

London City Council
20 S. Walnut Street, London, Ohio 43140
June 1, 2023 at 6:30pm
Minutes

Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order by President Comer at 6:30pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited with a moment of Silent Reflection that followed.

Roll Call

Present - *Councilman Eades, Councilman Peters, Councilman Robinson, President Comer, Councilman Hays, Councilman Stahl*

Absent - *Councilman Hitt*

Minutes – Approval of May 18, 2023 minutes, approved by unanimous voice vote

Public Hearing – none

Communications/Announcements – none

Audience Concerns

Tommy Boyd, 48 N. Union St., (obtained notes from Mr. Boyd. Audio did not work on recording)

- What is going on with the traffic crossing lights that are over 6 months behind? A: They have finally been delivered and are now in process of being put up.
- Next was about if the community center demo is considered finished so the grant money can be accepted.
A: Yes.
- After that was about how much the sewer line evaluation was that the city is finally getting and when it will be done.
A: Around \$20,000 and no final date but will release information as it comes in.
- Last question was about the London Community Organization that is sponsored on London's city website and if Pat still had control of it since he hasn't posted since 2019? Maybe they could use this for community outreach instead of \$14,220 for a new website?
A: (Pat) No I can't post to that. Also commented that he didn't know this was the primary location that the city's website takes you to for community outreach.
- Asked before the meeting when the fireworks are and they'll be on the 3rd with parade on the 4th.

Committee Reports

Personnel & Finance Committee – Nothing to report. Next meeting is Monday, June 5, 2023 @ 6:00pm

Public Service Committee – Nothing to report. Next meeting is Wednesday, June 7, 2023 @ 1:00pm

Public Safety Committee – *Councilman Hays* – Nothing to report. Next meeting is Tuesday, June 13, 2023 @ 5:00pm

City Official Reports

Mayor –

- I would like to start off by congratulating the youth of the community on another successful school year. I would also like to congratulate the Class of 2023 and wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors. And thank you to all the school staff and teachers on this past school year. Teaching can be a very difficult job but what they are doing to teach and mold the youth is invaluable and we cannot thank you enough.
- I would also like to thank London City Schools and St. Patrick's for being such a great partner with the city and myself. I am blessed to be able to go into the schools to read, speak, teach and participate in events. This is a highlight of my job as Mayor and this partnership means a lot to me. In May I was able to participate in the London Middle School Life Fair, London High School Signing Day, London Elementary lunch with the Mayor sponsored by Cappy's Pizza, Junior Achievement classes for the London Elementary School fifth grade class, London Elementary School second grade field trip to City Hall, London Middle School Unity Day Color Run, London Middle School eighth grade honk out parade and the London High School senior class parade. I was also able to participate in St. Patrick's field day for their color run. The crazy thing is in May I traveled to Navin Elementary School in Marysville and West Jefferson's Norwood Elementary School to speak to some classes about my job as Mayor and being a business owner.
- I was also able to attend Rockin on the Run where I was part of the pie in the face booth and I attended the National Day of Prayer where I was able to speak. Thank you to the organizers of both events and for having me out.
- Summer is upon us and there are a lot of great things happening in our community over the next couple months. We are looking to host two or three outdoor movies this year and we are finalizing dates. The Independence Day Celebrations will be happening with the London fireworks display beginning at dusk on Monday July 3rd and will be let off at the High School. We will also have our parade on Tuesday July 4th beginning at 11:00am heading down Main Street from Cowling Park. The pool is open and it is already starting to get busy. There is also more event planned around the community like festivals.
- There has been a lot of discussion about housing as of late and I wanted to give an update on the information the administration currently has. I will speak about the proposed or planned development, number of units and timeline.
- Lexington Green: The corner of Elm Street and Keny Boulevard.
- 800 Rooftops: The preliminary plan was approved by the planning commission and city council quite a while ago. We are waiting on a developer to move forward with the property.

