

NEW LONDON VILLAGE COUNCIL
Regular Meeting – Monday, August 14, 2017 @ 7 p.m.

Council President Stuart Cooke called the meeting to order in the absence of Mayor John Martin. He then gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Also present: Ellen Simmons, Chief Marko, Steve Bond, Shawn Pickworth, Don Patton, Bob James, Lynn Phillips, Suzanne Cooke, Gayle Ashbaker, Sally Staschke, Jayne Carroll, Russel Sword, Sandy Sword, Marvin McCallister, DeAnna McManus, Karen Justavick, and Sherry Edwards.

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

The minutes from the regular meeting held on July 24, 2017 were then presented for approval. Myers made a motion to approve the minutes. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call - All ayes; no one opposed.

Stuart Cooke asked for any public questions or statements.

Suzanne Cooke stood and said she would like to know why we even have zoning if it's never going to be enforced. Who can answer that? She said she lives beside two dumps. She was asked where she lives and she replied that she lives at 96 South Main.

Stuart Cooke asked if zoning had been called.

Bob James stated that yes it had. He said as long as the grass is mowed that is all our zoning covers.

Mrs. Cooke asked about just mowing the tree lawn and nothing else. That is what 92 South Main does. The rest of it is crap.

Stuart Cooke added that the shrubs are way overgrown. He said it is obvious they are out of control. He asked Mr. Bond with our zoning, we have a grass ordinance but what about some of the shrubs that get overgrown in the yard or next to the house? Can we regulate that?

Mr. Bond said he doesn't think we probably can. We do have that section in the code about property maintenance and dilapidated conditions and things like that. There might be something in that language there.

Bob James then responded by saying overgrown would actually be a police matter. With the shrubs, one person's overgrown shrubs is another person's landscaping. Where do we draw the line?

Mrs. Cooke stated that she had sent Bob James pictures four years ago and it's even worse now and nothing's changed.

Bill Curtis asked if anyone lived there.

Mrs. Cooke replied that they live in the barn out back. The other lady left and she is living somewhere else since May 18. She has three vehicles with no current plates on them.

Bill Curtis asked if she had filed a complaint with the police yet on the vehicles?

Mrs. Cooke said she tried zoning first. It was in the zoning letter.

Bob James stated there is an unlicensed vehicle section.

Mrs. Cooke said she knew that and that is why she put it in. She just thinks why is she trying to take care of her property?

Bob James responded by saying he had talked to them before. They keep their yard mowed but yet their trees and shrubs are overgrown. He doesn't have any guidelines to go to them and say their shrubs have to be a certain dimension.

Stuart Cooke stated that we don't have anything in the zoning code about the height of shrubs, the width of shrubs.

Mrs. Cooke replied that the village keeps hiring zoning people to make new plans with zoning guidelines to enforce it and nothing is done. Save your money.

Stuart Cooke stated here is nothing in our zoning about shrubs and trees.

Mrs. Cooke answered that she knew it. Why don't you put it in?

Gayle Ashbaker then stood and stated that she had asked about those cars a year ago when she was here. I asked if there was an ordinance against cars and you answered me and I told Mr. Martin why don't you drive into Suzanne's driveway. I told him that again a month ago. Go to Suzanne's house. There's trash bags and it's absolutely horrible. And isn't there a zoning against tires for water?

Bill Curtis responded that tires actually fall under the health department.

Gayle Ashbaker said, "So I have to call the Health Department to get my neighbor to clean up his mess?"

Bob James said 130 was sent, the property owner was sent a thirty-day notice to clean it up. If it's not cleaned up in 30 days, I will turn it over to the police department for a citation. He stated he could not issue citations.

Ms. Ashbaker replied that it had been three years. You were there three years ago and told me to call the board of health. She stated she told him that was his job. Those tires are still there. Those bricks are still there. He has burned brush.

Bill Curtis questioned that he did burn brush.

Ms. Ashbaker verified that he had burned brush.

Bill Curtis asked if Ms. Ashbaker had called the Fire Department.

Ms. Ashbaker answered that she had not because she didn't know when he did it. She didn't see it.

