

June 18

2020

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

CLERK CALLED ROLL: Brenda Russell, present; Josh Peters, absent; Brian Robinson, present; Rich Hays, present; Andrew Hitt, absent; Carla Blazier, present; Anthony Smith, present.

MINUTES of the previous meeting were approved as received. All were in favor by responding “aye”.

COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

PUBLIC HEARING: None

AUDIENCE CONCERNS: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Councilman Smith reported that the Board of Public Utilities held their special meeting to discuss hiring two new employees.

The sanitation department will be purchasing two brand new trucks within the next month. They anticipate to have them paid off quickly. The city will gain 25 new businesses with the new trucks. The trucks will be fully automated. As London is a “closed” city, outside refuse companies will have to pay to come in.

The sanitation department is also looking at having the dump open longer hours and a Saturday.

Jerry Ussher, new wastewater superintendent, will be inspecting all pipes around the city for possible clogs and will continue to do so on a two-year rotational cycle.

The EPA and the city are working again toward a solution with the new water plant problem with the ammonia.

President Comer noted that with the COVID-19, the two new trucks will make the employees even safer picking up trash.

Councilwoman Blazier reported that the safety committee had met and wanted input from council members for Ordinance No. 141-20 dealing with contractor/subcontractor having to register with the city. She understood that members felt the list of those needing to purchase a permit was too long. She asked for guidance as to who to remove from the list.

She also reported that the fire department is continuing inspections, providing new hire orientation, participating in “drive-by” parades, and conducting ladder testing.

Councilman Hays attended the public safety meeting. He reported that Officer Cooper had been promoted to a sergeant. The department continues to work closing with the health department in regards to the COVID-19 virus and has received protective face shields. No employees have contracted the virus.

They have also participated in numerous “drive-by” parades.

Councilman Robinson attended the public service meeting and reported that Cowling Park is open. They are preparing to open the pool and are offering punch cards, making it cheaper for families to purchase, as no season passes were offered for sale this year.

The racing pool will remain closed. The employees will be receiving training for the new splash pad.

He also gave an update on the street department’s work.

The next public service meeting is July 8th.

Councilwoman Russell reported on the finance committee meeting. New Auditor Kenna Combs was in attendance. All bills are current and the month of May balanced. The auditor will not know the income revenue until August due to the tax deadline being extended to July 15 because of COVID-19.

The next finance committee meeting is July 6.

CITY OFFICIAL REPORT: None

OLD BUSINESS:

AMENDED ORDINANCE 140-20 Sponsored by: Josh Peters AN ORDINANCE AMENDING 874 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES (attachment) Motion by Robinson to place on fourth reading, second by Russell.

Councilman Blazier pointed out that even non-profit organizations will have to purchase a permit. You cannot chose and pick between organizations.

Mr. Winebrenner had been given incorrect information at the last meeting during audience concerns when he asked about the Rock-on-the-Run. City Law Director Hitt called him and clarified the situation.

Motion by Russel to adopt, second by Robinson. Roll to adopt: Robinson, yes; Hays, yes; Blazier, yes; Smith, yes; Russell, yes. **ADOPTED.**

ORDINANCE 141-20 Sponsored by: Andy Hitt AN ORDINANCE AMENDING 1446 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCE (attachment) Tabled.

Council agreed that the intent of the ordinance is to have those businesses that are required to have a permit, also register. The list is very long and needs to remain in committee for further discussion.

Councilman Hays gave an example in his condo neighborhood that a man was installing windows as a subcontractor. He had no insurance, workers compensation or permit. If he accidentally fell on a window and cut himself, he had no workers compensation.

Councilman Robinson felt the list is important and it is only \$25.00 to register. The homeowner is protected and a list of registered contractors/subcontractors would be available for residents needing work done. A lot of cities require this.

He reminded that Councilman Peters had an issue with how it is going to be enforced.

Council members agreed that a list would protect residents from "shoddy" work, providing a good safeguard.

Councilman Smith said he is for this legislation but asked if it is going to be up to neighbors to "police" work being done. He gave an example if someone installing a door that was not registered. "Do you report them? They leave in the middle of a job and the doorway is exposed?" You cannot have residents calling in, reporting every day that someone is not registered.

He wondered if this doesn't make the home-owner liable as they didn't do their research before hiring work to be done.

He also wanted to know where this information is going to be posted requiring registration.

Councilwoman Blazier read section 1446.9 that whoever is in violation of not reporting will be a cited a misdemeanor.

Councilman Smith said it needs to be reworded so citizens are not held accountable.

President Comer commented that it does need left in committee and more "tweaking" is needed.

Ordinance No. 141-20 to remain in committee for further discussion.

ORDINANCE 147-20 Sponsored by: Rich Hays AN ORDINANCE VACATING AN ALLEY (attachment) Motion by Hays to place on second reading, second by Russell. Clerk read.

Councilman Hays explained the alley runs beside the fire department from High to Fourth Streets.

There will be a public hearing scheduled at the July 16 council meeting. (The public hearing was incorrectly scheduled for July 2 meeting.)

LEFT ON 2ND READING.

RESOLUTION NO. 108-20 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ANNEXATION OF LAND CONTIGUOUS TO THE CITY OF LONDON, OHIO Motion by Russell to read, second by Hays. Clerk read.

Motion by Hays to reconsider, second by Russell. Motion to reconsider: Hays, yes; Blazier, yes; Smith, yes; Russell, yes; Robinson, yes.

This resolution needs to be scheduled for a public hearing on July 16th.

LEFT ON 1ST READING.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO. 148-20 Sponsored by: Brenda Russell A RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING FUNDS AND INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS Motion by Hays to place on first reading, second by Robinson. Clerk read.

Councilwoman Russell explained that this is just a fund transfer.

LEFT ON 1ST READING.

ORDINANCE NO. 149-20 Sponsored By: Rich Hays AN ORDINANCE AMENDING OFFICIAL ZONING MAP Motion by Hays to place on first reading, second by Robinson. Clerk read.

Councilman Hays explained that Mr. Bill Cain is requesting a rezoning from R-3 to B-2.

A public hearing will be scheduled for August 6th.

LEFT ON 1ST READING.

ORDINANCE 150-20 Sponsored By: Henry Comer A RESOLUTION TO REQUEST RELIEF PURSUANT TO THE CARES ACT Motion by Hays to place on first reading, second by Russell. Clerk read.

President Comer explained that this legislation will allow the city to receive our portion of the Cares Act once the money becomes available

LEFT ON 1ST READING

ROUND TABLE:

Councilman Robinson reminded the next public service meeting is July 8.

Councilman Hays thanked every city department and all employees for their jobs well done. They are all very much appreciated.

Councilman Smith reminded the next BPU meeting is Thursday, June 25.

He invited anyone, who would like to attend a Trump Rally, at his church, this Saturday, at 7:30 p.m.

President Comer thanked council members for their due diligence to the citizens.

ADJOURN: Councilman Hays motioned for adjournment.

Arlene Duffey, Clerk of Council

Henry Comer, Council President