

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
London City Council

Minutes of

Meeting

Casto & Harris Inc. Form S-301 E1412692LD

October 5, 2023

Held _____ 20 _____

London City Council
20 S. Walnut Street, London, Ohio 43140
October 5, 2023 at 6:30pm
Minutes

Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order by President Comer at 6:30pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited with a moment of Silent Reflection that followed.

Roll Call

Present - *Councilman Eades, Councilman Robinson, President Comer, Councilman Hays, Councilman Hitt, Councilman Stahl*

Absent - *Councilman Peters*

Minutes – Approval of September 21, 2023 minutes, approved by unanimous voice vote

Public Hearing – none

Communications/Announcements - none

Audience Concerns

Michael Norman, 188 S. Oak St.

1. Discussed concerns with London administration for not providing plans if the Fire Levy doesn't pass in November. Feels that the administration is not supporting the fire levy.
2. Discussion back and forth about fire funding between Mr. Norman, Mayor Closser, and Safety Service Director Castle and limited information provided to the public regarding any plans if the Fire Levy fails.

Tommy Boyd, 48 N. Union St.

1. Agreed with Mr. Norman regarding information on funding the Fire dept
2. Supports Issue #2 – legalizing marijuana
3. Thank you for listening
4. Sunnyside keeping busy with ferial cats
5. Flags looking bad
6. Trash pick up on Lafayette
7. Rate increase with BPU projects not done

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

London City Council

Meeting

Casto & Harris Inc. Form S-301 E1412692LD

October 5, 2023

Held _____ 20 _____

- 8. Discussed concerns with the increase of students to the London City Schools and how this can impact current school resources.
- 9. Voiced concerns with city infrastructure with all the growth with housing and apartment developments. Hopes the city is ready.
- 10. Thanked everyone for all they do.

President Comer – We do have projects coming down the road and they will be appropriated as they come. The current housing development projects will not start for another year or so. It’s a slow process, not something that happens overnight.

Committee Reports

Personnel & Finance Committee –

Councilman Stahl – nothing new tonight. Finance Committee meets next Tuesday 10/10 after the Public Safety Committee meeting.

Councilman Hitt – nothing new to report

Public Service Committee –

Councilman Robinson –

Park & Rec’s report. Reviewed notes from meeting; which are attached to committee minutes.

Councilman Eades –

Street Dept report. Reviewed notes from meeting; which are attached to committee minutes. There’s some legislation that will be coming. The salt barn collapsed, it was insured, but not covered due to age.

Public Safety Committee –

Councilman Hays – Read the minutes from the 9/21 BPU meeting.

Water Dept – Meter issue on Center. \$200 for testing. Recycle tank on schedule for repair.

Waste Water – Mr. Vest motioned to run an ad for waste water workers.

Sanitation Dept – Citizen wants to volunteer and help. Citizen concerns regarding storm sewer. Why does London Correctional receive refunds on their bill and not citizens of London, and cellular meters being installed.

City Official Reports

Mayor – Notes attached

Safety Service Director – nothing to add

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

London City Council

Meeting

Casto & Harris Inc. Form S-301 E1412692LD

October 5, 2023

Held _____ 20 _____

Auditor – n/a

Old Business

3rd Reading

RESOLUTION 201-23 Sponsored by: A RESOLUTION requesting construction loan financing from the Ohio water development authority for the city of London's sludge press project by the city of London, Madison County, OH and declaring an emergency.

Councilman Robinson – This sludge press was approved for purchase last year; this legislation approves funding.

Councilman Eades – Mr. Duncan stated we could pay for the sludge from the 665 funds. After researching this project, we cannot pay for the sludge press from the 665 funds; which is mostly used for repairs and maintenance only. We can use the Sanitary fund that had \$1 mil in it last year, but now has \$900,000 in it. I recommend to pay for this equipment out of that fund and not do a loan.

Director Castle – Mr. Duncan has submitted several repairs out of the account and I'd hate to take the funds for the sludge press and have a short fall.

Councilman Eades – Mr. Castle can you speak to or explain why we are down \$600,000 in that fund? If they had anything over \$50,000, they would have to come to Council.

Director Castle – The Auditor and I looked into that and there was a short fall in revenue, money out that was encumbered last year that shows up in this year's report, and increase in repairs.

Mayor Closser – We use to have a farmer remove the sludge for us, but no longer. It costs \$75,000 - \$100,000 to remove the sludge now.

Councilman Hitt – Do you know what the interest rate is for the loan?

Director Castle – I don't know what it is, but it's lower than current market rates.

