

NEW LONDON VILLAGE COUNCIL
Regular Meeting – Monday, September 24, 2018 @ 7 p.m.

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

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

Also present: Chief Marko, Shawn Pickworth, Don Patton, Steve Bond, John Chapin, Nathan James, Tim Brown, Erik Von Kamp, Ellen Simmons, Bryan Clime, Mary Jo Paramore and Lynn Phillips.

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 September 10, 2018 were then presented for approval. Curtis made a motion to approve the minutes. Ball seconded the motion. Roll call - All ayes; No one opposed.

John Martin asked for any public questions or statements. He asked anyone who had a question or statement to stand, state their name and they would be allotted three minutes to talk.

Nathan James stood and stated he was the treasurer of the Firelands Float Flyers. He passed out a copy of an invoice he had received from the Village of New London. He stated the invoice had been delivered to him on the 10th which was the day before their event this year. It included charges for reservoir closure last year and also this year. He said he was not made aware of the invoice last year. He stated this was the first he had heard of it and the invoice stated that they had to pay in full or they would not be able to hold this year's event. He continued and said they were told the charges were for closing the swimming beach to make up for the lost revenue the village would incur and the swimming beach was not closed this year. It was open all weekend. There were also kayaks on the reservoir right where they were flying which was a safety hazard. He stated he just wanted to bring that information to council's attention. He was hoping for some sort of resolution.

Mayor John Martin asked Shawn Pickworth if he had any information on Nathan James comments.

Shawn Pickworth stated he knew a little bit about it. He stated it was actually \$200 to shut down the reservoir. They had given them a break last year. He stated he didn't know the whole story about the kayaks. There was a mistake this year but they got the kayaks off as soon as they could. Shawn Pickworth asked Nathan James if they had put them in a different area this year.

Nathan James stated that yes they did.

Shawn Pickworth continued by saying that is why they got the cheaper rate. They were charged the \$100 rate rather than the \$200 rate because they didn't have to close down the beach. He stated that last year's charges had not been paid so that is why they were billed for last year's charges.

Nathan James replied that the invoice was for something that had happened last year.

Shawn Pickworth stated they had been asked to pay last year but hadn't.

Nathan James stated if he wasn't given an invoice, he couldn't write a check.

Shawn Pickworth answered that wasn't the point. He stated Bob James was supposed to go out and schedule it but because Bob James works for the village he thought he got specialized treatment. That's not the case. He is going to be treated like any other customer. If he wants to use the reservoir park he needs to go out and book it like any other customer.

Nathan James asked if there was a rental agreement they were supposed to sign.

Shawn Pickworth stated that yes there was and they were supposed to pay for the event ahead of time.

Nathan James challenged Shawn to find a piece of paper with his signature on it.

Shawn Pickworth replied that Bob James was supposed to do that and he didn't do it. Then when he was asked for the money he got mad.

Nathan James stated that things were heated because Shawn had sent a representative to talk to them less than 18 hours before their event and then demanded payment. Nathan continued by saying they had asked if they could take care of it on the Monday following the event but he was told that Shawn had told Joe Thomas to tell them it had to be paid.

Shawn Pickworth stated it still had to be paid. It was \$300 for two years of rent for the reservoir. They had shut down the reservoir for them to have an event there and that is cheap. Shawn Pickworth offered for them to go somewhere else to hold their event and see what it would cost them. He stated that the reservoir's cost was dirt cheap.

Nathan James hesitated and said he just wanted to know the reasoning behind the bill and why they hadn't received an invoice or a contract last year or for the current year.

Shawn Pickworth answered that Bob James knew he owed the money. He just didn't want to pay the money. He kept trying to weasel out of it.

Nathan James stated that he was the treasurer and he was the one who controls the checkbook. If an invoice isn't given to him, it can't be paid.

Shawn Pickworth replied that he could say all kinds of things that Nathan's dad had said.

Nathan James stated that he was not his dad. He is the treasurer of the club.

John Martin wanted to ask Nathan James a question but Shawn Pickworth stated that it was money owed to the village, period.

Nathan James asked how Shawn could claim it was owed when he was never invoiced.

