

# NEW LONDON VILLAGE COUNCIL

Regular Meeting – Monday, May 9, 2016 @ 7 p.m.

---

Mayor John Martin called the meeting to order. He then gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was then taken with the following members present: Curtis, Paramore, Myers, Willis, Cooke and Winslow.

Also present: Ellen Simmons, Lynn Phillips, Chief Marko, Steve Bond, Shawn Pickworth, Don Patton, Marvin McCallister, Gayle Ashbaker, Eric Ebinger, Jay Thomas, Melissa Martin, Zachary Howell, Joe Hicks, Lt. Joe Thomas, Toby Thomas, Mark Roeder, Officer Kevin Garofalo and Bob Cooke.

John Martin then asked for approval of the agenda. Paramore made a motion to approve the agenda. Curtis seconded the motion. Roll call - All ayes; no one opposed.

The minutes from the regular meeting held on April 25, 2016 were then presented for approval. Myers made a motion to approve the minutes. Winslow seconded the motion. Roll call - All ayes; no one opposed.

John Martin asked for any public questions or statements. Mark Roeder, current commander of The American Legion Post 292, stood to read a letter. His letter was addressed to John Martin and the council members. He read that the members of the American Legion support the City of New London, the mayor, the council and all of the citizens. They support the renovation of the Veteran's Memorial Park. They wanted to go on record to say they are not the driving force behind the renovation nor have they ever been. They agreed to support the community by taking control of the funds and helping with any fundraising coverage which they have done. The fund currently has a balance of \$19,320.97. They will continue with their efforts. The American Legion has not voted on any of the names that are being added or were they a part of eliminating any names. A monument committee was put in place to plan the renovation and come up with the design and a set of guidelines as to who would be included. The council approved the design and guidelines and as elected representatives of the village that is their job. Unless the members of the community convince council to vote otherwise, the Legion supports their decision. The letter was signed by Mark Roeder.

John Martin asked for more questions and statements. Gayle Ashbaker stood and said she had one question about the wall. It says Vietnam 1966, Roland Hunter. She stated she knew Mr. Hunter better than anybody. He enlisted in June of 1962 and spent three and a half years in the Navy on a sub stationed in Hawaii. He came home. He got an early out because he joined at seventeen. He died when he hit a tree at Lester Porters. She stated that you have to make sure that something of this caliber is one hundred percent perfect. There is a sign out at Chuckie's playground that has five mistakes on it and nobody has noticed? This is important to the community. She stated she would love to have Mr. Hunters name on the wall but it doesn't belong there. She also commented on the fence that was being removed. She had asked the mayor about it and he said it was to be sold to help pay for the project. Gayle then said she had told the mayor not to sell the fence. They had worked very hard to replace the fence at the cemetery that was thrown away. She stated the mayor told her the fence belonged to council and they would decide what would be done with it. If you look up the article on that monument when it was donated to the town it was donated to the citizens of the town so therefore it cannot be sold. It needs to be put in a where it is protected so we will always have it. Whether it should go to the cemetery, the Catholic cemetery or give it to the legion. It should not be laying where it can be damaged or where it will walk away. She concluded saying we cannot keep replacing stuff that is not taken care of.

Stuart Cooke stated that he and Bob Wilson donated their time to work on the memorial and he was out there when they were removing the fence and at first he was under the same opinion as Gayle that it was a nice wrought iron fence. But once they went to remove it he determined it was junk. It is rusted and has been coddled back together just to get it to stand. It is not in even sellable shape. It isn't worth putting it back up because of the shape it is in. It would cost more money to repair than to just buy a new wrought iron fence. Gayle then asked if they could at least save a piece of it to put in the historical museum. Cooke stated yes because there were sections of it but where every post was it was rusted and deteriorated. Gayle then asked if the pieces could be used somehow, somewhere. She hates to just throw it away. Cooke said you would have to cut it into shorter planks. The fence in between the posts were good, but from the posts to about 6 to eight inches to a foot were all rusted where it had wire holding it up. Gayle replied that she had not been told that. Cooke stated that when he and Bob Wilson took it down he told Bob they needed to be very careful taking it down so they didn't damage it but it was already damaged to the point where it was not worth a lot of money. Gayle said she would like to see whatever was salvageable. It was pointed out that the fence had been taken to the Morten building at the city garage on West Fir Street if Gayle would like to see it.

