

NEW LONDON VILLAGE COUNCIL
Regular Meeting – Monday, January 24, 2022 @ 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: Steve Ball, Gullett, Chapin, and Roeder. Jennifer Ball absent.

Also present: Ellen Simmons, Joe Hicks, Steve Bond, Lynne Phillips, Joe Thomas, Chet Blanton, Mike Dyer, John Chapin and Shawn Pickworth.

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

The minutes from the January 10, 2022 regular meeting were then presented for approval. Gullett made a motion to approve the minutes. Roeder seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

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

Ellen Simmons stated she was working on the town event cards. If anyone knows of any events to be on the card, please let her know. She hopes they will be out by the end of February. These cards are paid for by the Community Club.

Ellen Simmons then announced that the United Fund would be accepting applications for grants. Contact Mary Lou Harris or Brad Romano if your organization or group is interested in applying for funding.

Ellen Simmons concluded by explaining the upcoming rotary/music boosters March raffle. This year's profit will be split between Rails to Trails and an international project called Shelter Boxes. Ticket prices are \$5 each. Each day in March a name is drawn and a cash prize will be given. Only 1,000 tickets are sold. Anyone interested in purchasing tickets can contact Ellen or any Rotarian or music booster.

Mike Dyer stood and stated he had recently purchased 24 East Main Street, the PNC bank building. The parking lot behind the building is used by many members of the community. Because of this, his request was that the village take care of snow removal in the parking lot.

Members of council, the mayor and Shawn Pickworth discussed the request. They asked for input from Mr. Bond. Mr. Bond suggested Mr. Dyer provide a license to the Village of New London allowing the parking lot behind PNC to be used as a community parking lot. This would allow the village to remove snow from that area. Mr. Bond will draw something up.

Toby Thomas called for a report from the Administrator.

Shawn Pickworth shared the following report:

Water

- Park Avenue Water Main Replacement Project – We are out to bid now.
- Lead Service Line Replacement Project – Bid opening was held January 13, 2022. Council has legislation before them tonight to award the project.

Wastewater

- Wastewater Treatment Plant Project – construction continues.

Storm Sewers

- Nothing major.

Sanitation

- No major issues.

Street

- Potholes – Please feel free to contact our office if you see one that is not getting addressed. 419-929-4091.
- West Washburn Project – hoping to go to bid late January, early February.
- Downtown Improvements – application finished.
- Snow Events – we have had a couple of snow events so far this year. Crews are doing a great job keeping the snow cleaned up. Thank You. Reminder, help our plow drivers out by parking off street when a snow event is in the forecast and please give our drivers plenty of space to operate.

Other

- Village Office is closed to the public at this time for illnesses. We are and have been battling Covid within all our crews. Please be patient with us, we hope to open back up in a couple of weeks.

Steve Ball asked Shawn to pass on to the crews that their time has been noticed and the work they are doing is appreciated.

Steve Bond added that he had come from Cleveland and passes through many different municipalities. He did not feel safe on the roads until he entered the Village of New London. He thought the village crews had done a great job.

Toby Thomas had no report to share for the evening.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from the police. Police Chief Joe Hicks had nothing to report.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from fire. Fire Chief John Chapin had nothing to report.

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

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from zoning. Buddy Workman absent.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from recreation. Joe Thomas stated he knew the “Old School Property” was in the process of being sold. He asked council if they would allow the recreation department to receive the money from the sale of the land. He was asking for the money because the recreation department had maintained the land over the years by mowing it to save the village thousands of dollars every year. Joe Thomas felt the recreation department should receive the funds as payment for the service that was provided. He would use the funds to upgrade some of the electric at the reservoir campground.

After discussing his request, it was decided to allow the recreation department to receive the funds.

Steve Ball made a motion to allow the proceeds from the sale of the “Old School Property” to be deposited into the Recreation Improvement Fund. Gullett seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas presented Ordinance 2022-01 (as amended) An Ordinance Amending and Restating the Rules of Village Council. Second Reading. Gullett made a motion to approve the second reading. Roeder seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then approved Ordinance 2022-02 An Ordinance Amending and Restating Chapter 955 of the Codified Ordinances, Relative to Parks. 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 called for Old Business.

Joe Thomas stated he had one more thing to add. He had been approved by the Fireland’s Electric Peoples Fund for \$2500 for lumber for picnic tables.

Toby Thomas then called for New Business.

Shawn Pickworth presented Inspire New London’s request to close Main Street on July 23, 2022 and October 29, 2022.

Gullett made a motion to close Main Street to allow Inspire New London to hold a Christmas in July event on July 23, 2022 and a Halloween event on October 29, 2022. Roeder seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

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

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

Steve Ball made a motion to enter into executive session to consider the appointment of a Village Official and to confer with Village Legal Council concerning a dispute involving the Village that is possibly the subject of pending or imminent court action. Roll call: Gullett, Yes; Steve Ball, Yes; Jennifer Ball, Absent; Chapin, Yes; Roeder, Yes.

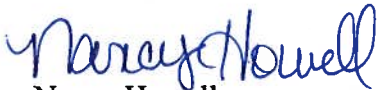
Steve Ball made a motion to return to regular session. Chapin seconded the motion. Roll call: Gullett, Yes; Steve Ball, Yes; Jennifer Ball, Absent; Chapin, Yes; Roeder, Yes.

Gullett made a motion to accept Chet Blanton as the new member of council. Roeder seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas presented Ordinance 2022-03 An Ordinance Authorizing the Village Administrator to Enter into a Contract with Dirt Dawg Excavating, LLC for the New London Lead Service Line Replacement, and Declaring an Emergency. There were not enough council members to pass this ordinance on an emergency measure so only a first reading was done.

Steve Ball made a motion to approve the first reading. Roeder seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

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



Nancy Howell
Fiscal Officer



Toby Thomas
Mayor