

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
London City Council

Minutes of

Meeting

Casto & Harris Inc. Form S-301 E1412692LD

Held August 7, 2025 20

London City Council
20 S. Walnut Street, London, Ohio 43140
August 7, 2025 at 6:30pm
Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Peters at 6:45p.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 and President Peters

Minutes – Approval of July 17, 2025 minutes, approved by unanimous vote

Public Hearing - none

Communications/Announcements –

Mayor Closser appointed Tia Sexton to the Mid-Ohio Water and Sewer Board, with a term expiring March 28, 2026. A voice vote was taken, and all members voted "Yay."

Mayor Closser appointed Peter Nichols to the Historic Review Board, with a term expiring December 31, 2026. A voice vote was taken, and all members voted "Yay."

Mayor also introduced the new Safety Service Director, Steve Saltsman

Audience Concerns –

Tommy Boyd, 48 N. Union, Tommy Boyd – Good evening. Thomas Boyd, 48 North Union Street. Good to be back up here chatting with you some more. First off, thank you to everybody else for coming out and actually talking about the issues lately. It's good to see more people coming in and voicing their concerns on things. One of the first things I noticed at our last meeting was the discussion about the trash department — the current state of it and how it's struggling. One of the big issues was maintenance. After touring the department and going through it with them, I learned that when the trucks need service, the only location for that work is in Kentucky. Sending our trash trucks that far to be serviced is difficult. When talking with them, there was interest in obtaining extra certifications so they could diagnose the trucks themselves. They told me that when the new trucks have lights blinking, they don't even know what that means sometimes. They've asked to be trained to handle maintenance, similar to what our water department employees have done. Not offering that training is one of our issues. I'd like to see us provide that opportunity — for example, training one of them as a maintenance tech for these trucks. I believe they said oil changes on these trucks are about \$2,000 each time. This is difficult, but I don't want to see us lose another department because of issues similar to what happened with the water department running out of people. Another topic tonight is the curbside assistance fee increase from \$3 to \$12. Honestly, I didn't even know we could get curbside pickup for \$3. Now we're talking about \$12. At first, Bill thought I was advocating to keep it at the lower cost, but once I explained my point, he understood that my position was different. With the department's current workload and the number of trucks breaking down, I believe a temporary hold on the curbside service entirely would be the best option to keep our department intact for now. If we do keep it, we shouldn't undercut ourselves. Rumpke charges \$40 for the same service. Why jump from \$3 to only \$12? That barely covers costs. Mr. McDaniels jokingly suggested \$20 last time, but if we're

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going to offer the service, I think we should make it competitive and beneficial — maybe \$30. If someone really wants us to walk up to their house and get their trash can in rain, snow, or shine, that’s a worthy price. As for recycling, I am against removing it altogether. If we take it away, the other trash can will go up to \$15, meaning we’ll end up paying for what is essentially a second trash can we already have. I’d rather keep recycling, even if we raise the fee, than eliminate it. Next topic — who from City Council is serving on the Parks and Recreation Committee? I attended a recent committee meeting and noticed there wasn’t any City Council representation. Many topics discussed were not about the parks themselves — like fixing Merrimac or maintaining the playground — but about festivals and events. For example, it costs \$700–\$1,000 for each event, and that money comes from the Parks and Rec budget.

Mayor Closser – It comes out of multiple departments, but yes, part of it does come from Parks and Recreation. Finance has already discussed creating a dedicated “festival” or “community events” line item in the budget for next year.

Mr. Boyd – If that happens, it won’t come out of Parks and Rec’s budget. I don’t believe festivals should be their focus or their cost. Having a separate committee or entity oversee events would be more beneficial. Parks and Rec should be focused on park-related needs, not losing nearly \$1,000 from their budget for a festival. Another question — Merrimac Park. Could adding a bathroom there be considered in the new comprehensive plan? The 2008 plan had specific Parks and Rec goals, like creating new parks and multipurpose trails. Why couldn’t Merrimac be included now to ensure equal amenities at both County Park and Merrimac?

Mayor Closser – Comprehensive plans are not “must-do” items; they’re more of a vision list.

Mr. Boyd – I understand that, but could Merrimac still be listed as a goal?

