

**NEW LONDON VILLAGE COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting – Monday, January 25, 2021 @ 7 p.m.**

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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, Jennifer Ball, Willis, Gullett. Cooke and Steve Ball.

Also present: Shawn Pickworth, Ellen Simmons, Steve Bond, Marvin McCallister, Joe Hicks, 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 January 11, 2021 regular meeting were then presented for approval. Gullett made a motion to approve the minutes. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

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

Toby Thomas stated that John Martin had submitted a question for the meeting. He wanted to know if there was anyway council could meet at the Hileman Building or someplace where people from the community could attend the meetings but still be socially distanced. Toby Thomas stated he had talked to Mr. Bond about the idea and Mr. Bond stated the problem was there is still technically a 10-person limit on meetings.

Stuart Cooke stated he thought that while the 10-person rule was still in place they should continue to keep meetings closed to the public for everyone's safety.

Toby Thomas agreed and continued by saying that as the leaders of the Village of New London he thought they should be in obedience to the governor as much as possible.

Stuart Cooke replied that hopefully by sometime in April the village would be able to open the meetings back up even if they have to move them to a different location.

Toby Thomas agreed and added that it's not that they don't want to relocate the meeting, it is the fact they really don't want to break the 10-person rule more than they have to.

Toby Thomas concluded public questions by telling Marvin McCallister thank you for videoing the council meetings for the village. The village now has a new system that records every meeting so he wouldn't have to tape them anymore. Toby Thomas was very appreciative of Marvin McCallister's willingness to help until the village was able to set up something permanent.

Toby Thomas called for a report from the Administrator.

Shawn Pickworth then reported the following:

Water

- Park Avenue Water Main Replacement Project – Critical Infrastructure Grant funding application has been submitted to the State.

- Water Main – crews fixed a water leak off South Railroad.
- ODNR – the Village will be invoicing ODNR for \$117,482.38 for costs dating back to 2015. It appears that the State has gotten the program that was lost or out of date rebuilt and running that will allow them to get up to date with payments owed.

#### Wastewater

- Wastewater Treatment Plant Project – A conference call was held last week with all parties involved in getting this project ready to go to bid.

#### Storm Sewers

- Nothing major.

#### Sanitation

- No major issues.
- Annual Compost Report submitted to the OEPA.

#### Street

- Potholes – Please feel free to contact our office if you see one that is not getting addressed. 419-929-4091.
- I learned last week that the State has done away with the local/county CDBG allocations for the future. We are unsure if and what it will be replaced with. The Village has been very successful with this funding in the past. The village has been able to repave streets using this funding. If it is not replaced with something, it will take away one of the few funding sources for paving streets.

#### Other

- Terry Wilson Deck – the proposal bid opening was held on January 22, 2021. One contractor submitted a proposal. Janotta & Herner proposed a replacement of the deck at \$109,200.00. I am in contact with the insurance company to see if they will be sending us the additional amount from the claim.

Stuart Cooke stated he had gotten a lot of calls about the water.

Shawn Pickworth explained the village had been in violation with the EPA for a missed chlorine contact time. This happens from time to time. It is required by the EPA that the village notifies the public about the violation. He emphasized the water was still safe and noted that it doesn't happen very often.

Toby Thomas then presented his State of the Village Address which gave a recap of 2020 on a department by department basis.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from the police. Chief Hicks stated he would like to begin by offering his condolences to the family of Sal Midolo, who passed away over the weekend. Sal served as police chief for the village from 1987-1997. Chief Hicks also wanted to thank the numerous safety services and community members who came out to pay their respects to the family of Officer Velazquez during yesterday's funeral. He also wanted to thank the New London Alliance Church for the use of their facility.

Chief Hicks then asked for council's approval to move Officer Robert Lambert up to part-time from his current reserve officer status. Officer Lambert has served two stints with the New London Police Department. The first from 2006 until 2017, serving as a reservist and as part-time until his full-time employer forced him to resign, due to a policy change. In 2019 he came back as a reservist. Bob has approximately 18 years of law enforcement experience between Notre Dame College and the New London Police Department.

Gullett made a motion to move Officer Robert Lambert from reserve officer to part-time officer making \$12 per hour. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from fire. Fire Chief John Chapin had another meeting to attend that evening but he asked Toby Thomas to go over the Fire Fighter's Dependent's Fund with council. Two of the board members are required to be members of council. In the past it has been Janice Myers and Stuart Cooke. He wondered if they would be willing to continue serving on that board.

Janice Myers and Stuart Cooke both agreed to continue as a member of the Fire Fighter's Dependent's Fund Board. No motion was needed.

There was no ambulance report.

There was no zoning report.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from Recreation. Joe Thomas provided the following typed report to council in his absence.

