

NEW LONDON VILLAGE COUNCIL

Regular Meeting – Monday, April 12, 2021 @ 7 p.m.

Mayor Toby Thomas 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: Willis, Gullett, Steve Ball, Cooke and Myers. Jennifer Ball was absent.

Also present: Ellen Simmons, Steve Bond, Joe Hicks, Marvin McCallister, Shawn Pickworth, Buddy Workman, Joe Thomas, John Chapin and Lynne Phillips.

Toby Thomas asked for approval of the agenda. Cooke made a motion to approve the agenda. Gullett seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

The minutes from the March 22, 2021 regular meeting were then presented for approval. Gullett made a motion to approve the minutes. Steve Ball seconded the motion. Roll call: Willis, Yes; Gullett, Yes; Steve Ball, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Jennifer Ball, Absent; Myers, Abstain.

Toby Thomas asked if there were any public questions or statements.

Ellen Simmons asked when the reservoir campground would be opening.

Joe Thomas replied that it would be opening on April 30th.

Toby Thomas called for a report from the Administrator.

Water

- Park Avenue Water Main Replacement Project – Last week I found out we have a grant agreement from the State which allows the environmental study to move forward. Once this is completed we will be ready to go to bid on this project. Hoping to go to bid mid-summer.
- Lead Service Line Replacement Project – Don Patton, John Chapin, Cole Risner, Brian Cucco and I met with engineers from Poggemeyer Design on March 24, 2021 to kick off this project. Council has legislation before you tonight for this project.

Wastewater

- Wastewater Treatment Plant Project – Bid opening was held on March 23, 2021. The project had 3 bids ranging from the lowest being \$2, 125,606.00 to \$2,585,000.00. Council has some legislation before them tonight. USDA-RD has given the okay for the contacts to be sent out for signing. Hoping to get this project started by late spring, early summer.
- OWDA is offering a refinancing program for any USDA-RD Loans at a lower interest rate. This could potentially save the Village over \$686,000.00 in interest over the term of the loan. It will increase our yearly payments by around \$10,000.00. The cost to apply for this funding is \$1500.00. Council has legislation before you tonight to allow us to apply for this funding.

Stuart Cooke asked if it would shorten the length of the term of the loan.

Shawn Pickworth replied that it would shorten the term by 10 years.

Storm Sewers

- Nothing major.

Sanitation

- No major issues.
- **Spring Cleanup** – The Village will be having spring cleanup this year starting Sunday, April 18 – Saturday, May 1, 2021. This year spring cleanup will be a little different. We will have set times that rubble can be brought to the City Garage, 101 West Fir Street, adhering to the guidelines that follow. Dumpsters will be set out behind our fenced in area where New London residents (only) will be able to bring their rubble. We will have an employee onsite to direct residents and to check drivers' license. The times are as follows:
Weekend Hours - Sunday, April 18th, Saturday, April 24th, Sunday, April 25th and Saturday, May 1st – hours of operation will be **9 am – 7 pm**.
Weekday Hours – Monday, April 19th thru Friday, April 23rd and Monday, April 26th thru Friday, April 30th hours of operation will be **8 am – 7 pm**.

There will be no curbside pickup.

Rules:

1. **THE FOLLOWING ITEMS CAN NOT BE DISPOSED OF IN THE DUMPSTERS:** Asbestos materials, Gas or Fuel Tanks, Chemicals, Paint, Yard Waste, Sod/Dirt/Rocks/Concrete, Tires or Batteries.

Note: Brush Clippings will be picked up at a different time.

This clean-up is for New London Village Residents Only.

Street

- Potholes – Please feel free to contact our office if you see one that is not getting addressed. 419-929-4091.

Other

- Asking Council permission to purchase a 2005 International for \$10,000. This will be set up as our main project vehicle. I have provided council with pics of the truck.
- Terry Wilson Deck – replacement of the Terry Wilson Memorial Deck will begin around the end of the month. Project is expected to be completed around June 1st.

Janice Myers asked what the mileage was on the truck he wanted to purchase.

Shawn Pickworth answered that the mileage was around 79,000.

Toby Thomas stated he did not really have anything but he wanted to encourage everyone to continue following the pandemic guidelines. He thanked everyone for the work they have done to keep the village residents and employees as safe as possible.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from the police. Chief Joe Hicks gave the following report.

