

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

London City Council

Held
20 S. Walnut Street, London, Ohio 43140

20

January 05, 2023 at 6:30pm

Call to Order- President Comer led the members and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance, and a moment of reflection.

President Comer welcomes new clerk – Erika Watkinson

Roll Call Eades-here, Peters-Here, Robinson-absent, Comer – Present, Hays-Present, Hitt-Here, Stahl-Present

President Comer – Approval of minutes from previous meeting – minutes approved

President Comer discussed the Ward 3 representative- Mr Eades motioned that council move into executive session to discuss personnel - motion was seconded by Mr Hitt

Roll Call for executive session Eades-Yes, Peters-Yes, Hays-Yes, Hitt-Yes, Stahl-Yes.

President Comer invited Mr Michael Norman into executive session

Council and Mr Norman entered into executive session at 6:34 pm

Council and Mr Norman returned from executive session at 7:01pm

Roll Call to exit Eades-yes Peters-yes, Hayes-yes, Hitt-yes, Stahl-yes

President Comer stated that Mr Norman has expressed interest in filling the Ward 3 vacancy, Mr Eades stated that he reached out to the individuals involved with the Merri Mac Park Miracle to see if they knew anyone interested in the position, President Comer stated that the vacancy has also been advertised

Mr Michael Norman 188 S Oak St- addressed council stated that he believes he is the best candidate for the job, he feels that many more meetings are necessary to resolve the issues facing the city and states he is available and willing to attend. He states that representing the citizens of London would be a true honor and that he feels he is already doing this in an unofficial capacity through conversations with members of the community and bringing back their various concerns. He feels he has influenced numerous changes and improvements through his involvement as a citizen. He states he is excited for the future and wants to be a part of it. He states he plans to run in the upcoming election whether or not council appoints him.

Mr Eades motions for Mr Norman to be appointed as the Ward 3 representative

No second

Motion cannot move forward

Audience Concerns

Anita Likens- 157 E First St –Read an excerpt from the United States Constitution. Noted her involvement with the USO and states she wanted to share and bring back to mind why we are all here and why we are involved in local government. Stated Keep fighting the good fight to retain our way of life.

President Comer thanked her

Michael Norman – Presented handout of the Public Meetings for the city of London, stated this is a sample he made and states he believes that this should be printed monthly in the Madison Messenger and states the cost for this would be \$388 per month

President Comer stated that the list of public meetings are sent to the messenger already, Mr Norman pointed out that while they are being sent to the Messenger, the Messenger is not publishing them, so he requests that the city places a quarter page paid ad so that citizens without social media know when the meetings are taking place

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Cato & Harris, Inc. Form S-301 E1412692LD

Committee Reports

~~Held~~ ~~20~~
 Mr Eades- Public Service Committee- Total revenue for the basketball program is estimated to be around \$32,000, expenses for the program were estimated to be between \$13,000-\$14,000, expenses included buying uniforms, paying referees, concessions and part time payroll. Spring volleyball is moving forward. The Community Center will be demolished after youth basketball ends on January 14th, they have to be out of the building by the end of January 2023, they do have various items they plan to sell.

Mr Eades – Street Department Report- One of the trucks with a plow was hit in a head on crash, another was down due to mechanical failure, so they have been down a couple of trucks. Report no negative feedback on snow removal. Mr Eades asked about pedestrian crossing signs and was advised that they are starting to get equipment in, but they do not have a timeline at this time. They will be discussing capital expenditures soon. Documents have been submitted for the south side sewer project.

Mr Peters- There will be a finance meeting on Jan 9th

Mr Hays – Emergency BPU Meeting today- discussed sewer, water and trash rates. In 2 weeks Mr Lalonck will be in along with department heads and engineers will have graphics to show what will be done in the next 36 months as far as our water and our sewers, getting our water plant running

Mr Hitt – Safety Committee Meeting Jan 10th

Mr Stahl – Will be attending the meetings next week that everyone has already mentioned

City Official Reports

Mayor Closser - Wished everyone a happy new year and stated he is preparing the state of the city address

Old Business

Tabled Ordinances 146.22, 147.22 for the Board of Public Utilities and 151.22 regarding the Pulte Group and new housing. These will remain tabled

2nd Reading – Motion to read by Hays, Seconded by Stahl

Read by Clerk

Ordinance 219-22 – Sponsored by Greg Eades – An ordinance to increase the municipal tax levy by twenty five hundredths of one percent (0.25%) per annum for a continuing period of time, commencing July 1, 2023, 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.

Mr Eades stated that this is the 2nd reading and there have been two failed attempts to aid. 0.25% is what the group decided after discussion would be an appropriate amount. Mr Eades states he does not see a way around this and does not wish to scare anyone, doesn't want to be negative, but the fire department is going to be operating at a deficit this year of \$500,000-\$800,000 possibly and will need this funds to be able to move forward

Resolution 220-22 sponsored by Greg Eades

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Motion to Read by Hays, seconded by Stahl

Held _____ 20 _____

Resolution Read by Clerk

Resolution 220-22 Sponsored by: Greg Eades – A Resolution to place the issue of increasing the municipal income tax by twenty-five hundredths of one percent (0.25%) per annum for a continuing period of time as provided in ordinance No. 220-22, on the ballot at the election to be held on May 2, 2023, and directing the Board of Elections of Madison County, Ohio to conduct such election, and declaring an emergency.

Mr Eades motioned that the resolution be amended to state that the "Continuing period of time as provided in ordinance No 220-22" be corrected to say "ordinance No 219-22"

Motion Seconded by Stahl

Roll Call Eades- yes, Peters-yes, Hays-Yes, Hitt-yes, Stahl-yes

New Business

No new business

Round Table

Mr Stahl- Stated the election is coming up and that he is looking forward to continuing

Mr Hitt- Thanked Michael Norman for his interest in the city and in council

Mr Hays- Gave kudos to Mr Norman as well and thanked the city employees for their work, asked to keep the Buffalo Bills player in prayer who was injured during the game

Mr Peters- Finance Meeting Jan 9th

Mr Eades- Thanked President Comer, brought up that he would like to see the city come up with a sidewalk repair program, he has thoughts on how to do this, states if the city is going to be nicer the sidewalks have to be safe, spoke of a wet basement program for citizens to use when the basement in their home has water due to reasons outside of their home. Wants a way to get a better handle of what citizens are requesting. Stated he would like to see all committee meetings be recorded for the public to see along with the minutes

President Comer Stated that he has discussed the recordings of committee meetings and ways to make that happen as he agrees that those should be recorded and accessible. States that he hopes that our local government is making a difference and setting an example to the broader government. Addressed Mr Norman and encouraged him and anyone else to get involved

Mr Hays motion to adjourn



City Council Clerk



City Council President