Mayor Closser – Yes, it’s something to look at in the latest version of the plan.

Mr. Boyd – The last topic — the comprehensive plan’s completion. You told me in an email that it’s “almost complete,” but at our last meeting, we were still GPS-mapping storm sewer lines. If sinkholes are being caused by failing clay pipes, how can the plan be nearly done without this survey? I believe we should finish the sewer survey before finalizing the plan. The 2008 plan stated that administrative personnel should review it every five to seven years, but that hasn’t happened. Knowing what’s underground is critical before planning development. Thank you. I hope we can consider these recommendations.

Jeremiah Campana, 117 S. Union, I wanted to give a brief statement. When I attended my first City Council meeting in February, there were quite a few people in the audience voicing concerns. I recall the Mayor and several Council members thanking citizens for participating and encouraging more involvement. I now realize that invitation came with a caveat that our viewpoints should not challenge the administration too harshly. At the last public hearing, the Safety Service Director became angry at my questions, and the Executive Assistant attacked my character on social media. Regardless, I remain unwavering. No matter what happens with our energy provider, I’m here to stay. I will keep showing up, keep sharing my opinion, keep asking questions, and keep encouraging residents to stay engaged and ensure our leaders act in our best interest. That said, I make one final plea to City Council — secure the best deal for our energy needs and avoid the path of least resistance. SOPAC gets most, if not all, of its renewable energy from wind. A source now under siege. Since the “One Big Beautiful Bill Act” was passed by the federal government, wind farms are shutting down and losing support. Rates for wind energy are no longer being kept low. At the last hearing, when I asked SOPAC representatives how they would adapt, they admitted they didn’t know. That is unacceptable. The administration will tell you that citizens can opt out anytime and find their own energy provider. I find that irresponsible. Most residents don’t have the time, knowledge, or resources to research energy providers. I see no valid reason not to issue a Request for Proposals. I am asking each of you to give the people of London transparency and diligence. Show us you fought for the most price-competitive option. Prove this Council values our trust above convenience.

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Committee Reports

Councilman Eades stated that the Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for August 18. He noted that some residents have reached out asking how to obtain copies of committee meetings. His understanding is that there may be an issue between YouTube and the recording equipment used in the committee meeting room. He is unsure how those recordings are currently made available or how residents can request them. He further stated that, upon review, and after receiving an email from the Clerk regarding meeting minutes, he found that only Personnel and Finance Committee meeting minutes have been posted for this year. Public Safety and Public Service Committee minutes have not been posted, and he believes the City needs to be transparent and have all committee meeting minutes posted online.

Councilman McDaniels stated that the Public Service Committee will meet on August 12 at 5:00 p.m., and the Public Safety Committee will meet on August 12 at 6:00 p.m.

City Official Reports

Mayor Closser - Good evening and thanks to everyone for coming out. I would like to thank London City Council for their temporary adjustment to the strength ordinance to let Mr. Saltsman start in his new position as safety service director while Mr. Castle is still with the City of London. Mr. Castle's last day will be August 15th but having this time to overlap the two gentlemen has already been a huge benefit. Mr. Saltsman has hit the ground running, learning a lot and I look forward to his future with the City of London. This will be Mr. Castles last council meeting and I would like to once again publicly thank him for all he has done for me, the city government and the citizens of London.

Rickelle Davis was appointed by the Madison County Republican Central Committee to the vacated City of London Law Director. She has already started in the role and I want to welcome her and wish her the best.

The project for workforce housing is making its way to the Planning Commission on August 14th at 5:30pm. These 265 homes in the \$220,000.00 range will fill a gap for people who can't afford or do not want the pricier homes being built in London. I know to some that may still seem high but with London Landing homes currently averaging \$370,000.00 this is a lower price point but still a quality product. With the rental rates rising people will be able to purchase a home for about the same amount as they are paying for a larger apartment. This project is located on the corner of Sharp Avenue and East High Street.

Since the last City Council meeting there has been a lot going on around town. The Nook Coffee Shop and Coldwell Banker Realty had their ribbon cuttings. The Mayor's Day Sale at Shoe Sensation in partnership with London City Schools Raider Rack was held on Sunday August 3rd. Where shoppers received 10% off their purchase and Shoe Sensation will donate 10% of the sales that day to the Raider Rack. The donation will be used to purchase shoes for kids who need them. The event was very well attended and I appreciate everyone who came out to support the sale and the Raider Rack. We did have to postpone the outdoor movie due to rain but we are looking to possibly hold the showing of Minecraft here in city hall during the winter.

