

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
London City Council

Minutes of

Meeting

CASTO & HARRIS INC. S-301

Held July 16, 2026 20

London City Council
20 S. Walnut Street, London, Ohio 43140
July 16, 2026, at 6:30 pm
Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Peters at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited with a moment of Silent Reflection.

Roll Call

Present – Councilwoman Jackman, Councilman Hays, Councilman Boyd, President Peters, Councilman Eades, Councilman Hitt, Councilman Stahl

Absent – Councilwoman Treynor

Minutes – Approval of July 2, 2026, minutes, approved by unanimous vote

Public Hearing – none

Communications/Announcements – none

Audience Concerns –

Jeremiah Campana - London Must Redraw Ward Boundaries to Ensure Fair Representation and Equitable Service Delivery. This report analyzes the City of London’s current ward population imbalances and outlines the legal and practical necessity of proactive redistricting ahead of approved residential growth. As London experiences significant growth, ensuring proper representation and service delivery is critical to our city’s future. The city has already approved approximately 1,704 new housing units across multiple developments. Using an average of 2 persons per household, this represents an estimated 3,408 additional residents, with the vast majority concentrated in Ward 1. Current ward boundaries already show substantial population imbalances. Given the scale of planned developments, by the time they are completed, this problem will escalate significantly if no action is taken. To make matters worse, the city does not track police, fire/EMS, or street-maintenance data by ward, making it impossible to verify equitable service delivery. Police, fire, and street spending continues to rise even after recent privatizations. Redistricting now — before full build-out of new developments — is necessary and lawful under Ohio Revised Code 731.06 to maintain substantially equal wards and ensure fair representation and service for every resident. Cities across the country can and have been sued for having ward imbalances. It would behoove this government to be proactive in this situation instead of reactive. The standard method for determining fair ward populations is to take the current population total based on the most recent census and divide by the number of wards. London has 4 wards and a population of 10,284. Ideally, then, each ward would have 2,571 people. The federal courts have set a precedent that wards are typically fine having a total population deviation of approximately 10%. To calculate ward deviation, the following math formula is used: (Actual Population – Ideal Population) ÷ Ideal Population × 100. A positive number means overpopulated (diluted votes); negative means underpopulated (amplified votes). Key Takeaway: Ward 1 is already 35% over the ideal ward size, while Ward 2 and Ward 3 are 13% and 17% under the ideal. Only Ward 4 falls

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within the generally accepted 10% total deviation range. These imbalances dilute the voting power of residents in Ward 1 specifically.

Raymond Anthony asked several questions, covering several topics.

Committee Reports

Public Service Committee –

Councilman Boyd –

Councilman Hitt – Next meeting is 8/11/2026 at 5:00 pm in the conference room.

Councilwoman Jackman –

Public Safety Committee –

Councilman Hays – Next meeting is 8/11/2026 at 6:00 pm in the conference room.

Councilman Stahl –

Finance, Budget, and Personnel Committee –

*Councilman Eades –*Month-to-date revenue \$1,409,130; month-to-date expenses \$2,711,183; this includes \$1.4 million for the new PD. Year-to-date revenue \$12,747,498. Year-to-date expenses are \$14,799,952, which includes 4.5 million for the PD. The Income tax report is basically flat for the year. There were many items in new business, including a number of donations. These will all be addressed in new business, and we can discuss these at that time. We also discussed the Audit from Julian & Grube.
Next meeting is 8/17/2026 at 5:30 pm in the conference room.

City Official Reports

Mayor Closser –

Good evening and thanks to everyone for coming out.
I would like to start by thanking everyone involved in making the Independence Day Parade one of the biggest and best Madison County has ever seen. It would not have been possible without the volunteers, participants, city departments, and all the people who lined the streets. When it was all said and done, we had 85 entries in the parade. As I announced the parade, I looked down the road at all the happy faces celebrating 250 years of independence; I couldn't help but smile. It was a wonderful day, and proud I could help bring that to the people of London.
Every year we seem to learn something new, and this year was no different. With so many entries, the candy was being tossed all over town. After the parade, there was some candy left on the streets, which really has never happened before. We have made a note for future 4th of July parades; we will run the street sweeper immediately after the parade before we open the roads back up. I do appreciate the homeowners and business owners who took a few minutes to help clean up after the parade.
Friday and Saturday at 7:30 pm and also Sunday the 19th at 2:00 pm, the Madison County Arts Council will present THE ADDAMS FAMILY at London High School. This musical is a comical feast that embraces the wackiness in every family, features an original story and a

