

**NEW LONDON VILLAGE COUNCIL**  
**Special Meeting – Tuesday, March 28, 2017 @ 6:30 p.m.**

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Mayor John Martin called the meeting to order. Martin waived the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Also present: Shawn Pickworth, Joe Thomas and Lynn Phillips

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

John Martin asked for any public questions or statements. There were none.

John Martin then called for Old Business.

Council went over the material Scott Thompson had presented the night before at the March 27 council meeting. In the past, there was no cost to the retreat for using the facility and they were able to rent the cabins for half price. Under the new price schedule for special events there would be a setup fee of \$20.00 per hour per employee and \$25 per hour for equipment used for setting up tents and fences. In addition, the retreat would pay full price for any cabins rented. After discussing the changes, Council decided not to make any acceptions or changes to the current rate schedule for the Revelation Christian Retreat. Council felt it would be best to be even across the board for everybody to pay the same rate. Joe Thomas stated that he would encourage Mr. Thompson to utilize the reservoirs new pavilion that is being built rather than the amphitheater. By doing this, Mr. Thompson would save the cost of paying for village employees to set up tents and fences for the event.

Bill Curtis made a motion to charge \$200.00 per day to use the new pavilion at the reservoir. Cooke seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes: No one opposed.

Council then discussed the Terry Wilson Memorial Deck. At the March 27 council meeting, Brad Romano and Ellen Simmons represented the New London Rotary Club/CIC and requested 100% forgiveness of the remaining balance of the cost of the deck. Bill Curtis stated he could see forgiving the overage of the original cost but not the rest. Joe Thomas suggested some ways he felt the clubs could earn more money toward the deck. He suggested they help park cars during Labor Day and could earn money by selling tickets for the gun raffle. Council noted that the park will have additional costs down the road for the Terry Wilson Memorial Deck due to maintenance and upkeep. They also stated that the intent of the CSX money is to be borrowed and then paid back. Information concerning the original setup of the CSX fund will be included in council's packet for the next council meeting. Council decided they would forgive \$10,000 plus the cost of staining the deck and the cost of the sidewalk. Shawn Pickworth said he would get final numbers and bring totals to the next council meeting on April 10 and it would be brought up under Old Business.

John Martin then called for New Business.

Stuart Cooke made a motion to hire a new campground manager at \$10 per hour for a probationary period of three months and then an increase in salary to \$11 per hour pending a clean background check. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Shawn Pickworth stated he had three things to discuss with council.

The first thing Shawn wanted to discuss was the Village's compost facility. The facility is getting full. The village has a lot of its own stuff there plus Knockout Tree Service has been using it. The village has locked the doors and isn't allowing anyone to use the facility at this time. Knockout Tree Service called and would like to work out a partnership with the village. Knockout Tree Service got an estimate on how much it would cost to haul all the wood chips out. The price was \$3000 and Knockout Tree Service agreed to pay half of it and they will pay that every time they have someone come haul stuff away as long as they would be able to use the facility. Other contractors dump brush and wood chips at the compost facility as well so after talking more with Knockout Tree Service, Shawn feels like the village should charge \$20 per load for other contractors to use the Village's compost facility. Village residents would still be able to take their leaves and other compost materials down to the facility at no charge. The charge would be for contractors only. Shawn stated he wanted Mr. Bond to write up an agreement. Council agreed this would be a good idea.

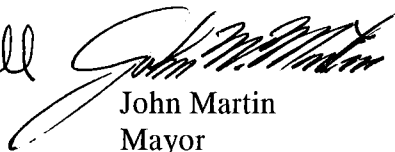
Shawn's next topic was about sidewalks. There is an issue with the Village's sidewalks and the sidewalk ordinances. Shawn has talked to Mr. Bond about it. Mr. Bond came up with a form showing what is currently in the ordinance and a proposal. Shawn asked for council's help to go through the proposal and come up with a good solution that everyone can live with. Mr. Eric VonKamp has a bad sidewalk in front of his store property on Main Street. Shawn looked in the ordinances to see what authority he had to tell Mr. VonKamp that he has to fix his sidewalk and there really wasn't a lot. Shawn feels the village needs to strengthen their ordinance to help solve this problem. Shawn talked with Mr. VonKamp and Mr. VonKamp agrees it needs fixed but doesn't feel he should have to pay for 100% of it himself. He thinks the village should help him pay for it. Shawn would like to help Mr. VonKamp repair the sidewalk but he doesn't think the village should have to foot the bill. Janice Myers stated if the village does help they would be opening a door for others that need sidewalk repair as well. Bill Curtis asked if the sidewalk was a safety hazard. Shawn said yes it was. Council decided that since it was a safety hazard, Mr. VonKamp would have to repair the sidewalk.

Shawn's last topic was on Bigelow Parkway. Shawn said the original agreement stated that upon completion of the project, Bigelow Parkway was to be turned over to the county and it never got done. Shawn researched what happened and he stated it had been taken to the county several times but had been buried in paperwork. Shawn and the Mayor have a meeting set up with the County Commissioners but Mr. Boose has already said he is against the county taking it over. Shawn doesn't know if it is worth it to pursue unless they take Mr. Bond with them. The county says it isn't theirs and they don't want it. Shawn foresees an uphill battle. Stuart Cooke responded that he would like Shawn to get Mr. Bond's legal opinion on the situation to see if it would be worth pursuing. Within the last couple years the map department had called about it wanting it taken care of. The paperwork was taken to the prosecutor's office to start the proceeding of dedicating the parkway. The paperwork never came out of the prosecutor's office. Stuart Cooke responded that the state had been involved in putting the parkway in and the village should not have to maintain it. Shawn stated that the village doesn't have the money to maintain it. Stuart questioned that if Bigelow Parkway has never been dedicated why is it falling on the village? Shawn said the original agreement states that upon completion, the county was to take the parkway over. The county has not done any upkeep on the parkway so far. Shawn stated that there will be a time when the bridge deck is going to need to be redone and that will cost a lot of money. Council agreed to invite Mr. Bond to attend the meeting with Shawn and the mayor and to get his legal opinion on the matter. Shawn stated he just wanted to make council aware of the situation.

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



Nancy Howell  
Fiscal Officer



John Martin  
Mayor