

NEW LONDON VILLAGE COUNCIL

Regular Meeting – Monday, July 27, 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, Gullett, Jennifer Ball, Willis and Steve Ball.

Also present: Chief Marko, Shawn Pickworth, Ellen Simmons, Marvin McCallister, Megan Sherlund and Lynn Phillips.

Toby Thomas then asked for approval of the agenda. Myers made a motion to approve the agenda. Steve Ball seconded the motion. Roll call - All ayes; no one opposed.

The minutes from the July 13, 2020 regular meeting were then presented for approval. Jennifer Ball made a motion to approve the minutes. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call - All ayes; no one opposed.

Toby Thomas asked for any public questions or statements. Toby Thomas checked the live feed and there were no questions from the public.

Toby Thomas then called for a report from the Administrator.

Shawn then reported the following.

Water

- Park Avenue Water Main Replacement Project – Found out we will not hear from the State on funding until sometime in September. We are ready to go to bid once this happens.
- GIS Project – project continues.

Wastewater

- Wastewater Treatment Plant Project – Plans submitted to the OEPA for PTI approval.

Storm Sewers

- Crews have been out cleaning some storm sewers.
- Grant Street – project is complete.

Sanitation

- No major issues.

Street

- Potholes – with the crazy up and down temps. and the amount of moisture that is under the road we are going to have a lot of potholes. Please feel free to contact our office if you see one that is not getting addressed. 419-929-4091.
- Crews have been out patching potholes.

Other

- Columbia Gas Project – project continues.
- Utility Bills – the OEPA and State of Ohio have lifted the restrictions starting July 1st on delinquent fees and shut offs. The Village has begun enforcing our Ordinances. Shutoff day was today.
- Met with Vicki Missler. She is working on our renewals for employee insurance. Hopefully she will be able to present to Council sometime in August.
- We met with a Rep. from Keen Pumps out of Ashland to price out a pump station for the Campgrounds.
- Firelands Electric changed out all the security lights at the Reservoir Campground.
- Mower – I am request Council permission to buy a mower attachment for the Mini that will allow us to mow around the inside of the Reservoir and ditches. The cost is around \$9,300.00. We have gotten 2 quotes for similar mowers and they are within \$200.00 of each other. We also believe we can turn the cost into the State of Ohio, ODNR for an 80/20 match. So out of pocket cost should be no more than around \$2000.00.
- You have a list before you on supplies for the Fire Department that they would like to purchase with the Covid Funds. It has been recommended that Council approves this list for documentation reasons. As other departments finish coming up with lists we will ask you to do the same.

Land bank – a total of 3 properties have had purchase agreements signed and turned over to the new owners within the Village. The Land bank is now looking at the list for the third round of properties within the county. Not sure yet what New London properties will be included. Properties available can be seen on the Huron County Land Bank website- huroncountylanbank.com

Toby Thomas asked if there was a motion to allow the purchase of a mower attachment for the Mini Excavator.

Cooke made a motion to allow the village administrator to purchase a mower attachment for the Mini Excavator that will allow the village to mow around the inside of the reservoir and the ditches. Gullett seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Myers made a motion to approve the list of supplies the fire department would like to purchase using the Coronavirus Relief Fund monies. Steve Ball seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Members of council and Shawn Pickworth had a brief discussion concerning the benefits of owning the mowing attachment versus paying the township to mow the ditches.

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 asked Shawn Pickworth if he had anything to report in the absence of the fire chief John Chapin. He had nothing.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from the Ambulance. Jennifer Ball stated she did not have anything but would have a full report at the next council meeting.

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 the following report.

The concert went well at the reservoir. We made good money and had no issues. We are going to try and do more of these as we can in August and September. Upcoming events are a fishing tournament on August 23rd and Camp and Sell September 11-13. The Laurels of New London are donating the white board to use for the fishing tournaments. We have been working with the Huron County Board of Developmental Disabilities on social distancing activities and have placed 5 caches in the park for the geocaching app. That has brought quite a few people into the town and park/rez who have never been here before.

