London City Council

20 S. Walnut Street, London, Ohio 43140

August 6, 2026, at 6:30 pm

Minutes

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Present – Councilwoman Jackman, Councilman Boyd, President Peters, Councilman Eades, Councilman Stahl, Councilwoman Treynor

Absent – Councilman Hays, Councilman Hitt

Minutes – Approval of July 16, 2026, and both July 27 & 30, 2026, special meeting minutes, approved by unanimous vote

Public Hearing – none

Communications/Announcements –

Liquor License requests:

Hiyori Hibachi Sushi Ramen, vote not to request a hearing by unanimous vote.

Vallery Farmhouse Bakery, vote not to request a hearing by unanimous vote.

Audience Concerns –

Brent McDaniels, 1051 Amherst Blvd, I'm just here to see what's going to happen with any of the money remaining after paying any of the debts and selling equipment, since we don't have a sanitation department anymore, fire department. And what will happen to the approximate 175 acres next to it? It would be a great place for a fire station.

President Peters - I'll let Steve respond to that.

Safety Service Director Saltsman - So what property are you talking about first? I'm not sure. Are you talking about where the farm is? Yeah. So, the farm will be transferred out of sanitation's control, and we'll continue to manage it, but I believe the plan is to return it to the general fund. Is that correct? Future funds will go into the general fund. It's going to be on the finance agenda. Yeah. And then other funding. So, there are still outstanding bills and other issues. We plan to present to committees the sale of equipment that has no other value to the city. That money, again, well, same thing because sanitation we dissolve goes into it; it will go in then too.

Auditor Combs - We likely won't do anything until after the first of the year, once all invoices are paid, utilities are paid, and anything outstanding for that fund is

resolved.

Mr. McDaniels, thank you for your time.

Safety Service Director Saltsman - I can address your other issue about the fire department, too. So, we're looking at issues there, but given my background, there are major challenges with identifying districts and things like that. It's more likely that a new station would be targeted more towards where the growth is out in the Kennedy Boulevard and out in that area because that's where the majority of the growth is going. We already have the south district. Now, I say that it's more likely we'll do studies, evaluations, and runs to determine where that growth is, to make sure we minimize response time to the appropriate areas. So, it's more likely we'll go out to that area where the growth is and where such a large part of the population lives.

Mr. McDaniels - The way we're growing, we may need to soon.

Michael Grimes, 416 Lukes Circle. I don't have any concerns and no questions. Just really wanted to put names to faces, meet everybody. And I'm sure I'll have some issues in the future.

Councilman Eades - Mr. Grimes, so that you know, I believe we all have city email addresses you can reach any of us through. Most of us have phone numbers listed on the website if you want to reach out to someone by phone as well.

Committee Reports

Public Service Committee –

Councilman Boyd – Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 11, 2026, at 5:00 pm in the conference room next door.

Councilwoman Jackman – I have nothing to add—all public services at five; public safety at six.

Public Safety Committee –

Councilman Stahl – I have nothing.

Finance, Budget, and Personnel Committee –

Councilman Eades – The finance committee will meet on Monday, the 17th, 530, in the room next door. We haven't had anything new to address since our last meeting. Did have an interesting and, I think, very fruitful conversation with Mr. Saltsman today—some changes he would like to see in how we plan for our future. I'm looking forward to seeing his proposal and discussing it at the upcoming finance meeting. That's it.