The London Rhythm & Rib Fest was held last weekend and it was a huge success. The weather was a perfect and everyone really seemed to enjoy themselves. There were over 1,000 racks of ribs sold over the two days with great music and wonderful events happening throughout the festival. I would like to thank everyone who came out, the organizers, participants, sponsors and volunteers who helped make this year the best yet.

I also helped Dr. Kramer with the tour of London for the London City Schools new teacher orientation. Today I had the honor of meeting a young lady named Rino who is currently living in Japan. She lived in London from age 3 to 9 while her father was in town working for Stanley Electric. She is currently working for a government entity in Japan and is back in the United States for an abroad program. She is staying with LES teacher MS. Scott while in London and today we sat down and spoke about London, our government and all the great things going on. It was great to talking

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with her and appreciate her interest in the City of London.

National Night Out was this week hosted by the London Police Department at the municipal pool. This was a great event and was very well attended. I would like to thank the organizers and the parks and recreation department for bringing this to the citizens. Speaking of the pool our first ever Adult Swim Night is this Saturday August 9th from 8:00pm to 10:30pm. This is an 18 and over event free to the citizens. There will be food trucks, swimming, cornhole, connect four, sand volleyball, blow up ax throwing and a DJ. I appreciate the Parks and Recreation department along with Executive Assistant Eve Breedlove continuing to bring new events and new things for citizens of all ages to our community.

I continue to have development meetings weekly. I have met with another home builder and businesses looking to come into London. I am excited to announce that it looks like we will be getting a deli in downtown London to add to all the great things happening down there.

The MOLO fun fact is the number 2025. I would like to wish all the Class of 2025 High School Seniors in our community good luck on their final year. I would also like to wish all the students, staff, teachers and parents' good luck on this school year. I am proud to have such great schools in our community like London City Schools, Tolles and Fairhaven. We are lucky to have such a strong educational system here in our backyard.

Councilman Eades thanked Rex for his service, noting that while they sometimes challenge each other in meetings, he appreciates the debates. He then asked if Mr. Saltsman would like to introduce himself on camera, clarifying that the meeting was being recorded but not live.

Mr. Saltsman introduced himself as Steve Saltsman, a full-time resident who grew up locally. He spent 14 years in West Jefferson before returning about 15 years ago. He retired two years ago after 36 years with the Columbus Fire Department, finishing as Assistant Chief over facilities, fleet, warehouse, and drones. After briefly returning to the private sector, he was excited for the opportunity to use his skills for the city. He thanked the Mayor and Council for their support and noted that he had already started work.

Mr. Castle responded to questions Councilman Eades had emailed, starting with curbside assistance. He explained that increasing the fee from \$2.09 to \$12 per month would not generate significant revenue but would save time and reduce hazards for drivers, which helps prevent workers' compensation claims. One-man mechanical trucks were implemented to reduce injury claims from manually handling trash. On recycling, Mr. Castle said eliminating the program would cost about \$1,000 more per month, but savings in truck maintenance, fuel, oil, recycling fees, and overtime could offset the cost. To keep recycling, the city would need another truck and an additional employee, costing approximately \$100,000 annually for the employee and \$120,000 annually for the truck. This would raise rates by about \$4.58 per month, likely rounded to \$5, and he recommended a 5–6% annual increase to keep up with inflation. Privatizing sanitation could be an option, but would take six months to a year to implement, requiring new equipment and potentially risking service delays. He noted that truck servicing in Kentucky was due to an unforeseen loss of a local service agreement and that training police to assist sanitation is not feasible given the current workload and overtime demands.

Councilman Eades appreciated the detailed responses, saying he wanted answers before voting to buy a \$400,000 truck. He asked if the city intends to continue trash service long-term, as he could not support the purchase if the service would soon be discontinued.