In 2019 House Bill 1 was created pertaining to sealing and expunging records. Part of that bill also included procedures for restraining pregnant and postpartum females. This bill was signed into law in December, 2020 and went into effect today, 04/12/2021.

As a result, New London officers have been busy reviewing this new law and watching a video that was created by the state outlining these new requirements and repercussions if the new law is not followed.

Part-time officer, Jacob Johnson has also submitted his resignation effective immediately.

As a result of his resignation, I would ask that members of council allow me to hire Andrew Pettry, part-time at a rate of \$12.00 per hour. Andrew is current on all of his state requirements. Furthermore, he has nearly 5 years of law enforcement experience. That includes serving with New London from 06/03/2016 until 08/16/2018. He also has experience with Smithville Police Department and LaGrange Police Department.

My intentions would be for Ofc. Pettry to assist with 3rd shift coverage in the absence of Ofc. Ginley when he is tending to his National Guard duties, along with any other vacancies that may exist along the way.

Respectfully,

Chief Hicks

Stuart Cooke stated that he had been contacted with a concern about certain trucking companies speeding in the early morning hours.

Chief Joe Hicks asked if it was a certain area on South Main Street and asked which trucking companies it was.

Details were given and Chief Joe Hicks promised to keep an eye on the situation.

Stuart Cooke made a motion to allow Chief Joe Hicks to hire Andrew Pettry as a part-time police officer at a rate of \$12 per hour. Gullett seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from fire. Fire Chief John Chapin stated it had been a quiet year so far which is a very good thing. He also wanted to update council on some firefighters that had been added to the department but due to Covid had not been able to complete the necessary training. These firefighters will begin their certification at the end of April.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from the ambulance. Jennifer Ball absent.

Toby Thomas then introduced Buddy Workman the new zoning inspector for the Village of New London.

Buddy Workman stated he had hit the ground running and had already received several complaints.

It was noted that anyone needing the zoning inspector should contact the village office. The village is looking into a possible cell phone to be used specifically for zoning.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from Recreation.

Joe Thomas presented the following.

- The water at the reservoir and park were turned on last week. We only had one leak that needed fixed.
- At the rec park we have been working hard getting everything mowed and round-up sprayed around everything. We have also been using the leaf vac to get all the leaves cleaned up. The rain we got last week slowed us down a bit but we will get them cleaned up.
- We also have put up the sand volleyball nets at the park.
- Once again, the park is starting to get very busy every night so please watch your speed, the speed limit in the park is 10mph.
- At the reservoir Mary and the guys are working hard to get things in order for opening day.
- We installed a new swing set at the reservoir last week. It will be a nice addition to the playground by the beach.
- Boca construction will be grinding some roads tomorrow, on Thursday Riley construction will start the paving. I would like to thank Boca for donating their time for this project.

Steve Ball asked Joe Thomas if they would be opening the campground for cleanup weekends.

Joe Thomas replied that the campground would be open April 17th, 18th, 24th and 25th. He also noted that since the weather had been so nice he had opened it a few times already to allow people to start the cleanup process and he thinks it has helped because the campground is looking very nice.

Joe Thomas then asked for council to approve the pay scale for the seasonal recreation employees.

Shawn Pickworth stated that Joe Thomas has completed his probation period so he would like council's permission to take him off probation and become a permanent full-time employee for the Village of New London.

Stuart Cooke made a motion to hire Joe Thomas as a permanent full-time employee. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Steve Ball made a motion to approve the following pay scale for seasonal recreation employees.

Charlie Crawford	\$10.50
Frank Murr	\$10.50
Andy Odell	\$10.50
Brittney Roeder	\$10.50
Tom Howell	\$10.50
Eric Mitchell	\$10.50
Bailey Cucco	\$10
Jori Hunter	\$10
Grace Popa	\$10

