NEW LONDON VILLAGE COUNCIL

Regular Meeting – Monday, October 23, 2017 @ 7 p.m.

Mayor John Martin 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: Curtis, Myers, Willis, Paramore, Cooke and Winslow.

Also present: Chief Marko, Shawn Pickworth, Lynn Phillips, Ellen Simmons, Joe Thomas, Robert R. Thomas II, Sandra Sword, Russel Sword, Mark Roeder, Mike Crabbs, John Chapin, Rita Martin, Bill Miracle, Sharon Miracle, Teresa Householder, Roy Householder, Gayle Ashbaker, Bob Cooke, Christene Durfey, Kristofor Pinkerton, Coty Bravo, Wilson F. Velazquez, Andrew Kemer, Daniel Donnelly, Eric Lucas, Anthony J. Gagnon, Andrew T. Pettry, Lance Capiot, Seth Miracle, Joe Hicks, Hope Jackson and Lauren Cmarik.

John Martin then asked for approval of the agenda. Myers made a motion to approve the agenda. Curtis seconded the motion. Roll call - All ayes; no one opposed.

The minutes from the October 9, 2017 Police Budget meeting were then presented for approval. Curtis made a motion to approve the minutes. Cooke seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; no none opposed.

The minutes from the October 9, 2017 regular meeting were then presented for approval. Myers made a motion to approve the minutes. Winslow seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; no one opposed.

John Martin asked for any public questions or statements. If you have a question or statement, please stand, state your name. You will be allotted three minutes to make your comments.

Ellen Simmons stood and stated they had had a CIC meeting last week and our annual party, which takes the place of what used to be an annual banquet is at 5 p.m. Tuesday, November 14 at the bowling alley. And everyone is invited. Thank you.

John Martin thanked Ellen and asked if there was anyone else.

Gayle Ashbaker stood and stated that first she wanted to publicly state that at no time did she ever suggest that a BPA would be established to take over the cemetery board. I never mentioned the cemetery board two weeks ago at council and I think they are one of the few boards we have that actually accomplish something. What I did say and I quote is "Many may remember when New London was governed by a three-man committee, Board of Public Affairs, who actually administered the business of New London. One member got a little over zealous, the board was abolished, and New London went to a City Administrator government. Maybe we should consider returning to the BPA." And I said that because I feel, John, you are out of control. You should talk to Winston White the mayor who established the City Administrator government. Let him tell you why there is a need for it and why it actually has worked for almost 50 years. My question is, why does the State Attorney General's Office say New London is a Strong Mayored Government? Have you done something?

Mayor John Martin stated that he had no comment.

Gayle Ashbaker continued by saying you cannot switch governments in the middle of a term and you cannot do this in an executive session. It must be on the ballot just as abolishing the position of the elected

Clerk/Recorder should have been on the ballot. And that came from the Ohio Ethics Commission and I have his name, the attorney's name and the number. He also said....When I said to the Attorney General's Office no we're not Strong Mayor, he punched on the computer and said yeah you are and I said no we're not. So he looked further and he said you're not on the state's open checkbook and I said well they're not required and that doesn't surprise me that they're not. You're also not a member of the Ohio Municipal League and that's the best $590 you will ever spend is to belong to the Municipal League. That's where you go to get help. They teach you. They tell you what's going on. It's an excellent tool for government. How much did Dar make as mayor?

Mayor John Martin stated that he did not know. He was not involved in that at that time.

Gayle Ashbaker asked John Martin, "You didn't do the budget?"

John Martin stated that he did the budget, yes, but I cannot state that. I do not know what it is off the top of my head.

Gayle Ashbaker asked John Martin how much he makes as mayor.

John Martin replied that he makes $7500.00.

Gayle Ashbaker stated that's a $2,500.00 raise. Did you put that in before the election or after?

There was no response.

