

NEW LONDON VILLAGE COUNCIL

Regular Meeting – Monday, July 25, 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, Myers, Willis, Cooke, Paramore and Winslow.

Also present: Chief Marko, Shawn Pickworth, John Chapin, Jim Finley, Carol Knapp, Lynn Phillips and Larry Booth.

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

The minutes from the regular meeting held on July 11, 2016 were then presented for approval. Curtis 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. Larry Booth, a resident from West Washburn Street, stood and said he had a question. He asked if there was priority when it came to street repair. He stated the other day they had a water main break and he had never noticed how bad the street had started flaking apart. He has been in the village for nearly 40 years and has never seen it black topped. He has seen it patched but never fully black topped. Shawn Pickworth answered that there are a lot of streets in the village that they would like to pave that are falling apart and it comes down to funding and money. He agreed that Mr. Booth's street was getting really bad and they would have to address it soon but it really comes down to funding. Mr. Booth asked if there was a priority list that has the order the streets would be done. Shawn stated he did not have a list of which streets would be done first. Mr. Booth then expressed a concern about his storm sewer and sanitary sewer when it rains. Shawn agreed to make sure it got checked out.

John Martin then called for a report from the Administrator.

Shawn reported the following. Shawn stated after scoring the five engineering firms, he would like to recommend to council that they hire Poggemeyer Design Group out of Toledo for the water plant improvement project. Out of the five, they had the most experience. Three of the other engineering firms had experience in waste water but not a lot of experience in water treatment. The second choice firm was Jones & Henry but they had more experience in the waste water side of the field rather than the water side of the field. What really stood out with Poggemeyer was they've done what we want done. They've done it multiple times in recent years so that is the main reason they would like to recommend them for the engineering part of the improvements at the water plant.

Shawn then stated they had done interviews. The mayor, John Chapin and Don Patton conducted the interviews. They interviewed three employees for the water/waste water department. They would like to extend an offer to one of them and then make a recommendation to council on August 8th.

The last thing Shawn discussed was insurance claims. Before he left on vacation, Shawn had a contractor come and basically inspect every roof that is village property and they all have some type of hail damage. He made a claim to the insurance company and they are sending an adjuster out to go through the buildings again.

Stuart Cooke asked roughly how big the water project was going to be. Shawn stated it would be a minimum of a half a million dollars but could exceed a million dollars if they do everything. Stuart asked if it was just for repairs. Shawn stated no. They want to add on to Water Treatment Plant #2 and that is a must. That has to be done. There are two clearwells that need to be put up. The one we have has outlived its life. There are some algae issues they have to address. Most of the things they are asking for really need to be done and in the future it's going to bite us if we don't do it. Shawn asked John if he had anything to add. John said no but there would be a lot more information to follow as they start the projects. Shawn stated he was looking at the estimates from the water study he had done a year ago. Stuart questioned if what they were looking at was 45 years old. John said no the majority of the work is in plant #2 which started up about 20 years ago. Stuart then asked if that was the plant feeding Rural Lorain Water. John said yes and their best option right now is to expand plant 2 and abandon plant 1. Shawn ended by saying they would get more firm numbers when they start really doing the engineering.

John Martin then asked for a report from the Water/Sewer Dept. John Chapin stated they all had spent about four days down at the wastewater treatment plant cleaning the tanks from top to bottom. They had a water leak on West Washburn and they had to do a boil alert. They spent a couple days in Council Chambers putting in counter tops and a new sink. John then stated that according to EPA standards we have the start of an algae problem in the reservoir and it's probably only going to get worse. They are working with the EPA right now to come up with a treatment and it will need additional treatment and a lot more testing in the future. They have been on the phone with them four or five times a day about their situation. There will be more information coming about the situation.

John Martin then asked for a report from Street/Sanitation. Don Patton absent.