Shawn Pickworth stated he had been invoiced and they had asked him to pay for it.

Nathan James replied that they had been invoiced 363 days later and then demanded payment before the event.

Shawn Pickworth stated it was because they didn't pay their bill and they were going to come out and do it again and probably wouldn't have paid their bill again.

Nathan James apologized to John Martin and asked him what his question was.

John Martin asked who was in charge of setting up the event to make sure the reservoir was accessible on the day it is needed. He wondered if it was Nathan or someone else.

Shawn Pickworth stated he had never dealt with Nathan. It had always been Bob James, his dad.

Nathan James agreed that it had always been his dad but Nathan then restated that he was the treasurer and responsible for the money. If he never gets an invoice, he can't write them a check.

Stuart Cooke asked Nathan if Bob James had discussed with him at all that the village was billing them.

Nathan James replied that yes he had but if he isn't sent an invoice, he can't write the village a check. He has books he needs to keep himself.

Stuart Cooke asked if there had been interest charged on the amount they owed.

Shawn Pickworth stated that they had not put any interest on the amount due. They just asked them to pay what they were due.

Stuart Cooke asked if it was just an invoice with no interest and no late fee.

Shawn Pickworth verified that it was just the money that was owed to the village. That's all and he added that the village had even given them a break. It wasn't the full amount.

Nathan James replied that he didn't know that because he had never seen a contract. He doesn't know the rates.

Shawn Pickworth stated that he would get a contract if they came back out. They will get a contract and full amount.

Nathan James stated that they didn't want to kill a 16-year event over a miscommunication.

Shawn Pickworth stated again that they would get a contract and they would be paying full price.

Nathan James said that he supposed if that was how they were going to go forward then that was how they were going to go forward. He stated all he was looking for was a little clarification.

Shawn Pickworth stated that it would be perfectly clear.

Nathan James wanted to verify that they would have a signed contract and they would have an agreement.

Shawn Pickworth answered that absolutely they would.

Nathan James stated that was something they didn't have for any of it.

Shawn Pickworth stated again absolutely it would be perfectly clear.

Stuart Cooke asked if there wouldn't have been a contract before because of Bob James being the zoning inspector.

Shawn Pickworth stated that Bob James had the attitude that he was an employee of the village and council was wrong in making him pay to hold an event at the reservoir when he was bringing people into the village.

Stuart Cooke stated that all councilmembers had to pay the going rate on everything.

Nathan James stated that was fine but they weren't made aware of the charges until a year later.

Bill Curtis asked if there was an address they needed to be sending it to.

Nathan James stated they did not have a registered address yet.

John Martin told Nathan James they would have to look back in the minutes. They should be able to find where it was discussed in open session where he was to be charged for it last year and as for the contract or statement Nathan was requesting, he didn't know. That should have been part of the parks to take care of that. He then went on to say that from that point forward if they hadn't already they would rectify it and make it correct. He doesn't want them to be in the same situation again.

Nathan James ended by saying that if the village sends him a bill, he will send them a check. He stated that was all they were looking for.

John Martin stated he felt that was reasonable.

Nathan James said okay and to have a good evening.

John Martin thanked Nathan James. He then asked if there were any other public questions or statements.

Erik Von Kamp then stood and asked if the sidewalk letters had been sent out yet for the downtown area.

Shawn Pickworth stated that no he had not sent out any sidewalk letters yet.

Erik Von Kamp asked why he hadn't gotten a response from his public records request yet.

Shawn Pickworth stated it was setting on his desk and that he could get it for him.

Erik Von Kamp then asked how long they were going to sit there before he was given them.

Shawn Pickworth stated he didn't know. He said he could mail them to him or give them to him. He stated there weren't very many.

Erik Von Kamp asked if the village owned any buried utilities in front of his building.

Shawn Pickworth stated he couldn't answer that definitely whether they do or not.

Erik Von Kamp stated he thought they had discussed the tile issue and as far as he knew everybody had come to the conclusion that there was no village owned tile. He wanted to know if that was correct.

Shawn Pickworth said that was true.

