

February 1, 2018

President Joe Russell 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 ROLL CALL: Henry Comer, present; Rex Castle, present; Brenda Russell, present; Rich Hays, present; Josh Peters, present.

MINUTES of the previous meeting were corrected to read Mayor Closser (not Eades). All were in favor of the amended minutes by stating “aye”.

COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: President Russell announced that Mayor Closser had appointed Michelle Anderson to the Board of Zoning Appeals. Her term expires 2021. Council members were in favor of the appointment by responding “aye”.

La Carreta Mexican Restaurant, LLC, has resubmitted a liquor license request. They had applied for the wrong liquor license originally. Council members approved the revised request of “D” permit classes, by responding “aye”.

Mrs. Lora Long, hired as the new city auditor, has had to vacate her seat on city council.

President Russell shared that Law Director Hitt noticed that council rules might prevent them from moving forward as council is now short two members.

She recommended making changes that vote tallies pertain to the sworn and seated members. This means that the number of votes will be contingent on who is actually seated in place.

President Russell noted the three changes to the council rules: add the term “sworn and seated” council members to sections G, H, I, and S.

Mayor Closser explained that this is being done, as the city needs to continue doing business, with two council members gone. It takes time to get new members on council. “I could go and appoint someone, but I don’t want to put a body up there just to put a body up there. We need a qualified person.”

The change just clarifies seated, sworn members.

President Russell added that the requirements to pass legislation does not change just specifies that someone has to be in that seat to qualify. “It’s a good change.”

All council members were in favor of the changes by responding “aye”.

President Russell will get rules amended and sent out to council members.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

AUDIENCE CONCERNS: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Councilman Castle attended the city property meeting. ODOT has conducted an appraisal of the property. The committee also discussed securing the old high school building from Brightway Institute. The boilers no longer work and there is no heat in the building. The institute is not taking on the responsibility of replacing them. The city is putting in new furnaces.

Renovation if coming along good with the old primary building.

The next city property meeting is Wednesday February 28, at 7:00 p.m.

The finance committee meeting is February 5, at 6:00 p.m.

Councilman Peter reported that the next public service meeting is Thursday, February 8.

CITY OFFICIAL REPORTS: Mayor Closser shared that the city website and Facebook page has nice promotional video tours of the city of London. It shows what the city has to offer those wishing to relocate to London. He asked that everyone share out with friends.

President Closser also thanked Councilman Hays for donating a new flag for Cowling Park. Prior to Mr. Hays becoming a council member, he donated many free flags for the city's Memorial Lane.

Mayor Closser gave his administrative report at this time. (attached).

Amy Rees, administrative assistant, explained the packets she prepared for council members. She reminded that in December, council passed a resolution saying the city could ask the state's capital budget for financial support for "Access Cowling". She, Susan Thompson, and Mayor Closser visited Representative Hackett explaining the process and asked for his support in submitting the project for financial assistance from the state capital budget for \$400,000.00. Representative Hackett did make the request.

Community members are being asked to call or email legislators for their support in this project. There is a template in the packet explaining how to proceed in contacting legislators. It has gone out to 100 different people and is on Facebook.

OLD BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION 168-17 Sponsored by Dick Minner AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ELECTED OFFICIALS AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS WAGE
TABLED.

Councilman Castle updated his search of local citizens to form a committee for their input for city officials' wages. He has located three people interested in serving on the committee, but needs five. He shared with council what he has prepared for the committee.

ORDINANCE 104-18 Sponsored by: Lora Long AN ORDINANCE FOR STRENGTHS ON JOB DESCRIPTIONS. Motion by Comer to place on second reading, second by Hays. Clerk read.
LEFT ON 2ND READING

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION 105-18 Sponsored by: Josh Peters A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AUDITOR TO TRANSFER Motion by Hays to place on first reading, second by Comer. Clerk read.

Councilman Peters explained that this needs to be appropriated for additional cost to ODOT for the paving projects for this spring. The bids came in higher than expected.

Motion by Peters to suspend rules, second by Russell. Roll to suspend: Castle, yes; Russell, yes; Hays, yes; Peters, yes; Comer, yes. **SUSPENDED.**

Motion by Russell to adopt, second by Peters. Roll to adopt: Russell, yes; Hays, yes; Peters, yes; Comer, yes; Castle, yes. **ADOPTED.**

RESOLUTION 106-18 Sponsored by: Henry Comer A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES TO APPLY FOR AN OHIO WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN

Mr. Comer would like more information before sponsoring it.

Dan Leavitte, Waste Water Superintendent, explained this resolution. In 2020, Ohio EPA will be requiring that the plant remove nutrients from the discharge of the plant. The city conducted the study as to the best way to handle this and has been approved by the BPU. The next step is the design of the upgrade to the plant to remove the nutrients.

Ohio EAP is offering 0% loan to do the design for five years. \$198,000.00 over five year's or approximately \$40,000/year. It will be 2019 before the design is done, with no payment due until then.

The city may be required to do this by 2023. If that is the case, we will have the design ready to go. Since we are discharging nutrients into Oak Creek that flows Deercreek, we are high on the list to remove them. Any plant discharging into a reservoir will required to do this due to the algae situations.

The updates to the plant will cost approximately \$3 million.

Mayor Closser explained that sponsoring legislation doesn't mean a "yes" vote. Lora Long was going to sponsor it as the BPU representative, but she is now the city auditor.

Mayor Closser noted that a council member needs to attend the BPU meeting as council representative.

Councilman Comer asked if there was a timeline.

Mr. Leavitte explained the longer we wait to apply, the more likelihood the money will be gone. "We might as well use their money at 0% interest. It is not a stretch to pay out of my budget."

President Russell added that this legislation just authorizes the BPU to apply. It does not state that we agree with the amount.

Mr. Leavitte, said that if the city were selected, then BPU would come back, request the money, and announce whom the engineer firm will be.

Councilman Comer is the sponsor.

Motion by Rex to place Resolution 106-18 on a first reading, second by Russell to read.

Motion by Castle to suspend, second by Russell. Roll to suspend: Hays, yes; Peters, yes; Comer, yes; Castle, yes; Russell, yes. **SUSPENDED.**

Motion Russell to adopt, second by Castle. Peters, yes; Comer, yes; Castle, yes; Russell, yes; Hays, yes. **ADOPTED.**

ROUND TABLE

Councilman Comer thanked everyone for coming in. He reminded the next public safety committee meeting is Tuesday, February 13, 6:00 p.m., in the police department.

Councilman Castle reminded everyone that the next finance committee meeting is February 5, 6:00 p.m. and the city properties meeting is February 28, 7:00 p.m.

Councilwoman Russell congratulated Mrs. Long in her new position as city auditor.

She thanked Mr. Leavitte for the good explanation regarding Resolution 106-18.

She encouraged everyone to get the word out about "Access Cowling Park" and to contact Representative Hackett.

Councilman Hays reminded that the next public service meeting is next Thursday, February 8.

He congratulated Mrs. Long and thanked Mr. Leavitte for the explanation.

Mr. Hays also commended the police chief and his department. The officers do a great job and are very much appreciated!

Councilman Peters congratulated Mrs. Long, and thanked Mr. Leaviate for the explanation on the resolution.

ADJOURN: Motion by Councilwoman Russel to adjourn.

Arlene Duffey, Clerk of Council

Joseph Russell, President