

NEW LONDON VILLAGE COUNCIL
Regular Meeting – Monday, September 23, 2019 @ 7 p.m.

Council President Stuart Cooke called the meeting to order due to the mayor arriving late due to a prior commitment. He then gave the invocation followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Also present: Chief Marko, Shawn Pickworth, Steve Bond, Lynn Phillips, Marvin McCallister, Steve Ball, Mary Oney, Megan Sherlund, Tacy Bond, Brian Speicher, John Chapin, Don Patton, Toby Thomas, Jake Mayhorn and Mary Jo Paramore.

Steve Bond asked if council was going to hold the zoning public hearing.

It was noted that the public hearing had been scheduled for 6:30 p.m. and no one had been in attendance.

Mr. Bond explained that they would still need to make a record.

Stuart Cooke addressed the audience and asked if anyone had any questions or concerns about the zoning amendment concerning parking spaces.

There were none.

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

The minutes from the September 9, 2019 regular council meeting were then presented for approval. Myers made a motion to approve the minutes. Ball seconded the motion. Roll call - All ayes; No one opposed.

John Martin arrived and said good evening to everyone and then asked for any public questions or statements. He asked anyone who had a question or concern to stand, state their name and they would be allotted three minutes to speak.

There were none so the mayor closed the floor to public questions and comments.

John Martin then called for a report from the Administrator.

Shawn reported the following.

Water

- Water Treatment Plant Improvement Project – Work continues. Crews are still working on plant startups; 1 new clear well is in service and 1 will hopefully be put into service this week. Once this happens crews will then start the demo of the old clear well.

- Water Tower – John Chapin, Don Patton and I met with Ed Spriggs from Practical Inspections this morning to discuss the plans moving forward on the communication project and additional tower improvements/repairs.

- GIS Project – project continues. Project is close to being completed.
- We have 3 new CDL drivers, good job David Patton, Chad Bilton and Matt Hardy for passing your test. Thank you to Brian, aka (Spike) for helping and getting these guys ready to take the test.

Wastewater

- Wastewater Treatment Plant Project – project is still under review by USDA-RD.
- Clarifiers – crews have been working on rebuilding one of the clarifiers. Once they have this one back in service, they will take the other one out of service and begin the same repairs.

Storm Sewers

Sanitation

- No Major Issues.

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.
- Village Parking Lot – talked to contractor today and they plan on paving Wednesday, September 25, 2019. I thought it was going to be done last week but the contractor had some issues at the job they were on and had to cancel last minute.
- Pearl Street, Johnson Drive – The villages share for paving these two streets was \$871.00, the remaining \$22,190.00 was paid for by CDBG funding. There was no cost of engineering or grant writing because that was all done in house.
 - Prospect/Euclid/Miner Road repaving. Bid opening was held on September 20, 2019 at 10:00 am, we had 6 contractors submit bids ranging from \$49,950.00 to \$59,380.00. The engineers estimate was \$67,200.00. Because the bids came in lower than expected for this time of year, it will allow us to extend the project by another 1000 feet. This project is being done using County Permissive Tax Funding. We can only use this money on a few certain roads within the village. This is controlled by our County Engineer. Thanks to our County Commissioners for adding this road back to our map. Council needs to decide tonight if they want this project done this year yet or wait until next spring. Please see information from Tim Bock, Poggemeyer Engineering. Waiting until the following year would allow for there to be additional money to use which would allow for more of the road to be completed.
- Road Levy – there will be a street levy on the November ballot for the Village of New London. If you want nice roads and a paving program within the Village, please vote yes. Our street funds right now cannot and will not support a paving program. We do as much as we can with the little funds we get. We have streets that are failing faster than we can repair. We do apply for all

grant funds we come across and we get some, but that alone will not keep our streets in good repair.

Other

- Terry Wilson Memorial Deck – talked with the engineer. The estimate has come back crazy high and he is asking for more time to get additional estimates.
- A Park Board Meeting this week will be Wednesday, at 6:30 pm in the Rec. Park.

John Martin asked if there were any 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 stated he really didn't have anything except they have been very, very busy unfortunately. He also wanted to let council know that the department received part of a countywide grant from FEMA for new portable and mobile radios. The fire department will be receiving six new mobiles and 25 new portables. He thought the village would only have to pay about 8% of the cost. The department will be working on it at their next meeting. John Chapin concluded by saying he hadn't heard anything about the SCBA grant. He hadn't heard that they had been denied though either so that was good news. He is still hopeful it will come through.

John Martin then asked for a report from the Ambulance. Bill Curtis stated he wanted to remind everyone about the membership drive the ambulance was having. The cost is \$50 per household.

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

John Martin then asked for a report from the Recreation Department. Megan Sherlund stated it had been going pretty well at the reservoir and recreation park. They did have a minor incident the previous weekend with an electrical box. Mary Oney had been able to get there and take care of the incident. The owners of the camper were not there. Mary Oney was able to unplug it so there was no fire started. BCU Electric had come out and they are going to give Megan a quote on fixing the electrical box. Megan Sherlund continued by saying they were working on end of the season activities, closing the campground and working on plans for next year.

