

**NEW LONDON VILLAGE COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting – Monday, October 8, 2018 @ 7 p.m.**

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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, Steve Bond, Erik Von Kamp, Ellen Simmons, Marvin McCallister, Bob James, Joe Thomas and Mark Chase.

John Martin then asked for approval of the agenda. Cooke 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 September 24, 2018 were then presented for approval. Curtis made a motion to approve the minutes. Myers 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.

Erik Von Kamp stood and asked Shawn if the sidewalk letters had been sent out yet.

Shawn Pickworth answered that no they had not.

Erik Von Kamp asked if he was going to wait until December to send them out like he had done to him.

Shawn Pickworth stated that he would send them out whenever he wanted to.

Erik Von Kamp stated that he thought council was wanting Shawn to send the letters out.

Shawn Pickworth replied that he doesn't answer to him.

Erik Von Kamp answered that he was right. He doesn't answer to him.

Shawn Pickworth again stated that he didn't.

Mayor John Martin then stated that they were in the process of talking about it. He then asked if there were any other public questions or statements.

Ellen Simmons stood and stated she was finishing her second year as president on the board of directors of Senior Enrichment Services also known as Services for Aging, also known as other things. They have a renewal levy for Huron County residents. She passed out a flyer and said she wanted to give everyone some information about the levy because not much is heard about it around New London. Ellen continued by saying they were not a county agency. They are a non-profit 501©(3) organization. They serve the senior citizens of Huron County with things such as Meals on Wheels and all kinds of stuff. They have many programs and they do serve people in New London. They are funded through the state and the feds and like everybody else they have been cut back. They also get grants for some of their programs. Ellen then stated there had been a lot of controversy as to where they are going to be located. They are in a really old building with rats and bats and mice and that was not an exaggeration. She said the commissioners want to pull the

building down and they want them to, but they want to be out first. They are looking at a new facility but at this point, their emphasis is to get the levy passed because without an operating levy it doesn't matter where you are if they can't operate. Ellen ended by saying she would be happy to answer any questions.

Mayor John Martin thanked Ellen Simmons.

Marvin McCallister asked if the village had received any bid specs on the roofs at the cemetery yet.

Shawn Pickworth stated that he thought Brian Cucco did get another bid spec but he didn't have it with him.

Marvin McCallister asked if anyone could put a bid in. He wondered if there were any specs that they had to have. He wanted to verify that they wanted a certain kind of roof.

Shawn Pickworth answered that yes it was a metal roof. Just like the one that was already done.

Marvin McCallister said okay and thanked Shawn.

John Martin thanked Marvin McCallister.

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- A preconstruction meeting was held on October 4, 2018 on site of the project. Poggemeyer Design, Kirk Bros. Contractors and the Village reviewed plans, contracts, shop drawings and projected schedules. A big question coming out of the meeting was do we or don't we need permits through Richland County for our new clear wells and drying beds, turns out we don't. Still hoping to see some outside construction yet this fall. Inside work will be done through the winter months.
- GIS Project – project continues.
- Scheduled waterline repair at the corner of Grove and First Street, ran into an issue with having to shutdown Windy Acres and with that building having a pressurized sprinkler system and the elderly community that lives there, we thought we needed to see if we could do something different ahead of time and see if we can minimize the number of customers taken out of service during the repairs. Also new regulations from the OEPA is making us plan our work a little differently.
- Hydrant Flushing – October is hydrant flushing month on Wednesday & Thursdays.

#### Wastewater

- Nothing major.

#### Sanitation

- Nothing major.

