

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

**CLERK CALLED ROLL CALL:** Trint Hatt, absent; Rex Castle, present; Brenda Russell, present; Dick Minner, present; Lora Long, present; Josh Peters, present; Megan Douglas, present.

**MINUTES** of the previous meeting were approved as received. Council members accepted the minutes by responding "aye".

**COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None

**AUDIENCE CONCERNS:** None

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Councilman Castle attended the February 13 finance committee meeting. The discussion revolved primarily around the capital budget. There is legislation this evening requesting a \$425,000 transfer from the general to capital budget.

The next finance committee meeting is Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup>.

Councilwoman Russell attended the finance committee meeting.

Councilwoman Long attended the public service and finance committee meetings.

Councilman Peters attended and reported on the public service and parks and recreation meetings.

The next parks and recreation is Thursday, March 9.

The public safety meeting is February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**CITY OFFICIAL REPORTS:** Mayor Pat Closser addressed council with his administrative report (attached). Of major concern for the city is the governor's proposal to collect net profit taxes by the state. The governor's proposed budget also increases sales tax and reduces income tax. These proposals will be detrimental to the city.

Mayor Closser commented that the State is asking themselves "why have RITA collect city's sales taxes when we can be making that money. "Our tax department knows best what is coming in. We need to keep an eye on this proposal."

He reminded that the state has already take away our estate tax. The proposed sales tax may be great for some cities like Columbus, but not London.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

ORDINANCE 134-16 AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS IN THE AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$1,550,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF RENOVATING AND IMPROVING AN EXISTING FACILITY FOR MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES, INCLUDING SITE IMPROVEMENTS AND APPURTENANCES THERETO; FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING THE SAME; AND ACQUIRING LAND AND INTERESTS IN LAND AS NECESSARY IN CONNECTION THERETO; AND AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING RELATED MATTERS IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS Sponsored by: Rex Castle

**TABLED**

ORDINANCE 106-17 SPONSORED BY: LORA LONG AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND EDITING AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT CODES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES..... Motion by Long to place on second reading, second by Russell. Clerk read

**LEFT ON 2<sup>ND</sup> READING.**

ORDINANCE 110-17 Sponsored by: Lora Long AN ORDINANCE FOR STRENGTHS ON JOB DESCRIPTIONS Motion Long to place on second reading, second by Russell. Clerk read  
**LEFT ON 2<sup>ND</sup> READING.**

RESOLUTION 111-17 Sponsored by: Brenda Russell A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SHADE TREE COMMISSION TO PLANT PERENNIALS IN TREE PITS. Motion by Russell to place on second reading, second by Long. Clerk read. Councilwoman Russell shared that the commission would like this passed so they can get bids.

Motion by Russell to suspend rule, second by Long. Roll to suspend: Castle, yes; Russell, yes; Minner, yes; Long, yes; Peters, yes; Douglas, yes.

**SUSPENDED.**

Motion by Russell to adopt, second by Long. Roll to adopt: Russell, yes; Minner, yes; Long, yes; Peters, yes; Douglas, yes; Castle, yes.

**ADOPTED.**

ORDINANCE 112-17 Sponsored By: Planning Commission AN ORDINANCE AMENDING OFFICIAL ZONING MAP Motion by Russell to place on second reading, second by Douglas. Clerk read. A public hearing is set for the March 16 meeting.

**LEFT ON 2<sup>ND</sup> READING.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

RESOLUTION 113-17 Sponsored by: Trint Hatt A RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CITY OF LONDON'S CAPITAL NEEDS Motion by Long to place on first reading, second by Douglas. Clerk read.

Councilman Castle stated that the finance committee recommends moving this money into the capital budget as there are many projects needing done.

Motion by Castle to suspend rules, second by Peters. Roll to suspend: Minner, yes; Long, yes; Peters, yes; Douglas, yes; Castle, yes; Russell, yes.

**SUSPENDED.**

Motion by Minner to adopt, second by Castle. Roll to adopt: Long, yes; Peters, yes; Douglas, yes; Castle, yes; Russell, yes; Minner, yes.

**ADOPTED.**

ORDINANCE 114-17 Sponsored by: Rex Castle AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF LONDON, STATE OF OHIO, DURING FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016 Motion by Long to place on first reading, second by Douglas. Clerk read.

Motion by Long to amend date to read 2017 in the title, second by Minner. Roll to amend: Peters, yes; Douglas, yes; Castle, yes; Russell, yes; Minner, yes; Long, yes.

