

NEW LONDON VILLAGE COUNCIL
Regular Meeting – Monday, January 22, 2018 @ 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, Winslow, Willis, Paramore and Cooke.

Also present: Chief Marko, John Chapin, Bob James, Ellen Simmons, Don Patton, Steve Bond, John Gerlak, Kristofor Pinkerton, Jacob Johnson and Joe Hicks.

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

The minutes from the regular meeting held on January 8, 2018 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. There were none.

John Martin then called for a report from the Administrator.

Shawn reported the following.

Water

- Water Treatment Plant Improvements- John Chapin, Don Patton and I met with Engineers from Poggemeyer Engineering on Wednesday, January 17, 2018. Plans were reviewed and plant walk through was taken. We want to make sure everyone is on the same page before this project goes to bid. I will have legislation that will need to be passed at the February 12th meeting allowing us to go to bid.
- Reservoir Filling – pumps are running with a lot of water available.
- GIS Project – project has begun; crews are out locating utilities. Please do not mess with the flags.
- Backflow – we are being required to update our backflow ordinance by the OEPA. Council will be presented with a new ordinance within the next couple months. This will mainly impact our rural customers.
- Manganese Testing – the OEPA is now requiring us to test for manganese in our drinking water. New testing equipment has been ordered.

Wastewater

- Forced Main Project – open trench pipe has been completed at the reservoir. Waiting for the directional bore portion of the project to take place under the roadway. Crews will then move to the Rec. park and begin to install and connect into sewers.

Sanitation

- No Major Issues.

Street

- Winter is here, please be careful driving during winter events. Crews will do their best to keep intersections clear of snow and ice. ***Please remember when the snow exceeds 2" please move your vehicle's off the streets***
- Biglow Parkway – received a signed agreement and resolution from the County Commissioners today.

Parks

- Super Raffle – Friends of the New London Parks, New London Rotary & CIC is hosting a super raffle on February 17, 2018. Tickets are \$10/ticket or 6 for \$50.00. Doors open at 11:00am first drawing at noon.

Other

- Farming Contract – I am asking councils permission to enter into contract with Mr. Chris Clark to operate and farm the 33.6 acres of Village owned farm land for the next 5 years starting in 2018 and ending in 2022. The price per acre paid to the Village will be \$93.00/acre for years 2018-2020 and \$94.00/acre for years 2021-2022.
- Christmas Decorations – crews have finally finished taking them down today. We have had some bad luck with lifts. Today was the fourth time we have rented a lift. The 3 previous times the lift had broken and had to be returned before we could get the job done.
- Nancy needs a motion from Council allowing her to file regulatory financial statements to the State of Ohio.

Stuart Cooke said he had a question on the farm rent. How is it paid? Is it the beginning of every year after the crops are off?

Shawn Pickworth answered the first three years he is requesting it be paid at the beginning of the year and then the last two years he would like to pay 50% at the beginning and 50% at the end. We are okay with that.

Janice Myers asked Shawn Pickworth if he had met with the gas company – Columbia Gas.

Shawn Pickworth replied that they had canceled. We have another meeting scheduled for Wednesday morning.

John Chapin added it was Wednesday at 12:30.

Shawn Pickworth stated that the person they were meeting with had the flu so they had to cancel so they rescheduled.

John Martin then asked for a report from the Police Chief. Chief Marko stated he had a few things. He had a video that was about 7 minutes long that he wanted council to view. He asked permission to show it toward the end of the meeting.

Mayor John Martin stated that he didn't have a problem with that.

John Martin then asked for a report from the Fire Chief. Chief John Chapin stated he had sent an email to council with last year's runs broken down for them to review.

John Martin then asked for a report from the Ambulance. Bill Curtis had nothing to report. He stated he would have something at the next meeting.

John Martin then asked for a report from Zoning. Bob James stated he had nothing to report unless somebody had something for him.

Janice Myers stated on West Washburn there is a mobile home that is totally deteriorated and falling down. What is being done with that?

Bob James replied that he wasn't aware of what trailer she was talking about.

They determined the trailer belonged to the Yates'.

Bob James stated that he had notified the owners several times.

Janice Myers asked what is the next step?

Bob James said he would send him a letter with a copy of the ordinance and then it would be able to be handed over to the police department to issue a citation.

Neil Winslow asked what was going on with the sidewalk uptown.

Bob James stated that was all handled by the mayor and administrator.

Shawn Pickworth replied the police did issue a citation for the sidewalk uptown. They went to court. Shawn then asked Chief Marko to update everyone on what was going on with the sidewalk.

Chief Marko added that the owner had pled not guilty and there is a trial date set for January 31 at 1:15. Shawn Pickworth is subpoenaed and the Sergeant is subpoenaed. We will go forward and I will let you know what the outcome is.

