

NEW LONDON VILLAGE COUNCIL
Regular Meeting – Monday, October 26, 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, Jennifer Ball, Willis, Gullett and Steve Ball.

Also present: Chief Marko, Shawn Pickworth, Ellen Simmons, Steve Bond, Marvin McCallister, Don Patton, John Chapin, Kyle Ancog and Lynne Phillips.

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

The minutes from the October 12, 2020 Police and Recreation Budget Meeting were presented for approval. Myers made a motion to approve the minutes. Willis seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

The minutes from the October 12, 2020 regular meeting were then presented for approval. Cooke made a motion to approve the minutes. Gullett seconded the motion. Roll call - All ayes; no one opposed.

Toby Thomas asked Marvin McCallister if any questions were coming over on his phone.

Marvin McCallister stated there were no questions coming through at that time but he had been asked when the council meetings would be opened back up to the public.

Toby Thomas replied that he thought it would be when the governor allowed it and he asked Mr. Bond his thoughts.

Mr. Bond stated that currently the state had not changed it's ruling on meetings.

Toby Thomas stated that the village was working on improving some things such as sound to make things easier for those trying to participate in the meeting online.

Ellen Simmons then announced that the CIC had been disbanded at their last meeting. Any money left in the treasury after all outstanding bills are paid, will go toward the outstanding balance owed to the village for the original Terry Wilson Memorial Deck. Secondly, Ellen Simmons stated that work had started on the new Terry Wilson Memorial Deck. The old wood had been removed and they were doing a very nice job so far.

Toby Thomas asked Marvin McCallister to let him know if any questions were asked online during the meeting.

Toby Thomas then called for a report from the Administrator.

Shawn then reported the following.

Water

- Park Avenue Water Main Replacement Project – Looking at our options for funding.

Wastewater

- Wastewater Treatment Plant Project – The USDA-RD seems to have finished the plan review process and have started reviewing bid documents.

Storm Sewers

- Nothing major.

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. Proposed project to fix potholes in the downtown area. He would like to complete this project before the end of the year for the safety of residents.
- Proposed project to fix trenches on First Street. The trenches on the street have settled. Shawn Pickworth researched the price of fixing the trenches versus repaving the street. Repaving the street came in about \$1,000 cheaper than fixing it. There is not enough in the street fund to pave the street, but since the reason they had to trench the street was for the water and sewer departments, they would be allowed to use water and sewer money for the project. Shawn Pickworth asked for council approval to complete the repaving of the street.
- OPWC Funding – Application has been submitted. The total project cost estimate is \$171,600. We are writing the grant application asking for \$76,362 Grant, \$76,362 Loan and \$18,876 Village match. I believe this is our best chance of getting funded.

Other

- Columbia Gas Project – project continues. Crews continue to work on service connections.
- Care Act Money – 2nd round applications are due by Friday, October 30, 2020. Please, if you know of a small business that can benefit from this funding have them get online and fill out an application.

Stuart Cooke made a motion to allow the Village Administrator to proceed with the downtown pothole project and the repaving of First Street. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas stated the only thing he had to report was that the Community Club was busy working on Hometown Holidays. This year's event will include a Christmas Tree lighting on the Friday evening before. Due to the pandemic, there will be no costs associated with the weekend activities. Toby Thomas thought it should be a good kick off to the holiday season.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from the Police Chief. Chief Marko stated he would like to use about \$10,000 from the Coronavirus Relief Fund to update the police department's policies and procedures due to the Coronavirus and any other future virus. Since the pandemic began, things have taken a drastic change and chief wants to make sure all the officers are protected. Chief Marko researched and found a well renowned company called Lexipol that he would like to hire to do the update.

Secondly, Chief stated he had closed the case on the bones that had been discovered in the old barn on East Main Street. The reason he closed the case was because they can't search all the samples when there is a law

enforcement investigation. Once he closes out the case, they are able to go through all the samples. The only thing they know right now is that it wasn't a homicide.