Erik Von Kamp replied that in other words he could fill in the tile that he knows of with concrete.

Shawn Pickworth stated that he needed to make sure it was his tile because he had stated before that it was shared with the next building.

Erik Von Kamp stated that there was also a 10-inch tile and there is a three inch above that. He said he knows he told him. He knows one council member saw pictures of it. He stated the village didn't want to

take responsibility. He added that the village was already 90 days past due on the bill he had submitted to them earlier so he could fill it with concrete.

Shawn Pickworth told Erik Von Kamp to do what he needed to but it would be at his own risk.

Mayor John Martin asked Erik Von Kamp if he had gotten his answer.

Erik Von Kamp stated it wasn't enough of an answer.

Mayor John Martin said okay and thanked Erik Von Kamp. He then asked if there were any other questions or statements.

Ellen Simmons stated she wanted to report that on Sunday afternoon the Rotary Club had a United Fund kick off. It was a wine tasting at the Pizza House and it was the first time they had tried something like that. She stated that it was very successful. She ended by saying they had made \$1,000.

Mayor John Martin asked what the money was raised for.

Ellen Simmons responded by saying it was for the United Fund. She also added that the campaign was now underway and if anyone needed information, get ahold of Kathy Frombaugh or Mary Lou Harris. She stated that Kathy's law office had brochures.

John Martin thanked Ellen Simmons. He then asked if there were any other questions.

Tim Brown stood and stated he thought Don had given everyone a copy of his letter of resignation. He said he had told Don Patton and Shawn Pickworth about a week and a half ago and Don asked him if he was going to take his two weeks' vacation and he told him that no he wasn't. He was going to work right up to his last day. He went on to say that he had really loved working for the village and he had loved the opportunity that he had. He then said he had enjoyed working with Don and John Chapin and the guys in the sanitation department. He stated that Don had done quite a bit in fixing things up and making things look nice for them. He also wanted to thank John. He had helped his crew out some also. He ended by saying it was time for he and his family to move forward and Friday would be his last day.

Mayor John Martin thought he was speaking for council as a whole that they appreciated all the work he had done and they are sorry to see that he is leaving the village. He also stated that they understand that he has to do what he has to do. There is never a reason for anyone to hold someone back and as a whole he stated he would like to thank Tim for his time and service to the village.

John Martin then asked if there were any other 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- Reviewing and approving shop drawings.
- GIS Project – project continues, almost done with the Village. Crews will then be moving into the township locating lines and valves.

- Backflow Inspections – we have been getting a good response from our township residents by calling in and making appointments to have the properties inspected to see if backflows are needed or not. Reminder this is an OEPA mandated program that we must do.
- October 2, 2018 – crews have scheduled a waterline repair at the corner of Grove and First Street. This repair will affect all the customers on First Street.
- Hydrant Flushing – October is hydrant flushing month on Wednesday & Thursdays.
- 187 Park Ave – crews fixed a waterline leak and installed a new catch basin.
- AWWA class for HABS – Don Patton, Wendy Kidd and Cole Risner attended a training seminar for HABS treatment.
- During recent repairs at our water tower some other issues about our tank quickly surfaced so we had Practical Inspections come in and do a complete tank inspection. Today Don Patton, John Chapin and I met with Ed Spriggs from Practical Inspections to review the report. We will come to Council with an action plan and recommendations on what our next steps should be in the near future.

Wastewater

- Sludge hauled, and sludge beds cleaned.
- On September 19, 2018, Don Patton, John Chapin, Nancy Howell and Shawn met with representatives from Jones & Henry Engineering and the USDA-RD to discuss the possible sewer plant improvement project and funding possibilities. USDA-RD was very impressed with our operations and agreed that this is a much-needed project and is willing to work with us. Worst case would be 55% Loan with a 45% Grant, Best case would be 25% Loan with a 75% Grant. We will not know the definite amount until we apply, and they come back to us with an offer. I would like Councils permission to move forward with this?

Sanitation

- Nothing major.

Street

- Manhole patched at corner of West & South Main Street.
- South Railroad – catch basin will be repaired or replaced in the near future.

