

NEW LONDON VILLAGE COUNCIL
Regular Meeting – Monday, October 12, 2020 @ 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: Myers, Cooke, Jennifer Ball, Willis, Gullett and Steve Ball.

Also present: Chief Marko, Shawn Pickworth, Ellen Simmons, Megan Sherlund, Steve Bond, Marvin McCallister, Don Patton, Brian Cucco and Lynn Phillips.

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

The minutes from the September 28, 2020 regular meeting were then presented for approval. Steve Ball made a motion to approve the minutes. Gullett seconded the motion. Roll call - All ayes; no one opposed.

Toby Thomas stated that they had started posting information about sending in questions for council ahead of time so that they can be addressed during the meeting. Also, the village was still offering people to join the meeting via Google Meet. Toby stated that he had not received any questions so far and no one had joined Google Meet.

Ellen Simmons stated that the CIC would be meeting on October 20th at the Alliance Church at noon. They will be meeting to consider disbanding the organization. The following week on October 27th the Community Club will be meeting at 9 a.m. at the Wildcat Café.

Toby Thomas then called for a report from the Administrator.

Shawn then reported the following.

Water

- Park Avenue Water Main Replacement Project – Looking at our options for funding.

Wastewater

- Wastewater Treatment Plant Project – The USDA-RD seems to have finished the plan review process and have started reviewing bid documents.

Storm Sewers

- Nothing major.

Sanitation

- No major issues.
- I will be reviewing applicants with Council tonight during executive session for possible employment.

Street

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

- OPWC Funding – we are working on the funding application for the West Washburn Improvement project. Applications are due the first week of November.

Other

- Columbia Gas Project – project continues. Don and I met with the project manager last week. Crews are expected to finish for the year in the next month. At the time of the meeting, crews had around 60 services to replace.
- Cares Act Money – the Grant Review Committee met last Friday and review 8 applications. One application was recommended for approval; 7 others are on hold pending additional information needed per guidelines of the grant. The committee will be meeting again once the information needed has been collected. We would like Council's approval to have a second round for this grant funding for businesses and we would like to include all businesses within the 44851-area code. The Village has been given approximately another \$80,000 for the use of Cares Act Funding.

Steve Ball made a motion to allow a second round of grant applications for the Cares Act Money and to extend eligibility to the entire 44851 zip code. Cooke seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas stated the only thing he had was he wanted to thank Stuart Cooke for running the previous meeting for him since he had been on vacation.

Toby Thomas then asked Brian Cucco for his cemetery report.

Brian Cucco thanked council for fitting him into the meeting that evening. He stated that the cemetery was in need of a rate increase. The cemetery board had met and he passed out a paper listing the new prices that would begin on October 19, 2020. Brian explained that mowing costs for the cemetery were increasing and the cemetery had not had an increase in prices since 2016. Brian Cucco concluded by saying the Friends of the Cemetery was beginning a fundraiser in November for future cemetery projects.

Toby Thomas asked Brian Cucco if a \$25 rate increase was enough.

Brian Cucco replied that what they really needed to do was come up with a schedule to have smaller increases more often instead of waiting four or five years for a rate increase.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from the Police Chief. Chief Marko stated he didn't have anything unless someone had something for him.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from the Fire Department. Fire Chief John Chapin absent.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from the Ambulance. Jennifer Ball stated September had been another busy month with 52 runs. There were 36 runs in the Village of New London; three were in New London Township; seven were in Fitchville Township; five in Troy Township and one in Ruggles Township. Jennifer Ball then announced that Firelands Ambulance would have a levy on the ballot in November. It will be a replacement because it will be based off the new property values. The previous values were based on values from the 1980's. It is a tax levy of 1 mil for five years. Firelands Ambulance services about 5,500 residents and New London is very lucky to have them. They have a really good group of volunteers. Jennifer Ball finished by saying she just wanted to make everyone aware of the levy.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from Zoning. Bob James absent.

Toby Thomas then asked Megan Sherlund for a report for the Recreation Department. Megan Sherlund shared that the reservoir was in its final week of camping. She also shared that they had created new tags for those who had paid for the extended camping. So far, there is only one seasonal spot open for next camping season. Trunk or Treat will be at the Recreation Park on October 24th. There will be food for sale in the Thomas Building for the event along with the opportunity to participate in Spooky Sales. For a \$10 fee, vendors can pass out candy and sell their products to those attending the event. They are looking at a possible Breakfast with Santa and the Recreation Committee will be using the Hileman Building during Hometown Holidays.

Toby Thomas then presented Ordinance 2020-28 An Ordinance Authorizing an Agreement with the Ohio Attorney General for Delinquent Debt Collection Services. Third Reading. Cooke made a motion to approve the third reading. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Ordinance 2020-30 An Ordinance Amending Sections 1116.01 and 1116.05 of the Codified Ordinances, and Rezoning the Property Located at 107 West Main Street, to a “Public Parks and Open Space Zoning Use District”. First Reading. Steve Ball made a motion to approve the first reading. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Ordinance 2020-31 An Ordinance Amending the 2020 Annual Appropriations Ordinance by Authorizing the Transfer of Certain Funds and Appropriations as Needed for Operations, and Declaring an Emergency. Emergency Reading. Steve Ball made a motion to suspend the rules to allow Ordinance 2020-31 to be passed on an emergency measure. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call: Jennifer Ball, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Steve Ball, Yes; Gullett, Yes. Cooke made a motion to approve the emergency reading. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Ordinance 2020-32 An Ordinance Amending the 2020 Annual Appropriations Ordinance by Authorizing the Transfer of Certain Funds and Appropriations as Needed for Operations, and Declaring an Emergency. Emergency Reading. Gullett made a motion to suspend the rules to allow Ordinance 2020-32 to be passed on an emergency measure. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call: Jennifer Ball, Yes; 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 2020-07 A Resolution Allowing the Use of an “Employee Dishonesty and Faithful Performance of Duty” Coverage Document, Rather than a Surety Bond. Second Reading. Myers made a motion to approve the second reading. Jennifer Ball 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. There was none.

Toby Thomas then presented the monthly bills for approval under Schedule A. Jennifer Ball 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 bills for approval under Schedule B. Willis made a motion to approve Schedule B. Jennifer Ball seconded the motion. Roll call: Gullett – yes; Steve Ball – yes; Jennifer Ball – yes; Willis – yes; Cooke – abstain; Myers – disqualify herself.

Toby Thomas then presented the then and now bills for approval under Schedule C. Jennifer Ball made a motion to approve Schedule C. Steve Ball seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Jennifer Ball made a motion to enter into executive session to consider the employment of a village employee or official. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call: Jennifer Ball, Yes; Steve Ball, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Gullett, Yes.

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

Steve Ball made a motion to allow the Village Administrator to hire Raymond Goosetree and Daison Gough for the Street and Sanitation Department. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

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


Fiscal Officer


Mayor