

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

LONDON CITY COUNCIL Meeting

Casto & Harris Inc. Form S-301 E1412692LD

Held

MAY 19 20 22

London City Council
20 S. Walnut Street, London, Ohio 43140
May 19, 2022 at 6:30pm

Minutes

Council President, Henry Comer, called the regular meeting of the London City Council to order at 6:30pm. He led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance and observed a moment of silent reflection.

Council members present: Henry Comer, Rich Hays, Andrew Hitt, John Stahl, Anthony Smith, Josh Peters, Bryan Robinson and Greg Eades

The minutes of the April 21, 2022 meeting were approved as written

COMMUNICATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Josh Cross, Reginal External Affairs representative for FirstEnergy Corporation, explained to Council how to report a street light outage
• A notice of legislative authority was received from the Ohio Department of Liquor Control for 15 Below LLC DBA London 101. Council unanimously voted to not require a hearing on the advisability of issuing a permit.
• President Comer addressed the confusion of the May 5, 2022 Council meeting cancellation.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Hays moved to enter into a public hearing to discuss Ordinance 129-22, an Ordinance vacating an alley. Mr. Stahl seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- David Jackman, owner of the building at 62 S. Main Steet, expressed his opposition to vacating the alley due to his need to access it for his windows and air conditioner, because it is still used for its intended purpose and his concern of the city giving up control of the alley.
• Janet Jackman expressed her opposition to vacating the alley because the London Fire/EMS Department needs access to the side door
• David Mars, owner of the building at 64 S. Main Street, requested the alley be vacated so that the space can be renovated into a functional space for the tenants of both buildings and to aid in the efforts to revitalize the city's downtown area. If vacated the back portion of the alley will be paved and the access requested of the Jackman's will remain.

Mr. Hays moved to exit the public hearing and enter into the regular City Council meeting. Mr. Eades seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

AUDIENCE CONCERNS

Tommy Boyd – 48 N. Union Street, London, Ohio 431401

- Stated that his trash and recycling is not picked up consistently and asked if the Sanitation Department can deny service based on where the trash cans are placed.
• Mr. Smith asked if he has contacted the Sanitation Department about the issue. Mr. Boyd said that he has but cars along the road make it difficult to place the trash cans in the correct manner. He said he would comply as best he can.

Michael Norman – 188 S. Oak Street, London, Ohio 43140

- Stated that he believes the levy failed because people did not want the added tax and that the proposal was a bad idea.
• Explained "under votes"
• Stated his opinion that the levy should be proposed as three separate issues

Brenda Russell – 274 E. High Street, London, Ohio 43140

- Stated that she is addressing Council as a Board member of the Merri Mac Park Miracle Committee
o DJ Jackman began the initiative to renovate Merri Mac Park one year ago
o Explained that the park will be a place for all ages to enjoy
o Phase one of the project is under way and the playground is scheduled to be installed on June 1, 2 and 3.
o Requested voluteers to help with the construction

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Steven Miller – 225 Jenkinson Avenue, London, Ohio 43140

- Thanked everyone involved with the Merri Mac Park Miracle project
- Stated that he wanted to address the recent bicycle accident and his opinion that the city downtown area is unfriendly to cyclists.
- Stated that the 25mph zones within the city should be expanded

Anna Jacobs – 38 Deger Drive, London, Ohio 43140

- Explained that her neighbor at 40 Deger Drive is displacing sump pump water onto her property
- Requested that a zoning official look at the issue and her opinion that the city should help residents fix these types of problems
- Stated that she has sold her house and the problem is no longer her issue

Jackie Call – 253 Jacqueline Drive, London, Ohio 43140

- Stated that the repairs to the sewer pipes are repaired and her and the city's insurance companies looking into the issue
- Stated that a nearby vacant building had the water shut off but still experienced a leak
- Asked for the following:
 - A utility maintenance schedule
 - Paving records for Second Street
 - The amount of money spent on reactive utility issues
- Mr. Smith stated that he would look into the requests and follow-up with Ms. Call