City Official Reports

Safety Service Director Saltsman – Mayor is absent tonight because of the prepping for the event this weekend. He sends his love to me so quickly. So, I think everybody probably talked about it at the last meeting. But I wasn't there for that special meeting. So, the

police dedication, I think, went really well. Thanks to all of you who showed up. Again, I think I said a number of times there. Thanks for the continued support. You know, there were underlying issues, underground issues. The extra funding is important to that. Anybody who was there and saw the building, I think you see that even though it's not the vision that was originally there, it still turned out to be a really nice building. It's something that we'll continue to grow into. And I think we have a nice building to continue to grow with the police department. So, we are still finalizing things. We're probably three-plus weeks away from getting in. And I say that I'm a little frustrated with our company. So, Securitas is the company picked by the architect to do all the security. So that's the video and all the door locks and the jail locks and that. We've been having issues in terms of timing. So, we cannot get our final occupancy until those systems are installed. So, if the building is secure, we have locks in that, but we can't go to the electronic. We can't get final certified occupancy until then. So, we continue to work with them, but we expect that's probably about three weeks away. In that time, there are still other things that are ongoing that both they're doing. Internet and stuff like that is being installed and checked. So, police officers are using the appropriate time with that. While we're talking about police, our three recruits finished their last day of school yesterday. They start today doing some ride-along. Their graduation is the 19th, and then they'll take their certification test after that. They won't know, I think, until the 19th when their test is, or roughly in there. So, once they take their test and pass, we'll be able to square them in, and then they'll start their FTO training. So that will put us three closer to having a full crew, and I think their FTO is 12 weeks is what they'll be out there. And with that, we're still one officer short, and they're looking at lists now, including people that may already be framed to be able to come over that will expedite that. So, my guess is first quarter next year, hopefully all goes well, we'll be up to full staff. As you know, Chief Nicol's last day is officially this Saturday. He's taken vacation all week. His last day was last Friday, actually, at work. Donovan Cooper, Sergeant Cooper, will be sworn in officially, but he will take over effective Sunday. So, sanitation, Rumpke officially took over after last Friday, so Monday they started picking up trash. We've had regular conversations this week. We've set up a touch base, so basically, we have a conference call every Thursday. We had this morning at 9 o'clock to cover issues they've had, issues we've had, and discuss. For a first week, especially as large as this, we really have not had that many major issues. As a matter of fact, we've had no major issues. I say that if I, as a person, complain, I may view it differently, and I don't mean to downplay that. So, I'll be glad to talk to you on the side and get that so we can get with them. What I think is important is that, as soon as we get them the information, they're addressing it. So, there are some misses in numbers. A lot of data did not transfer from Mid-Ohio, including people with special pickups, but they're addressing those issues and trying to get them collected. A little bit of miscommunication, but most importantly, they've been responsive, immediately taking care of issues. And then on our side, we're trying to reach right back out to people and communicate that with them to resolve those issues. So, I know people, first of all, I get it. If it was me, I'd be frustrated too. I get it. We're seeing people; they're picking things up earlier. Their timing is a lot more – they're moving through their process a lot quicker than our guys did. So, people are getting caught putting their trash out late, things like that. I think as we continue to go through, we'll address it. Issues like here: if they miss it, we'll get hold of them, make sure they get it, and try to take care of that. So, the difference, I think, where we've had some where trash – most of them have been – recycling has been missed. So, it's two different drivers, one doing trash, a different person doing recycling, and then they actually have a third truck doing special pickups and that. So that's part of where some of that is. But we'll continue when people miss. We encourage them to call Rumpke to get that number, but they're more than welcome to reach out to us. We're sending it directly to Rumpke, and then those are being kept. So, we keep an eye on what's going on. Going to

the parks really quick: National Night Out and the Lions Club. Greg, thanks for those groups. Both, I think, had phenomenal turnouts. Greg, I heard you guys had 189 yesterday.

Councilman Eades - 179 was the email that I got. 179. But that's still considerably more than they thought it was going to be. So, 179 people got free entry into the pool, got a free Popsicle, which was amazing how many adults went up to get a Popsicle and then as much water as they wanted to drink, and they got multiple Popsicles. So, everybody seemed to enjoy it. I sent an email to Landon today to thank him and his staff for their help, and everything went very smoothly. So, thank you.

