

NEW LONDON VILLAGE COUNCIL

Workshop – Water, Sewer and Fire Budget Meeting – Mon., October 28, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.

Don Patton, Utilities Foreman, and John Chapin, Water/Sewer Superintendent and Fire Chief, presented the 2020 budgets for the Water, Sewer, Fire and Fire Fighting Facilities Funds. They went over the expense and revenue line items for each fund.

The following was discussed:

Fire

John Chapin noted that the fire budget had not changed in years. For 2020, John wanted to request additional money in his budget. He wanted to use the additional money to start replacing gear a little at a time.

Fire Fighting Facilities

John Chapin stated that the majority of the revenue going into this fund comes from the contracts the fire department has with the Townships. He then reported there were no special plans for the fund for 2020.

Water

Don Patton began by saying the 2020 anticipated revenue is very close to the 2019 revenue. There was one exception with the ODNR line item. ODNR pays 80% of expenses for the reservoir and the village pays 20%. Currently, ODNR is three years behind in paying what they owe to the village. Don Patton and John Chapin stated they would be contacting Mr. Bond for guidance on how to proceed with collecting the money due.

Don Patton continued by saying there was nothing extraordinary on the expense side. He noted the principal and interest line items were for payment on the village's VAC Truck and payments on the water plant expansion loan. Don stated they were thinking about maybe purchasing a new dump truck and they were also making plans to secure the main lobby at the village office. Other ideas discussed were code storage to protect piping, meter replacement on Cooke Road, possible purchase of a lift and maybe a ditch mower. Don Patton concluded his presentation by telling council the seven year lease the village has had is close to being up. He would like to make some upgrades to the leased equipment and continue with another lease. He feels the lease program has benefited the village.

Sewer

John Chapin pointed out to council that the anticipated revenue for the sewer fund was very close to the same it had been for 2019. He also pointed out the expense side was also very close to the same. He noted they had decreased the HRA amount but increased the Dues and Fees and Capital Outlay lines. He also explained that they would need to increase the Sewer Sludge Disposal Fee. The village has a lot of sludge they need to dispose of.

One major point of discussion was the Sewer Plant Project. The USDA has given the village \$892,000 in grant money for the project. The additional amount will come from a 40-year loan. John Chapin, Don Patton and Shawn Pickworth discussed how the village will pay for the loan and how it will affect rates. They debated whether it would be better to raise rates to cover the cost of the project or if a surcharge would be better. If they go with a surcharge, once the debt is paid in full the surcharge would come off.

Shawn Pickworth also noted that he would like to see the village increase sewer rates little by little each year so that in the future a large increase wouldn't be necessary. Council's opinion was in favor of the surcharge.

Two other projects discussed at the workshop were a water tower project that could possibly use Revolving Loan Funds and a Park Avenue Project.

The workshop was adjourned for the regular council meeting.


Nancy Howell

Mayor Absent
~~John Martin~~ Stuart Cooke, Council President
