

NEW LONDON VILLAGE COUNCIL
Regular Meeting – Monday, May 24, 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: Gullett, Steve Ball, Jennifer Ball, Cooke and Myers. Willis was absent.

Also present: Ellen Simmons, Steve Bond, Joe Hicks, Marvin McCallister, Shawn Pickworth, John Chapin, Dave Finley, Linda Finley, Carol Knapp, Karmen Ross, Tom Gielow, Michelle Pellerin, Mark Chase, Tyler Kane, Don Patton and Lynne Phillips.

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

The minutes from the May 10, 2021 regular meeting were then presented for approval. Gullett made a motion to approve the minutes. Steve Ball seconded the motion. Roll call: Jennifer Ball, Yes; Steve Ball, Yes; Willis, Absent; Gullett, Yes; Myers, Yes; Cooke, Abstain.

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

Ellen Simmons stood and stated the Community Club had gotten their Village of New London Event Cards printed and handed them out to all in attendance. The cards had the events for the remainder of the year as far as the club was aware. She also stated she had more cards if anyone wanted some to distribute.

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. New London is on the list for funding for this project. This should be 100% principal forgiveness.
- Backflow/Cross Contamination Inspections – crews have been out in the Twp. conducting the annual inspections per OPEA rules and guidelines.
- A new fire hydrant was installed on Johnson Drive last Wednesday. This will improve water quality by giving the Village a point to flush the line.

Wastewater

- Wastewater Treatment Plant Project – Closing on the funding was held on May 19, 2021 here in New London. A Pre-Construction meeting was held on May 20, 2021. Contractor will begin moving on to the site to begin the project. Substantial Completion for the project is set for May 20, 2022.

- 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.
- Recreation Park – we have come up with a solution to address the flooding at our Recreation Park. It is our plan to complete this project this summer.

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 – this project has been awarded through Small Governments. Contracts will be sent out July 1, 2021. Council has legislation tonight allowing us to enter into contract with Poggemeyer Design Group for the engineering and bidding of the project.

Other

- Zoning & Planning Commission – a meeting is being scheduled for June 14, 2021 @ 6:00 pm. Items on the agenda will be as followed but not limited to:
 - Plats
 - Lot Splits
 - Dedication of Plats
- Clint Cherry has completed his 90-day probationary period. We would like to recommend to Council to remove Clint from probation and hire him full-time.
- I would personally like to welcome Tip Products and team to tonight's meeting who will be presenting to Council later on this evening.

Steve Ball made a motion to allow the Village Administrator to remove Clint Cherry from probation and hire him full-time. Jennifer Ball seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas stated he had nothing to report so he then asked for a report from the police. Chief Joe Hicks gave the following report.

I recently inquired about purchasing or leasing a new police cruiser to begin the process of replacing our aging fleet. We currently have four cruisers that range from four to eight years old. Our newest cruiser is a 2017 Ford Explorer utility with just under 45,500 miles. Our oldest cruiser is a 2013 Ford Explorer utility with just over 120,000 miles. The other two cruisers, a 2014 Ford Taurus Interceptor and a 2015 Ford Explorer utility have approximately 85,000 and 83,000 miles. Please keep in mind that in addition to mileage, there is considerable idle time on these engines.

Although, these vehicles have proven to be reliable as well as suitable for police work in New London, they have not come without flaws. Three of the four vehicles have had to have the water pumps replaced (all 3 at

less than 100,000 miles). This comes at a cost of approximately \$1,300.00 - 1,470.00 per occurrence and the cruiser is typically out of service for 1-2 weeks.

Speaking with Steven Rick, sales rep. for State Ford in Van Wert, I requested a cost comparison for each of the "Big 3" and was advised that Chevrolet and Dodge only had their state bids open for 1 month at the beginning of the year, leaving us with Ford as the only option.

He provided me with a price quote of \$50,680.00 for the purchase of a 2021 Ford Explorer utility. This price is for what they call a "patrol ready" unit. This price includes a \$2,915 extended warranty option (5yr./100k). Attached is a cost for the unit and a cost for the "add-ons".

Additionally, he provided me with a quote for the lease of two 2021 Ford Explorers. As the lease option was explained it basically is the same as financing a vehicle and would be for a period of three years, in most cases. At the end of that 3-yr. term the cruiser can be purchased for \$1.00. In this instance it will cost us an additional \$8,372.12 in interest. Attached is also a breakdown for the leasing option.

Comparing the two quotes, I feel the outright purchase for the one unit is our best option, saving us nearly \$8,400.00 vs. the lease/finance option. I also believe the extended warranty would be a worthwhile purchase.

I have also attached a visual for the new cruiser's graphics design, which includes a New London Wildcat. The wildcat is an iconic symbol of our community and shows that we are vested in our youth and proud of our school system.

New London officers recently received their yearly firearms qualification. Officers will also be receiving CPR/First Aid training on June 5th through Firelands Ambulance Service. I would like to thank Jeff Vanderpool and the entire staff for all they do.

NLPD in collaboration with the Huron County Sheriff's Office conducted a drug related search warrant at a Westwood Dr. residence back on Sunday, May 16th. Several drug paraphernalia items were seized and charges are pending.

Lastly, for anyone who doesn't already know, we have a new Facebook page. We can be found at New London Police Department-OH.