Safety Service Director Saltsman - No, that was phenomenal. We appreciate that. National Night Out also had a very successful turnout, probably much better than last year's; great turnout. We had good support, again, from police and fire, but also Parks and Rec, obviously, and other community groups that were set up there. And along with the other two, I know we've talked about the other two events we had that provided those free nights. I think that's been a great turnout for the pool. Other than that, I don't – I really don't have anything else for this.

President Peters - With Rumpke, do you know what time they are starting in the morning?

Safety Service Director Saltsman - It's supposed to be 7 a.m. So, if it's earlier than that, let me know, and we'll address that.

Councilman Eades - So I spoke to the Rumpke driver who came to my office yesterday morning and had that same discussion. He said they're not – he wasn't completely happy that they had to wait until 7 because he was used to starting a little earlier, but he said that was the rule, that they had to wait until 7 a.m. I was a little surprised, and this is just me as a citizen telling you this, not as a council member. I was a little surprised to learn that they did not come out and pre-run the route because he was doing things backward. And I was just curious. I said, well, that's not normally how it's been done. That's not – well, we were just given a sheet, and we were told to come out and figure it out. And I was a little surprised that they weren't a little bit more efficient than that. But that's what he was told to do, and he said, you know, there will probably be changes as we learn the routes, and we may make some changes on this as we go. So just curious to hear that.

Councilman Boyd - The only thing I was going to ask is, do we have any idea if the special pickups need to re-register with Rumpke? Possibly. I noticed my neighbors were left out by the curb after it was emptied instead of being put up to the house.

Safety Service Director Saltsman - What do you mean by special pickups?

Councilman Boyd - The ones where they'd go up to the houses and pick them up.

Safety Service Director Saltsman - So the curbside is one of them that was really zero, very little information from mid-Ohio. Like that was not captured. I was surprised. They provided a spreadsheet that had handwriting on it, which is not a spreadsheet. So, I'll address what she said. So, the issue is curbside, and as she said, we did discuss that today, so I actually thank you for bringing it up. Curbside is that they will continue to honor, as was in the contract, anybody that is ADA or

senior citizens. The question was what is the requirement for that. And there are people, because they didn't have a list, and some of the issue is there are some people that it's so far away they can't see the curb. And it's like, all right, so we're going to work with them to get that, and I'm supposed to have met the law director; she wasn't there today, she wasn't there yesterday, about some of the language and what the requirement. And the issue is, like with ADA, what's our requirement for documentation? They're going to accommodate what our requirement is the same way it is. So, again, you brought up a great point. If somebody calls, say, I had curb assistance, they're going to do it. If they're senior citizens, it's part of what we require. If it's ADA, they may have to come back and show some kind of documentation. But I think part of the issue with the curbside is if they can't see the curb assist, they don't know it's there; they're going to go by. And, again, I think that's probably one of those first week hiccups. Hopefully they'll get better documentation. They did know some because some were clearly marked, but not everybody had that. It's curbside; you should have a curb assist right on your trash can. Yep, but if they can't see it, they don't know it's the first thing they're doing. Now, some of them, they know what the rest is. Different people, so they may have just missed it. But I'll get your name and address, and we'll send it to them by e-mail to make sure it's taken care of.

Councilman Boyd - Should we tell people, though, to reach out to Rumpke if they are having issues with that?

Safety Service Director Saltsman - We're going to put it out on our social on the website, but I want to wait until I talk to the law director about the requirements so we're not putting out two different messages. So, hopefully, DeMarsh will be there. We want to look and see what the requirements of the ADA are. Bill's off this week. He comes back next week.
I'll probably talk to him tomorrow, and we can look at what some of those requirements were before. But we'll definitely put that message out so that people who have. Now, that being said, if somebody had a curbside issue or whatever, feel free to call Rumpke directly or call E, and we'll still send that information. They don't have to wait. I just want to be proactive, but I'm afraid if we put something out once and then we back it up, they pass it over and miss it. So, I want to try to get that information first.

Old Business

RESOLUTION 148-26 Sponsored by: Greg Eades

A resolution increasing appropriations. The Police Department has received a donation from London Rotary.