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dilemma that's every father's nightmare: Wednesday Addams, the ultimate princess of darkness, has grown up and fallen in love with a sweet, smart young man from a respectable family—a man her parents have never met. And if that wasn't upsetting enough, Wednesday confides in her father and begs him not to tell her mother. Now, Gomez Addams must do something he's never done before—keep a secret from his beloved wife, Morticia. Everything will change for the whole family on the fateful night they host a dinner for Wednesday's "normal" boyfriend and his parents. Tickets are available online and at the door.

The excitement continues on Friday, August 7, and Saturday, August 8, as Historic Downtown London comes alive for the 18th Annual London Rhythm & Rib Fest. This has become one of our community's signature summer events, drawing many visitors from across Central Ohio to experience everything that makes London such a special place. Whether you come for the award-winning barbecue, outstanding live music, local vendors, family activities, or simply to enjoy time with friends and neighbors, there is truly something for everyone. More than just a festival, Rhythm & Rib Fest is a celebration of our community. A weekend that supports our local businesses, showcases our beautiful downtown, and creates lasting memories for families of all ages. I encourage everyone to mark your calendars, invite your family and friends, and spend the weekend with us. It was an honor to attend and speak at the opening ceremonies of the Madison County Fair Ohio this past Saturday. The Madison County Fair is one of the very best traditions in our community, bringing together families, friends, neighbors, and visitors to celebrate everything that makes our county special.

One of my favorite parts of the fair is watching our young people proudly showcase the projects they have worked so hard on throughout the year. Their dedication, responsibility, and sportsmanship are truly inspiring and are a reminder that the future of Madison County is in great hands. I encourage you to come out and support our local youth, exhibitors, volunteers, and everyone who works so hard to make this fair a success.

I hope you'll also come cheer me on, or against me, as I step a little outside my comfort zone! I'll be competing in the Dignitary Hog Show on Friday at 10:00 a.m., and then I'll be climbing behind the wheel for the Demolition Derby on Saturday. It should be a lot of fun, and I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the fairgrounds.

Thank you to the Madison County Fair Board, the volunteers, sponsors, exhibitors, and countless individuals who make this outstanding event possible each year. I hope to see you at the fair.

It has been an exciting week for the City of London as I had the privilege of attending two ribbon cuttings celebrating new local businesses!

First, we welcomed Scooter's Coffee to London. It's always exciting to see new businesses invest in our community, create jobs, and provide another great option for residents and visitors. We wish the entire Scooter's team much success and appreciate their investment in our city.

I also had the pleasure of celebrating the opening of Steep Society, a truly unique addition to London. Hosted by Meghan in a beautifully restored historic 19th-century home just blocks from downtown, Steep Society offers an intimate, reservation-only afternoon tea experience unlike anything else in our area. It's another wonderful example of the creativity and entrepreneurship that continue to make London a destination to visit.

Every new business strengthens our local economy, creates opportunities, and adds to the quality of life in our community. Thank you to the owners of both Scooter's Coffee and Steep Society for choosing London as the place to grow your dreams.

The new Police Department building is coming along. We continue to meet weekly and keep up on the progress daily.

Now on to the MOLO Fun Fact, which is the number 3. With the departure of LPD Chief Nicol at the beginning of August, we have been going through the process of hiring a new Chief. Three great applicants, Sergeant Cooper, Sergeant Harris, and Sergeant Orahood, all applied for the position. They were all great candidates are any one of them would have

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made a great chief. After the testing, interviews, and civil service process, we have hired a new Police Chief. I would like to congratulate Donovan Cooper, who will now be referred to as Chief Cooper. He has been with the department for many years and is very involved in the community. We look forward to him taking this position and continuing the great work our Police Department does. I do want to thank all the candidates for going through the process and their dedication to the citizens of London.

Safety Service Director Saltsman – discussed several topics, including the new police department building update and Rumpke information being sent to all trash customers in London.

Auditor Combs – discussed the Audit, in which there were 3 action items for the City to address

City Law Director Davis – nothing to add

Old Business

3rd Reading

RESOLUTION 145-26 Sponsored by: Lisa Jackman

A resolution revising job descriptions. The City is in need of revising several job descriptions, and Council must approve these revisions.