John Martin asked if there were any questions for Megan Sherlund. There were none.

John Martin stated he needed a motion to bring Ordinance 2019-18 back to the floor since it had been tabled at the last council meeting. Paramore made a motion to bring Ordinance 2019-18 back to the floor. Curtis seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

John Martin presented Ordinance 2019-18 An Ordinance Amending Section 1118.13(A) of the Codified Ordinances, to Regulate Office Building Parking Spaces, and Declaring an Emergency. Third Reading. Myers made a motion to approve the third reading. Cooke seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

John Martin presented Ordinance 2019-22 An Ordinance Amending the Utility Rules Relative to Property Ownership, and Declaring an Emergency. Emergency Reading. Myers made a motion to suspend the rules to allow Ordinance 2019-22 to be passed on an emergency measure. Paramore seconded the motion. Roll call:

Ball, Yes; Curtis, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Absent; Paramore, Yes. Paramore made a motion to approve the emergency reading. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

John Martin presented Resolution 2019-09 A Resolution Accepting 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 2019-09 to be passed on an emergency measure. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call: Ball, Yes; Curtis, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Absent; Paramore, Yes. Myers made a motion to approve the emergency reading. Paramore 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.

Stuart Cooke stated he had received a call from a seasonal reservoir camper about the rates. Since they have to put a down payment on their site by October, they would like to know before then if council was going to increase rates so they could make an informed decision whether they want to stay or not stay at the campground. Stuart thought that as members of council, they should address the issue by the next council meeting. He then realized the next meeting would be in October so he wondered what they should do.

Janice Myers wondered if they should extend the deadline for camping deposits.

Stuart Cooke thought they could extend the deadline until council makes a decision.

Janice Myers agreed and said they could extend it until council gets it all figured out.

Jennifer Ball asked when the deposits were due.

Janice Myers replied that deposits were due by October 1st.

Jennifer Ball thought council should extend the due date.

Stuart Cooke stated they should extend the due date and then at the next council meeting they needed to make a decision on what the rates were going to be.

Janice Myers asked what they should extend the date to. She wondered if they should extend it until November 15th.

Bill Curtis thought they didn't have to extend it that long. He thought the middle of October would be enough time.

John Martin stated that someone would need to make a motion to extend the deadline.

Stuart Cooke made a motion to extend the deadline for seasonal camping deposits to reserve their site to October 20, 2019. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call: Ball, Yes; Curtis, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Absent; Paramore, Yes.

John Martin asked if council had a decision on what they wanted to do with Minor Road.

Bill Curtis made a motion to wait until May 1st of 2020 to move forward with the Prospect/Euclid/Minor Road repaving project and go with Gerken Paving who was the lowest bidder. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call: Ball, Yes; Curtis, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Absent; Paramore, Yes.

John Martin then turned the floor over to Tacy Bond, EMA 9-1-1 Coordinator.

Tacy Bond thanked John Martin and stated that she was the 9-1-1 Coordinator for the EMA office in Norwalk. She thanked council for allowing her to take a few minutes of their time. She handed out a brochure to everyone encouraging support of the 9-1-1 & Emergency Services Levy on the ballot in November. She stated she wanted to touch on a few key points about the levy. Tacy Bond began by stating that unfortunately the levy would be a property tax levy. The state is the one who sets how you can fund 9-1-1. Currently, 9-1-1 is being funded through the 25 cent fee on cell phone bills every month. It is listed on cell phone bills as a state 9-1-1 fee. Tacy Bond continued by saying every state around Ohio has a much higher 9-1-1 cell phone fee. She stated Michigan receives \$3 per cell phone and Pennsylvania receives \$1.00 per cell phone. If the state would raise the monthly cell phone fee to \$2.50, 9-1-1 would be fully funded and they would not need to go to the voters and ask for money. The state continues to push out mandates that they have to abide by. They are unfunded mandates because they only receive the 25 cent cell phone fee. That only adds up to \$120,000 a year for Huron County's 9-1-1. That is the only funding they have for 9-1-1. They do not receive any General Fund money and they are maxed out on sales tax so that is not an option. Tacy Bond felt that the best solution would be to raise the 9-1-1 cell phone fee because the cell phone users are the ones putting the burden on the 9-1-1 system. Also, those that don't own a home usually still have a cell phone. She thought that would be a little fairer, but until the 9-1-1 cell phone fee is increased, they are asking voters to help with the levy. It is a .725 mil levy. This would cost voters \$2.12 per month per \$100,000 valuation. She gave an example that a \$200,000 home would be an additional \$50 per year. Tacy Bond stated she had received feedback that it's not fair to put the cost all on property owners. She agrees 100% but added their hands are tied. The state legislators are the ones who make those rules and at this time they aren't willing to increase the cell phone 9-1-1 fee. If they would end up increasing the state cell phone 9-1-1 fee, they could roll the money back and not collect the full amount. They can adjust the amount of the levy.

