

May 4,

2021

***Meeting Disclaimer: Meeting Disclaimer: During this pandemic, and in an effort to maintain social distancing, comply with the Stay-at-home-Advisory, keeping our gatherings to less than 10 people while continuing to meet the requirements of an open meeting, we will meet by Zoom. Additionally, Zoom allows the public to join and participate in our open meeting during the public comment portion of the meeting.***

The regular meeting of the Municipality of New Lebanon, Ohio was called to order on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. with Mayor Arriola presiding. Connected were Municipal Manager Madden, Law Director Ronald Keener, and Clerk of Council Sandy Wright. Fire Chief J.C. Keyser, Police Captain James Chambers, Code Enforcement Administrator Melody Davis, Chief Financial Officer Brenda Etter and Service Department Superintendent Scott Brock were absent.

#### **INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The invocation and Pledge of Allegiance was given by Mayor Arriola.

#### **ROLL CALL**

A verbal roll call of Council Members present on the conference meeting for the record. The following members connected at the Roll Call were Raymond Arriola, Gale Joy, Susan Nickerson, Lyndon Perkins, Christopher Sands and Douglas Thompson. Carol Macmann was absent.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Arriola stated next is the approval of the April 20, 2021 regular meeting minutes.

Mayor Arriola asked are there any corrections or changes that need to be made to these minutes? None voiced.

Mayor Arriola stated all in favor of these minutes please signify by saying aye, all opposed same sign.

VOICE VOTE. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mayor Arriola stated there is no old business tonight. Does anyone have any old business? None was heard.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Arriola stated next we have no new business listed. Does anyone have any new business? Nothing was heard.

Mayor Arriola stated any public comments or questions. Did anyone sign up?

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS**

Municipal Manager Madden stated no one signed in.

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**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF COMMENTS**

Mayor Arriola stated Police Captain Chambers.

Municipal Manager Madden stated he does not have any comments tonight.

Mayor Arriola stated Fire Chief Keyser.

Municipal Manager Madden stated he does not have any comments tonight.

Mayor Arriola stated Code Enforcement Administrator Melody Davis.

Municipal Manager Madden stated Melody is sending letters left and right. It is that time of year.

Mayor Arriola stated anybody have anything for Melody. Nothing was heard.

Mayor Arriola stated Chief Financial Officer Brenda.

Municipal Manager Madden stated Brenda doesn't have anything either.

Mayor Arriola Service Department Superintendent Scott Brock.

Municipal Manager Madden stated he has nothing tonight.

Council Member Nickerson stated I was headed out west bound on 35 between Fuls Road and Sawmill Lane. I know it has been rough there but I was out there a couple of days ago and again today and it is really, really bad.

Municipal Manager Madden stated it is right past where the beauty shop used to be headed west. It is one of the projects we will have to fix. It will have to be dug and fixed. I have been talking to ODOT to get a couple of things squared away. I was checking to see when ODOT was going to be doing a mass paving because we did not want to spend the money if ODOT was going to be doing a mass paving. I did not see it on their schedule but I am still trying to get in touch with the person to confirm the schedule. It will have to be cut and dug like we did in front of the car lot located on the other side of the street. I know there is some confusion as to who is responsible on SR35. We are responsible for SR35 when it comes to potholes or minor fixes. The State will come in and pave it on a rotating schedule but I do not know what the schedule is. It looked like it is scheduled out to 2024 and we were not anywhere on that list.

Council Member Nickerson stated I noticed it was a lot worse today than it has been.

Mayor Arriola stated Municipal Managers comments.

**MANAGER'S COMMENTS**

Municipal Manager Madden stated there is an NLYA Opening Day Parade on Saturday May 8th. Parade will start at 10:00 a.m. going down 35 towards the park. If you are going anywhere Saturday go early or later so you aren't caught in the parade. If anyone is interested in being in the parade please reach out and let me know ahead of time.

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Council Member Sands brought up the subject of having an *end school zone sign* erected heading east just past Fuls Road. When I spoke with ODOT the signs on SR35 is their responsibility. I was advised they will be sending someone out on May 29, 2021 to look that over and see what needs to be where. They are actually going to put a couple of *reduce speed ahead signs on 35 and an End School Zone sign (heading east just past Fuls Road)*.

Mayor Arriola asked are they going to put the 45mph speed around Casey's like they had before?

Municipal Manager Madden stated the 45mph speed limit was set back in 1996-1997. The only way for that to be changed is for us to do a speed study. A speed study requires an engineer and I am not sure what the cost of that would be.

Mayor Arriola stated that is not what I am asking. Are they going to put the sign back? One of the signs is missing. There was one going east and one going west now there is only one. It is going west.

Municipal Manager Madden stated when they are here on the 29<sup>th</sup> they plan to look at all the signage on SR35 in both directions

Mayor Arriola stated anyone else have any questions for the Manager.

Council Member Joy asked when are we moving back into council chambers?

Municipal Manager Madden stated the ten (10) person rule is still in effect, but you guys can ultimately make that decision. We still have to maintain six (6) feet social distance. It will limit the public because we are at ten (10) people. You guys have that discretion to make that decision at any time.

Mayor Arriola stated I am good with going back.

Council Member Joy stated even if we did something like open it up so the public could come to a meeting even if it is still a zoom meeting they could come in there and still address council.

Municipal Manager Madden stated do you want a hybrid type meeting.

Council Member Joy stated I just want to open the council chambers up again so we can actually have people.

Municipal Manager Madden stated we can take a straw vote on that. Do you mean go back to meeting for the next meeting or go back in June?

Council Member Perkins stated next meeting.

Council Member Sands stated I am good with waiting until June.