John Martin then spoke in reference to the fence. John recognized he had said that to Gayle. He then stated he had proposed to someone and he thought it was Bob Wilson if they could put the fence back inside but he was told it would not fit within the parameters of the monument inside walk. He said it was just a proposed statement when he spoke with Gayle and he apologized to her for not stating that to her. Martin then replied that the name of Roland Hunter, Lee Biddle and Danny Helton were all removed from the monument. He was visited by the commander and John Longbrake in his office. He was informed that those names should not be on the memorial because Mr. Hunter was killed in a car accident; Mr. Biddle died in a plane crash twenty years after he was out of the service; and Mr. Helton died in a hospital from a cause unknown by Martin. John reemphasized that those three names had been removed from the memorial. Martin then discussed the sign at the park with several mistakes. John stated he didn't know who put the sign up and asked Joe Thomas if he knew anything about the sign. Joe stated that there are some misspellings on the sign and he would make sure they got corrected.

John Martin asked if there were any more questions or statements. Robert (Toby) Thomas stood and stated he doesn't live in New London any more but he grew up here and was a graduate of the class of 1969. He wanted to talk about Edmund Smith's name being placed on the wall. He stated he appreciated Mark Roeder and John Martin both talking to him the past week. Mr. Thomas stated he would like to encourage and support Connie Smith and her family because Edmund Smith was a lifelong resident of New London. He realizes the idea for the memorial started with a couple ladies several years ago and then was handed over to the city council and they got help from the legion to raise funds. Thomas asked for help in understanding. His understanding was the memorial started out to be military only and then somewhere along the line it was extended to where if fire and police were killed in the line of duty and they worked for the New London Fire Department or New London Police Department, their names could be added to the wall. He thought that since this was a village project and since Edmund Smith lived in the village his whole life, even though he worked and was killed in the line of duty in Wellington, that he would qualify if it is for fire and police who had given their life in the line of duty. He realizes that Mr. Smith is outside the parameters because he worked in Wellington but he lived in New London. Mr. Thomas asked the question when was the decision made to allow nonmilitary on the wall and wondered if that change had been made couldn't they change it one more time and add a couple more words and say any resident of New London who was killed in the line of duty in fire or police and or if they were working for the fire department or police department. He stated you could have someone who doesn't live in New London, unless there is a rule where they have to live in New London to work for the fire or police department. He stated he wasn't sure of the rules. But you could have someone living in Wellington who works for the New London Police department get killed in the line of duty and they aren't residents of the village of New London but their name would be on the wall. He asked council to consider making a change like he suggested so that someone like Edmund Smith whose family still lives here would be able to see their loved ones name on the wall. So he wanted to know if it would be possible to make that change to add New London residents.

Bill Curtis stated he could answer some of Mr. Thomas' questions. He stated that when they were planning the monument they had originally stated it would be just for military but then they saw that with the size it was going to be there would be room to include New London Police officers, firefighters and Firelands Ambulance Service volunteers who were killed in the line of duty. Those were the only ones they were going to include and if you go to any other town around here it would be the same. If someone lived in Wellington and worked in New London they would be on our monument if they were killed in the line of duty. As would if they live here but work in Wellington, they are on Wellington's monument. Wellington's monument is outside their police station. Bill concluded that they had the room to do it so they included the police, fire and EMS. Stuart Cooke then added that they had to draw a line at some point. If someone lived in New London for a month and then moved out of state and got killed in the line of duty out of state should they be included on the monument? Should the cutoff be a month, six months, a year, ten years? You have to draw the line somewhere. Mr. Thomas then said he appreciated that but he felt if they were living in New London when they were killed, their name should be included. Stuart then replied that when they checked with other communities, they had to work for their services in order to be included. If Mr. Smith had lived in Wellington and was killed in the line of duty in New London, his name would not be included on Wellington's monument just because he was a lifelong resident of Wellington. We are going by the same policy here in New London. The regulations here were drawn up by what other communities had used for their guidelines to qualify people to be on their memorials. That is how council came up with the decision on where to draw the line.

