RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of London City Council Meeting

Casto & Harris Inc. Form S-301 E1412692LD

Held December 7, 2023 20

London City Council

20 S. Walnut Street, London, Ohio 43140

December 7, 2023 at 6:30pm

Minutes

Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order by Council President Comer at 6:30pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited with a moment of Silent Reflection for the memory of the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

Roll Call

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

Absent - *Councilman Hays*

Minutes – November 17, 2023 minutes, will be presented at next Council meeting.

Public Hearing - none

Communications/Announcements - none

Audience Concerns

Michael Norman, 188 S. Oak St.

- Concerns with potholes around the city created by Omni Fiber or other utility company. The holes are cut 2 x 2, they are filled in and then a few days later the filling in the holes have sunk, "dips". Do we have to fix those or do we require Omni to come back and fix?
- President Comer – Omni will return and fix the sidewalks and streets in the summer.
- Mayor Closser – It's like any utility, they'll fix and move on as they move around and return to fix them.
- President Comer – So, they'll come back and fix them?
- Mr. Norman – I just wanted to make sure we didn't have to pay for it.

Anita Likens, 157 E. 1st St.

- Read President Franklin Roosevelt's address to Congress on 12/8/1941 after the Japanese attacked Pearly Harbor.
- Councilman Eades – Thank you for reading that.

Tommy Boyd, 48 N. Union St

- Riley Ave – Neighbors have been asking for a "Slow children at play" sign. I just wanted to pass that on.
- CBDG – Provided a handout with information he received from the Housing & Urban Development downtown.
- Are projects meeting Capital Program Plan?
- Mayor Closser – Every year after the budget passes, we bring department heads and ask for their wish list from the capital budget.

Committee Reports

Personnel & Finance Committee –

Councilman Stahl – Next Personnel & Finance meeting is on Monday, 12/11

Councilman Peters – Attended both the Public Service & Finance meetings, next Finance meeting is 12/11 at 6pm.

Public Service Committee –

Councilman Eades – Attended the meeting, read the Parks & Rec report

Councilman Robinson – Attended the meeting, read the Street Dept report

Public Safety Committee –

Councilman Hitt – Attended the Public Safety meeting, next meeting is 12/12 at 5pm.

City Official Reports

Mayor – Pat Closser provided his report. See attached

Safety Service Director – Touchbase on what Mr. Boyd brought to Council earlier. It's a lot of great information, but I think it's for the wrong program. I talked to Mr. Wright today, our program has nothing to with HUD, and the dates don't match.

Auditor – nothing to report

Old Business

2nd Reading

RESOLUTION 225-23 - Sponsored by Josh Peters - A RESOLUTION increasing appropriations

Leave on

RESOLUTION 226-23 - Sponsored by Josh Peters - A RESOLUTION increasing appropriations

Leave on

RESOLUTION 228-23 - Sponsored by Josh Peters - An ORDINANCE authorizing the approval and execution of the transfer agreement between the city of London and the Mid-Ohio water and sewer district

Steve Lelonek and Tom Taylor briefly spoke about Mid-Ohio and was available for questions.

Councilman Eades – reminded the public to view the information from Proforma that is available on the city's website.

Leave on

ORDINANCE 230-23 - Sponsored by Josh Peters - An ORDINANCE amending ordinance 203-22 to reflect a range of salaries of department heads and non-union personnel

Leave on

ORDINANCE 231-23 - Sponsored by Greg Eades - An ORDINANCE to make appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the city of London, state of Ohio, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024

Kenna Combs – needed to amend due to $0.01 difference. New general fund $5,937,495.56 and the total $22,354,858.07.

Motion to adopt ORDINANCE by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Hitt. The motion carried with 5 in favor and 0 against by voice vote

ORDINANCE NO. 232-23 - Sponsored by Josh Peters – An ORDINANCE to approve a temporary increase to the municipal income tax by twenty five hundredths of one percent (0.25%) per annum for a set period of time of seven (7) years, commencing July 1, 2024, of which increase (i) one quarter of one percent (0.25%) per annum shall be used for the purposes of providing funds to pay costs of acquiring, constructing, furnishing, equipping, improving, maintaining, and repairing municipal fire department facilities, to pay general operating expenses of the fire department, and to pay any expenses and debt service charges for debt incurred in connection therewith, and declaring an emergency.

Motion to suspend the 3-reading rule by Councilman Peters, 2nd Councilman Stahl. The motion carried with 5 in favor and 0 against by voice vote.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 233-23 - Sponsored By Josh Peters - A RESOLUTION to place the issue of a temporary increase to the municipal income tax by twenty-five hundredths of one percent (0.25%) per annum for a set period of time of seven (7) years as provided in ORDINANCE no. 232-23, on the ballot at the election to be held on March 19 ,2024, and directing the board of elections of Madison County, Ohio to conduct such election, and declaring an emergency.

Motion to suspend the 3-reading rule by Councilman Peters, 2nd Councilman Stahl. The motion carried with 5 in favor and 0 against by voice vote.

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

New Business

RESOLUTION 234-23 - Sponsored by Henry Comer - A RESOLUTION increasing appropriations. There was a large water main break and repairs had to be made.

Motion to suspend the 3-reading rule by Councilman Robinson, 2nd Councilman Hitt. The motion carried with 5 in favor and 0 against by voice vote.

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

RESOLUTION 235-23 - Sponsored by Henry Comer - A RESOLUTION increasing appropriations. BPU is in need of a lime slaker.

Motion to suspend the 3-reading rule by Councilman Robinson, 2nd Councilman Stahl. The motion carried with 5 in favor and 0 against by voice vote.