John Martin then presented Ordinance 2018-02 An Ordinance Amending the 2018 Temporary Annual Appropriation Ordinance by Authorizing the Transfer of Certain Funds and Appropriations as Needed for Operations, and Declaring an Emergency. Emergency Reading. Myers made a motion to suspend the rules to

allow Ordinance 2018-02 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. Paramore 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.

Shawn Pickworth stated that council was emailed interpretations of handbook rules. Are there any questions to those interpretations?

There were no questions and everyone was okay with the interpretations.

John Martin then called for New Business.

Bill Curtis made a motion to allow the Fiscal Officer to file Regulatory Year End Financial Statements with the State of Ohio. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Janice Myers made a motion to allow the Village Administrator to enter into a contract with Mr. Chris Clark to operate and farm the 33.6 acres of Village owned farmland for the next five years beginning in 2018 and ending in 2022 at a price per acre of \$93/acre for 2018-2020 and \$94/acre for 2021-2022. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Neil Winslow asked if there was any construction going on at the reservoir park offices.

Shawn Pickworth replied that yes there was. They are converting where the old laundry mat was to the new reservoir park office. They have been hard at work doing that. They have been insulating it and putting in new windows trying to get it ready for the season.

Janice Myers asked if it was in the budget.

Shawn Pickworth confirmed that it was.

Neil Winslow replied that he knew it was in the budget but he didn't know when it was going to start.

Shawn Pickworth stated they got busy on it because they want it ready before the season starts. Shawn encouraged council to stop out and check it out. It's pretty rough still but the insulation is up and they are making progress.

John Martin then introduced a presentation by John Gerlak, Rehabilitation Specialist for the Chip Program.

John Gerlak stated that his boss was trying to get the word out about the Chip Program. We recently took over the Chip Program in Huron County. We have done the City of Norwalk for a bunch of years and within the last months we have done some work for the grant money. John Gerlak continued by saying that everything wasn't finalized yet by the state, but he believes they will be able to do approximately 15 home repairs in the county. This excludes Norwalk and Willard. Those jobs need to be owner occupied. We can do anything from a roof to an electrical rewire and ADA modifications. It's all through a grant and completely free to the home owner as long as they income qualify. We can also do owner rehabs. That would bring the whole house up to state rehab standards. It's a much bigger job obviously. Those jobs are a little more involved. There is a report ability period that goes along with it. We put a mortgage on the house and then it's forgivable over a five-year period. It keeps the homeowner in the house. I believe, the last I heard, we can do six or seven of those in the county. There is another program that we've administered in Huron County for probably 10 or 12 years. It's the Home Weatherization Program where we can insulate and do heating work. Once in a while, depending on funding, we can do some minor electrical or some kind of

roofing. A lot of the communities don't know anything about these programs. We get funding to do the work, we don't get funding to advertise it so we do our best to try and get out and let the cities and villages know we are here. I dropped a bunch of brochures off at the Village on Friday. If you know somebody that may qualify they can go into our website and fill out an application. We find a lot of very unsafe things in people's houses and people just can't afford to fix them. We try to keep people in their homes.

Bill Curtis commented that it sounded like the old HEAP program.

John Gerlak replied that they actually administered HEAP too. The last count through WSOS, I think we have 43 different programs that we administer. The Chip program covers nine counties; Erie, Huron, Ottawa, Sandusky, Seneca, Lucas, Hancock, Putnam and Allen. There are a lot of programs out there. They can go onto the website and if they need help they can call us and we can help them.

Janice Myers asked if they don't have a computer how would they contact you?

John Gerlak answered that there is a phone number on the brochures. They can call the office and they will mail everything out to them. Some of the girls in the office, depending on staffing, will sometimes go out and help people fill out applications because it can be a process. There is a lot of paperwork involved. We do our best to help people with that part of it too.

Ellen Simmons asked John Gerlak when he mentioned his boss if that was Ben Kenny.

John Gerlak answered that he was not his boss but yes I know Ben.

Ellen Simmons asked if he was the head of the program.

John Gerlak replied that he is on the housing and energy side so our director is Terry Jacobs but Ben is one of the directors.

John Martin then presented the monthly bills for approval. Cooke made a motion to approve the bills as presented. Winslow seconded the motion. Roll call - All ayes; No one opposed.

Chief Marko was then given the floor to present his video.

