
NEW LONDON VILLAGE COUNCIL
Regular Meeting – Monday, May 10, 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, Jennifer Ball and Myers. Cooke was absent.

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

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

The minutes from the April 26, 2021 regular meeting were then presented for approval. Gullett made a motion to approve the minutes. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

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

There were none.

Toby Thomas called for a report from the Administrator.

Shawn Pickworth reported the following:

Water

- Park Avenue Water Main Replacement Project – Waiting on the environmental to be completed.
- Lead Service Line Replacement Project – crews have been out investigating/identifying services to be included in the project. Funding Application has been submitted.
- Backflow/Cross Contamination Inspections – crews have been out in the Twp. conducting the annual inspections per OEPA rules and guidelines.

Wastewater

- Wastewater Treatment Plant Project – We are ready to close on the funding with the USDA-RD. Closing has been set for May 19, 2021. An email has been sent out to all parties involved. Contractor will start moving equipment in this week.
- OWDA Refinancing program for USDA-RD Loan – application has been submitted. If approved the Village will save over \$600,000.00 over the life of the loan.

Storm Sewers

- Nothing major.

Sanitation

- No major issues.

- Spring Cleanup – 226.18 tons of trash was taken to the landfill during spring clean-up. Compared to last year's 256.15 tons.

Street

- Potholes – Please feel free to contact our office if you see one that is not getting addressed. 419-929-4091.
- West Washburn Project – small government board will meet on May 13, 2021 to approve scores and award projects, we should know something the same day.
- We are updating our ratings of our streets. I feel it is important to have recent data available for funding opportunities should they become available.

Other

- Terry Wilson Deck – the demo of the old deck has been completed. Construction of the new deck will happen late summer, early fall.
- We intend on opening the Village Office to the public on Monday, May 17, 2021. We have a few touch up items we want to finish on the lobby this week before opening.
- The Eagle's would like Council's permission to sell alcohol on June 26, 2021 at the Reservoir Park for the Country Concert.

Steve Ball made a motion to allow the Eagle's to sell alcohol on June 26, 2021 at the Reservoir Park for the Country Concert. Gullett seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas stated he did not have a report but he wanted to thank everyone for their prayers for his wife Sherri.

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

Regarding the proposed change to ordinance 351.15 (Downtown parking). I will draft a permit and speak with our local graphics company about making the permit out of a durable material to withstand the elements, while on display. If Council chooses, I can provide you with a copy of the prototype before it's made.

Last week I spoke with Steven Ricks of Statewide Ford in Van Wert, OH. regarding the purchase of a new police cruiser. They were awarded the state contract this year. He is in the process of getting me quotes for cruiser models from each of the "big 3". His quote will break down the cost of the cruiser in addition to the cost to outfit it. Once I receive that information I will present you with it at the next meeting.

I was also recently advised our dispatching fees are going up by \$20.00 per month. However, it should also be noted that these fees are now covered by the 911 levy funds, meaning no cost to the Village.

Steve Ball stated that if Chief Hicks came up with a professional looking prototype for the parking permit, he did not feel that it needed to be brought before council for approval. They would trust Chief Hicks in his choosing of the permit. Steve Ball also asked if the police department could be on the lookout for speeders on East Main as well as South Main.

Chief Joe Hicks assured Steve Ball that he would make sure an officer gave special attention to that area.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from fire. Fire Chief John Chapin shared the following report.

ISO is a company that inspects fire departments on their equipment, response, water supply and communications. This inspection happens every 10 years. Insurance companies use this rating to set their rates for the different fire jurisdictions. I have been through 5 of these inspections as either Supt. Of Water or Fire Chief or both. The first one was with Dean Bailey as Fire Chief and we were rated at a Class 8/10. Dean and the department worked hard and we were classified the next time to a Class 7/10. When I took over as Chief in 1994, the next inspection we made it to a Class 6/9 and stayed there for the next inspection. This year through the efforts of the active firefighters and big improvements in our communications through the county dispatching we were able to drop another class to a Class 5/5y. This newer rating has an effective date of August 1, 2021 and the residences in the village should notice a decrease in their insurance premium. Some insurance companies use this rating for structures within 2 miles of the station and some use 5 miles for their rate schedule. I want to thank the department and Sheriff Corbin for making this possible.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from the ambulance. Jennifer Ball stated she had nothing to share.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from zoning. Buddy Workman shared the following report with members of council.