Gayle Ashbaker continued by saying she was going to call the Attorney General's office back on this on Wednesday and it had better be corrected because we are not Strong Mayor or I will go back to the Ohio Ethics Commission.

John Martin thanked Gayle Ashbaker and asked if there were any other questions or comments.

Sandy Sword said she had one back to zoning. I would like to know when the golf course got changed from PPOS to Commercial. Who authorized that?

Shawn Pickworth stated it was never changed. It was always Commercial.

Sandy Sword replied, "no".

Shawn Pickworth answered that yes it was.

Sandy Sword stated no. She then addressed Stuart Cooke and said we know better than that right Stuart? You were at my door complaining about it.

Stuart Cooke replied it had been commercial since that land was annexed into the village.

Sandy Sword answered right and then it was proposed to be PPOS correct?

Stuart Cooke replied the reason he thinks is they thought the village owned part of that as the park system.

Sandy Sword asked but it was on the map as PPOS correct?

Stuart Cooke answered that yes it was at one time.

Sandy Sword stated that our ordinance says that golf courses should be PPOS if you read the ordinance. And I don't know who changed it back to commercial because it was on the map that we approved it and you showed it to the village and that's what you're voting on and then you change it back then what you presented to the village is not accurate and there was no discussion, nothing was ever said in our zoning. It was just done and I don't think that's right.

Shawn Pickworth stated that map was never shown to anybody except for council. It was a first draft back in 2014 when we were doing the code. It was never shown to anybody.

Sandy Sword replied that it doesn't matter if it's up there. Anyone who can, can look at it. I looked at it.

Shawn Pickworth stated it was a draft. It wasn't a map. It was a draft.

Sandy Sword said you brought it to us as the commission.

Shawn answered no they had never seen the map.

Sandy Sword replied, "As a Zoning Commission, yes sir. That's what we looked at."

Shawn Pickworth stated no you didn't. He stated they never saw a map with that designated like that.

Sandy Sword stated that they did. So I think you really need to readdress that because I think that's wrong. Everybody else had to go through the motions but when put that back when it says in our ordinance clearly…"

Shawn Pickworth stated it was never voted on and moved. It was never voted on to move it to a different designation.

Sandy Sword answered, "That's right."

Shawn Pickworth continued by saying, "So it couldn't be. It was Commercial."

Sandy Sword stated that was what they proposed. That's what whoever drew up that map proposed it.

Shawn Pickworth replied that there were lots of maps. There were lots of maps drafted.

Sandy Sword stated now you are muddying the water.

Shawn Pickworth answered that he was not.

Sandy Sword replied that yes he was.

Shawn Pickworth stated no he is not. There were lots of maps drafted.

Sandy Sword stated that wasn't true. And also our ordinance says it should be PPOS.

Shawn Pickworth replied that it is a privately owned golf course. It is a business. It is not part of our Public Parks.

Sandy Sword asked Shawn Pickworth if he had read the ordinance.

Shawn Pickworth acknowledged that he did.

Sandy Sword stated it says distinctly golf courses.

Bill Curtis stated that he thinks that is if they are owned by the village.

Sandy Sword replied that it does not say public owned. It says golf courses. Because it cannot be a commercial if it's not a privately owned club and what was the other thing? There was another one which they did not think you were a member. But no it does not say public golf course. It says golf course. And somehow I think that got changed and that's wrong because you presented one thing to the public, you voted on another. You can shake your head no but it's up there for everyone to see, whoever wants to see it.

Shawn Pickworth stated it is up there. The correct one is up there.

Sandy Sword answered no, the changed one. That's my beef and I really feel that's wrong and that whole thing should be..it's out of bounds. I mean you just tell the public one thing. You show them something on a map and then you change it. There is no discussion even to zoning? I'm sorry but that's wrong.

Sandy Sword asked who is the engineer that is supposed to have the final say? What engineer?

Shawn Pickworth replied that it's Paul Tecpanecatl from Poggemeyer Design Group.