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

RESOLUTION 236-23 - Sponsored by TBD - A RESOLUTION authorizing the Mayor of the City of London, Ohio to accept an Ohio EPA water supply revolving loan account (WSRLA) on behalf of the City of London for construction of the North Main Street water main replacement project. The City of London needs to accept the Loan to proceed with the project.

Motion to amend loan amount to $1,561,862.60 by Councilman Robinson, 2nd Councilman Stahl. The motion carried with 5 in favor and 0 against by voice vote.

Motion to suspend the 3-reading rule by Councilman Stahl, 2nd Councilman Hitt. The motion carried with 5 in favor and 0 against by voice vote.

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

RESOLUTION 237-23 - Sponsored by John Stahl - A RESOLUTION requesting construction loan financing from the Ohio Water Development Authority for the City of London's west water treatment plant disinfection improvements project by the City of London, Madison County, OH and declaring an emergency.

Russell Thompson – We use gas which is dangerous and old. We'd like to switch to liquid hydrochloride. It's safer and more efficient.

President Comer – This will be paid out of the $18 million already approved.

Motion to suspend the 3-reading rule by Councilman Stahl, 2nd Councilman Robinson. The motion carried with 5 in favor and 0 against by voice vote.

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

ORDINANCE 238-23 - Sponsored by TBD – An ORDINANCE amending official zoning map. 216 E. First St., London, OH from M1 to R3.

Public Hearing on 1/18/2024

ORDINANCE 239-23 - Sponsored by TBD - An ORDINANCE amending section 1228 of the Codified ORDINANCES. Storm sewers.

Motion to amend language under Section V to add "of the London Codified Ordinance" by Councilman Eades, 2nd Councilman Hitt. The motion carried with 5 in favor and 0 against by voice vote.

Motion to suspend the 3-reading rule by Councilman Hitt, 2nd Councilman Stahl. The motion carried with 5 in favor and 0 against by voice vote.

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

Round Table

Councilman Stahl – When we were elected, we were elected to make tough decisions. Mid-Ohio is very confusing and everyone need to educate themselves by going to the city website and read the information provided.

Councilman Hitt – Next Public Safety meeting is December 12th at 5pm

Councilman Robinson – Nothing to report

Councilman Peters – Next Finance meeting is 12/11 at 6pm

Councilman Eades – Correction for the Clerk, the levy has to be turn into the Election Office by 12/20. To Mayor Closser – Thank her (Eve). I can tell there is a nice tone on what's posted. It's changed to a more positive message. I feel it would be beneficial if we could set up a day or 2 of training with the Law Director for new Council

members and for a review for the rest of us. The training OML provides is good, but we need training more specific for our city. I think scheduling a tour of city offices, departments, and plants would be good too. Let's Council see what people do.

President Comer – Swearing in of new council members can be done at the next meeting. We'll add it to the agenda.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:46pm

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

Kris Miller, Council Clerk

12/21/23
Date

Josh Peters, Council President Pro Tem

12/21/23
Date

London City Council Update December 7, 2023

Good evening and thanks to everyone for coming out.

I was unable to attend the last meeting due to a prior engagement which was the first meeting after the general election. I would like to congratulate those who were victorious in the election. I am excited to work with the new City Council as we continue to move London forward. I would also like to thank the citizens of London for their support in the election as I enter into my third term. This is a very busy time for the City of London and I embrace the challenge to help continue to grow London while keeping that small town feel.

I would like to welcome Eve Breedlove to the City of London administration office. She was hired as the new Administration Executive Assistant in late November. Eve has an extensive background in administration work as well as tech. She has hit the ground running going after grants, updating our social media and many other things. She is fitting in great and we are excited to have her join the team. We look forward to all the great things she will accomplish.

With the addition of Mrs. Breedlove we have signed the contract with Apptegy and she will be heading up this project. Apptegy is the company that will be designing our website and app while hosting. Once we get the new website up and running each department and City Council will have access to their own page. There will be some training but we are excited to add more tools to continue to improve communication with the citizens and get them information.

We have had some exciting news on the East Water Plant. The City of London in partnership with Mid-Ohio has been working very hard on getting the plant up and running. We have had some successful initial tests being able to produce clean water. Testing is being done on the plant this week as we are running it to get a weeks' worth of samples that will be sent to the MASI Environmental Labs to be tested. We are confident that the results will come back good. The next step will be to meet with the EPA next week and go over the plant, test results and our next steps. This is very exciting and at the next City Council meeting we hope to have some more great news about the East Water Plant.

There have been some great events going on around town and some wonderful things coming up. Events include the downtown shop hop tomorrow night, Santa Breakfasts, the Madison County Board of DD Christmas Cabaret on Monday night, and so much more. We had our Mayors Day sale at Shoe Sensation and we are awaiting the final donation amount that will be given to the Raider Rack at London City Schools. Please make sure this Holiday Season that you try to shop local and support all of our businesses here in London.

Now on to the MOLO Fun Fact which is the number 3. That is how many social media platforms you can see the new fun video about London. A few years back a social media influencer came to London and did a video on the City. This was to help promote the City and highlight a few of the things we have to offer. Joey, Sir Yacht, and I became quick friends and have stayed in touch. He wanted to come back out and do another video highlighting all the new things the City has going on, highlight the work in downtown and have some fun with the Police and Fire Department. This video was posted to Tik Tok, Facebook and Instagram and has had 10,000 likes, almost 100,000 views and hundreds of shares. I want to thank Joey for highlighting us on his platform and it helps show others how great London is.