Motion to adopt RESOLUTION by Councilman Hays, 2nd Councilman Stahl. The motion carried by the following vote:

Abstain:	0-	
Affirmative:	6-	Eades, Hitt, Jackman, Boyd, Hays, Stahl
Against:	0-	

New Business

RESOLUTION 148-26 Sponsored by: Greg Eades

A resolution increasing appropriations. The Police Department has received a donation from London Rotary.

Motion to suspend the three-reading rule by Councilman Hays, 2nd Councilman Stahl. The motion failed by the following vote:

Abstain:	0-	
Affirmative:	5-	Hitt, Jackman, Boyd, Hays, Stahl
Against:	1-	Eades

Leave for 2nd Reading

RESOLUTION 149-26 Sponsored by: Greg Eades

A resolution increasing appropriations. The Fire Department has received a donation from London Rotary

Leave for 2nd Reading

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RESOLUTION 150-26 Sponsored by: Lisa Jackman

A resolution increasing appropriations. The Fire Department has received a donation from the Cobra Club

Leave for 2nd Reading

RESOLUTION 151-26 Sponsored by: Lisa Jackman

A resolution increasing appropriations. The Police Department has received a donation from the Cobra Club

Motion to suspend the three-reading rule by Councilman Hays, 2nd Councilman Stahl. The motion failed by the following vote:

Abstain: 0-
Affirmative: 5- Hitt, Jackman, Boyd, Hays, Stahl
Against: 1- Eades

Leave for 2nd Reading

RESOLUTION 152-26 Sponsored by: Greg Eades

A resolution increasing appropriations. The Fire Department has received a donation from a private citizen

Leave for 2nd Reading

RESOLUTION 153-26 Sponsored by: Shannon Treynor

A resolution increasing appropriations. MORPC has reimbursed the City for a portion of the intern's salary

Leave for 2nd Reading

RESOLUTION 154-26 Sponsored by: Shannon Treynor

A resolution decreasing appropriations. The tablets purchased for the Fire Department did not cost as much as they originally planned for

Motion to suspend the three-reading rule by Councilman Hays, 2nd Councilman Eades. The motion carried by the following vote:

Abstain: 0-
Affirmative: 6- Eades, Hitt, Jackman, Boyd, Hays, Stahl
Against: 0-

Motion to adopt RESOLUTION by Councilman Stahl, 2nd Councilman Hays. The motion carried by the following vote:

Abstain: 0-
Affirmative: 6- Eades, Hitt, Jackman, Boyd, Hays, Stahl
Against: 0-

RESOLUTION 155-26 Sponsored by: Shannon Treynor

A resolution increasing appropriations. The Fire Department would like to purchase a portable MARCS radio.

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Motion to suspend the three-reading rule by Councilman Hays, 2nd Councilman Stahl. The motion carried by the following vote:

Abstain: 0-
Affirmative: 6- Eades, Hitt, Jackman, Boyd, Hays, Stahl
Against: 0-

Motion to adopt RESOLUTION by Councilman Stahl, 2nd Councilman Hays. The motion carried by the following vote:

Abstain: 0-
Affirmative: 6- Eades, Hitt, Jackman, Boyd, Hays, Stahl
Against: 0-

RESOLUTION 156-26 Sponsored by: Shannon Treynor
An ordinance approving the original Certificate of Estimated Resources. City Council needs to approve the original Certificate of Estimated Resources

Motion to suspend the three-reading rule by Councilman Hays, 2nd Councilman Stahl. The motion carried by the following vote:

Abstain: 0-
Affirmative: 6- Eades, Hitt, Jackman, Boyd, Hays, Stahl
Against: 0-

Motion to adopt RESOLUTION by Councilman Stahl, 2nd Councilman Hays. The motion carried by the following vote:

Abstain: 0-
Affirmative: 6- Eades, Hitt, Jackman, Boyd, Hays, Stahl
Against: 0-

RESOLUTION 157-26 Sponsored by: Shannon Treynor
An ordinance approving the amended Certificate of Estimated Resources. City Council needs to approve the amended Certificate of Estimated Resources.

