

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
London City Council

Minutes of

Meeting

Canto & Harris Inc. Form S-301 E442692LD

Held

April 17, 2025

20

London City Council
20 S. Walnut Street, London, Ohio 43140
April 17, 2025 at 6:30pm
Minutes

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Present – *Councilman Eades, Councilman Hays, Councilman McDaniels, Councilman Stahl, Councilwoman Treynor, Councilwoman Jackman, Councilman Hitt*

Absent – *President Peters*

Minutes – Approval of April 3rd, 2025 minutes, approved by unanimous vote

Public Hearing – None

Communications/Announcements – none

Audience Concerns

Nancy Drenning, 169 E. High Street and Connie Raub, 173 E. High Street - addressed council regarding ongoing issues with a neighbor who is breeding beagles. They reported persistent problems with excessive barking, unsanitary conditions from straw and food attracting birds, and general disruptions to their quality of life. Although legal action has begun, residents noted that conditions have not significantly improved. They were advised by council members and city staff to continue filing individual complaints to create a stronger paper trail for enforcement and potential court action. It was confirmed that the city's law director and city staff, including Steve Hume, are involved, and additional charges may be forthcoming. Residents expressed their frustrations but agreed to continue documenting and reporting incidents as advised.

Committee Reports

Councilman McDaniels reported on the sanitation and street maintenance along with fire/ems reports.

Councilman Hays provided the Safety Service Committee report from April 8. He stated regarding police matters; they discussed creating two new "Support Specialist" positions in light of the upcoming dispatch transition to the county. Under new business, they continued discussions on the Park Street and Fifth Street crosswalk, and the next committee meeting is scheduled for May 13 at 6:00 PM in the conference room.

Councilman Eades delivered the Personnel, Budget, and Finance Committee report from their April 14 meeting. Revenue for the month was \$2,144,354, while expenses were \$2,173,243. Year-to-date revenue totaled \$9,803,627, which includes approximately \$4.2 million in bond funds for the new police department project. Year-to-date expenses were

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\$6,084,250. Regarding old business, they revisited the possibility of hiring an HR specialist. Under new business, they discussed a CRA (Community Reinvestment Area) application by London Collective for a redevelopment project on First Street. They also reviewed police department staffing issues, including proposed new clerk positions and related pay scales. Additionally, the committee received a late update regarding the city's executive administrative assistant position. Due to the late notice, no action was taken, and a special meeting was scheduled for May 1 at 6:00 PM to address it. Their next regular meeting will be May 19 at 5:30 PM.

Councilman Stahl summarized the police department report

Councilwoman Jackman gave the parks and recreation report

City Official Reports

Ms. Breedlove reported that Mayor Closser and several Safety Services officials were attending the annual Autism Awareness volleyball game with the Madison County Tigers Special Olympics team. She also provided updates on the "Hoppy Hour" event, noting the tremendous community response with over 30 donors and approximately 1,200 RSVPs on Facebook. Alcohol prizes are being handled safely, with alcohol remaining sealed and redeemed only via tickets to ensure no alcohol is distributed directly in the park. Participants must present a valid ID to claim prizes, and alternative prizes are available for those who prefer non-alcoholic options.

Old Business

10th Reading

ORDINANCE 209-24 Sponsored by: Shannon Treynor, Andrew Hitt and Greg Eades An ORDINANCE declaring the improvement of certain real property located in the City of London, Madison County, Ohio to be a public purpose pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.41; Declaring such property to be exempt Real Property taxation; Designating improvements that, once made, will directly benefit the parcels for which improvement is declared to be a public purpose; Requiring annual service payments in lieu of taxes; Establishing an urban redevelopment tax increment equivalent fund; authorizing the execution of a tax increment financing TIF agreement; and providing related authorizations pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Sections 5709.41, 5709.42, 5709.43, 5709.832 and 5709.85

Councilwoman Treynor stated that just prior to the session this evening, she received a call from Mr. Paul Gross. She explained that everyone had been awaiting a decision from the school regarding a financing agreement related to the commercial TIF area. The school had initially requested a municipal income tax sharing agreement for all new employee income exceeding \$1 million in any municipal or tax year within the commercial TIF area. However, they were seeking an agreement that would cover the entire commercial area. Mr. Gross, although not listed on the support agenda, attended a board meeting earlier this week to discuss the fairness of such an arrangement. He pointed out that the school currently has no income expectations from purely commercial properties, and there are no anticipated residential structures in the area. An income tax sharing arrangement for new taxes exceeding \$1 million would directly affect the city's ability to provide services within those areas. Furthermore, because the school district already imposes its own income tax, Mr. Gross noted that this would amount to "double dipping" into new revenue generated from the commercial TIF. Mr. Gross reported that the superintendent allowed him to speak during the board meeting, although the board did not take a vote at that time. Earlier

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today, Superintendent Kramer contacted Mr. Gross to inform him that the school has withdrawn its request for the income tax sharing agreement. As a result, preparations are being made for a special session to finalize the language for the commercial TIF agreement, allowing it to be brought forward for a first reading and, hopefully, adopted at the May 1 hearing.

Leave for 11th Reading

3rd Reading

RESOLUTION 128-25 Sponsored by: Brent McDaniels A RESOLUTION authorizing the advertisement for bids for personal property no longer needed for city purposes

Councilman McDaniels stated that this is to sell a durapatcher and lawnmower that are no longer being used.

Motion to adopt ORDINANCE by Councilwoman Hays, 2nd Councilman Hitt. The motion carried by the following vote:

Absent: 0-
Affirmative: 7- Eades, Hays, Treynor, Stahl, Jackman, Hitt, McDaniels
Against: 0-

RESOLUTION 130-25 Sponsored by: Lisa Jackman A RESOLUTION authorizing the Safety Service Director to advertise for bids for trash hauling services.