Anita Likens – 157 E. First Street. London, Ohio 43140

- Read excerpts from the Constitution

COMMITTEE REPORTS

John Stahl – Safety Service Committee

- Read the May, 2022 London Police report

Andy Hitt – Safety Service Committee

- Read the May, 2022 London Fire/EMS Report

Rich Hays – Public Safety Committee Chair

- The safety Committee will begin addressing the feral cats within the city
- The next Safety Committee meeting will take place June 14, 2022 at 6:00pm

Bryan Robinson - Public Service Committee Chair

- The May, 2022 Public Safety Committee meeting was cancelled due to a lack of quorum
- The next Public Service Committee meeting will take place June 1, 2022 at 6:00pm

Josh Peters – Finance Committee Chair

- Items discussed at the recent Finance Committee meeting will be discussed at the New Business section of the Council meeting agenda

Anthony Smith – Board of Public Utilities Representative

- Reported that the pilot study conducted by the EPA at the east side water plant is viable and may be able to eventually process water

Greg Eades – Finance Committee

- Mr. Castle learned that the funds leftover from the traffic light installation cannot be used for other purposes. The Administration is researching the need for an additional traffic signal at the intersection of High Street and Keny Boulevard
- The administration is working with the residents on Merrimont Avenue to address their neighborhood flooding issues
- Requested that all City Council members attend the next Finance Committee meeting to discuss the upcoming levy options

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CITY OFFICIAL REPORTS – Mayor Closser’s report attached

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance 129-22 – Sponsored by Josh Peters – An Ordinance vacating an alley

Motion by Hays to place on fourth reading, seconded by Stahl

Motion by Smith to adopt, seconded by Stahl

Roll to adopt: Robinson, no; Hays, no; Hitt, no; Stahl, no; Eades, no; Peters, no; Smith, yes

FAILED

Resolution 136-22 – Sponsored by Anthony Smith – A Resolution approving the BPU to apply the cost of the cellular read modular service to water bills

Motion by Hays to place on second reading, seconded by Stahl

Motion by Smith to suspend, seconded by Stahl

Roll call to suspend: Robinson, yes; Hays, yes; Hitt, yes; Stahl, yes; Eades, no; Smith, yes; Peters, yes

Motion by Stahl to adopt, seconded by Smith

Roll to adopt: Robinson, yes; Hays, yes; Hitt, yes; Stahl, yes; Eades, yes; Peters, no; Smith, yes

PASSED

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 139-22 - Sponsored by Josh Peters – A Resolution increasing appropriations

Motion by Hays to place on first reading, seconded by Stahl

Motion by Hays to suspend, seconded by Robinson

Roll call to suspend: Robinson, yes; Hays, yes; Hitt, yes; Stahl, yes; Eades, no; Smith, yes

Motion by Hays to adopt, seconded by Stahl

Roll to adopt: Robinson, yes; Hays, yes; Hitt, yes; Stahl, yes; Eades, yes; Peters, yes; Smith, yes

PASSED

Resolution 140-22 - Sponsored by Greg Eades– A Resolution increasing appropriations

Motion by Hays to place on first reading, seconded by Stahl

Motion by Hays to suspend, seconded by Stahl

Roll call to suspend: Robinson, yes; Hays, yes; Hitt, yes; Stahl, yes; Eades, no; Smith, yes; Peters, yes

Motion by Stahl to adopt, seconded by Stahl

Roll to adopt: Robinson, yes; Hays, yes; Hitt, yes; Stahl, yes; Eades, yes; Smith, yes; Peters, yes

PASSED

Resolution 141-22 - Sponsored by Josh Peters – A Resolution increasing appropriations

Motion by Hays to place on first reading, seconded by Stahl

Motion by Eades to suspend, seconded by Hays

Roll call to suspend: Robinson, yes; Hays, yes; Hitt, yes; Stahl, yes; Eades, yes; Smith, yes; Peters, yes

Motion by Hays to adopt, seconded by Stahl

Roll to adopt: Robinson, yes; Hays, yes; Hitt, yes; Stahl, yes; Eades, yes; Smith, yes; Peters, yes