President Comer – Is there a way we can find out the interest rate?

Director Castle – Yes, I can get that information for you.

President Comer – The longer we wait, the interest rate may go up.

*Motion to adopt RESOLUTION by Councilman Robinson, 2nd by Councilman Stahl.
The motion carried with 5 in favor and 0 against by voice vote*

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
London City Council

Minutes of

Meeting

Casto & Harris Inc. Form S-301 E1412692LD

October 5, 2023

Held _____ 20 _____

2nd Reading

ORDINANCE 212-23 - Sponsored by: Andrew Hitt - an ORDINANCE vacating an alley. The City has received a petition to vacate an alley. From lot 36 to the east side of lot 35, there is 57.23ft by 8.25ft of an alley that runs into Canterbury Dr.

Public Hearing scheduled for 11/2/2023 at 6:30pm

ORDINANCE 213-23 - Sponsored by: Andrew Hitt - an ORDINANCE vacating an alley. The City has received a petition to vacate an alley. Alley between 211 & 213 Toland St.

Public Hearing scheduled for 11/2/2023 at 6:30pm

New Business

ORDINANCE 214-23 - Sponsored By: Henry Comer - An ordinance amending official zoning map. Parcels: 31-02617.005, 31-02687.000, 31-02685.000(PARTIAL), 31-02258.000(PARTIAL), & 31-02617.006 – Rezoning to multi-family Planned Unit Development (PUD).

Public Hearing scheduled for 11/16/2023 at 6:30pm

Councilman Eades – It came up at the Public Service committee that there’s concerns with traffic on Keny Blvd. There’s a question about private lanes and requested clarification. The roads labeled on the map are private roads and city doesn’t maintain those.

Councilman Stahl – Is Keny wide enough to have turn lanes?

Director Castle – There is a middle turn lane already marked on Keny Blvd.

Mr. Norman asked – Has there been any tax abatements for these apartments?

President Comer – There hasn’t been a request submitted like the other housing developments.

Councilman Eades – That was asked last night and Mr. Castle responded with a no. There hasn’t been a tax abatement requested for the property.

Round Table

Councilman Robinson – Sorry for missing the last meeting and for all the well wishes for an exciting weekend.

Councilman Hays – Public Safety committee is next Tuesday 10/10 at 5:00pm. I had the honor to call the London High School vs Jonathon Alder football game and that was a great game. Thank all city employees for a job well done. Bill Long does a great job. We have good people working for the city.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
London City Council

Minutes of

Meeting

Casto & Harris Inc. Form S-301 E1412692LD

October 5, 2023

Held _____ 20 _____

Councilman Eades – I have some notes and questions.

1. Where are we with the website app?

Director Castle – It’s on hold until we get a new Executive Assistant. This person should be involved in this process.

Mayor Closser – After it was approved in June to purchase a new website app, there was discussions about piggy backing on other city departments. I would prefer if we have our own app.

2. Water plant update?

Mayor Closser – We are working close with Mid-Ohio. We believe we have a solution. Working with Wigen to do a complete start up and get the ammonia out. Meeting next week. The computer system calibration is very intense.

Councilman Eades – Is the well dug?

Mayor Closser – Yes.

3. Any update on the police station funding?

Mayor Closser – Still waiting for the official notification. It should be finalized in November.

4. I want to bring this up for discussion, office space for Council to use. A work space to use for meeting with people? A discussion about the office space that BPU uses.

President Comer – Would like a room that we don’t have to schedule and use whenever we want.

Mayor Closser – We can discuss it more and set up a meeting with Jennifer and Carol to discuss options.

Councilman Eades – Would need a room that locks.

President Comer – We need to use a copier, printer, and to store laptops.

Councilman Hitt – Nothing

Councilman Stahl – the 7th and 8th grade football at Alder is tonight and they are winning. Downtown is looking great. The hotel and opera house work started. Council has done more and passed more this past year. In about a year things are going to begin looking really nice.

President Comer – We’ve passed things now and may not see them for a few years. What happened here is the catalyst to what’s to come. Thank all the Council here.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

London City Council

Meeting

Casto & Harris Inc. Form S-301 E1412692LD

October 5, 2023

Held _____ 20____

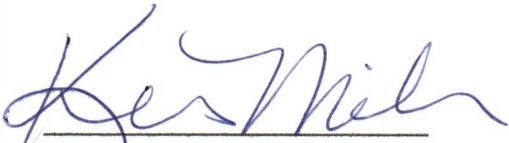
We've gotten a lot of things done. Fun Fact #5. The number of meetings left of this year as being Council President.

