

Regular Council

November 20,

23

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Mayor White presiding.

**ROLL CALL**

The following Village Council members were present: Adam Gongwer, Bob Jarvis, Wynn Kearns, Kim Little, Jeff O’Brien and Todd Wise.

Other officials present: Attorney John Studenmund, Chief Troy Weaver, Village Administrator Andrew Smallstey and Assistant Finance Director Peter Them.

Residents and other guests: Keith Bacin of 419 Cedarwood Drive and Mike Mitchel of 410 Fox Road.

Motion by O’BRIEN to excuse Councilman Alleshouse.

Seconded by GONGWER.

Roll call. Yeas: 6; Nays: 0; Abstains: 0.

Motion carried.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by O’BRIEN to approve the minutes of November 6, 2023 Regular Council Meeting.

Seconded by WISE.

Roll call. Yea: 6; Nays: 0; Abstain: 0.

Motion carried.

**FIXING TIME OF ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by JARVIS to set the time of adjournment for 8:41 p.m. Seconded by KEARNS.

Roll call. Yeas: 6; Nays: 0; Abstains: 0.

Motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS**

Mayor White requested any Village resident wishing to address Council concerning Council business to please stand, state their name and address for the record, and their purpose for attending Council.

No comments were heard.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

RULES AND PERSONNEL: No report.

FINANCE: October bills have been read and approved.

SAFETY SERVICE: Resolution tonight.

PUBLIC UTILITIES: No report.

STREETS & SIDEWALKS: No report.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: No report

**FINANCE REPORT**

No report.

**ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

As reported by Administrator Andrew Smallstey:

Salt bins are full. Salt contract is with Richland County only.

Water break in front of the old Key Bank building. Repairs started after 6:00 p.m., to wait for traffic congestion to pass through, and completed by 7:15 p.m.

I am still moving monies for year end. We have an Ordinance tonight regarding all the changes. All monies have been received for project reimbursements, and last payment for the Washington Township annexation agreement has just been made.

K.T. McCartney will be in town for 2024 street resurfacing measuring.

We have lengthy appropriations tonight as required by the State Auditor. Previously I was able to move year end funds up to \$5,000.00 but the auditor has said this is not acceptable. Assistant Finance Director, Peter Them, noted the final report for this years audit has been completed and will be submitted on our behalf. State Auditors are recommending use of the Hinkle Annual Financial Date reporting system and remove stress put on the Village. This will also improve access and functionality. It can be submitted from one to three-year plans.

Motion by LITTLE to approve the three-year plan for Hinkle auditor reports.

Seconded by WISE.

Roll call. Yeas: 6; Nays: 0; Abstains: 0.

We will have staff Christmas luncheon on December 15<sup>th</sup> at Depot. We will supply food and drinks. All are invited. I will let you know about the time; adjusting for travel time to get the food.

Councilman Little asked about the depression in the center of Yorkshire Road. Mr. Smallstey replied there is a small water leak.

Council President Jarvis requested dates and times for budget meeting with the Finance Committee. Finance Committee will meet at 6:00 p.m. on December 4, 2023 and at 6:30 p.m. on December 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Mayor's report**

As reported by Mayor Brian White:

The new mayor and council members will be sworn in at Depot on December 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

**POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT**

As reported by Chief Weaver:

We will have five to six extra officers present for Light Up Lexington. We will also have cruisers with flashing lights at the US Route 42.

**PARLIMENATARIAN REPORT**

As reported by Parliamentarian Adam Gongwer: No report.

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

Ordinance No. 23-33 by Mr. Little

**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR PERMANENT BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND APPROPRIATIONS FOR NOVEMBER FOR THE ADMINISTRATION, POLICE, PARKS, STREET LIGHTING, FINANCE, LANDS & BUILDINGS, INCOME TAX, POLICE LEVY, PARK LEVY, DEPOT, SEWER, WATER AND STORM WATER FUNDS.**

Motion by LITTLE to waive rules of Council requiring that a Ordinance comes from a standing committee.

Seconded by GONGWER.

Roll call. All yeas: 6 – 0.

Motion carried.

Motion by LITTLE to waive rules of Council requiring that a Ordinance is read on two separate occasions.

Seconded by GONGWER.

Roll call. All yeas: 6 – 0.

Motion carried.

Motion by LITTLE to adopt.

Seconded by GONGWER.

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DISCUSSION: Stemming from almost all line items; salary was for vacation buy-outs, and basic items like utilities.

Roll call. Yeas: 7; Nays: 0; Abstains: 0  
Motion carried.

Resolution No. 23-34 by Mr. O'Brien

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF ERIC WENDLING AS A FULL-TIME PROBATIONARY POLICE OFFICER OF THE VILLAGE OF LEXINGTON, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by O'BRIEN to waive rules of Council requiring that the *amended* Resolution comes from a standing committee.

Seconded by LITTLE.

Roll call. All yeas: 6 – 0.

Motion carried.

Motion by O'BRIEN to waive rules of Council requiring that *amended* Resolution is read on two separate occasions.

Seconded by LITTLE.

Roll call. All yeas: 6 – 0.

Motion carried.

Motion by O'BRIEN to adopt.

Seconded by LITTLE.

DISCUSSION: Councilman Kearns commended Chief Weaver for return the department to full force.

Roll call. Yeas: 6; Nays: 0; Abstains: 0  
Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Councilman Kearns updated information regarding the Lexington Cemetery. The committee has completed the first step as required by the State Auditors and has completed and filed the certification from the county auditors. We are currently preparing the second certificate necessary for the auditors. Local Government Services are now working with our reconstruction in our finances, bill payments, and other financial formats. We have also created new documents for deed applications, internment spaces, and other forms. We have new signage at the Bell Road and Gass Road Cemeteries. We have a December 19<sup>th</sup> deadline to file for the March ballot.

Motion by GONGWER to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss purchase or sale of property.

Seconded by O'BRIEN.

Roll call. Yeas: 6; Nays: 0; Abstains: 0.

Motion carried.

**Council adjourned to Executive Session at 7:55 p.m.**

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Motion by GONGWER to reconvene  
to Regular Council Session.

Seconded by WISE.

Roll call. Yeas: 6; Nays: 0; Abstains: 0.

Motion carried.

**Council reconvened to Regular Session at 8:22 p.m.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

No comments.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

No comments.

Motion by GONGWER to adjourn  
before the appointed hour.

Seconded by KEARNS.

Roll call. Yeas: 6; Nays: 0; Abstains: 0

Motion carried.

**Meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Brenda J. Wilson  
Clerk of Council

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Brian White  
Mayor