Sandy Sword asked why does he have the final say if he drew up the map?

Shawn Pickworth stated that he didn't have the final say. He just made recommendations to the council and the council voted.

Sandy Sword stated that he told them that the final say was the engineer.

Shawn Pickworth answered that no the final say was not the engineer. All they do is recommend.

Sandy Sword said that's not what you told us. You said the final say was the engineer.

Shawn Pickworth stated that the engineer cannot put anything in the law. He does not have the power to put anything in the law.

Sandy Sword stated she agreed but that's what you told us.

Shawn Pickworth chuckled and said he never said that.

John Martin thanked Sandy Sword and asked if there were any other questions or statements.

There were none.

John Martin then called for a report from the Administrator.

Shawn reported the following.

<u>Water</u>

- Fixed a water leak at the intersection of Clyde Ave. & Park Ave.

- Water Tanks at Plant #1 have been drained, cleaned and put back into service. A sludge collector had to have some major repairs made. This is done 2 times a year.

- WTP Improvement Project – Don Patton, John Chapin and Engineers from Poggemeyer Design Group traveled to Columbus on Wednesday, October 18, 2017 to meet with Engineers from the OEPA on questions pertaining to us getting our PTI for this project. Engineers to submit more information within 2 weeks to the EPA. Hopefully this will be what they are looking for and issue a PTI that will allow us to move forward with this project. I also met with a Representative for Poggemeyer Design Group on Friday, October 20, 2017 about this project.

- Water Tower Repairs – contractor is scheduled to start repairs to the water tower this week. Repairs included base restoration and landing replacement.

- Crews are preparing for our annual EPA inspection of our Water Plants. Inspections are scheduled for later this week.

- Crews are planning to replace a fire hydrant on Park Ave on Tuesday, October 24, 2017.

- New billing rules are in effect. Read your new water bill. If you have any questions, please contact the office. Some of the changes are: all accounts not paid in full are subject to disconnection if not paid by the 20th of every month. No separate delinquency notice or warning will be provided prior to disconnect. It is on your bill. You know when the bill is due. Shutoffs will be conducted, every month, on the first business day after the 25th of the month. Customers may request a pretermination hearing before the Village Administrator, by contacting the village offices no later than the 22nd day of each month if they contend that their account is not actually in arrears or otherwise subject to shutoff. If a hearing is requested, it will be held at the village hall on the 23rd of the month, or, if that is not a business day, on the first business day after the 23rd of the month. It may be conducted by the Administrator or his designee. The purpose of such a hearing is not to request additional time or to request special consideration. So that's our new billing system.

- Landlords-we will no longer accept deposits for renters. We aren't going to chase renters all over the country trying to get final payment when they decide to move out and not pay their bills. Landlords will be responsible for the bill from now on.

Wastewater

- Crews are planning on hauling dried sludge to the landfill for disposal.

Sanitation

- No major issues.

Street

- Crews again patching holes around town.

Parks

- Gun Raffle Tickets – on sale now at the Village Office, Gilbert Hardware & Marathon Station. The gun raffle will be held on November 4, 2017 at the Hileman Building starting at 12 noon. Doors will open at 10:30 AM. The Gun Raffle is being put on and sponsored by the **Friends of the Park**.

- The Reservoir Park and Campground is now closed for the season. Last weekend was the final weekend for this season to camp. Crews will now prepare to shut down the water and electric to the campground. We had another great year of camping and activities and are looking forward to next season.

- We would like to thank Kristine Jump and crew for replacing the roofs on the dugouts on the ball field and Marion & Mary Jo Paramore for painting them.

- Next Park Board Meeting will be October 30, 2017 @ 6:30 PM.

Other

- Biglow Parkway – Mr. Bond, Mayor Martin and I met again with Huron County about Biglow Parkway. We presented a proposal to the County for their approval. A copy of the proposal was sent to Council. The County asked to meet with the Commissioners and would get back to us within 2 weeks on their decision to accept or not.