Issued 2 Zoning Permits 1 fence, 1 pool.

1 applicant has filed for a variance.

Address on First Street received a warning letter and since that date some improvements have been made.

Address on 92.5 South Main has been turned over to the Huron County Health Department.

Address on 100 South Main, currently trying to find the owner. Working with Chief Hicks on this complaint.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from Recreation.

Joe Thomas was absent but had presented members of council with the following report.

- The reservoir opened last weekend. All seasonal campers are paid. We have had a couple seasonal campers pull out so we have some seasonal spots to fill. Mary is working on the list and calling to fill them.
- I turned in an application for operation round-up at Firelands electric to build new picnic tables. We are in need of picnic tables at both the parks.
- I have been in the process of calling all the campers for Labor Day camping. Once I contact them, all the contracts for camping will be sent out.
- I went to B and L Firearms last week and paid for half of the guns for our gun raffle on Nov. 20. We are hoping to have a list of all the guns by the end of the week so we can get flyers and tickets printed.
- **Res project expenditure**
 - Stone \$14,112.35
 - Core & Main \$6,458.05
 - Keen pump \$12,374.30
 - Neilco \$29.30
 - RWW \$500.00
 - NORW \$1000.00
 - NORW employees \$1000.00
 - WOLF BROS \$3793.18
 - COUNTRY TOOL RENTAL \$79.10

STEINERS EQUIPMENT \$970.00

TOTAL \$40,316.28

- **Res project budget**

CSX FUND \$40,000

FRIENDS OF THE PARK \$10,000

NEW LONDON PARK IMPR. CORP \$1,665.11

TOTAL \$51,665.11

- Right now, we still owe BCU electric a total of \$25,716.00 that would put our total for the projects over or \$51,665.11. The total for our project is \$66,032.28. So, we would need an additional \$14,367.17 to finish the project. As you can see, that is almost what we spent on stone. That is one factor that I did not take into consideration. We had some old road grindings at the hoover building that we started with and they did not go as far as we thought. I was asking council to allow us to pay the rest of our bills for the project out of the CSX fund. We have done a lot of work out at the reservoir this year and things are looking great.
- I am sorry I was not here tonight but I am at a meeting at the American legion. I have asked them to help with some projects at the park and they asked me if I could come to their meeting tonight and talk about the parks and what our plans are. Thank you for all your support in the park systems.

Toby Thomas presented Ordinance 2021-19 An Ordinance Giving Approval and Granting Consent to the Director of the Ohio Department of Transportation Authority to, Apply, Maintain and Repair Standard Longitudinal Pavement Markings and Erect Regulatory and Warning Signs on State Highways Inside Village Corporate Limits, and Giving Consent of the Village for the Ohio Department of Transportation to Remove Snow and Ice Control Material on State Highways Inside the Village Corporate Limits, and Giving Consent of the Village for the Ohio Department of Transportation to Perform Maintenance and/or Repair on State Highways Inside the Village Corporation. Second Reading. Myers made a motion to approve the second reading. Willis seconded the motion. Roll Call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Ordinance 2021-21 An Ordinance Amending Section 351.15 of the Codified Ordinances, Relative to Residential Parking Permits Within the Downtown Residential Area. First Reading. Steve Ball made a motion to approve the first reading. Jennifer Ball seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Ordinance 2021-22 An Ordinance Amending Section 143.11 of the Codified Ordinances and the Employee Handbook and Personnel Policies, Relative to Hours Worked. First Reading. Gullett made a motion to approve the first reading. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then called for Old Business.

Steve Ball commented that he had noticed in Joe Thomas' park report that he was asking for permission to use more CSX money in order to finish the reservoir project currently being worked on.

Toby Thomas asked members of council if there was any discussion on the increase. There was none.

Steve Ball made a motion to allow for the additional expenditure from the CSX Fund. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then called for New Business.

Toby Thomas presented Pastor Doug Lang and Brad Pickens from the New London Alliance Church. They attended the meeting to present to members of council the church's vision of a community center for the surrounding area. The church is interested in purchasing the land behind Dollar General from the Village of New London. They presented information supporting their vision and all the services the community center would make available. They also expressed how the central area of the land they are interested in would be easily accessible to most everyone in the area.

Members of council appeared interested in their proposal. More information to come on this project.

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

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

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

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



Nancy Howell
Fiscal Officer



Toby Thomas
Mayor