John Martin then stated that the big thing is Mr. Smith's name is on the memorial in Wellington. His name is on the memorial in Lorain for Lorain County. His name is on the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Society Memorial in Cleveland. He also has his name at the state and federal levels. Martin checked with the Wellington Police Department about their criteria and they stated that it was anyone that lived in Wellington or worked in Wellington serving Wellington and Mr. Smith fit that criteria. If he was living in Wellington and worked in another community he would be offered a brick to be put in the walk way. The same goes for the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Society. Martin spoke with Sgt Chaz Lane. He is retired and president of that society and he said basically the same thing. Their monument covers Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Northern Summit and Medina Counties. It states that if they worked in any of those counties and they died in the line of duty they would be honored with their name on the monument. If they lived in any of those counties and worked outside of those parameters they would not be put on the monument but they would be allowed a brick in the sidewalk. Martin said he did not want to take anything away from Mr. Smith and he is grateful that he served. He served the community he wanted to serve and he doesn't begrudge him that honor and he is sorry for the circumstances but the parameters and criteria were put down and it has been followed throughout. It has been put on the order form that was originally put out by the American Legion. They wrote it and it states that - those that served the local community. If you look back in the New London Record you should be able to look back and anything that was about the monument will state that also. Martin said he has done his research and he has tried to see what he could do to change anything but someone stated the criteria was changed halfway through. The criteria has never been changed. Martin feels that they are doing something good and honorable for the town and he feels that the opposition is hurting the progress.

Eric Ebinger then stood and stated he appreciated being able to speak. Eric stated that he is not a resident but has spent a lot of time in New London and he has spent even more time reading names on bricks and walls and monuments and when he discovered what was going on here it touched a nerve. He said to Martin that he said the words that really touched a nerve by why we are not including Edmund Smith on the memorial by saying he is on all these other memorials. It doesn't make sense to us and if you think that our citizens by coming to a meeting is hurting the community by standing up for a family in that community - that is so wrong Mr. Martin. Martin tried to respond but Ebinger asked to be able to finish. He then stated that his brother-in-law is a policeman in Copley Township near Cleveland and lives in Wooster, his cousin is a state highway patrolman out of the Norwalk Post and he lives in Willard. Every day he has two very close family

members who wake up and Ebinger stated he didn't want to get dramatic because you get it. You get what these people do. They get up and they kiss their wife and they kiss their children and they don't know if they are going to kiss them again that night. That's what happened to Ed Smith. We get that. You get that. What we don't get is as a community why we can't include him on the memorial. Ebinger spoke to Stuart Cooke and said he respects him wholeheartedly but to go back and say you have to decide whether they lived in New London one month or ... that's...Margaret stayed in New London. She raised her children here. Ebinger went to school with her grandchildren which is another fifty percent of why he was there. It is a community's responsibility to honor its citizens and he just doesn't understand why we are not doing this in this instance. To say he's on all these other memorials is the most flippant answer you can give the Smith family and you need to eliminate that from your brain because they stayed here. Imagine if this happened last year. Imagine all of the people. Every time there is a tragedy in this community we stand up and we help our own. They did that in 1957. There aren't enough people here who remember that. But if this was last year his name would be on the wall.

John Martin thanked Ebinger and then stated that he did not mean any disrespect toward any of the men and women who have lost their lives serving any community. That was not his intent and he is not trying to say if he is on this monument why should he be on another one. Martin stated he did not mean that. That was far from it. He stated he didn't know how to make things right other than by going by his governing body and what they decided is what they decided. It was presented to them at the last meeting and it was voted on. How many more times do we need to go about this? He stated he didn't know. He would like to make things right but in the same token he is being honored and those areas he is being honored in respected that he served Wellington. He served Lorain County. He served the Greater Cleveland Area in those six counties. He chose to do that. He did not choose to be put on a monument when he went to work every day. He did not do that. He did not go to work to do anything like that. He was proud of what he did and I am grateful for what he did do but he chose to work outside this community and I don't begrudge him of that and I never have. Martin left it at that and asked if there were any other questions.