The last thing Chief Marko asked was for council to approve the hiring of a new reserve officer for the Village of New London Police Department. Chief Marko introduced Kyle Ancog to members of council and recommended he be hired as a reserve police officer. Kyle had just graduated from the police academy in August.

Adam Gullett made a motion to allow Chief Marko to hire Kyle Ancog as a reserve officer for the New London Police Department. Steve Ball seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Steve Ball made a motion to allow Chief Marko to use \$10,000 of Cares Act money to hire Lexipol to update policies and procedures for the New London Police Department. Gullett seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from the Fire Department. Fire Chief John Chapin stated he had recently lost a volunteer firefighter due to serving in the military so he would like council's approval to add Jon Hess to the fire department.

Janice Myers made a motion to allow Jon Hess to join the New London Fire Department. Steve Ball seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from the Ambulance. Jennifer Ball stated she would have a full ambulance report at the next meeting but she wanted to remind everyone about the levy for Firelands Ambulance.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from Zoning. Bob James absent.

Toby Thomas then asked if anyone had anything to report for the recreation department in the absence of Megan Sherlund.

Adam Gullett reported that the recreation committee had held Trunk or Treat on Saturday and it had been very successful.

Shawn Pickworth added that they had shut the water off at the Recreation Park and the upcoming weekend was the final weekend for camping at the Reservoir Campground and then the water would be shut off there also. He stated that things were starting to wind down.

Janice Myers asked how many seasonal campers had paid their deposit and were staying for next year.

Shawn Pickworth stated he didn't have those numbers at that time.

Janice Myers wanted to verify that deposits needed to be paid by November 1st.

Shawn Pickworth replied that yes deposits were required to be paid by November 1st.

Janice Myers asked what happened if a deposit wasn't paid.

Shawn Pickworth answered that the seasonal camper would forfeit their site.

Janice Myers wanted to make sure that on November 2nd they would start calling those on the waiting list to take the sites that were not reserved with a deposit.

Shawn Pickworth verified that was correct.

Jennifer Ball wanted to make sure all campers were aware of the date the deposit was due.

Shawn Pickworth was positive that everyone had been notified of when the deposit was due.

Janice Myers asked if very many campers had paid their deposit yet.

Shawn Pickworth answered that there were quite a few who had already paid.

Toby Thomas then presented Ordinance 2020-30 An Ordinance Amending Sections 1116.01 and 1116.05 of the Codified Ordinances, and Rezoning the Property Located at 107 West Main Street, to a “Public Parks and Open Space Zoning Use District”. Second Reading. Willis made a motion to approve the second reading. Gullett seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Ordinance 2020-33 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. Steve Ball made a motion to suspend the rules to allow Ordinance 2020-33 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. Myers made a motion to approve the emergency reading. Jennifer Ball seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Resolution 2020-07 A Resolution Allowing the Use of an “Employee Dishonesty and Faithful Performance of Duty” Coverage Document, Rather than a Surety Bond. Third Reading. Jennifer Ball made a motion to approve the third 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.

Steve Ball stated he had someone call him over the weekend who was renting the Hileman Building because the TV in the building was not working. He went out to take a look at it and found out the Time Warner Cable service had been disconnected. The village had disconnected the service over the summer to save money. He thought people were used to having the service so people renting the building would be expecting to use the television and cable services so he wondered if the village should have Time Warner reconnected in the building.

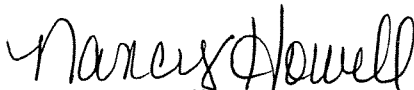

Members of council discussed the pros and cons of having cable available in the Hileman Building. Cost was a major concern. They discussed different possibilities that would allow for use of the television because they have a lot of nice audio visual equipment that is not getting used. Shawn Pickworth stated the he would look into the different options.

Toby Thomas then presented the monthly bills for approval under Schedule A. Myers made a motion to approve the bills as presented. 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.

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

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

 
Nancy Howell Toby Thomas
Fiscal Officer Mayor