Bill Curtis stated that if they are burning to call the Fire Department and let them come out and they will report it.

Ms. Ashbaker stated she had not seen it burning. She had just seen the ashes.

Bob James replied that he had told Ms. Ashbaker to call the Health Department for a very good reason. At that time, three years ago, we didn't have the zoning that we have in place now. We had several cases to report that strung out for over two years trying to get them to clean things out. The open tires, tires without wheels, is a Health Department issue because they breed mosquitoes. I can't call the Health Department.

Ms. Ashbaker questioned, "You are the Zoning Commissioner right?"

Bob James stated that it doesn't matter. He has tried and they tell him the complaint has to come from the citizen.

Ms. Ashbaker stated she would call them in the morning.

Bob James continued by saying he sent his mother, the owner of the property, a notice.

Ms. Ashbaker said she knew. She had given Mr. James her address a year ago.

Bob James replied that he had sent her a 30-day notice and if it is not cleaned up he will send her to the police department.

Suzanne Cooke asked, "So you can take care of those cars?"

Bob James responded by saying the Police Department can. He can't.

Stuart Cooke commented that it would be Chief Marko. He then asked Chief Marko if he knew the address of the place Mrs. Cooke was talking about.

Chief Marko replied that nothing had ever been given to the Police Department.

Mrs. Cooke stated no she only gave it to zoning.

Bob James replied that he didn't remember her giving anything to him.

Bill Curtis said the thing is, the police department is the only one that has the power to arrest. The zoning inspector, all he can do is make a report about it. The Police Chief and the police department has the power to arrest on violations in a criminal case.

Mrs. Cooke presented Bob James with her written complaint and stated she had given it to him previously.

Bob James stated that he didn't remember ever seeing it.

Mrs. Cooke asked Mr. James if he got a formal zoning complaint.

Bob James replied that he had one forwarded to him from the mayor for 130.

Mrs. Cooke stated that wasn't from her. She had given hers to the mayor but hers were for 92 and 100 South Main.

Bob James answered that he never got them.

Stuart Cooke asked if they could have the address to give to the police.

Bob James stated it was 92 South Main.

Mrs. Cooke added 92 and 100.

Mrs. Cooke was asked which address the cars were at. Was it 100? She stated yes but she would talk to the chief personally. She also said, "Garbage bags are okay though right?"

Bob James answered that no they were not but unless someone informs me... I don't go around and look at everybody's property.

Mrs. Cooke stated that she thought he had got her note.

Bob James replied that he did not get her letter.

Mrs. Cooke stated it was a special form letter for zoning complaints. She said there was only a little space to write so she had typed it and taped it to the form.

Bob James stated the only one he got was for 130 East Main Street.

Mrs. Cooke replied well then the mayor got it and lost it.

Bob James asked her to forward the form to him and he stated he needed to get some of the forms in his store and he wanted to make sure they are online.

Shawn Pickworth stated forms could be picked up at the Village Office and he would also make sure they are online.

Stuart Cooke then called for a report from the Administrator.

Shawn reported the following.

Water

- Water Plant Improvement Project – we did hear for the OEPA confirming that we are on the 2018 HABS funding list and they would be in contact with us regarding steps and information still needed to complete the funding process. Still waiting on the PTI. We did submit a letter to the State of Ohio confirming our intentions of applying for a CDBG funding for \$500,000.00. Once we have a PTI we will be eligible to apply. See attached letter.

Wastewater

- Drying Beds Improvements – improvements have been made to our drying beds. The old beds have been there with little to no improvements since the early 1960's and the improvements where much needed. New and improved beds are already in use.
- Forced Main Project – project is underway. Crews made good progress last week laying sewer line. Most all the materials have been ordered and a lot of it has already been delivered.

Sanitation

- No major issues.

Street

- No major issues.