Under the recreation report, Shawn Pickworth wanted to talk about a pavilion being built out at the reservoir campground. Shawn addressed council and stated they all had copies of the prints for the pavilion. He continued by saying he had mistakenly approved the building of the pavilion. He had thought it was going to be a deck. He had gotten side tracked when he had approved it but he does not want it at the campground. Before the pavilion began being built, a large tent occupied the space. A tent could be removed quickly, but he feels a pavilion cannot and he thinks it should not be allowed. He apologized for his mistake.

Stuart Cooke stated that Greg Massie, the camper building the pavilion, had come to talk to him. Stuart Cooke agreed with Shawn and thought the plans looked like they were for a roof on a porch. He thought Shawn Pickworth had no way of telling from the drawing that it was not a roof for a porch.

Steve Ball replied that he saw things a bit differently. He didn't know why council would care that it was a pavilion and not a roof on a deck.

Janice Myers thought it did not meet the requirements of being a deck roof because it was freestanding and not up against another building.

Steve Ball wondered why council would care as long as it was built correctly. He wondered what difference it made.

Members of council discussed whether the pavilion should be allowed or not. There were several arguments for and against the pavilion. Some members of council were afraid allowing the pavilion would open a can of worms. Other members of council thought they would be able to control similar situations without letting them get out of hand.

Toby Thomas added that he thought the bottom part of the pavilion had been in place for several years as a deck. He wondered if there was another way to design the pavilion to make it more palatable for everyone. He also thought it was an odd sized lot.

Shawn Pickworth answered that it was a standard size lot but it was one of the biggest lots at the campground. He thought the first problem was the actual camper had been allowed to be placed on the lot in the wrong position.

Stuart Cooke agreed that the camper sits in a strange position on the lot.

Steve Ball stated he thought that the roof that was currently being placed on the pavilion would look nicer than anything else that could be used.

Members of council continued to discuss the situation and ways to prevent any similar incidents in the future. They discussed putting in place different rules and regulations and adding more questions to the form among other items.

After more discussion, Toby Thomas asked if anyone was going to make a motion for anything.

Jennifer Ball made a motion to allow the personal pavilion at the reservoir campground to remain as is without any changes. Steve Ball seconded the motion. Roll call: Jennifer Ball, Yes; Steve Ball, Yes; Willis, No; Myers, No; Gullett, No, Cooke, Yes.

Since the vote was tied, the mayor was to make the determining vote.

Toby Thomas stated that since they had let the pavilion slip through the cracks, he thought they should go ahead and approve the pavilion. He continued by saying that they should figure out how not to let the same situation happen in the future. The final vote was to allow the personal pavilion stay as originally planned.

Toby Thomas then presented Ordinance 2020-17 An Ordinance Enacting a New Section 123.06 of the Codified Ordinances Relative to Deposit of Public Money Pursuant to Revised Code Section 9.38. 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 2020-19 An Ordinance Amending the 2020 Annual Appropriations Ordinance to Make Appropriations for Certain Expenses and Declaring an Emergency. Emergency Reading. Jennifer Ball made a motion to suspend the rules to allow Ordinance 2020-19 to be passed on an emergency measure. Steve Ball seconded the motion. Roll call: Jennifer Ball, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Steve Ball, Yes; Gullett, Yes. Steve Ball made a motion to approve the emergency reading. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Ordinance 2020-20 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. Myers made a motion to suspend the rules to allow Ordinance 2020-20 to be passed on an emergency measure. Jennifer Ball 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. Willis 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 then and now bills for approval under Schedule B. Willis made a motion to approve Schedule B. Jennifer Ball seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Cooke made a motion to enter into executive session to consider the employment of village employees or officials. 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. Myers 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 adjourn. Jennifer Ball seconded the motion. Roll call - All ayes; No one opposed.



Nancy Howell
Fiscal Officer



Toby Thomas
Mayor