Jay Thomas then stood and spoke. Edmond Smith graduated from Bay High School. He moved out here with his family and they bought the farm on Gore Orphanage. The reason they came out here is that Dave Gessner was a very good friend of his. He met Maggie and they got married. He lived on Williams Street to start with and then they bought the house on East Main. He worked in Wakeman because New London only had two police officers at the time so he went to work in Wakeman. Then from Wakeman he went over to Wellington and that is where he got shot and killed. Jay stated he would like to see his name on the wall. He lived here for over ten years but your decision is your decision but that was his consent. As for Danny Helton he was stabbed in California while he was on his way to Vietnam. John Martin thanked Jay Thomas for his comments.

Gayle Ashbaker then stood to speak again. She stated that everybody was skirting the issue. She stated she was not going to skirt it. If you are going to put the New London Police Department on that wall you better check because people are not happy. I doubt if any of you know the policeman that was killed in New London but he was not protecting our streets. He was not out on duty and that is an insult to Edmund Smith and it is an insult to the family. Gayle gave a recommendation to get rid of the police and fire departments. Get them off the wall. It is a memorial wall for the veterans. Let the legion do what they are supposed to do but just drop that whole police thing because it's not going to fly. Gayle then stated that the Wellington Police Chief offered to come tonight because he is so upset. He has offered to personally pay to put Edmund Smith's name on that wall.

John Martin then asked if there were any more questions or comments. Mark Roeder stated he had one more question and he addressed John Martin. You just said that at the very beginning it was Veterans only so it was changed. Roeder then stated that Martin had said previously that it had never been changed. Then Martin responded by saying if you want to go about it I was never invited to the first meetings. Roeder stated he understood that and noted that Martin had told him that but still it was for Veterans only. He then added

there is only one name going on those three stones and when it was set up for the civil war it was set up as a Veterans Monument for the Village of New London. The fire department has monuments down around the fire station. The EMS has never had anyone killed in the line of duty. Thank God. We are talking about one name.

Jay Thomas then asked if he could say one more thing. The Mayor said he could go ahead. If it's the one name I think you are talking about, Mr. Tim Budd, he wasn't killed in the line of duty. He was shot playing quick draw McGraw. That's how he died. Martin then asked why is his name recognized in Columbus and the state of Ohio as being killed in the line of duty. Jay Thomas stated he had no idea. Bob Skillicorn is the one that shot him. John Martin stated that he understood that but that is what he was going with. By record, he was shot and killed in the line of duty. Jay Thomas and Gayle Ashbaker disagreed with Martin that he was killed in the line of duty. John Martin stated he understood that but they were looking at the records. Gayle then asked John Martin to look again. John then stated he didn't know where to go. Gayle Ashbaker then stated it's a simple solution. Delete the Fire Department, the Police Department and the EMS. Marion Paramore spoke and said he agreed that it should be just a veteran's memorial park. Gayle then responded by saying the legion has the community's support to do this. She never questioned giving the Legion money for a brick and neither did the rest of them. Toby Thomas then spoke. He said when he talked to Connie and Marsha Smith from what he understood from them they did not ask for Edmund's name to be on the wall until they knew it had been expanded to police and firemen. So he believes they would be o.k. with or feel that things were squared away if it went back to being just military. They had no qualms with the wall being just military but when it was opened up to police and fire then they felt like their father was killed in the line of duty and a resident here. Toby then stated he believes that if you are a police officer in Wellington you are protecting New London because bad guys don't just stay in one area. That man was caught and executed. If he hadn't been caught, he may have come to New London.