Mr. Castle said the city must act to ensure trash collection continues. Equipment failures are frequent, but a recently located demo truck could be equipped and in service within weeks if approved. Even if privatization is pursued, it would take at least a year to implement. He reminded council that a past referendum showed citizens preferred local service, though opinions may have changed.

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Councilman Eades praised the sanitation crew for their work despite truck issues and expressed his desire to support them, but again stressed the need for assurance that service will continue.

Councilman Hitt asked about the resale value of the demo truck if the city privatizes sanitation

Mr. Castle said used trucks with 40,000–80,000 miles still sell close to new prices because of long wait times for new builds, so depreciation would likely be minimal.

Councilman Hitt then asked about recycling costs and contamination rates.

Mr. Castle said over half of recycling ends up in the trash due to contamination. When he took over the sanitation department, employees’ top requests were to end the curbside assistance program, which pays \$3 per month, and to eliminate recycling because it forces double routes.

Councilman Hitt asked how much time elimination would save.

Mr. Castle explained it should reduce overtime by a couple of hours per day, giving workers time to perform preventative maintenance on trucks and address other tasks, such as managing the brush and lawn clipping pile, which currently must be contracted out for removal due to staffing shortages. The department also lacks the manpower to open the dump on Saturdays.

Councilwoman Treynor asked whether other municipalities might be interested in the demo truck.

Mr. Castle said possibly, but most surrounding municipalities have privatized, and the city could still use the truck for commercial dumpster service even if residential routes were privatized.

Councilman Eades asked how many people pay for curbside assistance who are not 65 or older.

Mr. Castle said the number was small, which is why the program is not a significant revenue source. Eades also questioned the need for extra staff for recycling when routes are already being run twice.

Mr. Castle responded that with city growth, more manpower will eventually be required regardless, and that rates are currently low compared to other communities. He reiterated that he is not opposed to raising rates if council chooses to do so.

Old Business

4th Reading

ORDINANCE 150-25 Sponsored by: Andrew Hitt AN ORDINANCE authorizing the city to enter into the sustainable Ohio public energy council (“SOPEC”), The execution and delivery of the agreement establishing SOPEC and approving the bylaws of SOPEC

Councilman Hitt noted that the matter under discussion involved London joining SOPEC and agreeing to their bylaws. He recalled a previous comment from Mr. Castle about a renewable energy requirement and asked for clarification.

Mr. Castle explained that state rules require all energy companies to provide roughly 8.5% renewable energy.

Councilman Hitt asked about SOPEC’s energy mix.

Mr. Castle replied that SOPEC offers a 100% renewable option, a 50/50 renewable-fossil fuel option, and a 100% fossil fuel option.

Councilman Eades stated that the topic had been discussed at the last meeting and in finance committee. He noted that SOPEC was the only company to give a presentation and that NOPEC

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(Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council) was also an option, serving 240 communities compared to SOPEC’s 49. Both organizations offer gas aggregation and fixed rates, and NOPEC might provide valuable comparisons. He suggested it would benefit council to compare at least these two, and possibly other similar government-operated aggregators, to determine which offers the best deal for residents.

Mr. Castle clarified that the fossil fuel option is officially termed that, and added that he had contacted other energy aggregators for comparison. Aspen Energy and Great Lakes Energy Brokers both quoted 8.8 cents per kilowatt hour, while another quote he reviewed was 8.9 cents. He noted that SOPEC’s additional services—such as grant writing and gas aggregation—might justify the tenth-of-a-penny difference. He emphasized that there are not as many reputable aggregators as people might think, and that some companies lure customers with low per-kilowatt rates but add large monthly service fees and cancellation penalties. Fixed-rate aggregation, he argued, helps protect residents from such predatory practices.

Councilman Eades thanked Mr. Castle for the additional research and asked if he had reviewed NOPEC specifically.

Mr. Castle said he had not but had seen that NOPEC may offer fixed rates, although they predominantly use variable rates, which he personally does not favor. He prefers fixed rates for the stability they provide.

Councilwoman Treynor asked for this to be left on so she could do her own research

Left for a 5th Reading

ORDINANCE 151-25 Sponsored by: Andrew Hitt AN ORDINANCE approving the plan of operation and governance for the Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council (“SOPEC”) Electric aggregation program, and for the purpose of jointly establishing and implementing an electric aggregation program.