Council agreed to let Chief Hicks move forward with purchasing a new police cruiser since it had been included in the budget for 2021. Mr. Bond stated an ordinance would need to be passed. The ordinance will be on the agenda for the next council meeting.

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 provided totals for the month of April and stated that it had been a very busy month with 74 total runs. She also stated that May had started out very busy as well.

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

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from Recreation.

Jennifer Ball shared the following recreation report for Joe Thomas in his absence.

- Things at the reservoir are going well. It was a busy weekend this past weekend. Two of the cabins were rented, all of the water and electric spots were rented by the water and some of the new spots in our new area were rented.
- We are completely booked for the holiday weekend coming up.

- At the reservoir this weekend Aidan Albaugh will be playing Saturday from 7pm-10pm and on Sunday TARP will be playing from 7pm-10pm.
- Saturday we will also be having a pancake breakfast at the reservoir from 8am-11am. Everyone is welcome.
- Saturday at the rec park we are having a men's softball tournament. The first game is at 8am and the championship game is scheduled for 8pm.
- We would like to hire Dusty Swiger and Emily Stevens at the reservoir. Council approved us to hire an adult but Mary is having a hard time with scheduling because of conflicts with some of the younger girls. This would give here more options. She will not be scheduling more hours. She will be using that girl to work when others can't or on busy weekends.

Stuart Cooke made a motion to allow Dusty Swiger and Emily Stevens to be hired as seasonal recreation employees. Steve Ball seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

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. Third Reading. Steve Ball made a motion to approve the third reading. Myers 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. Second Reading. Gullett made a motion to approve the second 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. Second Reading. Jennifer Ball made a motion to approve the second reading. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Ordinance 2021-23 An Ordinance Authorizing an Agreement with Poggemeyer Design Group for Professional Engineering Services in Connection with Development of Plans for the Reconstruction and Improvements of West Washburn Street, and Declaring an Emergency. Emergency Reading. Steve Ball made a motion to allow Ordinance 2021-23 to be passed on an emergency measure. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call: Jennifer Ball, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Absent; 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 2021-24 An Ordinance Amending the 2021 Annual Appropriations Ordinance by Authorizing the Transfer of Certain Funds and Appropriations as Needed for Operations, and Declaring an Emergency. Emergency Reading. Jennifer Ball made a motion to allow Ordinance 2021-24 to be passed on an emergency measure. Gullett seconded the motion. Roll call: Jennifer Ball, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Absent; Steve Ball, Yes; Gullett, Yes. Steve Ball made a motion to approve the emergency reading. Cooke seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Ordinance 2021-25 An Ordinance Authorizing Renewal of the Contracts with the County Sheriff to Conduct Dispatching Services for the Village Police Department and Fire Department and Declaring an Emergency. First Reading. Jennifer Ball made a motion to approve the first reading. Cooke seconded the reading. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Resolution 2021-09 A Resolution Approving the Community Reinvestment Area Agreement Between the Village of New London, Ohio and Tip Products, Inc. and Authorizing the Mayor to Sign the Agreement and Declaring an Emergency. Emergency Reading. Gullett made a motion to allow Resolution 2021-09 to be passed on an emergency measure. Jennifer Ball seconded the motion. Roll call: Jennifer Ball, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Absent; Steve Ball, Yes; Gullett, Yes. Jennifer Ball 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.

Toby Thomas introduced Carol Knapp, Director of the Huron County Development Council. Carol Knapp thanked council for approving the resolution approving the CRA between the village and Tip Products. Because of this CRA agreement, Tip Products would be bringing their business to New London. She then introduced Tom Gielow the president of Tip Products; the general manager, Dave Finley and his wife Linda; Michelle Pellerin, office manager; Mark Chase from Janotta and Herner; and Karmen Ross the Assistant Director of HCDC. Carol Knapp stated she had first met with Dave Finley a couple years ago and Carol had shared with him some tools that they have to help with economic development and she was thankful the Village of New London had established a CRA so that Tip Products is able to bring their company to the village.

Mark Chase then explained where the Tip Products property would be located and the specifics about the building that would house the business.

Dave Finley came forward and gave details and the history of Tip Products, Inc. which is a wire harness manufacturer. Tip Products, Inc. has been in business since 1965. They manufacture electrical assemblies found in many small appliances and have been having a hard time keeping up with the demand. Tom Gielow and Dave Finley are majority owners of the business along with two silent owners. They are hoping to be in New London by December. They anticipate hiring at least 25 people.

Karmen Ross then shared their plans for holding a hiring fair on June 2nd in Council Chambers from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Everything will also be translated to Spanish to allow Spanish speaking individuals to be hired as well. Karmen also explained several different ways Huron County Job and Family Services will be able to help with wages and travel.

Toby Thomas thanked everyone for the presentation.

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

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

Steve Ball made a motion to enter into executive session to Consider the Discipline of a Village Employee and to Consider the Sale of Property at Competitive Bidding. Gullett seconded the motion. Roll call: Jennifer Ball, Yes; Steve Ball, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Absent; 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, Absent; Gullett, Yes.

Cooke made a motion to accept the Village Administrator's recommendation to terminate Daison Gough for cause based on job performance issues as documented in personnel files. Gullett seconded the motion. Roll call: All ayes; No one opposed.

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



Nancy Howell
Fiscal Officer



Toby Thomas
Mayor