Vice Mayor Nickerson stated I have a lot of people asking to go back to actual meetings because they can't manage to get logged in for comments. They say it is too difficult.

Municipal Manager Madden stated if we are doing a hybrid they are still going to have to log in. If Gale is asking for a hybrid meeting the public is on zoom they would still have to log in.

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Council Member Thompson stated I am vaccinated so I hang out with vaccinated people in public meetings. If you are vaccinated I think ten (10) is the limit and I am with Chris I would like to wait until June. I don't know if we could do an outside meeting, more people can attend that way but I don't know how technology would work for that. I think we have to honor the Governor's order.

Council Member Joy asked is it possible to turn a camera on in the council chambers so the people can attend and be on the zoom meeting?

Mayor Arriola stated the problem is they cannot get logged in.

Municipal Manager Madden stated if they are able to log in while we are on the zoom together they would not be able to log in if we are all sitting in a room.

Council Member Joy stated they would be if there is a station set up for them to be able to accommodate that.

Municipal Manager Madden stated so what you are asking then is would we have a place here for them to come in to be on the zoom.

Council Member Joy stated if we can't open it up and guarantee they can come in and address the council then I think that would be alternative solution.

Municipal Manager Madden asked so where are you suggestion we put the zoom for them?

Council Member Joy stated I don't know. It could be out in the lobby for that matter.

Municipal Manager Madden stated again we run the risk of more than ten (10) people. You would have too many people gathered in the lobby. We are only allowing three (3) people in the lobby to be six (6) feet apart.

Council Member Joy stated we could only allow three (3) people at a time in the lobby at any given time.

Municipal Manager Madden stated then someone would have to wait outside so that runs the risk of them not being able to see the meeting.

Council Member Joy stated I am more concerned with the fact that they can't address their concerns to council. That is what I am getting at.

Municipal Manager Madden stated it is whatever you guys want to do. That is fine if you want to do full meetings in the council room. All I am saying is the governor says ten (10) people period. If you want to go back with full meetings with the public we can do that in June or if you want to do some type of hybrid that is fine too, but again if they are struggling to get signed in or whatever so they are not able to address us then I don't know if the hybrid will work.

Council Member Sands asked can comments be left on the website.

Municipal Manager Madden stated they can send an email. They can call the office.

Council Member Sands stated so they have ways of contacting council if they so choose through the website leaving a message and it would passed on to us.

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Municipal Manager Madden stated absolutely. I know other jurisdictions and other places that council is in the meeting and if somebody wants to address council they can submit something by 5:00 the day of the meeting. They are televising their meetings. I find that wrong because you are not able to interact with them at all. You have to submit a question ahead of time. I am with Doug, I have been vaccinated. I am just following the rules that have been set

Council Member Perkins asked has everyone on council been vaccinated?

Council Member Sands stated I have been vaccinated.

Municipal Manager Madden stated if you want to say the first meeting in June we can go back to in person and see how we can work that with the public.

Mayor Arriola stated let's wait until June if everybody is okay with it and we will see what the Governor says by then. Is everybody okay with that?

Council Member Thompson stated I am okay with that.

Council Member Sands stated I am okay with that.

Council Member Joy stated the sooner the better for me.

Vice Mayor Nickerson stated I would like to be back in sooner but if the majority rules sooner is better than nothing in my opinion.

Mayor Arriola stated right. If the Governor does not change things we are still going to be in the same boat.

Vice Mayor Nickerson stated to limit some people to allow more public.

Municipal Manager Madden stated all of you have to be there. We will not have any administrative staff in there because that takes over the limit quickly. Once you add me, Sandy, and Ron with your seven (7) we are at ten (10).

Vice Mayor Nickerson asked can you guys be in your offices on zoom?

Municipal Manager Madden stated we might be able to figure that out but if would be have to limit the number of people in there. You guys will have to sit awkwardly because to cover the six (6) feet around you so we will have to put upper and lower people. That will be difficult to do in zoom if you all are spread out that much.

Council Member Thompson asked could we maybe go up to the school and have a meeting where it is larger? There are a lot of sports going on. Could we go up to the cafetorium?

Municipal Manager Madden stated maybe. I can reach out to them to see if they would be willing to let us use the cafetorium.

Council Member Thompson stated that would increase the headcount. I get worried about speeding down the road and breaking the speed limit much less go against an executive order.

Mayor Arriola stated I understand what we have to do as a council but if we go out to a restaurant we can all sit across from each other at a table.

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Everyone talking at the same time. ( Not audible)

Mayor Arriola stated we will move on to Council Member comments.

**COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mayor Arriola stated Gale.

Council Member Joy stated I have nothing further.

Mayor Arriola stated Chris.

Council Member Sands stated I have nothing else this evening.

Mayor Arriola stated Doug.

Council Member Thompson stated I have no comments. Thank you Mayor.

Mayor Arriola stated Lyndon.

Council Member Perkins stated Johnsville-Brookville Road is really nice now and that stretch where we had it repaired is good. Appreciate the good work.

Mayor Arriola stated Vice Mayor Nickerson.

**VICE MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Vice Mayor Nickerson stated I do not have anything else. Thank you.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Arriola stated I don't have anything further.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Arriola stated do I have a motion to adjourn the meeting.


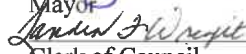
Motion by Council Member Nickerson, second by Council Member Sands to adjourn the meeting.

ROLL CALL OF ABOVE MOTION: Council Member Joy, yes; Council Member Nickerson, yes; Council Member Perkins, yes; Council Member Sands, yes; Council Member Thompson, yes; Council Member Arriola, yes; 6 yes 0 no

ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Approved:

	<i>May 20, 2021</i>
Mayor	Date
	<i>May 18, 2021</i>
Clerk of Council	Date