Councilman Hitt stated that this also applies to SOPEC.

Left for a 5th Reading

3rd Reading

RESOLUTION 153-25 Sponsored by: Shannon Treynor A RESOLUTION increasing appropriations. the City Council has recommended speed bumps and speed signs to alleviate speeding within the city

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

Absent:	0-	
Affirmative:	6-	Hays, Eades, Stahl, Treynor, McDaniels, Hitt
Against:	1-	Jackman

RESOLUTION 154-25 Sponsored by: Andrew Hitt. A RESOLUTION increasing appropriations. The city would like to purchase stealth monitors to monitor traffic patterns and speed throughout the city

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

Absent:	0-	
Affirmative:	6-	Hays, Eades, Stahl, Jackman, Treynor, Hitt
Against:	1-	McDaniels

ORDINANCE 155-25 Sponsored by: Shannon Treynor AN ORDINANCE adjusting the rate of curb assistance

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

Absent: 0-
Affirmative: 6- Hays, Stahl, Jackman, Treynor, McDaniels, Hitt
Against: 1- Eades

2nd Reading

RESOLUTION 158-25 Sponsored by: Rich Hays A RESOLUTION increasing appropriations. The City is funding the annual July 4th fireworks

Councilman Hays said The original amount was 40K and we amended it to 30K for annual fireworks display

Mayor Closser asked for it to be suspended and this is an emergency, with 250 anniversary of USA – they are starting to book up for next year so sooner we can get contract back and lock down date then the better

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

Absent: 0-
Affirmative: 5- Hays, Eades, Stahl, Jackman, Hitt
Against: 2- McDaniels, Treynor

Left for a 3rd Reading

RESOLUTION 159-25 Sponsored by: Brent McDaniels A RESOLUTION to abolish the City of London recycling program

Councilman McDaniels stated that he is not against recycling and emphasized that there will still be places for residents to take recyclables. He expressed concern about losing another department to mismanagement and encouraged efforts to help preserve the program.

Councilman Eades thanked Mr. Castle for the information provided and noted that the initial recommendation had been to leave the matter open for three meetings to gather feedback. With the new information now available, he suggested that citizens and council members could consider increasing costs to maintain recycling services and recommended keeping the program in place.

Councilman Hitt asked how often recyclables are deemed inappropriate

Mr. Castle reported that, according to the sanitation department, approximately 50% of materials collected in recycling bins end up being dumped in the trash due to contamination.

Councilman Hitt noted that even if costs were increased, this issue with recycling would likely persist.

Mr. Castle responded that continuing the program would require implementing steeper penalties for those who misuse the bins. He explained that he relies on the sanitation staff for this information, as they observe that on two days each week, the bins contain only trash and very little actual recycling.

Councilman Hitt remarked that this misuse effectively wastes about \$12,000 annually.

Left for a 3rd Reading

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New Business

RESOLUTION 160-25 Sponsored by: Shannon Treynor A RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS. The Cobra Club has made a donation to the Fire Department

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

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

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

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

RESOLUTION 161-25 Sponsored by: Shannon Treynor A RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS. The Cobra Club has made a donation to the Police Department

Motion to suspend the 3-reading rule by Councilwoman Treynor, 2nd Councilman Eades. The motion caried by the following vote:

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

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

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

RESOLUTION 162-25 Sponsored by: Shannon Treynor A RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS. The Rotary Club has made a donation to the Police Department

Motion to suspend the 3-reading rule by Councilwoman Treynor, 2nd Councilman Stahl. The motion caried by the following vote:

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

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

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

RESOLUTION 163-25 Sponsored by: Shannon Treynor A RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS. The Rotary Club has made a donation to the Fire Department

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

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

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

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

RESOLUTION 164-25 Sponsored by: Andrew Hitt A RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS. The City is responsible for mowing properties around the City that are not maintained.

Councilman Hitt explained that the discussion concerned city-funded mowing in order to continue the service through the end of the year and ensure sufficient funds are available.

Councilman Eades asked how many properties had been mowed.

Mr. Castle responded that 7–10 properties had been mowed, with a couple of them being larger lots. Eades then asked about the cost to mow the Honeywell property

Mr. Castle said it was approximately \$900.