- ALL SEASONAL SPOTS HAVE BEEN FILLED AT THE RESERVOIR
- BCU ELECTRIC WAS AT THE RESERVOIR WORKING ON THE ELECTRIC FOR THE 3 NEW SEASONAL SITES ACROSS FROM THE GROUP AREA. NOW THEY ARE JUST WAITING ON US TO DIG THE TRENCH AND PUT THE CONDUIT IN.
- A CHECK FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE PARK FOR \$10,000 WAS GIVEN TO NANCY FOR THE DONATION FOR THE NEW SEWER SITES AT THE RESERVOIR.
- WE ARE STILL MAKING PROGRESS ON THE NEW SITES DOWN BY THE CABINS.
- WE PUT UP A NEW FLAGPOLE AT THE RESERVOIR WHERE THE OLD TICKET BOOTH WAS. I THINK IT LOOKS VERY NICE THERE AND IS MORE WELCOMING TO OUR CAMPERS.
- ALL THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AT THE PARK HAVE BEEN TAKEN DOWN AND PUT AWAY FOR THE YEAR.
- WITH THE DONATION OF SOME NEW FLOORING AND THE HELP OF A SEASONAL CAMPER. THE LAUNDRY MAT AT THE RESERVOIR IS LOOKING MUCH NICER. MARY PURCHASED SOME NEW LINOLEUM LAST YEAR AND JOHN LILES INSTALLED IT LAST WEEK. HE IS COMING BACK THIS WEEK TO FINISH UP A FEW SMALL DETAILS, BUT IT LOOKS VERY NICE.

Toby Thomas then presented Ordinance 2021-02 An Ordinance Authorizing a USDA-Rural Development Water & Environmental Program Grant and Loan Agreement with the United States Department of

Agriculture, and Declaring an Emergency. Emergency Reading. Steve Ball made a motion to allow Ordinance 2021-02 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. Jennifer 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 2021-03 An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2019-24, Setting the 2021 Fees for Campsites at the New London Reservoir and Recreation Parks, and Declaring an Emergency. First Reading. Myers made a motion to approve the first reading. Cooke seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Ordinance 2021-04 An Ordinance Authorizing a Restated Contract with the Township of Fitchville to Provide Fire Response Services and Declaring an Emergency. First Reading. Jennifer 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 2021-05 An Ordinance Authorizing a Restated Contract with the Township of Clarksfield to Provide Fire Response Services and Declaring an Emergency. 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 2021-06 An Ordinance Authorizing a Restated Contract with the Township of New London to Provide Fire Response Services and Declaring an Emergency. First Reading. Cooke made a motion to approve the first reading. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Ordinance 2021-07 An Ordinance Authorizing the Village Administrator to Enter into a Contract with the Lowest and Best Bidder for the Replacement of the Terry Wilson Memorial Deck, and Declaring an Emergency. First Reading. Gullett made a motion to approve the first reading. Jennifer Ball seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then called for Old Business.

Toby Thomas stated that per council's request at the last council meeting, he had contacted John Martin concerning the monument board. He told John Martin that there were no ordinances about the monument board specifying any details that could be found. John Martin felt that they should not do away with the monument committee since he was still involved with the monument; however, he did not know where specific information on the board could be found. John Martin also explained to Toby Thomas that the monument board had been in place for a long time. Toby Thomas reminded council of their discussion at the previous meeting and how the village administrator currently would take care of any issues with the monument and all money received is run through the village. He thought there would be no problem with John Martin being involved with the bricks if he still wanted to do so. Toby Thomas then asked council their opinion on the Monument Board and what they would like to see done.

Stuart Cooke thought that if an issue came up it could be run through the village administrator and village council.

Toby Thomas asked if there were any other opinions.

Jennifer Ball replied that she thought if there was no information on the board and if they hadn't met in a long time, she thought there was really no need for the board.

Toby Thomas thought the board had been meeting and then he asked Steve Ball since he was on the committee.

Steve Ball stated that the committee had not met in the last year.

Toby Thomas wanted to verify once more with Mr. Bond that there was no ordinance with any information on the Monument Board.

Steve Bond verified that they had not been able to locate any ordinances.

Shawn Pickworth stated he thought the monument board had been made when they started discussing redoing the monument. There were multiple people involved and those people then became the board. Now that the project is done, there isn't much activity other than the bricks that are still sold which John Martin takes care of.

Toby Thomas asked if the girl scouts helped with things at the monument like weeding and keeping it looking nice.

Shawn Pickworth replied that the girl scouts take care of the landscaping at the monument. The village pays for the landscaping out of the Veteran's Memorial Fund. The girl scouts do the labor and the village pays for the supplies.

Council decided the monument committee was not needed. It was determined that no motion would be needed to disband the committee since there was nothing in writing about the committee to begin with.

Toby Thomas then called for New Business.

Toby Thomas stated he would like to set up a work session with council before the next council meeting. He has talked with Mr. Bond on two or three ordinances that they think can be improved upon. He would like to discuss those ordinances with members of council.

Stuart Cooke made a motion to schedule a workshop at 6 p.m. prior to the next council meeting on February 8<sup>th</sup> to discuss several ordinance updates. Jennifer Ball seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

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 Then and Now Bills under Schedule B. Jennifer Ball made a motion to approve Schedule B. Cooke 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. Gullett seconded the motion. Roll call: Jennifer Ball, Yes; Steve Ball, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Gullett, Yes.

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

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



Nancy Howell  
Fiscal Officer

Toby Thomas  
Mayor