- CSX Railroad Crossing – the Mayor and I met with a Representative from CSX on Thursday, October 19, 2017 about the sidewalks leading up to and over the rail crossings. We are hopeful that progress has been made and something will be done to resolve these issues.

- International Dump Truck – again this truck has been down for repairs. Crews changed out a fuel solenoid that was not allowing the truck to fire. This truck is on its last legs and needs to be replaced. The repairs on this just keeping it running is getting up there. It is our only truck that is equipped with a salt spreader for the winter. I will be presenting to Council, soon on proposals/options on replacing this truck.

John Martin then asked for a report from the Police Chief. Chief Marko stated he would like to defer the promotions to New Business if possible, but in the meantime on November 11 from 10 in the morning til one in the afternoon we are going to have our annual children's ID program. This year we have changed the age bracket. As long as mom and dad or a guardian bring them in, whatever their age is, they will get a free ID very similar to an Ohio Driver's License.

John Martin then asked for a report from the Fire Chief. Chief John Chapin reported last Wednesday, residents may have seen or heard, a helicopter came in and landed behind the dollar store. Several months ago, Life Flight pulled their helicopter out of Avery and North Central worked hard and got a new helicopter in there with a different company and they brought it over and we had a joint training session with Firelands Ambulance and New London Fire Department. It went very, very well. That's what that was about. There happened to be a lot of sirens just ahead of that because there were some accidents and people thought we were bringing helicopters in for that and we weren't.

John Martin then asked for a report from the Ambulance. Bill Curtis stated they are doing their membership drive right now. It's $50 and then there is no charge if the ambulance then comes to your residence to haul a family member. It's a good deal if you don't have insurance. The other thing is that helicopter is what they call an Air Ambulance. It doesn't have doctors and nurses on this one but it's got paramedics.

John Chapin added that he believes there is a trauma nurse on it as well.

Bill Curtis said good because they hadn't been sure of that.

John Martin then asked for a report from Zoning. Bob James absent.

John Martin then presented Ordinance 2017-26 An Ordinance Authorizing the Expenditure of Public Funds for Expenses Arising in Connection with the Gun Raffle Scheduled for November 4, 2017, and Declaring an Emergency. Emergency Reading. Curtis made a motion to suspend the rules to allow Ordinance 2017-26 to be passed on an emergency measure. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call: Winslow, Yes; Curtis, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Paramore, Yes. Paramore made a motion to approve the emergency reading. Winslow seconded the motion. Roll call – all ayes; No one opposed.

John Martin then presented Ordinance 2017-27 An Ordinance Amending the 2017 Annual Appropriations Ordinance to Make Appropriations for Certain Expenses, and Declaring an Emergency. Emergency Reading. Myers made a motion to suspend the rules to allow Ordinance 2017-27 to be passed on an emergency measure. Curtis seconded the motion. Roll call: Winslow, Yes; Curtis, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Paramore, Yes. Paramore made a motion to approve the emergency reading. Winslow seconded the motion. Roll call – all ayes; No one opposed.

John Martin then called for Old Business. There was none.

John Martin then called for New Business.

Janice Myers made a motion to accept the following changes to the Hileman Building rate schedule.

- Inside Village Residents or Organizations/Clubs now includes anyone in New London School District.
- Residents/Groups/Organizations desiring to use the building for no more than two hours-$100.

Curtis seconded the motion. Roll call – all ayes; No one opposed.

