

NEW LONDON VILLAGE COUNCIL
Regular Meeting – Monday, April 8, 2019 @ 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, Willis, Paramore, Cooke and Ball.

Also present: Chief Marko, Shawn Pickworth, Steve Bond, Lynn Phillips, Ellen Simmons, Dawn Hess, Jason Anderson, Bob James, Heather Brown, Marvin McCallister, John Chapin, Toby Thomas and Don Patton.

John Martin 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 March 25, 2019 were then presented for approval. Paramore made a motion to approve the minutes. Willis 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.

Ellen Simmons stood and stated that everyone should have received a town event card. They are put out by the Community Club. They are also the group that does Hometown Holidays each year. So far she hasn't heard any complaints so she is pretty sure everything on the card is correct. She keeps a supply in her car so anyone with businesses that go low, just let her know and she will be happy to share more with them. Ellen Simmons then stated that the Community Club would be meeting the next morning at 9 a.m. at the Wildcat Diner. The public is always invited and they can always use help with planning their activities. Ellen ended by saying the CIC would be meeting on Tuesday, April 16th at noon at Firelands Electric and they are providing lunch. They will be discussing the future of the organization and what shape it should take so they would really like to see people there who are interested in the community and what can be done to improve it.

John Martin asked if there were any other questions or statements. There were none. John Martin closed the floor to public questions and statements.

John Martin then called for a report from the Administrator.

Shawn reported the following.

Water

- Water Treatment Plant Improvement Project – Work continues. You should start seeing the new clear wells going up soon.
- Water Tower – application submitted to the State and we are waiting to hear back about the RLF. Engineering is working on bid docs. to go to bid.
- GIS Project – project continues. We are getting really close to completing this project.

- Pump Station – a low service pump will be installed that will allow us to fill the Reservoir without maxing out the demand.

Wastewater

- Sewer Treatment Project – met with engineering on planning of the project last Monday.
- Backup Generator - Firelands Electric had a project scheduled at the substation on W. Fir Street that was going to disrupt our power at our Sewer Treatment Plant and had asked us if we could run on backup power during the project. Upon start up and warming up our generator, the water pump failed which caused us to lose power of our back up. We were able to have Firelands reschedule their project until we found a fix to our problem. We were able to rent a backup generator from Sunbelt Rentals out of Cleveland until we are able to get parts for ours. Our generator is part of the STP project to be replaced and updated. What a great exercise for us to go through at a good time. What happens when your back up fails?
- David Patton is done with his probation period. We recommend David be taken off probation and hired fulltime.

Storm Sewers

- East Hooker & East Washburn – crews plan on starting this project this week. We had to get some easement agreements before doing this project.
- Clinton Street – crews will be doing some work in the waterway along the road. This work is to protect the future of the road.

Sanitation

- Spring Clean Up – April 22 & 23 is Tuesday's Route and April 24 & 25 is Thursday's Route.
- Dumpsters will be out starting on Monday, April 1 thru 3:00 pm, Friday, April 26th at the Village Garage on West Fir Street for Village residents to use.

Street

- Potholes – with the crazy up and down temps. and the amount of moisture that is under the road we are going to have a lot of potholes. Please feel free to contact our office if you see one that is not getting addressed. 419-929-4091.
- Johnson Drive, Pearl Street, City Parking Lot – talked with WSOS last week trying to get a date when we can go to bid on these projects. The state has released the funds so now we are waiting to go to bid.

- Street Levy – council really needs to think about putting a levy on the November ballot for our streets. The funds we receive now cannot and will not fix our streets and there is little to no funding available that will allow us to do this, so if we want nice streets we must be willing to fund these ourselves.

Other

- Terry Wilson Memorial Deck – I have not heard anything new.
- We interviewed 5 candidates for the 2 part/time summer help positions at our Reservoir Park and Campground. I would like Councils permission to offer Mary Oney and Gayle Mancuso the positions starting at \$10.00 per/hour.

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 stated 10 of them had gone out the morning before to do roadside pickup north of town. They collected 22 bags full. He thought that was crazy to have that much.

John Martin then asked for a report from the Ambulance. Bill Curtis reported there were 57 runs for March. There were 29 in the Village of New London; four in New London Township; four in Ruggles Township; three in Troy Township; 15 in Fitchville Township. There were two Mutual Aids. There were 32 Basic Life Support transports and there were 25 Advanced Life Support transports. He concluded by saying they were getting ready to graduate their class so they will have seven new EMTs. They are all doing well and it looks like they are all going to pass.

