

The Village of Lexington Common Council held a Regular Council Meeting Monday, February 24, 2025 in the Council Chambers at 7227 Huron Ave., Lexington, MI 48450

Call to order the Regular Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. by President Kristen Kaatz

Pledge of Allegiance led by President Kristen Kaatz

Roll call taken by Clerk Vicki Scott

Present: Ehardt, Adams, Muoio, Cole, DeCoster, Kaatz

Absent: – Dost

Others present: L. Fisher, and 4 citizens

ATTENDANCE – Board members unanimously agreed Dost as an excused absence

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Motion by DeCoster, seconded by Adams, to approve the agenda as amended adding Evans Ehardt before Lori Fisher's report.

All ayes

Motion carried

BUSINESS

ADMINISTRATION

EVANS EHARDT – COUNTY COMMISSIONER – Ehardt reported the Governor is releasing (CFP) Community Funds Project in the amount of \$14 - \$16 million for any projects being done in the community. An application will need to be filled out and submitted. I sent an email to Lori Fisher regarding this. Any joint projects with the Township or County that need to be done would qualify. You can submit more than one application.

A. LORI FISHER – VILLAGE MANAGER'S REPORT – Fisher reported the Tierney Park Project is moving along. We are about 90% complete. We are hoping to go out to bid March 25, 2025. Construction would begin in September. We are having weekly / biweekly meetings with the DNR & Edgewater. The DDA is moving along with plans for the Village Green. We had a 4th of July kick off meeting. Volunteers will be heading up the events this year. We wrapped up the employee evaluations and are working on the 25/26 budget. We are looking at another 10% increase this year with Croswell EMS contract. Our DPW has done a great job keeping up with the snow this year. Thank you to Pat Simasko for opening a tab for all the DPW workers last weekend at Lexington Coffee Company. We had a few delays with the USDA projects during the extreme cold. We are approximately 90% complete with the sewer portion and 40% complete with water. We are working on some zoning ordinance amendments with murals, chickens, solar, and Mobile Home Park. We got approval from EGLE on Lot #28 for replacement. EGLE approved 3 new permits and 3 more pending for new mobiles. The RFP for the audit is due back March 14, 2025. I had a meeting with the Township last week regarding the building. They requested having a building committee. Thank you to Larry Adams for volunteering to be on this committee with me. Kaatz asked if this group is looking to resurrect the building authority. Fisher responded no nothing formal just one or two Councilmembers and myself working with the township. Fisher noted for example the current

cleaning contract is very expensive for what we are getting. Fisher stated this would be just an advisory group, no formal decisions being made. Kaatz asked if the Board had any objections to Lori and one or two Councilmembers working on building issues with the Township. No objections.

B. MINUTES – Motion by Adams, seconded by DeCoster, to approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of January 27, 2025, as presented.

All ayes

Motion carried

C. USDA CHANGE ORDER FOR THE WATER PROJECT - Motion by Ehardt, seconded by DeCoster, to approve Change Order #6 with Booms Construction for a decrease in the contract price in the amount of \$37,309.00 for the Water Project.

Discussion: Lori Fisher explained this change order is not taking fluoride out of the water. Muoio stated if that were to ever happen notification would need to be sent out along with public hearings.

Roll Call

Ayes – Ehardt, DeCoster, Cole, Adams, Muoio, Kaatz

Nays - None

Motion carried

D. USDA SEWER PROJECT - Motion by Muoio, seconded by Adams, to authorize the draw amount of \$54,731.14 from the USDA Rural Development for expenses incurred related to the Sewer Infrastructure Project.

Roll Call

Ayes – Muoio, Adams, Ehardt, Cole, DeCoster, Kaatz

Nays – None

Motion carried

E. USDA WATER PROJECT - Motion by Muoio, seconded by DeCoster, to authorize the draw amount of \$505,026.63 from the USDA Rural Development for expenses incurred related to the Water Infrastructure Project.

Roll Call

Ayes – Muoio, DeCoster, Cole, Adams, Ehardt, Kaatz

Nays – None

Motion carried

F. INTRODUCTION TO DNR LEASE 2025 – Fisher provided the current lease expiring 2038 and addendum in the agenda packet. Fisher went over the current diagram. The DNR would not own the parking lot. Discussion followed on parking issues and signage.

G. PLANNING COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2024 – Motion by DeCoster, seconded by Adams, to approve the Planning Commission Annual Report for 2024 as presented.

All Ayes

Motion carried

H. VILLAGE MANAGER CONTRACT STATUS – Kaatz included a timeline in the agenda packet

I. ASSISTANT TO THE MANAGER STATUS – Lori Fisher explained asked to put together a job description. Fisher noted this did not go back through the Personnel Committee. This job description did go to DDA. One vision would be to handle the events for the Village Green along with researching zoning ordinances. The DDA asked to change the language to say assist with the events not an events coordinator. Fisher suggested a pay range of \$14,000 - \$26,000 per year depending on pay rate and hours. Fisher stated there is money in zoning for this position and DDA seemed interested in contributing. Kaatz noted the DDA discussed hiring an events coordinator. Discussion continued.

Motion by Adams, seconded by DeCoster, to send this request of a part time employee job description an hourly rate to Personnel Committee.

All Ayes

Motion carried

DDA:

J. RESOLUTION #2025-02 APPROVAL FOR SOCIAL DISTRICT PERMIT (Barlour, LLC.) –

Motion by Adams, seconded by Ehardt, to approve Resolution 2025-02 as presented

Roll Call

Ayes – Adams, Ehardt, Muoio, Cole, DeCoster, Kaatz

Nays – None

Motion carried

K. FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM APPLICATION – Motion by Ehardt, seconded by Muoio, to approve the Façade Improvement Program Application with changes as recommended by DDA.

Roll Call

Ayes – Ehardt, Muoio, Adams, Cole, DeCoster, Kaatz

Nays – None

Motion carried

FINANCIAL REPORTS –

Motion by DeCoster, seconded by Adams, to approve the check register in the amount of \$125,806.01 check numbers 39089 through 39145 and financial reports as presented.

Roll call

Ayes- DeCoster, Adams, Ehardt, Muoio, Cole, Kaatz

Nays- None

Motion carried

Motion by Adams, seconded by DeCoster, to approve the USDA water fund check register in the amount of \$699,809.08 check number 80020 through 80021 and reports as presented.

Roll Call

Ayes- Adams, DeCoster, Cole, Muoio, Ehardt, Kaatz

Nays – None

Motion carried

REPORTS –

CORRESPONDENCE – Letter from Lexington Arts Council

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

COUNCIL PERSON COMMENTS –

- Adams – commented on the workman’s compensation numbers.
- Ehardt – commented on the March meeting schedule.
- Kaatz – everyone please be careful on the ice.

ADJOURNMENT

Kaatz adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Vicki A. Scott
Clerk

I, Vicki A. Scott, (Village Clerk), do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of the draft minutes of the Village of Lexington Village Council at a regular meeting held on the 24th day of February, 2025.

Clerk: _____ Dated: _____