Motion to suspend the three-reading rule by Councilman Hays, 2nd Councilwoman Jackson. The motion carried by the following vote:

Abstain: 0-
Affirmative: 6- Eades, Hitt, Jackman, Boyd, Hays, Stahl
Against: 0-

Motion to adopt RESOLUTION by Councilman Hays, 2nd Councilman Stahl. The motion carried by the following vote:

Abstain: 0-
Affirmative: 6- Eades, Hitt, Jackman, Boyd, Hays, Stahl
Against: 0-

RESOLUTION 158-26 Sponsored by: Shannon Treynor
An ordinance approving the original revenue budget. City Council needs to approve the original revenue budget.

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Motion to suspend the three-reading rule by Councilman Hays, 2nd Councilman Stahl. The motion carried by the following vote:

Abstain: 0-
Affirmative: 6- Eades, Hitt, Jackman, Boyd, Hays, Stahl
Against: 0-

Motion to adopt RESOLUTION by Councilman Stahl, 2nd Councilman Hays. The motion carried by the following vote:

Abstain: 0-
Affirmative: 6- Eades, Hitt, Jackman, Boyd, Hays, Stahl
Against: 0-

RESOLUTION 159-26 Sponsored by: Shannon Treynor
An ordinance approving the amended revenue budget. City Council needs to approve the amended revenue budget.

Motion to suspend the three-reading rule by Councilman Hays, 2nd Councilman Stahl. The motion carried by the following vote:

Abstain: 0-
Affirmative: 6- Eades, Hitt, Jackman, Boyd, Hays, Stahl
Against: 0-

Motion to adopt RESOLUTION by Councilman Stahl, 2nd Councilman Hays. The motion carried by the following vote:

Abstain: 0-
Affirmative: 6- Eades, Hitt, Jackman, Boyd, Hays, Stahl
Against: 0-

ORDINANCE 160-26 Sponsored by: Lisa Jackman
An ordinance amending Section 6.11 of the City Policy and Procedure Manual. The Policy and Procedure Manual must be updated to include the required Cyber Security Policy.

Motion to suspend the three-reading rule by Councilman Hays, 2nd Councilman Eades. The motion carried by the following vote:

Abstain: 0-
Affirmative: 6- Eades, Hitt, Jackman, Boyd, Hays, Stahl
Against: 0-

Motion to adopt RESOLUTION by Councilman Hays, 2nd Councilman Stahl. The motion carried by the following vote:

Abstain: 0-
Affirmative: 6- Eades, Hitt, Jackman, Boyd, Hays, Stahl
Against: 0-

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RESOLUTION 161-26 Sponsored by: Greg Eades

A resolution approving the application to add certain real property to the London Gateway New Community Authority District and to amend the petition for establishment of the London Gateway New Community Authority as a new community authority under Chapter 349 of the Ohio Revised Code; and declaring an emergency.

Motion to suspend the three-reading rule by Councilman Eades, 2nd Councilman Hays. The motion carried by the following vote:

Abstain: 0-
Affirmative: 6- Eades, Hitt, Jackman, Boyd, Hays, Stahl
Against: 0-

Motion to adopt RESOLUTION by Councilman Stahl, 2nd Councilman Hays. The motion carried by the following vote:

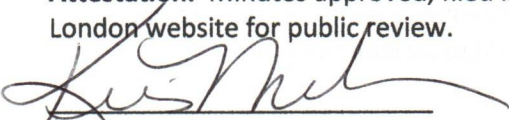
Abstain: 0-
Affirmative: 6- Eades, Hitt, Jackman, Boyd, Hays, Stahl
Against: 0-

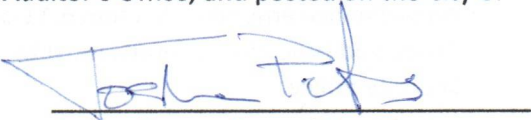
Round Table

Councilman Eades – The Fire Department is in need of Fans to distribute to the Community. Challenged Council members to donate a fan. Shared the London Lions will be hosting a "Summer Splash" at the Municipal Pool on August 5th. Recognized Chief Nicol as being instrumental in the process of getting the new Police Station. Congratulated Sgt Cooper for being promoted to Chief, and he is the 2nd Chief Cooper in London PD's history.

Adjournment - Motion to adjourn at 7:47 pm

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


Kris Miller, Council Clerk
8/6/26
Date


Joshua Peters, Council President
8/6/26
Date