

President Joe Russell called the regular meeting of the London City Council. He led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent reflection.

CLERK ROLL CALL: Henry Comer, present; Rex Castle, present; Brenda Russell, present; Rich Hays, present; Andrew Hitt, absent; Josh Peters, present; Anthony Smith, present.

MINUTES of the previous meeting were approved as received.

COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS: Motion by Comer to enter into a public hearing for Ordinance No. 137-18 Alley Vacation, second by Russell. Roll: Castle, yes; Russell, yes; Hays, yes; Peters, yes; Smith, yes; Comer, yes.

There were no comments from the audience.

Motion by Comer to exit from the public hearing, second by Russell. Roll: Russell, yes; Hays, yes; Peters, yes; Smith, yes; Comer, yes; Castle, yes.

AUDIENCE CONCERNS: Mr. Joe Bencoski, representative from Congressman Steve Stivers, presented Mayor David Eades family with a congressional record honoring him.

Mayor Closser also presented the Eades family with a plaque "In Memory of David Eades" from the Ohio Senate. The President of the Senate and Senator Bob Hackett signed it. Mr. Hackett was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Greg Eades and on behalf of his family, thanked Bob Hackett. He thanked Mayor Closser for arranging the flags to be flown half mass during his dad's funeral. He thanked the fire department for providing the ladder truck to fly the large flag over Main Street.

He thanked Chief Nicol and the police department for the escort through town and saluting as the casket drove by. He also thanked the sheriff's department for their assistance in blocking roads to the cemetery.

Mr. Eades thanked Councilman Henry Comer for speaking at his Dad's funeral service.

His dad served for 24 years as the Mayor of London. "He deserves all this, but I don't know that he would have appreciated the attention."

Melody Earles, 71 Laurel Street, addressed council. She explained that she contacted the Mayor's office Monday with a complaint of an adjoining property with overgrown weeds, posing a health problem. Even raccoons live in it.

The safety service director told her that the city doesn't clean alleys and maybe the raccoons could clear it. Ms. Earles pointed out that the city owns it and if it were her property, she would have to clear it. She only rents. She did not appreciate being laughed at either.

Ms. Earles left a message with the Mayor and he said he would see what he could do.

If you want residents to take pride of their property, then the city should.

President Russell asked her if the alley was actively used.

Ms. Earles replied that it is not.

President Russell shared that he had been briefed on this particular alley and they talked more widely as this is not an isolated incident.

He told her one option is to petition to have the alley vacated and the maintenance would be taken care of by the property owners. Or, take her concern to the city properties committee and have them discuss finding a resolution.

Administration is currently trying to determine if the city can proactively vacate alleys.

Ms. Earles reminded that she only rents the property. She didn't feel that the property owners would be interested in requesting an alley vacation.

Safety Service Director Mosier shared they have been doing some additional research. Although it appears a garage as encroached it since 1957, it is not vacated. Residents of 73 Laurel Street use it to access their garage.

President Russell thanked her for coming in. He reminded her that a fast resolution would be to officially request vacated. The alley would be split down the middle, adding the land to each property owner.

Councilwoman Russell didn't think it appropriate that we have to ask her to vacate it to get it mowed. "I think it's our problem."

Mr. Mosier responded that the city doesn't mow alleys.

Ms. Earles said that they did a few years ago and even repaired it with asphalt.

President Russell explained that council is not in a position to tell administration what to do. It does need to be addressed by the city's properties committee.

Councilman Comer apologized to her and thanked her for bringing her concerns to council.

Chief Robert Olwin, 271 North Main Street, addressed council. He reminded that at the last meeting, reference was made to the EMS response time. He shared the past four year's synopsis ran by the sheriff. (attached).

Mr. Olwin also shared that he, Mayor Closser, Chief Eades, Councilman Comer, Safety Service Director Mosier and a few board members met to discuss some things. He has a luncheon meeting with Chief Eades next Tuesday.

President Russell thanked him for putting the information together. He had shared that, just today, he requested the average run time for specific services where run cards had been changed

Councilman Smith clarified that run cards are now set up that the fire department will be notified on a third run.

Carla Blazier, 205 South Union Street, pointed out that the city's budget, which she got from the Mayor, has many incorrect figures in it.

