

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.

Councilman Hays asked for a moment of silence to remember two fallen heroes from Westerville, officers that were killed in the line of duty.

CLERK CALLED ROLL: Henry Comer, present; Rex Castle, present; Brenda Russell; Rich Hays, present; Josh Peters, present.

MINUTES of the previous meeting were approved as received.

COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: President Russell informed that Councilman Comer will chair of the safety committee. All were in favor by responding "aye".

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

AUDIENCE CONCERNS: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Councilman Comer attended the public safety committee meeting. The fire department has been conducting fire extinguisher training at the prison. The police department has finished its budget

Councilman Castle attended the finance committee meeting. New city auditor, Lora Long, is digging in and getting acquainted with the job. The committee mainly discussed elected official's pay resolution. He was having too many issues finding people to serve on a committee to look over resolution, so the finance committee has a proposed, amended resolution on the agenda this evening.

The next finance committee meeting is March 5 at 6:00 p.m.

The next city properties meeting is February 28, 7:00 p.m.

Councilwoman Russell attended public service and finance committee meetings. At the meeting, street superintendent Bill Long gave an update. The employees have been busy plowing, truck maintenance, and trash pickup at Cowling Park.

He reported on the storm sewer update, continuing meetings with LOCI regarding the field drainage behind Graceland Avenue.

He has spoken with ODOT about closing North Main Street to put in new drainage pipe at Merrimont.

The storm sewer needs replaced at the "Y" on East High Street.

The department needs a new brush hog, utility truck, and a new, used "baby" dump truck.

The department also needs a new laptop for the office and one that controls the traffic.

Tammy Braskett had reported that youth basketball is over. The season was very successful despite all the heating issues.

Volleyball starts February 24. One-hundred, eighteen children have signed up so far. They are using the Vineyard church for practice.

She and administration are going to meet with the swim team to discuss changes that need made. (Safety service director, Joe Mosier, interjected they have been corresponding via email.)

Tammy plans to start up an adult "pickle ball", using a low tennis net. Adult volleyball has four teams so far.

All four furnaces are installed and running.

The next public service meeting is March 8, 6:00 p.m.

Councilman Hays attended the public service and finance committee meetings. He commented that Tammy is a great asset to the city.

Councilman Peters announced the next public service meeting is March 8, 6:00 p.m.

The next public safety meeting is March 13, 6:00 p.m.

Councilwoman Russell shared some trivia that at one time, London held horseshoe tournaments. "London home of the Horseshoe World" London held horseshoe tournaments. Pitched where the PNC bank sits now.

CITY OFFICIAL REPORTS: Mayor Closser gave his administrative report at this time.

He also shared that anyone interested in applying for Ward I or Ward III need to apply. Interviews will be conducted Tuesday, March 6, 5:30 p.m. at the county engineer's office.

OLD BUSINESS:

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

Motion by Castle to remove from the table, second by Comer. Roll: Castle, yes; Russell, yes; Hays, yes; Peters, yes; Comer, yes.

Motion to read by Castle, second by Russell.

Councilman Castle explained that this was discussed extensively at the finance committee meeting. The committee feels London needs a full time Mayor and auditor, along with the law director. Our current "part time" Mayor is basically working full-time.

Councilman Castle motioned to replace the current resolution with the amended Resolution 168-17, second by Peters. Roll to amend: Russell, yes; Hays, yes; Peters, yes; Comer, yes; Castle, yes.

Committee went through all the proposed salaries and made changes. He went over the revised salaries. Pays have not changed since 2008. We surveyed surrounding cities and we are comparable.

Councilman Castle went over the changes. This resolution will not go into effect until 2020.

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

ADOPTED

ORDINANCE 104-18 Sponsored by: Lora Long AN ORDINANCE FOR STRENGTHS ON JOB DESCRIPTIONS Motion by Russell to place on third reading, second by Hays. Clerk read.

Castle noted that the strength numbers are already reflected in the budget.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION 107-18 Sponsored by: Rex Castle A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AUDITOR'S WARRANT FOR PAYMENT Motion by Russell to place on first reading, second by Hays. Clerk read.

Councilman Castle explained that there was a clerical error and needs to be paid.

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

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

ADOPTED

ROUND TABLE:

Councilman Hays thanked the street department for the good job removing snow. He asked if anything could be done differently to keep the snow away from the curbs on south main street where people park. Complaint

Mayor Closser commented it is a big dilemma. Sidewalks are supposed to be maintained by residents and business owns. There is no way we can go through and remove the piled up snow after a snowstorm. We just can't do it for one area and not the entire town. It would take away from plowing residential areas. We just ask that people help and shovel paths in front of their businesses.

Castle commented that after snow hit, you could see the payment within the city limits. Not so, once you were outside the city!

He thanked whoever was responsible for getting the donation bins relocated.

President Russell commented that they were never supposed to be there to begin with.

Mr. Castle reminded everyone of the next city properties meeting on February 28 and finance on March 5.

Councilman Comer thanked council for passing the strength ordinance. Especially for our police department considering all the different activities going on around the world in small and big cities. Our department is working hard to keep the city safe.

ADJOURN: Motion by Castle to adjourn.

Arlene Duffey, Clerk of Council

Joe Russell, Council President