Councilwoman Jackman stated this is to request bids for a contracted hauler to remove trash from the dump site. This contract is reviewed and renewed every two years. Our current contract is up in November.

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

Absent: 0-
Affirmative: 7- Eades, Hays, Treynor, Stahl, Jackman, Hitt, McDaniels
Against: 0-

ORDINANCE 131-25 Sponsored by: John Stahl AN ORDINANCE amending SECTION 209 of the codified ordinances

Councilman Stahl stated that this primarily pertains to the preparation of video records, with compensation not to exceed \$75 per hour and a total of \$750 per video requested. This aligns with the current practices being followed at the state level

Motion to adopt ORDINANCE by Councilwoman Stahl, 2nd Councilman McDaniels. The motion carried by the following vote:

Absent: 0-
Affirmative: 7- Eades, Hays, Treynor, Stahl, Jackman, Hitt, McDaniels
Against: 0-

ORDINANCE 132-25 Sponsored by: Brent McDaniels AN ORDINANCE amending SECTION 1446 of the codified ordinances

Councilman McDaniels stated that the proposed change is to raise contractor fees from

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\$25 to \$100 for those working inside the City of London, aligning with the timing of the upcoming police building project.

Councilman Eades clarified language has been added about contractor insurance and liability limits.

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

Absent: 0-
Affirmative: 7- Eades, Hays, Treynor, Stahl, Jackman, Hitt, McDaniels
Against: 0-

RESOLUTION 134-25 SPONSORED BY: SHANNON TREYNOR A RESOLUTION determining that the establishment of the London Gateway New Community Authority will be conducive the public safety, convenience, and welfare and is intended to result in the development of a new community authority to be organized and a body politic and corporate, and defining the boundary of the new community district

Councilwoman Treynor stated that the proposed New Community Authority (NCA) would encompass both the residential and commercial TIF areas, as previously discussed. She noted that the commercial TIF component is being held over, hopefully for one final time, before adoption. Councilwoman Treynor mentioned that Mr. Eades had a question regarding the NCA agreement, which was not attached to the meeting materials. She clarified that the resolution before the council pertains only to the NCA itself. To ensure all questions are fully addressed, she indicated there is no harm in keeping this item on hold, especially since no further action can be taken without the commercial component. She invited any additional concerns from the council to be raised so they can be addressed accordingly.

Leave for a 4th Reading

New Business

RESOLUTION 135-25 Sponsored by: Brent McDaniels A RESOLUTION authorizing participation in the ODOT road salt contracts awarded in 2025

Councilman McDaniels explained that participating in the salt purchasing pool would allow the city to secure better pricing. He noted that there is a deadline associated with joining the pool, and in order to meet it, the council would need to suspend the three-reading rule. He emphasized that the deadline to submit is no later than May 2 at 5:00 p.m.

Motion to suspend the 3-reading rule by Councilman McDaniels, 2nd Councilman Hays. The motion carried by the following vote:

Absent: 0-
Affirmative: 7- Eades, Hays, Treynor, Stahl, Jackman, Hitt, McDaniels
Against: 0-

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

Absent: 0-
Affirmative: 7- Eades, Hays, Treynor, Stahl, Jackman, Hitt, McDaniels

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Against: 0-

Round Table

Councilman Stahl wished everyone a Happy Easter.

Councilwoman Treynor mentioned that there had been a lot of emergency personnel activity on the highways recently, including several fires and storm damage such as downed trees. She stated everyone to stay safe. She also wished everyone a Happy Easter.

Councilman Hitt announced that the next Service Committee meeting will be held on May 13 at 5:00 p.m. in the meeting room next door. He also stated that there will be a special Finance Committee meeting on May 1 at 6:00 p.m., prior to the council meeting.

Councilman Hays expressed his gratitude to all city employees for their hard work, particularly noting the efforts of the Fire Department, EMS, and Police Department. He gave a special shout out to the officers for their handling of a recent shooting situation, which ended safely with no injuries. He thanked all officers, wished everyone a Happy Easter, and reminded everyone to remember the true meaning of the holiday. He also announced that the next Safety Committee meeting will be held on May 13 at 6:00 p.m.

Councilman McDaniels thanked everyone for attending and watching the meeting. He wished everyone a Happy Easter and encouraged everyone to stay safe.

Councilman Eades addressed several topics. He first noted the success of the London Marathon, with around 400 runners participating. He recognized the London Lions and other volunteers for their help with the event. He expressed admiration for the runners' perseverance and mentioned that proceeds benefit Merrimac Miracles, which is currently working toward building dugouts at Merrimac Park as part of their Phase Two project. Councilman Eades also commented on the public comprehensive plan meeting held the previous evening, expressing disappointment in the low turnout but noting that good information was shared. He clarified that the meeting was not for the final report, which will come later. He mentioned being approached by Marilyn Hall, who expressed concern that only two city council members attended the meeting. He noted that the comprehensive plan information is available on the city's website and introduced Ms. Breedlove to provide more details.

Ms. Breedlove explained that information about the City of London's comprehensive plan is available on the city website at londonohio.gov. A prominent button on the homepage leads to a page dedicated to the comprehensive plan, which includes updates, meeting summaries, handouts, PowerPoint presentations, community survey results, past engagement opportunities, and contact information for providing feedback. She encouraged residents to review the information and participate in the planning process.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:17pm

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


Matthew Edgington, Council Clerk


Joshua Peters, Council President