Tacy Bond stated she had been receiving a lot of questions on what the money was going to be used for. Tacy commented that the Bellevue Police Department, Norwalk Police Department, Huron County Sheriff's Department and the Willard Police Department are the four main 9-1-1 dispatching centers. Residents in New London, Greenwich, Wakeman, Townsend and North Fairfield are dispatched by the Huron County Sheriff's Department. The money will be used to improve their equipment, networking costs, infrastructure repairs and communications. The 9-1-1 system in Huron County is 30 years old. They are still using copper 9-1-1 phone lines. Most companies are going to fiber because it sends more data through. Huron County has been getting estimates for fiber and they have been coming in at \$50,000 a year just for internet services basically. Other than the system being 30 years old and needing some TLC, Next Generation 9-1-1 begins rolling out in 2020. Next Generation 9-1-1 is just a fancy way of saying more data. It is more data to the 9-1-1 dispatch centers. It will allow texts to 9-1-1 and better location accuracy to 9-1-1 among other benefits. Once the state of Ohio rolls out Next Generation 9-1-1, the county will have five years to comply. Tacy Bond continued by saying that the issue was it would take about three years to get the ball rolling in the right direction. It all takes time so they are trying to take the steps now so they can be proactive. Their 30-year-old system has just been receiving band aids and it is time to take a proactive approach and get the system up to grade. Tacy Bond wanted to emphasize that the levy would not be used on wages. It is only for equipment, networking, infrastructure and communications. She concluded by saying they were just trying to do what was best for the communities. They want to make things safer for the citizens and the responders alike.

John Martin asked if there were any questions for Tacy Bond.

Bill Curtis asked if the levy doesn't pass, would the communities still be responsible for paying.

Tacy Bond answered that most likely they would be. Currently, they have a plan B which would have them revert back to the early 80's where the villages were billed by the EMA for their services but she knows the village's probably don't have the money for that. Nobody really does. She again stated she agreed 100% that

it shouldn't be on property taxes. She owns a home too but unfortunately until the state gives them more options, this is what they need to do.

Bill Curtis responded by saying he was a Sheriff's Deputy so he knows how mandates come down the pike. If the state says you will do this, you have no choice.

Tacy Bond replied that was true. The state is mandating that you have to have two employees per shift. They have gotten away with it so far because they allow automatic rollover to different agencies. The smaller agencies like Willard, Norwalk and Bellevue usually only have one on per shift but because the calls automatically roll over to a neighboring agency, they fit in that standard. Tacy Bond stated she is waiting because she thinks the next standard will be that they will have to have two employees per each agency and there just isn't enough money for it. Also it is hard to find someone who wants to work that kind of job. She did it for 20 years and it is a hard job. It is very demanding.

Bill Curtis stated that he works in Lorain County and they have centralized dispatch.

Tacy Bond commented that she thinks Lorain County is funded by a two-million-dollar levy. She said she gets asked a lot why Huron County isn't centralizing. The only thing she can say about that is in the political climate they have with all the entities that are participating, you have to have someone who says "let's do it". Right now that would be under the control of the sheriff's department, and he physically couldn't do it at his office. They would have to build another standalone building. There just isn't enough room in his current office. Tacy Bond continued by saying everyone says that would save money. It would save money eventually but up front they wouldn't. They had done a study for Huron County and she believes they had said it would be three million dollars to start centralized dispatch and then you would need 1.2 million dollars each year to run it. There are 25 dispatchers in the county right now. You would still need those 25 dispatchers. They would just be moved to a different office. Then for everybody who is outside the City of Norwalk essentially has centralized dispatch. Willard has police, fire and EMS right out of their agency for that community. The sheriff's office basically does it for everybody else except for Norwalk. What they are trying to do is consolidate without physically consolidating. They all use the same computer system. They are working toward the same standardized guidelines so whether someone calls 9-1-1 in New London or calls 9-1-1 in Willard they will get the same level of service. That is what they are trying to do and to get rid of 9-1-1 transfers.

John Martin asked if the audience had any questions for Tacy Bond.

Steve Ball asked if the levy passes what the timeline would be.

Tacy Bond answered that within the first six to eight months she would like to get the new 9-1-1 piece added which would add text to 9-1-1 and better location accuracy. From there they would then roll out the records management and everything else. She is hoping that within the first six to eight months of next year they will be able to start the process but it is a slow process.

John Martin thanked Tacy Bond.

Tacy Bond stated she would leave extra brochures for anyone who wanted one and she brought yard signs for anyone to take also. Tacy Bond ended by thanking everyone for their time.

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

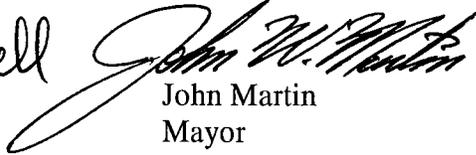
John Martin then presented the Then and Now bills for approval under Schedule B. Myers made a motion to approve Schedule B. Curtis seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Janice Myers made a motion to enter into executive session to consider the compensation of a village employee or official. Curtis seconded the motion. Roll call: Ball, Yes; Curtis, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Absent; 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, Absent; Paramore, Yes.

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


Nancy Howell
Fiscal Officer


John Martin
Mayor