- Pulte: In fill between SR 42 (Lafayette Street) and SR 142 (High Street)
- 235 Houses: The preliminary plan was approved by the planning commission and sent to city council where it is currently tabled. I received the following communication today from Jim Hilz who represents Pulte, “I wanted to let you know Pulte is back in contract on the two Heath property parcels and we are planning to move forward with the zoning. At this point, we have an internal review process that starts this afternoon. The site plan has undergone some modifications following our due diligence to work around some environmentally sensitive areas. That will require updating the text, engineering, and zoning exhibits.” The administrative team will now wait on their changes and meet with the building department to see how many changes were made and if it has to go back through the process or can be passed by city council.
- Keny Station Apartments: Keny Boulevard next to the Madison County Chamber of Commerce.
- 55 Units: The preliminary plan was approved by the planning commission and city council. Waiting on developer to move forward and developer has requested a tax abatement and we were told he would be in communication with the school district.
- London Landing Phase 1: At the end of Jacob Lane off of Garfield Avenue.
- 61 Houses: The roads and infrastructure are in place and the construction of about 10 homes has begun. We have over 30 total permits applied for and 23 have been issued. Arbor Homes has stated that they have around 50 of the lots sold to be built on.
- London Landing Phase 2 and 3: Past London Landing 1 at the end of Jacob Lane and behind Graceland Avenue.
- 219 Houses: The preliminary plan will be presented at the next planning commission meeting June 8th which will be held at City Hall and begin at 5:30pm.
- I will also be having a meeting in the next couple weeks to discuss potential apartments and condominiums from a different developer.
- I want to remind everyone to please mow their lawns and properties. We have been very busy sending notifications out to mow. As of this past Friday we had sent out 18 compliance letters and began the process. I assume that number is continuing to grow. If you know of a property not being mowed please contact my office and we can get the code enforcer out to assess the property and start the process if needed.
- The MOLO Fun Fact is the number 40. Leah Baird retired from Meals on Wheels and Lifecare Alliance after serving our community for 40 years. She has been a staple in our community not only with meals on wheels but helping out in many different aspects. I know she will be missed serving as the meals on wheels coordinator but I know she will still stay active in our community helping where she can. I would like to thank her for everything she has done for London and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

Old Business

Tabled Items

ORDINANCE 151-22 Sponsored by Rich Hays- an ORDINANCE amending official zoning.

Councilman Hays – no movement as of yet.

Leave on agenda

RESOLUTION 135-23 Sponsored by: Josh Peters. A Resolution increasing appropriations. The ball fields at Merri Mac Park and on Park Ave need improvements; and the available funds must be appropriated prior to expenditure

Councilman Peters – we are waiting to see how much more we’ll need

Mayor Closser – Please leave on for next meeting. Landon should be able to give report at that time.

Leave on agenda

2nd Reading (3rd to 2nd reading correction from agenda)

RESOLUTION 165-23 Sponsored by: Josh Peters, A RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS. The City Administration has identified the need for a new website and app; and the available funds must be re-appropriated prior to expenditure.

Motion to adopt RESOLUTION by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Hays. The motion carried with 5 in favor and 0 against by voice vote

Motion to withdraw motion to adopt by Councilman Peters, 2nd Councilman Hays. The motion carried with 5 in favor and 0 against by voice vote

Motion to reconsider motion to adopt by Councilman Stahl, 2nd Councilman Hays. The motion carried with 5 in favor and 0 against by voice vote

Motion to adopt RESOLUTION by Councilman Stahl, 2nd by Councilman Robinson. The motion carried with 5 in favor and 0 against by voice vote

ORDINANCE 167-23 Sponsored by: Josh Peters, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL. There are several sections of the Policy and Procedure manual that need updated; and this Council must act to approve the recommendations.

Leave on for 3rd reading

ORDINANCE 174-23 Sponsored by: Andrew Hitt, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1248 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES

Leave on for 3rd reading

ORDINANCE 175-23 Sponsored by: John Stahl, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 452 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES

Leave on for 3rd reading

ORDINANCE 176-23 Sponsored by: John Stahl, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 454 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES

Leave on for 3rd reading

ORDINANCE NO. 177-23 Sponsored by: Josh Peters, AN ORDINANCE TO INCREASE THE MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX BY TWENTY FIVE HUNDREDTHS OF ONE PERCENT (0.25%) PER ANNUM FOR A CONTINUING PERIOD OF TIME, COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2024, 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.

Councilman Eades – Requests an amendment to the Ordinance, replace “continuing period of time” to “five (5) years”

Leave on for 3rd reading

RESOLUTION NO. 178-23 Sponsored By: Josh Peters, 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. 177-23, ON THE BALLOT AT THE ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 7, 2023, AND DIRECTING THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS OF MADISON COUNTY, OHIO TO CONDUCT SUCH ELECTION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Leave on for 3rd reading

New Business - none

Round Table

The council members Thank everyone for attending the meeting.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:43pm

Kris Miller, Council Clerk

Henry Comer, Council President

Date

Date