John Martin stated he had put together a small statement he had wanted to read. He stated he knows the facts are known that what this was first brought about with. It was first brought up to the village because a group wanted to honor and dedicate one memorial and add it to our memorial park in his honor. And dedicate it in memory of one person. When Martin heard that he opposed that because he felt this should be an honorable situation and not any one person should be in memory or have that dedicated to just one person. It should be for all those that had perished. In 2013, it was decided at that time that the memorial would also list fire, rescue, the police and EMTs. It was put out before we put the first brick out to be purchased. That statement was put out on that first order form and it stated "who served our local community" and it still says that in the paper and it has been stressed that it would cover those that gave their life that were serving this community - serving this community, not living in this community and serving another. Martin stated he would forgo some of the statement he had prepared. He said he could get rid of most of the second page too. But at the very bottom he had written instead of a lose, lose deal, how about a win, win proposition. Is it possible to add one 8 x 8 special brick stating "names listed below are residents who died in the line of duty serving other communities" and put that in the walkway. The village could pay for this brick and those that have a name of anyone that served another community that lost their life in the line of duty could be put in that walkway. They would purchase that brick. John Martin stated that was a solution he had at this time. He doesn't know. It isn't his decision. It is whatever his ruling body decides. John then asked for any other questions or statements.

Eric Ebinger inquired if on the entire monument there was going to be only one name. Martin answered there are eight different stones but there is only one name that would be listed under fire, EMS and police. Eric then stated he didn't know there was going to be only one name on there. What a great community that we have only had one death however it happened. He then stated he thought Toby's point, and he doesn't want to beat a dead horse because he felt the mayor was taking this personally and getting irritated and he doesn't know why, but Toby's point is that at night when he lived in this community if something were to happen he would then have been called to serve this community. That is what police officers do and he thinks that is what all of their point is. He lived here but then he stated to Martin not to mince words like a Clinton like

what the definition of "is" is. He lived here. He would have served this community if called upon and the fact that there is only one name going on it, he now understands why this part of this community is so upset. Ebinger then apologized but he spent his life reading names on walls. It's very important to him. He thinks the Smith family having stayed here three or four generations now should be honored. He thinks it is a great compromise to put them on the wall. He doesn't like bricks when people walk on them but he was willing to accept that compromise.

Jay Thomas then stood and spoke. He said thank you to John Martin because he has been working with him on this and he said that Martin knows that as well as he does. And it's been a long time and he appreciates that part. Jay Thomas then stated he wanted to buy the brick for the Smith family. Whatever you have, however you want to put it. Put his name on it and get all the information from Connie or Marsha and he is buying it. Gayle Ashbaker added that the Smith family was originally going to buy a bench and she stated she is the one who told Connie that they are putting the policemen's names on this wall. She thought it was for veterans only. She sent Connie a text and said to contact John Martin because he is on the committee. She did and Martin told her right off the bat it was going to open a can of worms. She then told Connie to contact John Longbrake. He is on the committee. Gayle stated her personal feelings were that Martin went after that from the get go. She stated they should just get rid of the police department off the memorial. Just wipe it out and the fire and EMTs. Do like they started out to do. Honor the people that served this community and lost their lives. John Martin stated that is what they were doing. Gayle Ashbaker then stated that he doesn't have them all on there. John Martin stated that they did have them all that served this community. And he stated it has always been that way. Gayle then stated she wasn't there to discuss the police department but it was a mistake and she said Martin would find out that there would be a lot of people who want their money back for their bricks. She then said "yeah, you smirk at me John." Martin stated no he wasn't. He just did not know what to say on that. He said he could not answer that for her. Gayle then asked Martin to do the right thing. Martin then stated he was trying to do the right thing. Gayle stated to either put him on as a policeman or do away with the policemen. John stated again that he was trying to do the right thing. He said he has been in this for a long time and it was stated back in 2013 and this is 2016 and it was just brought up in the last month about the fire, police and ambulance. Why is it taking three years for someone to come in and now say something about this? Gayle stated no one really understood the bricks. She had to ask Martin if someone had to live in New London to buy a brick because it really wasn't very clear. So they all bought bricks but they aren't sure but Gayle then said do it right or don't do it. And she asked as a citizen of New London to go back to the original plan of veterans only.