**AMENDED.**

Rex \$700,000 out of general. Read a list of needs (see attached)

Councilman Castle asked that council consider suspending rules, as the street department would like to start seeking prices and not be the last on a repair schedule.

Motion by Castle to suspend rules, second by Peters. Roll to suspend rules: Douglas, yes; Castle, yes; Russell, yes; Minner, yes; Long, yes; Peters, yes.

**SUSPEND.**

Motion by Castle to adopt, second by Russel. Roll to adopt: Castle, yes; Russell, yes; Minner, yes; Long, yes; Peters, yes; Douglas, yes.

**ADOPTED.**

RESOLUTION 115-17 Sponsored by: Megan Douglas A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BPU TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT (attachment) Motion by Douglas to place on first reading, second by Russel. Clerk read.

Mr. Leavitt, Water Plant Supervisor, reminded that the loan was approved in November. This is to enter into contract with the engineering firm to plan.

Motion by Douglas to suspend rules, second by Russel. Roll to suspend: Russell, yes; Minner, yes; Long, yes; Peters, yes; Douglas, yes; Castle, yes.

**SUSPENDED**

Motion by Douglas to adopt, second by Russel. Roll to adopt: Minner, yes; Long, yes; Peters, yes; Douglas, yes; Castle, yes; Russell, yes.

**ADOPTED.**

ORDINANCE 116-17 Sponsored by: Megan Douglas AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1060, SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF LONDON (attachment) Motion by Douglas to place on first reading, second by Russell. Clerk read.

Bill Beathard, BPU, addressed council, explaining summary of attached proposed rates. The list compared the old and new proposed increases.

He commented that the BPU would like to move forward on this to keep the sanitation department "in the black".

Price of trash bags and commercial dumpster fees will go up.

The BPU hopes to apply for grants to offset costs of 65 gallon carts so there will be no cost to the citizens.

There was discussion on out-of-city trash pickup service. Mr. Beathard explained that London is a "closed city". Those using outside companies are charge \$500.00 annually by the city. The city can't pick up some industry's waste.

Mr. Beathard said the BPU may purchase and test pilot 500, 96 gallon trash carts. They will be ID. The department hopes to eventually do away with the bags all together and only have one guy on the back of the truck. However, this is nowhere in the near future.

Councilwoman Long asked if the BPU clerical staff will be to handle any extra work.

Mr. Beathard said they would be able to as it's just extra data entry.

Councilman Minner questioned how it is determined that some businesses can pay for an outside refuse company.

Mr. Beathard said replied that if the city can pick up a commercial trash, they have to use the city service or pay the annual \$500.00 fee per location.

Mr. Minner pointed out that they could have 10 bins and only have to pay \$500.00. He commented that it was a big issue with him and if they could do it, everyone should have the same right to use an outside service.

Mr. Beathard explained that it is the BPU's intention to have residents recycle more, hopefully cutting down on blowing trash.

It was a general consensus that those not using London bags should be charged more than \$2.00 per bag.

Councilman Castle was concerned that the new, proposed bag size would not make enough of a difference. Residents could still overload the bags, possibly creating back injuries to the employees.

There will be a public hearing on April 6<sup>th</sup>.

**LEFT ON 1<sup>ST</sup>**

RESOLUTION 117-17 Sponsored by: Rex Castle STRONGLY OPPOSING THE STATE OF OHIO GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED 2017-2018 BUDGET, WHICH PROPOSES CENTRALIZED COLLECTION OF NET PROFIT TAX RETURNS AND OTHER PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX WHICH WILL CAUSE A SUBSTANTIAL LOSS OF REVENUE NEEDED TO SUPPORT THE HEALTH, SAFETY, WELFARE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS OF OHIO MUNICIPALITIES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY Motion by Long to place on first readings, second by Douglas. Clerk read.

Mayor Closser asked that this go one more reading to get the word out. He asked council to look over the links he sent.

**LEFT ON 1<sup>ST</sup> READING.**

## **ROUND TABLE**

Councilwoman Douglas thanked everyone for coming in this evening.

Councilman Castle thanked everyone for coming in this evening.

He also commented that it would be detrimental to the city if the state were to collect the city's taxes. The city needs to keep our taxes accessible and in control.

**ADJOURN** Motion by Douglas to adjourn.

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Arlene Duffey, Clerk of Council

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Jennifer Hitt, Council President