John Martin then called for a report from the Recreation Department. Joe Thomas was absent but submitted a report on the following. Revelations Christian retreat was held at the reservoir July 21-23. The beach at the reservoir has been very busy with the high temperatures. The water slide and the log roll are very popular with everyone. The new electric spots at the reservoir are coming along. BCU Electric had an emergency at another job so they had to pull off our job for a week but should have the reservoir sites complete soon. Blake's Sanitation was at the shower house at the reservoir last week for some plumbing issues. At the end of the season they will have to replace some urinals and toilets that have probably been there since the building was originally put up. Cabin rentals are very popular right now. The new cabins by the water are booked for the rest of the season and the old cabins in the woods have been booked the past two weekends and are booked the next three weekends. At the park, the farm show was hosted on July 16 & 17. Everything at the show was a success. There is one more week of the men's softball league. This year's league was very easy due to the lack of rain. Each week went very smooth thanks to the good umpiring and help of Davina Carroll in the score booth. A new swing set was installed at the park which seems to be very popular. There has not been a swing set at the park since before Joe started working for the village. The gun raffle is set this year for November 5. Tickets are already printed and available for purchase. Tickets can be purchased at the village office and the hardware store. The Kelly Miller Circus will be at the park on August 7. Performances are at 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. Advance tickets are available at Gas Depot, Gilbert Hardware, Miller's Market and the Village Office. This year's Firelands Festival will have a few new attractions. On Saturday, Sunday and Monday there will be a laser tag game on the tennis court. There will be a rock wall up by the midway. Sunday, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., there will be a hot air balloon on the little league diamond. The hot air balloon company is Ventures A Loft and there will be tethered rides only. Hopefully these attractions will bring in more people to our already great festival. There will be live music on Saturday and Sunday from 7 p.m. until 11 p.m. by the beer tent. Presale tickets for Labor Day are on sale now at the Village Office and the hardware store. Presale tickets are \$15 for the weekend. They do not include rides on Friday night or any of the extras which are laser tag, the rock wall and the hot air balloon rides. If presale tickets are not purchased, admission is \$7 per day. This year, advertising for Labor Day can be heard on WLKR and K96 radio out of Avery and on WOBL out of Oberlin. There will also be two billboards again this year. One on

Route 250 just south of Route 20 in Norwalk and one on Route 61. The next park board meeting is August 1 at 6:30 in Council Chambers.

John Martin then asked for a report from the Police Chief. Chief Marko wanted to let everyone know with all of the companies in town because of the storm damage, they are all required to have a solicitor's permit. Village residents need to know that if these companies come to their door they should have a solicitor's permit with them. He showed an example of the permit and stated they get a folder to put them in. They require this for the safety of the village residents because they do a criminal history on them. If someone comes to a resident's home and they don't have a permit with them, it is o.k. to close the door and call the police department and they will take care of it. You just don't know who is out there. Chief also wanted to let everyone know that during the next month he would be working some night shifts. If he isn't in the office during the day, then he will be coming in during the evening.

Stuart Cooke asked if a police officer sees a solicitor going door to door if they stop them and request to see their solicitor's permit. Chief stated yes they do.

John Martin then asked for a report from the Ambulance. Bill Curtis reported there is one bay empty at the Firelands Ambulance Building right now. They decided to take one ambulance out of service due to mechanical issues. To save money, they are putting the back of that ambulance onto a new chassis. That will save about half of the normal cost. The refurbished ambulance should be back in about a month.

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

John Martin then presented Ordinance 16-07 An Ordinance Amending the Range of Pay Provisions Contained in the Employee Handbook and Personnel Policies, and Declaring an Emergency. Emergency Reading. Myers made a motion to suspend the rules to allow Ordinance 16-07 to be passed on an Emergency Measure. Curtis seconded the motion. Roll call: Winslow, Yes; Curtis, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Paramore, Yes. Myers made a motion to approve the emergency reading. Cooke seconded the motion. Roll call – all ayes. No one opposed.

John Martin then presented Ordinance 16-08 An Ordinance Transferring the Duties of the Board of Zoning Appeals to the Zoning Commission. First Reading. Cooke made a motion to approve the first reading. Curtis seconded the motion. Roll call – all ayes. No one opposed.

John Martin then presented Ordinance 16-09 An Ordinance Amending Sections 1108.03 and 1108.05 (G) of the Codified Ordinances Relative to Manufactured Homes. First Reading. Paramore made a motion to approve the first reading. Winslow seconded the motion. Roll call – all ayes; No one opposed.

Stuart Cooke wanted to make sure that they would not have the third reading on this ordinance before council held the public hearing on this zoning issue. It was determined the third reading would not be before the public hearing.

John Martin then presented Ordinance 16-10 An Ordinance Authorizing the Transfer of Funds. First Reading. Myers made a motion to approve the first reading. Cooke seconded the motion. Roll call – all ayes; No one opposed.

John Martin then presented Resolution 2016-04 Establishing a New Sub fund Within the General Fund to Provide for Accounting of Income Tax Receipts, and Declaring an Emergency. Emergency Reading. Curtis made a motion to suspend the rules to allow Resolution 2016-04 to be passed on an Emergency Measure. Paramore seconded the motion. Roll call: Winslow, Yes; Curtis, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Paramore, Yes. Myers made a motion to approve the emergency reading. Cooke seconded the motion. Roll call – all ayes. No one opposed.