Mark Roeder then commented that if the village council would be willing to take it to a vote and take it back to a veterans only monument he would be willing to take it back to the American Legion and have them change all the wording for the monument stones. Bill Curtis stated he didn't think they could do that. Stuart Cooke stated that they had a design and it's already started for all the different monuments for all the armed forces plus the police, fire and EMS. Mark Roeder then asked another question. He wanted to know if the Merchant Marines had been included. Mark stated there is no stone for the Merchant Marines and there are five Merchant Marines in New London who got killed. John Martin asked who they were. Mark Roeder said it was for the Mayor to look them up. He stated the Mayor had already thrown him under the carpet three times for other ones. Martin stated he was given all the information he could from the New London Historical Society and from the New London Public Library. They put those names out so they could be added or deleted. That was almost a month ago now. Martin stated Roeder had come up and told him three names that did not need to be put on there. Now because I don't know the other names and tonight you are telling me there are five others. John then stated he has put his heart and soul in this. He has been working on this a long time, trying to make this right; trying to do right by the people of New London and trying to do right by those who have lost their lives. He stated he didn't want to discredit anyone. He has tried his best and he has been the only one who has been trying to look this up but with the help of those that he has asked and no one else has helped. Martin stated to blame him. Mark Roeder stated he went through the names and he told Martin the ones that didn't need to be on there. Martin stated that those names were removed. Roeder stated he understood that. Martin then asked why they were not given the five Merchant Marines. Roeder

answered that there was no stone for the Merchant Marines. Martin then asked what the Merchant Marines would be listed under. Roeder answered that they would be listed under the Merchant Marines. John Martin asked if it would be under the Navy and Roeder said no. They are their own separate entity. They were just ratified but he didn't know what the year was but they should be included as a member of the military. Martin then said the branches of the service have and he thinks the Legion recognizes the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard and that was what was brought to them. He recognized that Mark Roeder was not the commander at the time. John Longbrake was. Roeder stated that he was not even on the committee at that time. Martin said he was not saying he was. He was just stating that this was what was decided on and it would go under one of those others but he does not know which one it would be because we don't have for the National Guard. We don't have for the Air National Guard. We don't have those. Roeder responded that he was in the National Guard and as soon as he got activated he went under the Air Force. As soon as the Army National Guard gets activated they go under the Army and so forth. The Marine Corp Reserve, they are Marines as soon as they get activated. They are always Marines. They are Marines as soon as they get done with boot camp. They are all Marines whether they are Marine Corp Reserve or whether they are strictly Marine Corp. But the United States Government just ratified that the Merchant Marines were part of the military entity. He couldn't remember what year it was. Curtis asked if they were under the Navy. Wasn't their command under the Navy? Roeder stated he had no idea. He said it very well could be but he had no idea. Bill then said it was something they could look at to get them put on. That's not a problem. John Martin agreed. Curtis stated they could work something out because they should be on there. Roeder then stated that Martin had told him that every time someone gets added it was going to cost \$500. Martin said no. Whenever it's added... if someone should perish in the line of duty, killed in Afghanistan, killed anywhere in the line of duty that was from New London was going to be added to that. The funds that were left over were to be used for that instance and the reason I said what I did to you today was because we have John Gisclon. Their family has not said anything to us. The other family that lost their son in Ashland as a Sheriff's deputy did not. The fire department, the guy that left New London to be a fireman in another state did not. Another one did not. When they come up we would have to do that and someone has to come up with the funds to help put them on that list. We do not have the funds. We generated the funds right now. Those funds, if they are kept going, they create a little interest and that helps keep that fund going. Martin stated he knows it's not going to be much but it's going to be something. He doesn't know where to go with that or how soon it has to be done. He stated he was trying to do the best that he could and he doesn't know what else he could tell him. He said he was not trying to create hate and discontent. He was trying to come to some kind of resolve just as Roeder was. He really was.

Stuart Cooke then spoke. He thinks as council they could discuss this. They heard concerns from people in the community. There are some good points. One of them was that Cooke did not realize there was going to be just one name but he thinks council should at least look at it again. They had taken a vote on it at one time last meeting but after hearing the concerns he thinks they should at least discuss it and see if they want to take another vote or if the people on council decide they are fine with the vote they had already taken. Like with the Merchant Marines. That hadn't been brought up before.

John Martin then asked if there were any more questions before they move on. There were none. John Martin then called for a report from the Administrator.

Shawn reported the following.