Second, the Mayor has said so many untruths during this process and that the city would provide an improved service.

Third, Mrs. Russell asked if her grandson would have been transported to Columbus, with the severity of his injury, if the fire department had been handling the call. The Mayor answered, at the second meeting, that they would have a similar policy for transferring. Ms. Blazier said based on trauma triage laws; they would not have been able to transfer him.

Having the fire department as first responder that would actually be a decrease in services.

She stated, "My opinion is that Chief Olwin is being blamed and our entire department is being punished for the problems between us and the fire department. When in fact, there's more support that Chief Eades has problems with other chiefs, not just Chief Olwin."

She handed out a copy of the Ohio Prehospital Trauma Triage Decision Tree, which addresses only trauma runs, not heat attacks, strokes, or anything that has to do with specialty such as dialysis.

She said she had been asked, "Why hasn't this been done before?" She still stood by her answer that the city can't afford it. She feels all of this began after the death of Chief Scaggs.

She went over some budget figures and noted that all said and done, the city would have a deficit of almost \$800,000 in 2018. If this budget is for 2019, and not 2018, the city would see no money until 2020.

Councilman Castle said that according to the County Auditor, they would begin receiving money in March 2019.

Mrs. Blazier discussed applications that need to be submitted to start up, staffing and billing.

She shared that Chief Olwin went to Somerford Township and London in 2015 requesting their medics be able to assist with administering drugs. Somerford agreed, but Chief Eades said "no".

Chief Eades has a bad relationship with the previous chief and blatantly disrespects other chiefs at the county chiefs' association meetings. "He does not play well with others."

She pointed out that the Mayor said people wouldn't lose their jobs, because the city would hire them. Yet, Chief Eades commented that he already has a list, before this was even being talked about. "None of our paramedics even had a chance to be put on the list."

Trish Hull, EMS Lt. for unit 2, addressed council. She researched a comment made by President Russell at the last meeting regarding an incident in front of his house. She stated that when she is made aware of a situation, she would gather as much information as possible to rectify it.

President Russell had stated that he personally witnessed unconscionable treatment and poor service to a patient.

She noted that the incident was two years ago and the crewmember is gone now. She pulled and gave the run sheet, from that day, to the EMS coordinator, Erik Scheiderer, RN, EMT-P, Emergency Resource Nurse. He reviewed the sheet and made comments. Due to HIPPA, she read what was allowable.

“As always, this review is for quality assurance and learning purposes and should be used as such. Patient confidentiality and HIPPS rules apply. Also, I am limited to what I read in the run report and cannot appreciate the stressors of the situation that the crew was under as they cared for this patient.

Medic 282 and other first responding units were dispatched. The initial call came in as an overdose and/or motor vehicle crash while enroute.

Dispatch information reveals the crew was on-scene for 15 minutes, which is very good. The crew completed a thorough assessment.

It is clear that this crew was considering the kinematics of trauma in their assessment, treatment, and transport of the patient, uncovering two potentially life threatening injuries. No time was wasted waiting for helicopter transport, which can sometimes take over 20 minutes to arrive, particularly given the time of day this incident occurred. The crew emergently took the patient directly to Grant Medical Center. From the time of the call until the patient was at a Level 1 trauma center was 47 minutes, which is outstanding.

Based on my assessment of the document with consideration given to the MCEMD protocol, I believe that the crew not only met the expectations of how this patient should be cared for, but exceeded what would be expected in this case. “

Lt. Hull reminded that this was two years ago and not just because they are now being watched and judged. She just wanted everyone to know they take their jobs seriously. And, that she only brought it up because of the comments made in public.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Smith attended the public safety committee meeting which went well.

Councilman Peters attended the public service meeting. The street department has been busy with mowing, mulching, and duro-patching. They helped at the parades and festivals.

He also reported that the pool is doing well. Youth volleyball sign up is underway, the dog park is almost complete, and softball leagues are going well.

The next meeting is August 9, 6:00 p.m.

Councilman Hays attended the July 10 public safety meeting. The police department received nine potential applicants from the Civil Service Commission after passing the officer exam. Eight have interviewed with the process ongoing.

The department assisted with security and traffic during the parades and festivals.

The new cruiser is in waiting to be outfitted. There was a successful drug raid, individuals being arrested with no problems.