Gullett seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Ordinance 2021-12 An Ordinance to Approve Current Replacement Pages to the New London Codified Ordinances and Declaring an Emergency. Third Reading. Myers made a motion to approve the third reading. Steve Ball seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Ordinance 2021-14 An Ordinance Enacting a New Chapter 957 of the Codified Ordinances, Relative to the Memorial Committee. Second Reading. Steve Ball made a motion to approve the second reading. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Ordinance 2021-16 An Ordinance Authorizing the Village Administrator to Enter into an Agreement with North Bay Construction, Inc., for the Construction and Installation of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Headworks and Process Improvement Project, and Declaring an Emergency. Emergency Reading. Steve Ball made a motion to allow Ordinance 2021-16 to be passed on an emergency measure. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call: Jennifer Ball, Absent; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Steve Ball, Yes; Gullett, Yes. Myers made a motion to approve the emergency reading. Cooke seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Ordinance 2021-17 An Ordinance Authorizing a Cooperative Agreement for Construction of the Village Sanitary Sewer Project Between the Village of New London and the Ohio Water Development Authority and Declaring an Emergency. Emergency Reading. Gullett made a motion to allow Ordinance 2021-17 to be passed on an emergency measure. Steve Ball seconded the motion. Roll call: Jennifer Ball, Absent; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Steve Ball, Yes; Gullett, Yes. Myers made a motion to approve the emergency reading. Gullett seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Ordinance 2021-18 An Ordinance Authorizing the Village Administrator to Apply for, Accept, and Enter into a Cooperative Agreement Between the Village of New London and the Ohio Water Development Authority for the Refinancing of Village Sanitary Sewer Improvement Project the Proceeds of Which Were Used for the Purpose of Construct or Reconstruct Improvements to its Existing Sanitary Sewer System at Various Locations Within the Village and Declaring an Emergency. Emergency Reading. Steve Ball made a motion to allow Ordinance 2021-18 to be passed on an emergency measure. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call: Jennifer Ball, Absent; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Steve Ball, Yes; Gullett, Yes. Cooke made a motion to approve the emergency reading. Gullett seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Resolution 2021-04 A Resolution Authorizing Participation in the ODOT Road Salt Contracts Awarded in 2021. Second Reading. Steve Ball made a motion to approve the second reading. Gullett seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Resolution 2021-05 A Resolution in the Matter of Determining Emergency Management Service for the Political Subdivision of the Village of New London. Second Reading. Gullett made a motion to approve the second reading. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Resolution 2021-06 A Resolution Allowing the Village of New London to Apply for Financial Assistance Through the Ohio NatureWorks Program. Second Reading. Willis made a motion to approve the second reading. Steve Ball seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Resolution 2021-07 A Resolution Authorizing the Village Administrator to Apply for, Accept, and Enter into a Water Supply Revolving Loan Account (WSRLA) Agreement on Behalf of the Village of New London, Huron County, Ohio for Planning, Design and/or Construction of Water Facilities; and Designating a Dedicated Repayment for Source for the Loan and Declaring an Emergency. Emergency Reading. Gullett made a motion to allow Resolution 2021-07 to be passed on an emergency measure. Steve Ball seconded the motion. Roll call: Jennifer Ball, Absent; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Steve Ball, Yes; Gullett, Yes. Myers made a motion to approve the emergency reading. Gullett seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then called for Old Business.

There was none.

Toby Thomas then called for New Business.

Steve Ball made a motion to allow the Village Administrator to purchase a 2005 International Truck for \$10,000. Gullett seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented the monthly bills for approval under Schedule A. Willis made a motion to approve the bills as presented. Cooke seconded the motion. Roll call - All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented the monthly bills for approval under Schedule B. Steve Ball made a motion to approve Schedule B. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call: Jennifer Ball, Absent; Steve Ball, Yes; Willis, Yes; Gullett, Yes; Myers, Disqualify; Cooke, Abstain

Toby Thomas then presented the bills under schedule C, Then and Now. Myers made a motion to approve Schedule C. Cooke seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Janice Myers stated before they went into executive session, she has had several people ask when the Village Office will be opening.

Shawn Pickworth answered that the village was finishing up with some changes to the office to allow a safer environment for employees and customers from Covid-19. Once the changes are complete, the office would be opening. He thought it could possibly even be by the end of the week.

Stuart Cooke made a motion to enter into an executive informational session to receive information relative to potential commercial development. No discussions or deliberations by council will be permitted. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call: Jennifer Ball, Absent; Steve Ball, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Gullett, Yes.

Steve Ball made a motion to return to regular session. Cooke seconded the motion. Roll call: Jennifer Ball, Absent; Steve Ball, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Gullett, Yes.

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

 

Nancy Howell
Fiscal Officer

Toby Thomas
Mayor