Water John Chapin & Don Patton

Wastewater John Chapin & Don Patton

- SSO Elimination Project – a progress meeting was held today @ 10:00 am in Council Chambers. Paving to begin in a week or 2 weather permitting. Restoration of tree lawns/yards to begin after paving. Warranty work to be complete by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Sanitation Don Patton

- Spring Clean Up week went well.

Street Don Patton

- Birch Park Drive Project- project start date has been moved from today May 9<sup>th</sup> to Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup> due to the wet weather. Attached is a letter that will be sent to residents from the contractor. A construction review open house was held on Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, residents from 7 of the 20 homes within were present. This meeting was to inform residents what to expect so they can prepare during the construction of this project.

Parks Joe Thomas

- We would like Councils approval to allow the SAL's to sell beer during our Rockin the Rez event scheduled for July 9<sup>th</sup> at our Reservoir Park & Campgrounds.
- Forced Main Project- received notice that the project has been funded through OWDA (Ohio Water Development Authority). A reimbursement request will be submitted for the engineering cost of the project.

Other

- **LMI Survey (Low to Moderate Income Survey)** – 120 of over 500 surveys that have been mail out were returned. If you have received a survey in the mail please fill it out and return it. We need at least 300 surveys returned to finish this survey. If we don't get the 300 returned we will have to go door to door.
- Attached is a quote for installing new air conditioning in Council Chambers/Community Center. The existing A/C is failing. Last summer it failed during an event and the renters were not too happy about it.
- State Auditors are here for the 2015 audit.
- Propane – we are getting a new propane supplier. New tanks will be set at both the Reservoir and Water Plants.
- 10 dead or dying trees have been marked for removal, some have already been removed.

John Martin then asked for a report from the Water/Sewer Dept. John Chapin absent.

John Martin then asked for a report from Street/Sanitation. Don Patton stated he had some items for Water/Sewer and then would report on Street/ Sanitation. They replaced a hydrant and a wash valve on Townline 79 and Cooke that started leaking. They are doing yard cleanups for the water breaks they had over the winter. They still have the blacktop of the streets to do yet. He also asked for approval to put the ad out for employment for the new water/wastewater employee. They are also working on advertising for engineering for the water treatment plant improvements. They finished inspection of manholes for the sanitary sewer project. Underground Utilities hired Blakes to camera some of the areas. Village employees also cameraed some of the areas. They found three leaks that Underground Utilities are going to take care of. For Street and Sanitation Don reported that the extra pickup week went well. They are doing pothole repairs and catch basin repairs. They are mowing the vacant lots.

John Martin then called for a report from the Recreation Department. Joe Thomas reported they had their fishing tournament on May 7. They had 19 teams. That is the best turnout they have had since the tournament has been going. Joe wanted to thank Joe Ball and Elliot Shephard for all their help. On May 29 there will be a pancake breakfast at the New London Reservoir from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. This breakfast is by donation and there will be no admission fee for the campground during the breakfast. The public is welcome. Charley and Al are mowing every day when it is not raining. The reservoir lost an employee so Joe would like to hire someone to replace her with council's permission. Joe stated the recreation park will host the annual Memorial Day softball tournament on May 29. On May 22, the park will be holding the first ATV/Motocross race of the year. Signups are from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Practice is from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. and racing will start at 11 a.m. The cost is \$20 per rider for the first race and \$15 for any race after that. May 14 is opening day for the New London Little League. They will be having a parade starting at 1 p.m. from Dollar General to the park. When they get to the park they will be having a ceremony with games to follow. This is the 60<sup>th</sup> year for little league in New London. All 18 teams will be playing. There will be games on every field. They next park board meeting will be June 6 at 6:30 p.m. in council chambers.

John Martin then asked for a report from the Police Chief. Chief Marko had nothing to report.

John Martin then asked for a report from the Ambulance. Bill Curtis reported the ambulance was busy again last month. They were approaching 50 calls. There were a lot of calls from the Clarksfield area. They do not have an ambulance service serving Clarksfield so Firelands has been taking some of the calls there to assist.

John Martin then asked for a report from Zoning. Bob James absent.

John Martin then presented Resolution 2016-02 Determining Emergency Management Service for the Political Subdivision of the Village of New London. Third Reading. Paramore made a motion to approve the third reading. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call-all ayes. No one opposed.