Chief started by saying he had a couple things before he starts the video that he would like everybody to know. The last few months here in the village the police department has been extremely busy. We work under the radar and we've had some knuckle heads come into town and stay in town and they have felony warrants and the police department has made numerous arrests with these felony warrants. When we make a felony arrest here, my policy is not one officer, not two officers, not three officers - four or more officers. I do it because there is strength in numbers and its safe for the officers and it's safe for the civilians and it's safe for the bad guy believe it or not. We do not want to make this village a safe haven for these knuckle heads so slowly but surely we are clearing it out. I want you to know that. So if any of you would get a complaint about five or six officers working, they're not actually working. They are working on felony warrants, the arrested party, and then they go home. If people don't understand that, just have them come to my office and I'll show them videos of our arrests. It's pretty impressive. So the officers do a really good job here and I just want you to know that. This is not going to be a safe haven for the bad guys. We are going to make life very miserable for them. We are going to do it fairly but we are going to get rid of them. With that said, last night at exactly 19:08 which is eight minutes after seven o'clock, the police department gets a call on an unresponsive male. Two minutes later, two officers that I had working, because we do have to have two officers here at certain times because of call volume, went down to an unresponsive male. They performed CPR and they brought him back. What happened after that I'm not quite sure but these are the officers that come in here and do a good job. One is a reserve and one is a part-time officer. The part-time

officer is here tonight. Normally he isn't here but he decided to come in and volunteer his time so he's not getting paid right now. He came in to assist with a new officer that we're having sworn in. So Kris did an excellent job. Down the road we are going to give him a Commendation for what he did, for bringing that subject back to life and to do something like that until Firelands Ambulance got there. Now on December 23, the police department gets a call from a gentleman who says you know I just picked up a guy down the road here and the guy is intoxicated and is complaining about chest pain so I dropped him off at his residence and I think he wrecked his truck. To make a long story short, the officers go down there and they talk to this gentleman and the gentleman is intoxicated. He is complaining about chest pains and the officers are not just going to let him go so they call Firelands Ambulance and the guy is fine. He is absolutely fine. I am going to take it from there and show you what happened in the rescue squad.

Chief Marko showed a five-minute video of the situation.

Chief Marko then showed another video of the same event but from a different officer's body camera so it was from a different angle. Chief stated thank goodness for the body camera because believe it or not he incriminated himself. I will explain that later.

After the second video Chief Marko explained that the subject had kicked the officer and kicked his body camera off. He then showed one last video of the event.

Chief stated that was outside of the village and OSP actually contacted the officers and OSP (State Patrol) met the officer at the hospital. The subject was absolutely out of control at the hospital and our New London officer did a good job of restraining him. Chief Marko stated he could not show them that video. I don't want to show anything medical as far as Fisher Titus is concerned. The officer promised him not to charge him but guess what? I am not going to put up with that. That's not okay. It's not okay to assault an officer. It's not okay to assault a Firelands Ambulance employee. It's not okay. He was charged with two felonies. So the Lieutenant and three other officers went down there and picked him up last week. He was charged with two felonies; misconduct at an emergency and assault on a police officer. I get a little bit upset because there is no reason for that. I get a little bit upset when people don't understand police procedure. This is why, thank goodness it was during shift change, that's why there were three officers. Normally it wouldn't take that many people but when you get intoxicated they get crazy. It's liquid courage. That could have gone south quick. The officers did a good job of de-escalation. I couldn't ask for any more. These are the officers you have 24/7 in this village. I'm very proud of them. That's it.

The mayor thanked Chief Marko and asked if there was any more business to be brought before council before he asked for an adjournment.

Chief Marko said he was sorry but he had one more thing. I think I mentioned a couple weeks ago that there is a shortage of police officers. Very few people want to become a police officer so with that said, to get officers, police departments are actually doing recruiting. It's no different here in New London. Believe it or not there was a referee at one of the basketball games who was a full time captain in a large police department and he's been observing our officers working the games and he has recruited a couple of them so it looks like I'm probably going to lose a couple officers which I understand. We have officers to take their place but this is going to be the trend, I think, in police work. It has nothing to do with New London. It's just I don't think police officers are going to work a full career in one police department. They will probably go from police department to police department to see how much money they can get. Being a small town, I understand that. But I just want everybody to know that you're still going to get professional police service. That's not going to stop. We'll keep training like we do. With that said, I would like to promote a reserve officer to a part-time position. He would like council to consider that tonight. I did lose two part-timers and I didn't replace them.

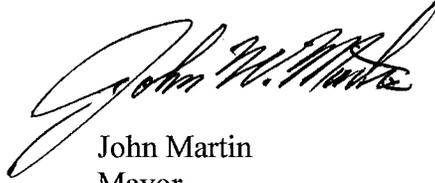
Bill Curtis made a motion to allow Chief Marko to promote one reserve police officer to the position of part-time police officer. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call All ayes; No one opposed.

Chief Marko told council he would give them the name of the promoted officer at the next council meeting and another motion will be made to hire that officer at that time.

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



Nancy Howell
Fiscal Officer



John Martin
Mayor