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

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

Shawn Pickworth stated Joe Thomas was not in attendance but he had given council a report. The water and power is on at the campgrounds and he would like to thank Brian Cucco and the water department for helping turn on the water. There were quite a few leaks they had to fix but everything is up and running now. The reservoir campground will be open April 15th and he encouraged everyone to get their fees paid so they can camp. Joe Thomas would also like to thank Jason Griffitts for helping with the fields at the park. Jason spent most of the past weekend working on the t-ball diamonds, minor league diamond and the major league field. He donated his time and effort to make the fields look good. They will be holding an ATV/Motocross practice on Sunday, April 14th. The practice will be \$20 per rider and will be from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. weather permitting.

Shawn Pickworth added that the insurance company is currently taking a look at the village's ATV/Motocross track. He stated that a couple months ago a bike got away into the stands at an arena up by Cleveland. The question was asked at a park board meeting if the village had enough insurance on the ATV/Motocross track so he asked about it. The insurance company wants to look at the ATV/Motocross track and see what they have and make sure the village is doing the right things. It is just to take a look and

see how things are done and to take a look at the waivers. They want to take a look and make sure everything is being done right. They are going to come in and take a look at it within the next couple weeks.

John Martin presented Ordinance 2019-04 An Ordinance Changing the Rates for Utility Services. Third Reading. Cooke made a motion to approve the third reading. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

John Martin presented Resolution 2019-04 A Resolution Adopting the Huron County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Second Reading. Paramore made a motion to approve the second reading. Curtis seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

John Martin then called for Old Business.

John Martin stated he had something. He wanted to comment on the statements that were made at the last council meeting. John Martin then read the following statement.

Some people are making up quotes and telling others I have said things without me knowing what it is I am trying to defend myself for. False statements are being said of me stating I said and feel I need to answer.

At the March 25, 2019 New London Village Council meeting, Gayle Ashbaker brought up the subject of annexation accusing me of taking it upon myself to annex in properties on the west end of town and that I threatened them that I was going to annex them in or the Village would turn off their water.

She also stated “John Martin was saying the people on the west end of town don’t tell the truth.” She concluded by saying “Nobody in town tells the truth but John Martin.”

I want to answer those accusations she has presented about my being untrue and doing something without Village Council being aware of.

The minutes from the June 23, 2018 Village Council meeting reflect that I did indeed present the issue of annexation and wanted council’s thoughts on the subject. It was returned that Council agreed to allow me, Mayor John Martin, to move forward with pursuing the annexation.

I sent a letter to all property owners concerned, August 2018, stating I would like to meet with them to see if there is enough interest to proceed with annexing their properties into the Village. There was not enough interest to pursue, so it was dropped.

I do not know where she came up with this idea, but Gayle Ashbaker stated that there were four property owners who said different. I contacted all property owners about this and 6 of the 7 have signed a letter that I did not threaten them with water service shut-off. I have yet to be able to talk with the last property owner and WILL NOT speak for them.

What I ask is that you research and know the facts before accusing someone of false, malicious rumors.

John Martin then called for New Business.

Bill Curtis made a motion to allow the Village Administrator to hire Mary Oney and Gayle Mancuso as seasonal reservoir campground employees at \$10 per hour beginning April 15, 2019 and continue until no later than November 1st. Cooke seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Janice Myers made a motion to allow the Village Administrator to take David Patton off probation and become a regular full-time employee as of April 2, 2019. Cooke seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

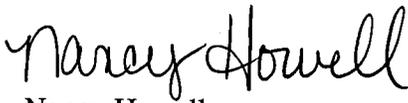
John Martin asked if there was any other new business. There was none.

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.

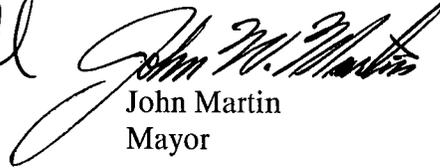
John Martin then presented the monthly bills for approval under Schedule B. Paramore made a motion to approve Schedule B. Ball seconded the motion. Roll call: Ball – yes; Paramore – yes; Willis – yes; Curtis – yes; Cooke – absent; Myers – disqualify herself.

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

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



Nancy Howell
Fiscal Officer



John Martin
Mayor