## Street

- Critical Infrastructure Grant – earlier this year I applied for a \$500,000.00 grant through the state to repair the storm sewers and rebuild the roads on both New London Ave. and West Washburn. The state did not give us the grant, but we can reapply with strings attached. The state says the Village must be willing to use 100% of the revolving loan funds towards this project. Anyone with loans out that owe money to the revolving loan, would continue to pay those loans back and that money would just go into the general fund. This is a decision that needs to be made by Council. I will tell you that soon, if we don't use it for this project, the State will be coming to the Village and telling them to use the revolving loan fund on infrastructure projects or they could just take it back.
- OPWC funding – East Street, Birch Park Extension and New London Ave. Extension, we resubmitted last year's project with some changes to the application to make sure the project scored better and to give us a better chance at getting funded. Applications are always due around the first of September at the County. In the past, we have always met at the County level and scored our projects then sent them to the district level with everyone somewhat knowing where they stood as far as if their projects were or were not getting funded or if they had a shot of going to small governments (Villages & Twps.) This year I was informed by our County Engineer that we would not be having a county meeting because the projects were not scored at the county level, only at the district level and that he and the city managers made this decision not to hold a county meeting. On Friday, September 28, 2018 the County met with the Twps. to review and score their projects, but I was told no projects were scored at the County level only at the District level? We have 3 Villages in Huron County that I know of that submitted applications to OPWC but we don't get the same respect and treatment. I wonder if Norwalk got to score their projects before going to the district level? If the applications are not to be scored at the county level, then why are they even turned into the county? Why are they not just turned in directly to the district? The Villages of Huron County and their residents should have a lot of questions and concerns about the OPWC process.

Janice Myers asked how much money was in the Revolving Loan Fund?

Shawn Pickworth stated he thought it was about \$165,000.

Bill Curtis wanted to verify that Shawn had mentioned that the state was going to do away with the Revolving Loan Funds.

Shawn Pickworth replied that was what they were talking about. They want them to go away. They don't want anyone to have them. He stated that they would be telling Norwalk the same thing about their Revolving Loan. Shawn stated that was what they were hearing from the state. He continued by saying that it was fine if council wanted them to hold onto it until they say they have to get rid of it. He doesn't think they can come back and just take it. He thinks from what he has heard that they will come back and say that the village will need to use the money and that they have to use it on infrastructure.

Stuart Cooke wondered if they would be given a deadline.

Shawn Pickworth said yes and they would be told what they could and couldn't use it for. He is sure there will be strings attached to what they can and can't use it for.

Bill Curtis then asked Shawn Pickworth if Norwalk had been able to score their OPWC project.

Shawn Pickworth replied that he is sure they did but he doesn't know that for a fact.

Bill Curtis asked who they send the project to at the county level, the commissioners?

Shawn Pickworth stated they were sent to the County Engineer. He continued on to say when he heard about it, he was unhappy. He called over there and he wasn't greeted well. He said they had the attitude that they could do whatever they wanted, whenever they wanted. He then called down to the state and they say they guessed that was the way his district operates. Shawn stated he sits on the boards at both the district level and the executive board at the district level. From what he gets from the Ohio Revised Code, he is supposed to get a copy of each and every application before it even goes to the district. He stated he has never received a copy of anybody's application before it had gone to the district.

Stuart Cooke asked if it was something they should have Steve Bond look into.

Shawn Pickworth stated that if the district is breaking the law then the whole district is in trouble. He continued by saying that if you talk to Columbus, they get all nervous and say the whole funding program will get messed up. Shawn feels that if that is what it takes to get it right, then oh well because it has been messed up for a lot of years.

Bill Curtis stated he sees that Norwalk is doing a lot of big projects.

Shawn Pickworth replied that he had heard announcements on the radio about their project already for next year and it hasn't even been to the district level to get approved yet and they're already bragging about it getting approved.

Stuart Cooke asked if it was the Old State Road project.

Shawn Pickworth answered yes and how are they bragging about something that hasn't been scored yet? He stated he felt that it just isn't right. He just doesn't get it. That's the big city and the county. He believes it should be a level playing field and right now it isn't a level playing field for the villages and townships and it never has been. That has always been his problem with that funding.