Other

- John Chapin, Don Patton and I met with representatives from New London Schools, FAS, Huron County EMA, Vasu Communications and Practical Inspections to talk about the possibility of

moving our communication equipment from all the agencies to the top of the water tower.
More to come.

John Martin then asked for a report from the Police Chief. Chief Marko stated he had just a couple things. First of all, he wanted to thank Tim also. He stated that over the last few winters, they had called Tim to come out in subzero degree weather and he was always up and on it. He did a good job cleaning the streets which resulted in zero accidents so he wanted to tell Tim that the police department appreciated him coming out at all hours of the night and early morning to clean the streets and he wanted to thank Tim for his service. The second thing Chief Marko wanted to discuss was that the police department had secured a grant for body armor so all the officers have been fitted for it. The next thing chief brought up was the police department had some training the past Saturday. That training took the department to about 65 hours of training for the year. They aren't quite done yet. He thought they had about eight more hours. The state of Ohio had not required any training but chief said he believed it was important.

John Martin then asked for a report from the Fire Chief. Chief John Chapin stated they had been busy lately. They have had a couple challenging calls so he wanted to thank the guys for showing up and doing what they do. He also stated that their big washing machine was due to be delivered and installed during the upcoming week.

John Martin then asked for a report from the Ambulance. Bill Curtis reported he didn't have much but he stated they were going to be putting on a class for EMT's. If anyone is interested they should get ahold of Jeff at the ambulance garage. He thought the class would be held in November at their in-house training facilities. If anyone is interested in running with Firelands Ambulance, they should get ahold of Jeff.

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

John Martin then asked for a report from the Recreation Department. Joe Thomas absent.

John Martin presented Ordinance 2018-26 An Ordinance Amending the 2018 Annual Appropriation Ordinance by Authorizing the Transfer of Certain Funds and Appropriations as Needed for Operations, and Declaring an Emergency. Emergency Reading. Paramore made a motion to suspend the rules to allow Ordinance 2018-26 to be passed on an emergency measure. Curtis seconded the motion. Roll call: Ball, Yes; Curtis, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Paramore, Yes. Myers made a motion to approve the emergency reading. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

John Martin presented Resolution 2018-12 A Resolution Accepting the Amounts and Rates as Determined by the Budget Commission and Authorizing the Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying them to the County Auditor. Emergency Reading. Cooke made a motion to suspend the rules to allow Resolution 2018-12 to be passed on an emergency measure. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call: Ball, Yes; Curtis, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Paramore, Yes. Paramore made a motion to approve the emergency reading. Ball 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.

Janice Myers made a motion to allow the Village Administrator to give Jones and Henry permission to apply for USDA funding on behalf of the Village of New London. Curtis seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Stuart Cooke made a motion to accept the resignation of Tim Brown. Paramore seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

John Martin asked if there was any more new business. There was none.

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

John Martin then presented the Then and Now bills for approval under Schedule B. Curtis made a motion to approve Schedule B. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

John Martin then presented the monthly bills for approval under Schedule C. Paramore made a motion to approve Schedule C. Ball seconded the motion. Roll call: Ball – yes; Paramore – yes; Willis – yes; Curtis – yes; Cooke – disqualify himself; Myers – abstain.

John Martin then asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session to Consider the Employment and Discipline of a Village Employee or Official. Curtis made a motion to enter into executive session. Cooke seconded the motion. Roll call: Ball, Yes; Curtis, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Paramore, Yes.

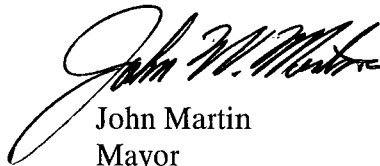
Paramore made a motion to return to regular session. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call: Ball, Yes; Curtis, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Paramore, Yes.

Cooke made a motion to allow the Village Administrator to hire Bryan Clime for the street and sanitation department at a starting rate of \$16 per hour with a 5% increase after his 90-day probationary period and to move Charles Tetrick to a pay rate of \$17 per hour. Curtis seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

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



Nancy Howell
Fiscal Officer



John Martin
Mayor