Councilman Eades - The London Rotary Club was kind enough to donate. We have to appropriate that money so that the police department can use it.

Leave for 3rd Reading

RESOLUTION 149-26 Sponsored by: Greg Eades

A resolution increasing appropriations. The Fire Department has received a donation from London Rotary

Councilman Eades - Once again, the donation. I failed to mention that the amount

was $250, donated by the London Rotary. I do want to say that, hey, we appreciate the local civic organizations when they want to donate in support of our police and fire. We do appreciate that. I'm sure they'll find a good use for the money, but that's the same situation.

Leave for 3rd Reading

RESOLUTION 150-26 Sponsored by: Lisa Jackman

A resolution increasing appropriations. The Fire Department has received a donation from the Cobra Club

Councilwoman Jackman - This is very similar to the two that Greg just had; this is a $7,500 donation from the Cobra Club that will go to the Fire Department.

Leave for 3rd Reading

RESOLUTION 151-26 Sponsored by: Lisa Jackman

A resolution increasing appropriations. The Police Department has received a donation from the Cobra Club

Councilwoman Jackman - This one is also from the Cobra Club, and they are donating $7,500 to the police department. Wonderful.

Councilman Eades - Mr. President, just an additional piece here. Mr. Grimes, you're new to the area. The Cobra Club is, you know, what the Cobra vehicles are: the old 1960s Cobras, and I don't know if you were here to see the Cobra Club in action during the Strawberry Festival. One of their fundraisers is letting people pay $20 to ride up North Main Street in Cobras, and they donate that money back. So, they're not even a local organization, and they donate $15,000 a year back to the City of London in appreciation for us having them and allowing them to do that.

Leave for 3rd Reading

RESOLUTION 152-26 Sponsored by: Greg Eades

A resolution increasing appropriations. The Fire Department has received a donation from a private citizen

Councilman Eades - And the unique thing about this is that it was a private citizen, and not just a private citizen, but they donated $410. So, I don't know if there's a special meaning to the $410, or if that's all they had, because I've heard that before. So, you know, once again, if a private person feels so moved to donate, I'm sure the Fire Department will make good use of that money, and we want to thank them.

Leave for 3rd Reading

RESOLUTION 153-26 Sponsored by: Shannon Treynor

A resolution increasing appropriations. MORPC has reimbursed the City for a portion of the intern's salary

Councilwoman Treynor - This is also a reimbursement; well, it was a reimbursement instead of a donation from Warp C to the City, reimbursing the City for a portion of the intern's salary. I'm not sure what time period, but the amount was $2,700.

Leave for 3rd Reading

New Business

RESOLUTION 164-26 Sponsored by: Lisa Jackman

A resolution authorizing the safety service director to file a ditch petition with the county. The ditch on the City farm needs repaired; and the ditch extends onto to property that is not owned by the City of London, and the owners reside in the County; and the City must file a petition with the County to be able to get the entire ditch repaired; there is a $1,500.00 bond required to be filed with the ditch petition.

Councilwoman Jackman - This is self-explanatory, I guess. The ditch on the city farm needs to be repaired. The ditch extends onto property that's not owned by the City of London. The owners reside in the County, so the city must file a petition with the County to have the entire ditch repaired. It costs a $1,500 bond to be paid with the filing, and then the County will have some hearings. I think it's three public hearings. Is that right, Steve? And then the County will decide whether that ditch work can proceed. Feel free to add anything.