Bill Curtis asked what the other villages and townships thought.

Shawn stated that they were upset. He mentioned Greenwich and Wakeman.

Bill Curtis asked if there was any way they could go in together with them and hold them accountable?

Shawn stated yes they had called down to the state. They also are calling the county commissioners. He doesn't know whether they called the County Engineer or not but he knows they aren't happy about it.

Steve Bond asked about Terry Boose. He said in the past when they were dealing with the engineers on the highway money, he was the one guy who stood up.

Mayor John Martin stated he had talked with Shawn the other day on the issue and he had told him he would be calling Terry Boose and talking with him. He had not done it yet because of Columbus Day but plans on talking to him as soon as he can. He also hopes to have Shawn with him when he does talk to him.

Shawn Pickworth added that there isn't a lot of funding out there for streets. There just isn't. There is CDBG and OPWC but when they aren't playing on a level playing field with anybody else, the big city projects are shoo ins. He continued on by saying Norwalk says they don't get CDBG money but he feels that is a lie because they have their own CDBG funding. They don't have to compete like New London does. New London has to compete with the rest of the villages and anyone else who puts in an application. Norwalk doesn't have to compete against anybody. They just get CDBG money every two years. He gets tired of Norwalk saying they don't get CDBG money because it's not true. They do get CDBG money.

Bill Curtis was concerned because if it is in the Ohio Revised Code it should be followed.

Shawn Pickworth stated he was going to shake things up at the district level. They may want to kick him off the boards but he doesn't know how they would do that because he has three more years.

John Martin asked if there were any more questions for Shawn Pickworth. There were none.

John Martin then asked for a report from the Police Chief. Chief Marko stated he didn't have anything unless someone had something for him.

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

John Martin then asked for a report from the Ambulance. Bill Curtis reported there were 65 runs for September. There were 33 in the Village of New London; five in New London Township; nine in Ruggles Township; five in Troy Township; 12 in Fitchville Township. There was one Mutual Aid (Greenwich-1). There were four motor vehicle accidents; Fitchville – 1, New London Village – 0, New London Twp. – 1, Troy Twp. – 1, Ruggles Twp. – 1, Mutual Aid – 0. There were two calls to the Laurels. There was one Fire Standby. There were eight Negative Transports. There were zero Law Enforcement Standbys, six Service Calls and four Overdoses. Out of all of those, 24 of the transports were ALS and 25 were BLS. The ALS and BLS calls are advanced medical calls done by advanced medical personnel. They are able to give lifesaving drugs and things like that to people while they are on their way to the hospital.

John Martin then asked for a report from Zoning. Bob James stated he didn't have anything unless someone had something for him.

John Martin then asked for a report from the Recreation Department. Joe Thomas stated the only thing he had was that they have the gun raffle coming up. They have 25 guns and tickets are \$10 each or six for \$50. They also have lots of side prizes. The \$10 also includes a meal. He stated they had a big side prize this year. They purchased an Ohio State golf cart. It is a very nice golf cart. It is going to be one of the side prizes so you have to be there to win it. Joe thinks it should be a fun day. There seems to be a lot of interest so anyone who wants to come to the gun raffle better plan to get there early.

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

John Martin then called for 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. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call - All ayes; No one opposed.

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

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

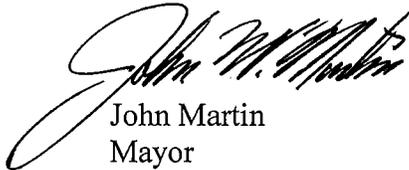
John Martin then asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session to consider the sale of property at competitive bidding if premature disclosure of information would give an unfair competitive or bargaining advantage to a person whose personal, private interest is adverse to the general public interest. Curtis made a motion to enter into executive session. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call: Ball, Yes; Curtis, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Paramore, Yes.

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

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



Nancy Howell  
Fiscal Officer



John Martin  
Mayor