John Martin then called for Old Business. There was none.

John Martin then called for New Business. Stuart Cooke stated by Lori McCoppin's house on High Street where they paved, it looks like the sidewalk never went to the blacktop and there is a hole on one side and the other side is in bad shape too. He doesn't believe it was the contractor's responsibility. He thinks the village needs to look at it. It is on the corner of High Street and Maple on both sides. It looks like it just needs a little bit of concrete to extend the sidewalk to the new blacktop. Shawn Pickworth said he had a couple other patches he needed to do too so he would take care of it. Stuart also stated Wilmer White asked him about a pool meter. He said he used to have a pool meter but he doesn't have one any more but he still has the pool. John Chapin replied that they had added a definition to the ordinance and if you didn't meet the definition you were not able to have a pool meter. Mr. White has a big underground pool so he would meet the definition so John was unsure of what the concern was about. John agreed to stop down and talk to Mr. White about the issue.

Bill Curtis then made a motion to allow the village administrator to contract with Poggemeyer Design Group for the water treatment plant improvements. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call – all ayes. No one opposed.

John Martin then requested a motion to permit the Fraternal Order of Eagles to sell beer at the Firelands Festival. Cooke made a motion to allow the Fraternal Order of Eagles sell beer at the Firelands Festival. Paramore seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; no one opposed.

John Martin then requested a motion to establish criteria for the New London Veteran's Memorial. Myers made a motion to establish the criteria for the New London Veteran's Memorial. Winslow seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; no one opposed.

John Martin then stated that the village had been informed that the PNC bank branch in New London would be closing its New London branch on October 21, 2016. PNC sent out letters to inform all customers. The ATM on North Main Street will remain open.

There was a discussion as to whether council needed to make a motion to allow Shawn to offer the water/wastewater job to the candidate they had chosen. It was determined that Shawn would offer the job to the candidate and then if he accepts the position, Shawn would bring them the name and council would approve he be hired. No motion was needed at this time.

John Martin then said he would like to offer up something to council. He has been talking to businesses to try to get some donations to help with the purchase of magnets to pass out over the Labor Day weekend for the Bicentennial. He has also been looking into putting up some banners to promote the Bicentennial. He has to get with Firelands Electric to make sure he has permission to hang banners on the masts of the street lights downtown. He hopes to have an answer from Firelands Electric soon.

John Martin then presented a Proclamation for Bi-Centennial Days in New London.

Carol Knapp from the Huron County Development Council then presented information on a financial incentive that will help them with the competition they have with other communities. The presentation gave information on a possible tax abatement called a CRA. This would help attract and keep businesses in New London.

Shawn stated this is something the village should really consider. This gives New London a way to stand out over other communities.

Myers asked if we decide to do this what length of time does it take to get through all the paperwork and get it set up.

Pickworth and Knapp stated the hard part is already done. Knapp stated council would need to pass a resolution and do a publication, which will take two weeks. While that is taking place they will be creating a housing authority and advising the school districts. So she is hoping a month or two at the most.

This would affect Real Estate Tax and not income tax.

John Martin then presented the monthly bills for approval under Schedule A. Myers made a motion to approve the bills as presented. Paramore 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 – All ayes; no one opposed.

John Martin then requested a motion to enter into executive session to consider the compensation of a Village employee or official. Winslow made the motion to enter into executive session. Curtis seconded the motion. Roll call: Cooke – yes; Winslow – yes; Willis – yes; Curtis – yes; Myers – yes; Paramore – yes.

Myers made a motion for council to return to regular session. Winslow seconded the motion. Roll call: Cooke – yes; Winslow – yes; Willis – yes; Curtis – yes; Myers – yes; Paramore – yes.

Curtis then made a motion to give hourly pay increases to the following Village employees to go into effect starting July 24, 2016.

Police Chief Michael Marko - \$1.00

Lieutenant Joe Hicks - \$1.00

Police Officer Dan Donnelly - \$1.00

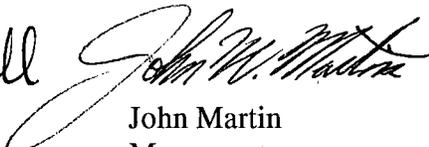
Police Officer Lance Capiot - \$1.00

Police Officer Seth Miracle - \$1.00

Winslow seconded the motion. Roll call – all ayes; no one opposed.

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


Nancy Howell
Fiscal Officer


John Martin
Mayor