Safety Service Director Saltsman - Yeah, so a couple of things. With the farm lease, they'd approached the contingent farms on each side, asked them if they wanted to go in with the city and make appropriate repairs. They weren't interested; they said the city could spend money on it. So, the only option really is to go to the ditch petition. We contacted the County engineer. He looked at things, came back, would basically draw some maps, say, hey, here's the area that's affected, and then talk to us about the ditch petition. So, as you said, it's a $1,500 bond. That money will be returned to us if they accept the petition and move forward, or used towards our portion. The petition is filed with them. They'll evaluate it. The engineer evaluates it. They find it has legitimate merit, that it's worth moving forward. They'll have the hearing on it. I think they have to have three public hearings. And then I believe that once it's passed, they go out and do their assessment. They create an estimate. The engineer will do the work or have it bid out. He'll create all the work package, the bid, and all that. When the package is done, they actually do the work. And then the cost is divided equally based on the percentage of property within the watershed. So, if we have- I'm just going to make it easy if we had 50% of the watershed and the other, let's say there were only two other parts, 25-25, that's how it would be split. But it's split mathematically. The other part is that it becomes a permanent part of the County's ditch maintenance. And that is assessed annually on each of the property owners. I believe he told us it was up to 2% of the total cost of the project. Those funds would then be used to maintain the ditch from then on out. So hopefully, forever down, we don't have issues in the future because they would maintain that ditch.

Councilman Boyd - Is there a way that we can get that map posted up kind of on social media, just put it out there, what we're looking into to go along with this? Or is there anything like that?

Safety Service Director Saltsman - Let me check. So, the issue is what do we put out with it? I mean, I get your idea, and I'm not against it, but I want to make sure that we have good, accurate information. And we should do that as it moves forward

with the County, for sure. But I think I need to talk to the engineer and make sure we're not stepping on their toes if you do it.

Leave for 2nd Reading

Round Table

Councilman Stahl - No, except for meetings on Tuesday.

Councilman Boyd - Come on out to the Merrimack Park Miracle Cornhole Tournament tomorrow at 630. $50 per team. You can win $400. And we've been setting up all week. So, if anybody thinks they can win some prizes, throw in those bags. Come on out and try your luck. Where? Over at the Rhythm and Rib Fest. And so, you should be down in the center.

Councilwoman Treynor - I don't have anything. Thank you.

Councilwoman Jackman - To add to what Tommy said, the Rhythm and Rib Fest will start tomorrow. It will be from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. And it will be right downtown at the intersection of South Main and Second Streets, between High and First on Main Street.

Councilman Eades – So I do have a couple of questions. I was going to ask one earlier for the committee officials. Somebody asked the question, you know, about how the developers are funding their projects. And it made me go back and look through some things. And what made me want to bring it up tonight was that, as part of the new community authority, the London Gateway New Community Authority, the NCA, there was a requirement for that new NCA to get a bond issued for $10,000 for each member of that board. It's probably just one bond of $10,000 for the board's actions. But that was supposed to be filed with our clerk. And I don't know how we ever track whether anything gets filed with our clerk or whether it goes to the auditor's office or the law director if it was filed. But that was a requirement of theirs. And I just came across that. I've never followed up, you know, since I read this yesterday. But I was just curious if we know anything about that.

President Peters - I know that they had sent something, what, a month ago? So, she can check to see what. Yeah, because they did file something with their clerk.

Councilman Eades - Okay. Well, I was just curious because it's never come up in a discussion after that. So, I was just curious about that. Yeah, I was told to file it. Okay. I mean, if they met their obligations, then it probably must be not just filed with you but probably put in a file somewhere so that we know that they've met their obligations, whether that's the auditor or the law director, would be my thought. Next thing, the ditch discussion made me think of: I got a call from a local landowner here in London who said he got a letter from a firm in California because, from what they understood, Norfolk Southern was about to abandon the rest of the rail line. That land was adjacent to his land. And he said, you realize there's a creek back there? And I said, well, I don't think there's a creek. But there is a ditch that starts outside of the city and runs over by the from outside of the city behind the senior center and comes down through there. And I could see where that ditch would run close to his house before it hit the creek. And he was just, you know, he was curious what's going to happen if Norfolk Southern abandons that. Will he have the option to buy anything? I said, I don't know. I doubt anyone's really considered that, since it came from a law firm in California. But I