PASSED

Resolution 142-22 - Sponsored by Josh Peters – A Resolution authorizing the Safety Service Director to apply for a grant from the Ohio Department of Criminal Justice Services

Motion by Hays to place on first reading, seconded by Stahl

Motion by Hays to suspend, seconded by Stahl

Roll call to suspend: Robinson, yes; Hays, yes; Hitt, yes; Stahl, yes; Eades, yes; Smith, yes; Peters, yes

Motion by Stahl to adopt, seconded by Hays

Roll to adopt: Robinson, yes; Hays, yes; Hitt, yes; Stahl, yes; Eades, yes; Smith, yes; Peters, yes

PASSED

Resolution 143-22 - Sponsored by Josh Peters – A Resolution authorizing the Safety Service Director to apply for a grant from the Ohio Department of Criminal Justice Services

Motion by Hays to place on first reading, seconded by Stahl

Motion by Hays to suspend, seconded by Stahl

Roll call to suspend: Robinson, yes; Hays, yes; Hitt, yes; Stahl, yes; Eades, yes; Smith, yes; Peters, yes

Motion by Stahl to adopt, seconded by Robinson

Roll to adopt: Robinson, yes; Hays, yes; Hitt, yes; Stahl, yes; Eades, yes; Smith, yes; Peters, yes

PASSED

Held _____

20 _____

Resolution 144-22 - Sponsored by Bryan Robinson – A Resolution adopting a job description
 Motion by Hays to place on first reading, seconded by Stahl
 Motion by Robinson to suspend, seconded by Peters
 Roll call to suspend: Robinson, yes; Hays, yes; Hitt, yes; Stahl, yes; Eades, yes; Smith, yes; Peters, yes
 Motion by Stahl to adopt, seconded by Robinson
 Roll to adopt: Robinson, yes; Hays, yes; Hitt, yes; Stahl, yes; Eades, yes; Smith, yes; Peters, yes
 PASSED

Ordinance 145-22 – Sponsored by Josh Peters – An Ordinance approving an amendment to the terms of a community reinvestment area agreement
 Motion by Hays to place on first reading, seconded by Stahl
 Motion by Hitt to suspend, seconded by Stahl
 Roll call to suspend: Robinson, yes; Hays, yes; Hitt, yes; Stahl, yes; Eades, no; Smith, yes; Peters, yes
 Motion by Stahl to adopt, seconded by Robinson
 Roll to adopt: Robinson, yes; Hays, yes; Hitt, yes; Stahl, yes; Eades, yes; Smith, yes; Peters, yes
 PASSED

ROUND TABLECouncilman Eades

- Stated that the Ms. Jacobs has a legitimate complaint about her neighbor displacing water onto her property and the city should help to solve these types of issues

Councilman Peters

- Thanked those in the audience for their attendance

Councilman Robinson

- Announced that the next Public Service Committee meeting will take place on June 1, 2022 at 6:00pm

Councilman Hays

- Thanked those in the audience for their attendance
- Announced that the next Public Safety Committee meeting will take place on June 14, 2022 at 5:00pm
- Thanked City employees for their hard work
- Asked for prayers for the people of Ukraine
- Asked for prayers for the United States of America
- Asked God to bless London, Ohio

Councilman Hitt

- Thanked those in the audience for their attendance and their comments on the issues

Councilman Stahl

- Thanked those in the audience for their attendance and comments

Councilman Smith

- Thanked those in the audience for their attendance
- Thanked David Mars for his work to improve London
- Thanked Brenda Russell for her comments and work to revitalize Merri Mac Park and asked for volunteers for the playground construction
- Announced that the June water meter readings will be estimated so that the Water Department staff can work to install the new water meters
- Reminded residents to participate in Third Ward grant process

Council President Comer

- Requested a key to the City Council Chambers
- Stated the need to be proactive and not reactive about the upcoming tax levy decision
- Thanked London Middle School Principal Belmont for his work in embracing the idea and organizing the London Middle School Life Fair

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Motion by Hays to adjourn at 8:58pm



Amy Rees, Clerk



Henry Comer, City Council President