Chief Marko came forward and stated that before he started the promotions, he wanted to say a few things. First of all, I want to thank the village residents in the community. I want to thank the governing board here and I also want to thank all the officers. None of this is possible without the support of everybody. I just can't thank everybody enough. I'm glad to do this. These two young officers here today deserve it. Believe me they know there is no such thing as a free lunch with me. I am not an easy guy. Thankfully they come in every day and they do it very well. They treat the people in town and the people that they deal with on a day to day basis very professionally. I go through hours and hours of body cam video with the officers and sometimes people get a little upset with us. These officers, they've always been professional. Not one time has an officer stepped over that line. I'm very proud of that, very proud of that. I'm not going to take all the credit in the world because a lot of this credit goes to my Lieutenant.

At that point Chief Marko called Lieutenant Joe Hicks to come forward. Chief then stated that the Lieutenant is his right hand man. I am so thankful that last year we were able to promote the Lieutenant to Lieutenant. He's done an excellent job for me. He comes in every day and is very, very professional. He deflects a lot because he handles a lot of jobs. It's to the point right now where the police department, this year, there's been no busier year. Some serious things have gone on. Once I tell you about things, that's only the

beginning. They go on and on and on and on. One of the officers here who I am going to promote tonight is working on about four or five cases right now. Very serious cases. If anyone deserves to get the Sergeant stripes, it's this young officer.

Chief Marko then called Seth Miracle up. Chief stated that Seth works very diligently. He works every morning from six in the morning til two in the afternoon. He doesn't miss a day of work. He's in on time and he is very professional. With that said, I am very glad to do this, but again, none of this is possible without all of the support here. I'm very thankful for that.

Mayor John Martin officially promoted Seth Miracle to Sergeant.

After much applause, Chief Marko stated that he had another young officer there. We created a new position here called Crime Scene Investigator. The Crime Scene Investigator is going to assist me. As silly as this sounds in a small town, you wouldn't think we would need a Crime Scene Investigator but sometimes we are overwhelmed. I hate to say it and I don't want to get into it right now, but we've had some OD events and they need to be investigated. We've had some other incidents. We've also issued and executed some search warrants. Without a doubt there is so much to gather at a crime scene and I needed help there. Lieutenant and I were absolutely overwhelmed so we wanted to promote somebody and I couldn't think of a better person to promote than Lance Capiot. It's never easy when you're executing a search warrant to get all the evidence and collect it properly.

Lance Capiot came forward and Mayor John Martin officially promoted Lance to Crime Scene Investigator.

After much applause, Chief Marko called Seth Miracle's parents up to take Seth's old badge off and pin the new one on. Chief also noted that Seth's father was the former chief of the Ashland police department.

After a round of applause, Chief Marko called Lance Capiot's girlfriend, Hope Jackson, up. Hope took off Lance's old badge and pinned his new badge on.

After another round of applause, Chief Marko stated he had nothing else unless anyone had something for him. Again, thank you very much for everything. Thanks to all the residents for this. This is a job well done for my officers. I don't know if they know how much I appreciate them coming in every day or every time they are scheduled to work. They come in. They are very professional and you don't know how much I appreciate them. You will never know. You do an excellent job for me. You do an excellent job for the residents. I hear nothing but good things and we want to keep that up. Good job fellas.

After much applause. Mayor John Martin asked Seth Miracle and Lance Capiot to come forward and raise their right hand and repeat after him. The Mayor then swore Sergeant Seth Miracle and Investigator Lance Capiot into their new positions.

John Martin then presented the monthly bills for approval. Cooke made a motion to approve the bills as presented. Curtis seconded the motion. Roll call: Paramore – yes; Winslow – yes; Willis – yes; Curtis – yes; Cooke – yes; Myers – abstain.

John Martin then asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session to consider the discipline of a village employee or official. Myers made a motion to enter into executive session. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call: Winslow, Yes; Curtis, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Paramore, Yes.

John Martin then asked for a motion to return to regular session. Curtis made a motion to return to regular session. Paramore seconded the motion. Roll call: Winslow, Yes; Curtis, Yes; Cooke, Yes; Myers, Yes; Willis, Yes; Paramore, Yes.

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

Nancy Howell
Fiscal Officer

John Martin
Mayor