Councilman Hitt inquired how unpaid mowing costs are handled when assessed to property taxes.

Mr. Castle explained that invoices are sent to property owners with a 30-day payment window. If payment is not received, legislation can be brought to council to assess the cost to their taxes. He noted that the budget had allocated \$5,000 for mowing, but the fund currently has \$7,900 remaining, and he recommended appropriating the remaining amount to ensure availability. **Mr. Castle** emphasized the need for this funding, as he frequently receives mowing complaints forwarded from the zoning inspector.

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

Absent: 0-
Affirmative: 4- Hays, Stahl, Jackman, Hitt
Against: 3- Eades, McDaniels, Treynor

Left for a 2nd Reading

At the end of the meeting

Mr. Castle asked for clarification on how to respond when residents call with complaints about tall grass in the community.

Councilwoman Treynor advised him to inform callers that the matter is still before council.

Mr. Castle added that he had not anticipated the large mowing bill and asked for guidance, noting that some properties have very tall grass.

Councilman Eades inquired whether there is still money in the fund.

Mr. Castle confirmed that funds are available in the account but noted that the amount needs to be appropriated, apologizing for any confusion.

The auditor added that all previously appropriated funds have been spent.

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Mayor Closser emphasized that the city cannot perform the mowing itself and that the work must be contracted.

Councilman Eades noted that he did not realize this appropriation needed to be passed but recognized that, without the funds, the city cannot pay the contractors.

Councilman McDaniels stated that the council should be more concerned with fixing the sanitation department than mowing grass.

Mayor Closser clarified that the mowing and sanitation issues are funded through two different accounts and are separate matters.

Motion to reconsider by Councilwoman Treynor, 2nd Councilman Hitt. The motion carried by the following vote:

Absent: 0-
Affirmative: 6- Hays, Stahl, Jackman, Hitt, Treynor, Eades
Against: 1- McDaniels

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

Absent: 0-
Affirmative: 6- Hays, Stahl, Jackman, Hitt, Treynor, Eades
Against: 1- McDaniels

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

Absent: 0-
Affirmative: 6- Hays, Stahl, Jackman, Hitt, Treynor, Eades
Against: 1- McDaniels

ORDINANCE 165-25 Sponsored by: Greg Eades AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL. There are several sections of the Policy and Procedure manual that need updated

Councilman Eades noted that he had not seen this item in the meeting packet, which contained 163 pages, and that many of the updates were procedural. He stated that he did not believe an immediate amendment was necessary. He explained that he had asked a question of the auditor and forwarded it to the law director regarding a section that included names. The law director advised that Section 1.10 could be removed. Mr. Eades moved to remove section 1.10 from policy and procedure manual

Motion to amend RESOLUTION by Councilman Eades, 2nd Councilwoman Treynor. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Left for a 2nd Reading

RESOLUTION 166-25 Sponsored by: Josh Peters and Greg Eades AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$400,000 OF BONDS BY THE CITY OF LONDON, OHIO, FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING THE COSTS OF THE ACQUISITION OF A GARBAGE TRUCK, INCLUDING ALL NECESSARY APPURTENANCES THERETO, AND MATTERS RELATED TO SUCH BONDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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President Peters stated that Mr. Castle had located a demo garbage truck available for purchase at \$389,500, to be paid for with a bond.

Mr. Castle noted that a notice for bids had been issued, so it is possible another seller could offer a truck at a lower price, but legislation is needed to authorize funding. If a lower bid comes in, the funding amount will be adjusted, but it will not exceed the approved amount. He added that a prior piece of legislation only allowed the purchase of new trucks, but the demo qualifies as new since it has not been titled.

Motion to suspend the 3-reading rule by Councilwoman Treynor, 2nd Councilman Stahl. The motion caried by the following vote:

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

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

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

Round Table

Councilwoman Jackman – Would just like to thank Rex again for his many years and hours of service to the City. I know he’s been a help to me and answered quite a few questions and explained a lot of things. Thank you, and good luck on your new adventures.

