Member Back's motion received a second by Council member Cooper.

Roll Call:

Council Member Back	Yes
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Vice-Mayor Adkins	Yes
Council Member Cooper	Yes
Council Member Sexton	Yes
Council Member Joy	No
Council Member Sands	Yes

5 yes votes, 1 no votes, motion carries.

Council Member Back spoke on the sewer rates.

Public Comments or Questions

Josh Farley, 136 Bronwood Street, spoke about a social media policy, misinformation, auditor's findings, and recovery of the findings.

Shannon Bemis, 130 Bronwood, spoke on the sewer rate increase, board vacancies, and eligibility.

Administrative Staff Comments

Fire Chief Keyser informed council about the tanker not being taken to the exhibit in Indianapolis.

Code Enforcement Administrator Long informed council there are multiple zoning cases coming up, gave an update on the demo of properties in the village, and provided a quarterly report. Council discussion on being informed of potential businesses coming in and the options to making zoning violations more efficient.

Service Director Easom informed council of a water main break, repairs needed to our infrastructure, a maintenance program, work that is being done, quotes he gave to the manager, and potholes.

Code Enforcement Administrator Long informed council he picked up all of our old blueprints with the cabinets due to the company going out of business.

Interim Law Director McNamee updated council on Glenna Madden's lawsuit.

Municipal Manager's Comments

Thanked everyone for the support and is focused on the community.

Council Members' Comments

Council Member Back discussed getting reimbursed for the findings from the AG.

Council Member Sexton also agreed to go after reimbursement.

Council Member Back discussed getting reimbursed for legal fees from the lawsuit.

Vice-Mayor Adkins asked what the legal fees were for the case Glenna Madden lost.

Council Member Sexton discussed frivolous lawsuits and Mr. McNamee staying on.

Council Member Back expressed appreciation for Mr. McNamee.

Vice-Mayor Adkins expressed appreciation for Mr. McNamee and that he has stayed and fights for our community.

Council Member Back discussed the state of the village, the struggles we are facing, and the good things happening.

Council Member Cooper discussed social media and council are the representatives of the village.

Council Member Sexton discussed council on Facebook.

Council Member Joy discussed charter violations and bullying.

Mr. McNamee discussed no evidence of charter violations.

Tammy Loch, 212 Bronwood, discussed conduct of council members towards other council members, being out of order, and council representing the community.

Jodie Ayler 128 N. Church Street, stated she is new to the community, thought this would be a great place to put up a home, didn't feel welcomed, and wanted to share the potential they saw.

Council Member Back discussed the social media policy and online behavior.

Council Member Sexton extended an offer to Council Member Joy to meet and find a way to move forward for the community.

Vice-Mayor's Comments

Vice-Mayor Adkins talked about team building, social media, all that needs to be fixed,

she is approachable, and moving forward.

Mayor's Comments

None

Request to be Added to the Agenda

None

Adjournment

Council Member Cooper motioned to adjourn, Council Member Back seconded.


Roll Call:

Council Member Sands	Yes
Council Member Back	Yes
Vice-Mayor Adkins	Yes
Council Member Cooper	Yes
Council Member Sexton	Yes
Council Member Joy	Yes

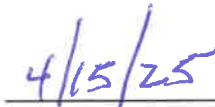
6 yes votes, 0 no votes, the motion passes and the meeting is adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.by Vice-Mayor Adkins.

Approved:



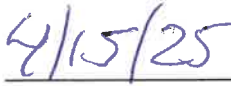
Mayor Nickerson



Date



Clerk of Council



Date