

NEW LONDON VILLAGE COUNCIL
Regular Meeting – Monday, September 27, 2021 @ 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: Gullett, Steve Ball, Jennifer Ball and Myers. Willis and Cooke were absent.

Also present: Ellen Simmons, Steve Bond, Marvin McCallister, John Chapin, Steve Roeder, Don Patton, Joe Hicks and Lynne Phillips.

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

The minutes from the September 15, 2021 regular meeting were then presented for approval. Gullett made a motion to approve the minutes. Jennifer Ball seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

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

Ellen Simmons asked for permission to close down Main Street Saturday, December 4, 2021 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for Hometown Holidays. The Village of New London is being turned into Who London for the entire month of December. Ellen reported that everything for the event was coming along well.

Toby Thomas called for a report from the Administrator.

John Chapin shared the following report in the absence of Shawn Pickworth:

Recently the village employees from the Water/Sewer departments installed a few additional storm lines in areas where flooding has occurred with heavy rains. A tile was added west of Charles Parkway to Skellenger Creek and tied into the existing tiles with a new catch basin at the low point on Charles Parkway, about halfway down the street. Another tile was added at the park just west of the football field and ran to the northeast into a 24” tile. This was an 8” line with a new catch basin in the low point. The downspouts from the fieldhouse were tied in as well. A new catch basin was also added across the road from the foundry at the corner of Washburn and Walnut. There was no flooding at any of these locations with a 3.27” rainfall recorded at the wastewater plant last week. We are continuing to look at other areas that flood during periods of heavy rain and hopefully will end up with the same results as these areas just mentioned.

Two collapsed tiles were dug up and repaired. The first was on Birch Park Dr. west of Fairhome and helped with the flooding at that intersection. The second was at Cedar and North Main and helped with the flooding at Cedar and Lincoln.

Last week these same employees using some of the village’s newer equipment, the jet/vac truck, were able to clean the silt that had built up in the wet well at the pumping station located across the street from the southwest corner of the reservoir. Silt from the river gets carried into the wet well when we are pumping into the reservoir and settles out. This is something we have paid for in the past and can now do inhouse.

The sewer plant project has had no major progress since the last council meeting. Excavation equipment was moved in last week.

Toby Thomas stated that Police Chief Joe Hicks had completed probation and police chief schooling so he asked council to make a motion to remove him from probation and hire him as full-time police chief for the Village of New London.

Myers made a motion to remove Police Chief Joe Hicks from probation and hire him as full-time police chief. Jennifer Ball seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then stated that normally, when an officer is taken off probation, they receive a dollar an hour increase. Toby asked council if they would approve a \$1/hour raise for Police Chief Joe Hicks.

Jennifer Ball made a motion to increase Police Chief Joe Hick's pay by \$1 per hour beginning October 3, 2021. Steve Ball seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from the police. Chief Joe Hicks gave the following report.

I just completed Chief's training at OPOTA-London Campus on Friday. The forty-hour course focused on a variety of topics. During my absence things went smoothly and I credit our sergeant and officers for that.

Brad Romano and I have been working on the SRO position for New London Local Schools and are close to finalizing the MOU for placement of the SRO in the very near future. In speaking with Mr. Bond, it is recommended an ordinance be drafted to approve the MOU. We will attempt to have that in place at the next meeting.

The Police Department in collaboration with the Velazquez family is hosting the first annual Officer Wilson 5-K this Saturday at the Reservoir Park at 11:00 AM. It is a run/walk event for people of all ages. The entry cost is \$15.00 and includes a T-shirt. Following the 5-K will be a video gaming competition for the youngsters. This event will be held at the main pavilion of the reservoir and will last until 5PM.

I would like to thank Joe Thomas for allowing the use of the facilities and the help of our other volunteers and sponsors.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from fire. Fire Chief John Chapin stated he wanted to thank the firefighters who had helped over Labor Day weekend.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from the ambulance. Jennifer Ball stated she had the run report for August. There were 82 total runs for the month. New London Village had 47; New London Township 9; Fitchville Township 5; Troy Township 8; Ruggles Township 10; Mutual Aid; 3.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from zoning. Buddy Workman absent.

Toby Thomas then asked for a report from recreation. Joe Thomas absent.

Toby Thomas then presented Ordinance 2021-37 An Ordinance Amending the 2021 Annual Appropriation Ordinance to Make Appropriations for Certain Expenses and Declaring an Emergency. Emergency Reading.

There were not enough council members to pass an emergency ordinance so a first reading was done on all ordinances.

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 2021-38 An Ordinance Authorizing the Village Administrator to Make Public Utilities Available to Permanent Parcel No. 26021B010110500, 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 2021-39 An Ordinance Authorizing the Resurfacing of Pavement in the Village of New London by the Ohio Department of Transportation. First Reading. Steve Ball made a motion to approve the first reading. Gullett seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Toby Thomas then presented Resolution 2021-10 A Resolution Accepting the Amounts and Rates as Determined by the Budget Commission and Authorizing the Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying them to the County Auditor. First Reading. Cooke 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.

Council discussed closing off Main Street for different events held in the village.

Steve Ball stated he would like council to approve all road closures in the future.

Police Chief Joe Hicks suggested that some activities may be able to be moved to the village parking lot instead of downtown.

Council agreed that could be a possible solution, but they thought Hometown Holidays would be a different situation and would warrant the road being closed.

Council continued their discussion and determined they would like someone to check with the Ohio Department of Transportation and see what the procedure was to close the main road through town.

Steve Ball made a motion to close Main Street for Hometown Holidays on December 4th from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with ODOT permission. Jennifer Ball seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

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. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call - All ayes; No one opposed.

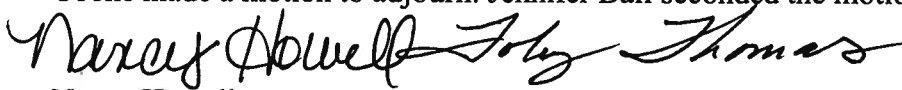
Toby Thomas then presented the bills under schedule B, Then and Now. Jennifer Ball made a motion to approve Schedule B. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

Jennifer Ball made a motion to enter into executive session to Consider the Employment of a Village Employee or Official. Myers seconded the motion. Roll call: Jennifer Ball, Yes; Steve Ball, Yes; Cooke, Absent; Myers, Yes; Willis, Absent; Gullett, Yes.

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

Myers made a motion to allow the Village Administrator to hire Howard Mobberly Jr. as a Street/Sanitation employee beginning October 4, 2021. Jennifer Ball seconded the motion. Roll call – All ayes; No one opposed.

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



Nancy Howell
Fiscal Officer

Toby Thomas
Mayor