Parks

- Phone, Internet and Credit Card Service – service was disconnected by mistake by Frontier last week and we are still in the process of getting the services reconnected. At around 12:30 PM today our service was reestablished for the phone & credit card machine. Still waiting on the internet.
- Labor Day – plans are coming together. Anyone interested in working the gates please stop by Gilbert Hardware and see Janie or at the village office. Can also be found on the village website www.newlondonohio.com. Presale tickets for Labor Day are on sale at the Village Office and Gilbert's Hardware until September 1st at 3 PM.
- Joe would like to thank the ladies in the office and all the village employees for helping with all the preparations for Labor Day. This event takes the whole village to make it work.
- Gun Raffle Tickets – on sale now at the Village Office. The gun raffle will be held on November 4, 2017 at the Hileman Building starting at 12 noon. Doors will open at 11 AM.
- Country Roads Music Fest – September 30, 2017 at the New London Reservoir Park & Campgrounds. For any camping information please call 419-929-8609.

Other

- Met with Tim Bock, an engineer from Poggemeyer Design on Tuesday to discuss the downtown projects and funding along with a possible project for this year's OPWC funding round. Attached is some project estimates and proposed phases.
- Attached is some information from HCDC about Land Banks.
- 117 East Main Street – property is going up for Sheriffs auction.
- Muni Link – new billing software. Office staff continue to train preparing for the new software. We are taking our time and not wanting to switch over before we are ready.
- Construction of the Police Garage is expected to start next week. Columns/post were delivered today. Trusses are expected by the end of the week, first of next week.

Stuart Cooke then asked for a report from the Police Chief. Chief Marko had nothing to report.

Stuart Cooke then asked for a report from the Fire Chief. Chief John Chapin absent.

Stuart Cooke then asked for a report from the Ambulance. Bill Curtis reported there were 56 runs for July. There were 33 in the Village of New London; three in New London Township; four in Ruggles Township; nine in Troy Township; six in Fitchville Township. There was one Mutual Aid in July. There were three motor vehicle crashes, all in Fitchville. There was one law enforcement standby. There were two runs to the Laurels and out of all of those transports, 10 were refused. Curtis also reported the ambulance was in the process of becoming a training facility as recognized by the state. They will be able to do instructions for their employees right there. The ambulance garage will be recognized as a training facility.

Stuart Cooke then asked for a report from Zoning. Bob James reported that he found out the house on East Washburn where the resident was hospitalized, he is out of the hospital. He was told they had gotten dumpsters and they were going to rehab the house.

Stuart Cooke then presented Ordinance 2017-21 An Ordinance Advancing Funds for Operations at the Annual Labor Day Festival, and Declaring an Emergency. Emergency Reading. Curtis made a motion to suspend the rules to allow Ordinance 17-21 to be passed on an emergency measure. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call: Winslow, Absent; Curtis, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Paramore, Yes. Paramore made a motion to approve the emergency reading. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call – all ayes; No one opposed.

Stuart Cooke then presented Resolution 2017-06 A Resolution Approving the Issuance of Cash Payouts in Connection with the Annual Labor Day Festival, and Declaring an Emergency. Myers made a motion to suspend the rules to allow Resolution 17-06 to be passed on an emergency measure. Curtis seconded the motion. Roll call: Winslow, Absent; Curtis, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Paramore, Yes. Myers made a motion to approve the emergency reading. Paramore seconded the motion. Roll call – all ayes; No one opposed.

Stuart Cooke then presented Resolution 2017-07 A Resolution Declaring the Official Intent and Reasonable Expectation of the Village of New London on Behalf of the State of Ohio to Reimburse its Water Reserve for the Water Plant Improvement, CI117U with the Proceeds of Tax Exempt Debt of the State of Ohio and Declaring an Emergency. Emergency Reading. Paramore made a motion to suspend the rules to allow Resolution 17-07 to be passed on an emergency measure. Curtis seconded the motion. Roll call: Winslow, Absent; Curtis, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Paramore, Yes. Myers made a motion to approve the emergency reading. Curtis seconded the motion. Roll call – all ayes; No one opposed.

Stuart Cooke then called for Old Business.

Bill Curtis stated he saw the state painted a big stripe across the railroad tracks. He also asked if the mayor had heard anything more about the sidewalk at the CSX crossing.

Shawn Pickworth replied that he is still fighting with them.