John Martin then called for Old Business. Marion Paramore asked what was going to happen with the sidewalks on West Main Street where the railroad track construction was taking place. Shawn Pickworth stated they were done. Paramore replied that they didn't seem safe to him. Bill Curtis said he was down there looking at them. He says it appears too steep and he doesn't believe it is in alliance with what the law states for handicap accessibility. Curtis asked Mr. Bond if he thought they should send the railroad a letter giving them the option to either repair it to our standard or we fix it and then send them the bill. Mr. Bond said we should send a letter to the railroad and send a copy to the PUCO. Shawn Pickworth agreed with Mr. Bond. He said once you get the PUCO involved that is the best way to get things done.

John Martin then called for New Business. Bill Curtis made a motion to allow the Sons of the American Legion to sell beer at Rockin' at the Rez. Cooke seconded the motion. Roll call-all ayes. No one opposed.

John Martin then presented the Proclamation for Golden Agers. He proclaimed May 11, 2016 to be Golden Agers Appreciation Day.

John then asked if there was any other new business. Paramore wanted to make a motion to allow Joe Thomas to hire Jeanette Davidson at \$9/hour as a part-time employee at the reservoir. Cooke questioned if we needed to take applications or advertise for the position. Curtis asked if we had received any other resumes for the position. Joe stated they had received some applications from when they advertised for Brittany's position and he and Shawn had gone over them. Shawn Pickworth stated they had never advertised for part-time help in the past. Cooke asked Mr. Bond if they had to advertise for the part-time reservoir position. Mr. Bond stated you don't have to but as a general matter it is a good idea to advertise. Joe stated they usually don't advertise for seasonal help. It had never been done in the past. Mr. Bond said legally the village did not need to but as a matter of policy it is a good thing to do. Shawn said they would put a small ad in the paper. Paramore rescinded his motion. There was a discussion on whether council

needed to make a motion to advertise for the new water/wastewater employee. It was determined council had already given approval to advertise at a previous council meeting. Don just wanted to show council the ad before it went in the paper. They discussed the ad and the licenses they were requesting. The ad states they must obtain the appropriate license within two years of being hired. The question was asked what happens if they do not obtain their license within the two years? Don stated that was a good point and he didn't have an answer for that. It was suggested to maybe have different wording in the ad but Don stated the thing is they had advertised before requiring applicants to already have their license but they received no applications meeting those qualifications. Anyone starting out without a license, it is going to take them two years to get a license. So there really is no other way around it except to give the person two years to get their license. Cooke asked if they had to work so long before they can even apply for their license. Don said it's a year for the EPA but the village splits their water and wastewater 50% and 50% so in the EPAs eyes its two years. Shawn Pickworth stated they can take the test and pass the test but the EPA won't issue the license until they have their experience in. Mr. Bond said once they get a name before council approves them they should give them an expiration date they need to have their license by. Don stated that was the goal to get the ad out and get some prospects and then bring some names back to council.

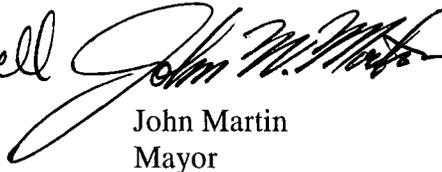
John Martin then presented the monthly bills for approval under Schedule A. Myers made a motion to approve the bills as presented. Cooke seconded the motion. Roll call - All ayes; no one opposed.

John Martin then presented the monthly bills for approval under Schedule B. Curtis made a motion to approve Schedule B. Winslow seconded the motion. Roll call: Paramore - yes; Winslow - yes; Willis - yes; Curtis - yes; Cooke - abstain; Myers - disqualify herself.

Mark Roeder then stood and said he would like to say one more thing before they adjourned. He got ahold of his contact with the Merchant Marines. The Merchant Marines were ratified and they were included in the role of the United States Navy at that time. Three of the names were already on for the Navy and he would let Martin know the other two. John Martin thanked Roeder.

Curtis made a motion to adjourn. Winslow seconded the motion. Roll call - All ayes; no one opposed.

  
Nancy Howell  
Fiscal Officer

  
John Martin  
Mayor