Councilman Stahl – I would also like to thank Rex. We were Council members together, and also worked with you as Safety Service Director. He’s done an excellent job. We’ve had a lot of good ones in a row, and we’ll miss you. Good luck to you. And welcome to Steve, he’s got big shoes to fill. Thanks to the public for all their input, good, bad, whatever. it’s interesting to hear everything. Columbus Dispatch the other day was interesting for London; it talked about housing stats. Columbus has been down 2.8% over the last six months compared to the same time last year, and they said their best thing was location. Looking at different parts of Central Ohio and how they compared for the first six months of 2025 to the same period last year, London had the most affordable median prices. Buyers tend to get the best deals further out from Columbus. A handful of areas had a median price of \$250,000, and London was one of them, along with Circleville, Lancaster, Newark, and Washington Courthouse which all part of a string of communities where homes sell between \$178 and \$180 per square foot. Newark and London both saw sale prices drop 10%. Sales rose 20-30% in London and the Marysville area compared to last year. So it’s interesting how well the City’s doing, and I think we should be doing even better in another year. That’s all I have, thank you.

Councilwoman Treynor – Gave a heartfelt welcome to Rickelle Davis. Nice to see you, Steve, and a heartfelt thank you to Rex. It’s been a pleasure and an honor. I hope you enjoy your retirement. it is well-deserved.

Rex – I think I had an insane moment. I thought about going to their city council meeting.

Mayor Closser – Just get on Facebook.

Councilman Hitt – Welcome Steve and Rickelle, and good luck to Rex. I appreciate you being approachable. Whatever is needed, or whenever information is needed, I appreciate that.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
London City Council

Minutes of Meeting

Casto & Harris Inc. Form S-301 E1412692L.D

Held August 7, 2025 20

Councilman Hays – Want to thank everybody for coming out tonight. I appreciate all discussions from everybody. I want to thank all City employees for jobs well done — exceptionally done. Welcome to Steve Saltsman; I talked with him a little bit the other day. I’ve known him for a long time — we’re in good hands, I guarantee you. I just ask the Lord to keep His hand over our great community. Welcome, Ms. Davis. And Rex — I want to thank you for indulging me a lot of days when I had questions and just explaining things to me. I served with you on Council many years ago, and I appreciate you being there for me. I’ll miss you — you’ve been a great neighbor. Godspeed to you, traveling mercies, and come back and see us once in a while. And the Safety Committee meeting will be Tuesday, August 12, at 6:00 p.m. in the conference room next door. Thank you.

Councilman McDaniels – Wanted to thank everybody for coming out, especially his fan club, and told Rex good luck.

Councilman Eades – Appreciate all the comments from people who come in and do some research and maybe challenge us a little bit with things, and I think that’s always good. As I’ve said before, sometimes Mr. Castle would challenge me, or I would challenge him, and regardless of whether we challenged each other, we were able to have civil discussions afterward. He was my neighbor for a long time, and now he’s not going to be in London. I really wish him and his family all the best as they move down south. We are going to have the discussion about the sidewalks after the Safety Committee meeting next Tuesday, so I hope to see everybody there with your ideas. Thank you very much.

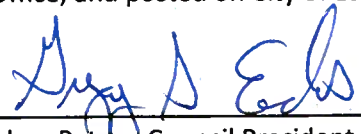
President Peters – Welcome Steve to the City. I look forward to the ventures coming up. Rex — thank you for all your service and all your time spent here at the City. Good luck in your retirement and enjoy, and don’t be a stranger. Also, thank you to everybody who came out tonight.

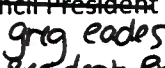
Mr. Castle – I just have one more thing to say. I’d like to thank Council. While not all of us have always seen eye to eye, I can dare say that every one of you, including myself and the administration, has nothing but the best at heart for the City of London. I just want to thank all of you for the work you’ve done. It’s not easy, it’s not fun, especially when people get on Facebook and just browbeat you to death. If I can make one recommendation — get off Facebook. You’ll feel much better. You don’t have to look at that crap half the time. They don’t even know what they’re talking about, and all they want to do is bring attention to themselves. It’s not for the betterment of the City. So, thank you all. I’ll probably see you in the summer months — I will not be here in the winter, I guarantee it.

Adjournment - Motion to adjourn at 8:16 pm

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


Matthew Edgington, Council Clerk
8/21/2025
Date


Joshua Peters, Council President
8/21/2025
Date


Greg Eades
President Pro-temp