Bill Curtis stated he watched an older gentleman make his way down with a wheeled walker. He was having a hard time.

Stuart Cooke then called for New Business.

Karen Justavick came forward and said first and foremost she wanted to thank council for their time. She is the vice-president of the New London Junior Wildcats Baseball Team. She also introduced DeAnna McManus as the secretary of the group. She stated that their president could not make it that night. She began by saying, currently there is no opportunity in our community for kids who age out of Little League at age 12 and until high school. She stated yes kids can go into travel ball or other places but they aren't playing together. She stated they were going to change that. They actually have just secured a full sponsor and they have 21 kids so that's enough for two teams and possibly once school starts and they have fliers going out, they may have a third team. Joe has been amazing and he is working with them because they will be using the men's softball field for their home field so they will be bringing in 10 games for each team into our community. This means they are going to be bringing people into our community to spend some money. The field does need a little bit of TLC and they did take some pictures and jot down some things. She realizes they need to make their priorities because not everything is going to get totally taken care of but they do want to make it safe for all the kids. She requested that council take a look at the pictures she had handed out to them and they can see where there is an area where the fence is falling over. She said she wasn't going

to go over every picture she would let them look over them themselves. She said they were hoping for some support whether it's funds to go towards that area or maybe even just contacts of maybe contractors. The fields are uneven so it would be wonderful to have some dirt brought in and she imagines they could find volunteers to spread it out and even out the fields. So contractors that might donate some of their time for these boys. She has heard in years past that field is rented out quite often and she knows her brother in law is one of those people who used to come into town from out of town. They would rent the field and all those people had to be bringing in money for the gas stations or restaurants because they were here all weekend. So she knows that can be possible again. She said they were going to give it their all. Their team is taken care of. They aren't asking for anything for their team but they do want to get them a nice field that they can be proud of and bring in other cities. She asked DeAnna if there was anything she wanted to add.

DeAnna McManus said one thing she wanted to add was this is an opportunity that we can try to have tournaments here. The more we can keep bringing people in, the more we draw in, the better it is going to be for the community to help us here make more money... make everybody money. If we can bring in a tournament and bring this back to the kids to give the kids more to do once they start aging out of certain things. It would be great and keep them out of trouble. She thinks it would be a great opportunity for our boys and girls.

Karen Justavick then thanked everyone for their time they really appreciate it and again if there are a few contractors that the village could reach out to that might help build bleachers or do other work. She stated that Joe had given them permission to bring in and get some estimates. They have also worked with his sister Jill Mitchell. The schedules will not interfere so fixing up that field will also benefit Little League who has their games under the lights. Each team has a game under the lights. Men's softball and even girls' softball plays there sometimes. So the field is not just for them. It is New London's property. They have applied for a United Fund Grant to help with a new scoreboard. The scoreboard does not work at all. They are waiting to hear on that. But that is not their property. That is going to be the park's property. So they are working for the park for the whole community.

DeAnna McManus added that they are also working on some grants too from the Cleveland Indians to try to see if they can try to help with fixing some of the stuff.

Stuart Cooke thanked them for coming.

Both Karen and DeAnna thanked Stuart Cooke in return.

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

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

Stuart Cooke asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session to consider the compensation of a village employee or official. Curtis made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call: Paramore - yes; Winslow - absent; Willis - yes; Curtis - yes; Cooke - yes; Myers - yes.

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

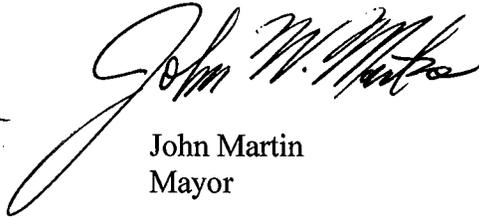
Before council was adjourned, Shawn Pickworth and council members discussed different ways to ensure zoning complaints and issues were received. They suggested having to sign for them or have read receipts on

emails. They also discussed which violations were police issues and which were zoning issues. They also discussed what actually was a violation and what was not.

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



Nancy Howell
Fiscal Officer



John Martin
Mayor