Madam Clerk Miller – President Comer, be advised the first 30 minutes of this meeting was not live and I'm not sure if it recorded. YouTube went live at 6:25pm, I enlarged my screen and when I minimized it around 7:00pm the meeting was not live anymore. Not sure what happened. Sorry.

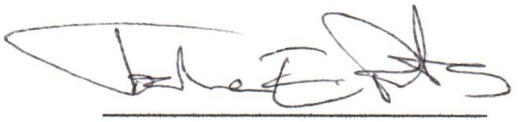
Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:57pm

Attestation: Minutes approved, filed in Auditor's Office, and posted on City of London website for public review.


Kris Miller, Council Clerk

10/19/23
Date


Henry Comer, Council President
Josh Peters

10-19-2023
Date

London City Council Update 10.5.23

Good evening and thanks to everyone for coming out.

Tuesday the Board of Zoning appeals met and heard three cases. The first was a variance to the required setback on the corner of Riley Avenue and South Walnut Street. This application had already been passed through the process but expired due to the timeframe. This application was approved and the property owner will now be building a house on the lot. The second application was for a residence on Quincy Circle in the new London Landing development. This variance was for encroachment on the rear setbacks. The owners want to build a deck but exceeded the rear setback by three feet. The property has their retention pond behind the residence and the board approved their application.

The final application was for a conditional use permit for two parcels on Keny Boulevard behind Merchants Bank and the strip mall. The developer will be building 22 double unit condominiums, 44 total residencies, and the application was approved.

Housing is continuing to prosper in the City of London. Besides these 44 units you all have legislation in front of you for a Planned Unit Development, PUD. This 26 ½ acre area is located on Keny Boulevard around and behind the current apartment complexes. The plan consists of apartments for rent and townhomes for sale. This plan in conjunction with their plan to construct 22 double unit condominiums for sale will bring around 422 door fronts to the community.

The developers plan for the 66 home second phase of London Landing has made its way through our engineering firm and is back in the hands of the developer's team. I would assume they will be looking to start construction on their infrastructure very soon. The 61 home first phase of London Landing is moving right along. A lot of the houses are built and people are already starting to move into the completed homes.

I just spoke with the Pulte Group about the infill housing development between State Route 42, Lafayette Street, and State Route 142, High Street for 235 homes. They are currently working on some site and engineering items and firming up their lot costs. Their next step will be to get their engineering submitted.

Westwood Collective continues to do great things in our downtown area which includes housing. The buildings they are currently renovating will have apartments on the top levels. They have also started work on the old hotel. They will be converting this property into a 12-unit apartment building.

There is a lot of great things going on around the city. I can remember making call after call when I became Mayor trying to get developers to just look at London. Now we have become the next thing where people want to come here to develop, renovate and live. This gives us a great advantage where we can make sure we are bringing in the right development at the right pace.

I was able to attend the ribbon cuttings for Sami Faye's, Polished on Main and an event at London 101. These are all businesses in our beautiful historic downtown. Please make sure to stop by, say hello and shop local. London 101 will be having their ribbon cutting soon and will be opening within 10 days.

This past Thursday myself along with others were able to have lunch with our State Representative Brian Stewart. He came in to talk about the things he has been doing for our district and what is on the horizon. We were also able to speak to him about our communities, great things that have been going on

and in what areas we need help. This was a great luncheon and I want to thank Representative Stewart for his time and for being so present in our communities.

Just a reminder that early voting starts October 11th for the November 7th General Election. I encourage all citizens to get out and have their voices heard at the polls.

The MOLO fun fact is the number 2,147. That is the total number of dry and canned goods the City of London collected last year in the BEE the Change countywide food drive that was donated to the HELP House and Madison County Food Pantry which are both located here in London. The Madison County Mayors Committee will once again be having our Food Drive competition. All four major communities, London, West Jefferson, Plain City and Mount Sterling, will be holding a canned and dry food drive from Monday October 16th to Friday October 20th in conjunction with World Food Day. The community who collects the most food items will have bragging rights for the competition. You will be able to donate items at each communities City Hall that week from 8:00am to 4:00pm. The food collected will stay in the community it was dropped off in and given to the food pantries.

Speaking of Mayor's. Thank you to Mayor Carney of Plain City for being such a great sport in our friendly bet at this past week's varsity football game. She did wear her London Red Raiders t-shirt to their Council meeting last night. I also want to congratulate both teams on an entertaining and heart pounding game. It was fun to watch and both teams played extremely well, on offense.