

November 2,

2021

The Council of the Municipality of New Lebanon, Ohio, held a public hearing regarding the proposed 2022 Appropriations on Tuesday, November 2, 2021 following all proper notices and postings. The hearing began at 7:15 p.m. with Vice Mayor Susan Nickerson presiding. Present were Municipal Manager Glenna Madden, Law Director Ronald D. Keener, Chief Financial Officer Brenda Etter, Fire Chief J.C. Keyser, Clerk of Council Sandy Wright and several visitors. Code Enforcement Administrator Melody Davis, Police Captain Chambers and Service Department Superintendent Scott Brock were absent.

The following members were present at the Call to Order: Gale Joy, Carol Macmann, Susan Nickerson, Christopher Sands, and Douglas Thompson. Raymond Arriola and Lyndon Perkins were absent.

I. OPENING OF PUBLIC HEARING

Vice Mayor Nickerson opened the budget hearing.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF REMARKS

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2020, our community saw a pandemic. As such, throughout 2020 and 2021, we have been and will continue to monitor our revenue and adjusted expenses as needed. Moving into fiscal year 2022, we will do the same monitoring and adjusting as needed. The shutting down of many things in 2020 has created a lingering effect into 2021 leading to issues with material obtainment and timing to complete projects. The hope is that things become more normal in FY 2022.

The Village saw the addition of Taco Bell in 2021. In 2022, we will continue to focus on areas of community development with local businesses, both current and new to the village.

The goal in 2022 is the return of community events, festivals, and summer camp, as we continue to develop our Parks and Recreation Programs.

In FY2021, Don Rusk Park remains a priority of the Village, and we will continue to fix drainage and continue the walking track. 2021 sees 2400 feet of walking track paved which is a continuation of the 2021 track paving. For 2022, the Service Department may use, as in the past, two part-time Seasonal workers to help cover general park operations during the summer, as the 2021 seasonal workers were beyond helpful and a strong addition to the department. For 2022, it is my goal to try and find a grant to help offset the cost with up keeping or replacing the playground equipment in the park. The restrooms at Don Rusk were remodeled and painted in 2021. They were then vandalized immediately, and several juveniles have been charged thanks to newly installed cameras located in the park.

Streets remain a fore front concern for the Village in FY 2022. Even with the pandemic in FY2020, Church St. phase II continued, and we were able to complete two small street levy projects, Yale Ave. off Church St. and Capri Cir. FY2021, we are seeing the final phase of Church Street's OPWC project and a street levy project on Gloria St. In FY2022, we will continue capital improvements using the Ohio Public Works Commission Grant & Loan Program, as we have applied for two street projects and a continuation of our sewer realignment. Our street levy has been a huge success over the last few years allowing us to

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repair and pave streets that without the levy would be going untouched except for pothole repairs. The voters first passed the 5-mill Street Levy in 2015 and renewed it in 2019 for another five years. All the streets throughout the Village need attention, and although, we would like to do all the streets the levy allows us to do one or two streets a year depending on the cost of the repair and resurfacing of the project. We look at all streets and evaluate the level of deterioration, amount of travel, and cost to see which street(s) will be a project street. Each year, we work with our engineer to help predict and plan our street projects. The ultimate goal is for the streets to be on a fifteen-to-twenty-year rotation for repairs and resurfacing going forward.

Administration will continue to aggressively pursue Grant & Loan Projects via the Ohio Public Works Commission Program, CDBG, Montgomery County, and others grant funding sources to improve our community infrastructure, police, and fire.

I am recommending to council that they consider permanently improving the base level of funding for Police Operations in 2022 by adding an additional millage issue to the fall ballot in the form of at least a 5 mil Police Levy. Annually, transfer of funds from the General Fund to the Police Fund fills in the budget gap between the monies generated by the existing police millage and those additional funds needed to operate the department which in turn lessens the general fund. The Police Department is in need of additional funding to help secure the funding base to support our present day police operations.

The municipality continues to accomplish our annual work plan with a 1% local Income Tax first enacted on July 1, 1973. Our 1% Income Tax rate remains unchanged over the last forty-eight years which very clearly identifies the intrinsic value of all of the municipal operations performed for our community within the scope of our existing resource pool of personnel, materials, supplies, and local tax dollars.

Municipal Manager Madden asked are there any questions? None voiced.

III. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC

Vice Mayor Nickerson then asked for questions or comments from the Council. None voiced.

Vice Mayor Nickerson stated do I have a motion to adjourn.

Motion by Council Member Macmann, second by Council Member Sands to adjourn.

ROLL CALL ON ABOVE MOTION: Council Member Joy, yes; Council Member Macmann, yes; Council Member Nickerson, yes; Council Member Sands, yes; Council Member Thompson, yes; 5 yes 0 no

ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Hearing closed at 7:18 p.m.

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Approved:

 Nov 15, 2021
Mayor Date

 Nov. 15, 2021
Clerk of Council Date