The fire department inspected firework events, inspected vendors at the fairgrounds and strawberry festivals. They also assisted with putting playground equipment together for “Access Cowling Park”.

They will be conducting a grain bin safety training on August 29.

The next public safety meeting is August 14, 7:00 p.m.

Councilwoman Russell attended the finance and public service committee meetings.

Councilman Castle attended the July 9 finance committee meeting. The auditor brought forward some city investments and some possible reinvestments for better rates. Department heads need to start on 2019 budgets. The street light controller needs replaced.

The next finance committee meeting is August 9, at 6:00 p.m.

The next city properties meeting is July 25 at the new city building. The contractor will be giving a tour of the facility.

Councilman Comer attended the finance, service and safety meetings.

CITY OFFICIAL REPORTS: Mayor Closser gave his administrative report at this time. (attached) He thanked everyone who helped with Access Cowling Park.

He shared that Tammy Braskett, recreation director, applied for a grant for equipment for the dog park. They are also working with a group from Lake Choctaw.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: President Russell asked for a motion to enter into executive session to consider employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion or compensation of a public employee or official. Motion by Comer, second by Russell. Roll call: Peters, yes; Smith, yes; Comer, yes; Castle, yes; Russell, yes; Hays, yes.

REGULAR MEETING: Motion by Castle to adjourn the executive meeting and reconvene the regular meeting, second by Russell. Roll: Smith, yes; Comer, yes; Castle, yes; Russell, yes; Hays, yes; Peters, yes.

OLD BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE 137-18 Sponsored by: Rex Castle AN ORDINANCE VACATING AN ALLEY Motion by Hays to place on 4th reading, second by Comer. Clerk read.

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

ADOPTED.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION 152-18 Sponsored by: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES TO SELL PROPERTY UNNEEDED, OBSOLETE OF UNFIT FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES. Motion by Russell to place on first reading, second by Comer. Clerk read.

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

SUSPENDED.

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

ADOPTED.

RESOLUTION 153-18 Sponsored by: Josh Peters A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE OFFICIAL INTENT AND REASONABLE EXPECTATION OF THE CITY OF LONDON ON BEHALF OF THE STATE OF OHIO (THE BORROWER) TO REIMBURSE ITS OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION FOR THE PARK AVENUE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT, WITH THE PROCEEDS OF TAX EXEMPT DEBT OF THE STATE OF OHIO. Motion by Russell to place on first reading, second by Comer. Clerk read.

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

SUSPENDED

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

ADOPTED.

RESOLUTION 154-18 Sponsored by: Joe Russell A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION 135-18 Motion by Peters to place on first reading, second by Comer. Clerk read.

President Russell explained that this simple fixes a typo. It changes the date from 2018 to 2019 and removes just a couple of unnecessary words. It does not change the resolution at all.

Councilman Peters asked about the change in Section IV.

President Russell explained that it is not a dollar amount, just a millage.

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

SUSPENDED.

Motion by Russell to adopt Resolution No. 154-18, second by Castle. Roll to adopt: Smith, yes; Comer, yes; Castle, yes; Russell, yes; Hays, yes; Peters, yes.

ADOPTED.

ROUND TABLE

Councilman Comer thanked everyone for coming in this evening and all the new information brought forth. He hoped that everyone could work together

Councilman Castle thanked the EMS for coming out and sharing their passion. He agreed with Councilman Comer hoping that everyone could get along.

He also stated that he has a problem with city not taking care of alleys if they are within our jurisdiction. They used to take care of alleys when he was young. If something has happen along with way that the city no longer does it, he is not aware of it. "If we are not taking care of, why do we have them? Why do we leave it up to the citizens to get rid vacate them? I think we need to survey of what we have and vacate what we don't need."

President Russell said many of the alleys have existed since way back when. Vacating the alleys could affect their property values and property taxes.

Councilman Hays thanked the EMS for their heart felt message. He thanked everyone for coming in this evening.

He noted that he's driven around town and there are lots of weeds and overgrown grass. He asked if someone goes around and checks this stuff as it looks really bad.

He would like to see the city advertise for residents to take care of street and keep it clean. Give them recognition with their names on a plaque. People like to volunteer for things like that. Some streets have a lot of trash on them.

Councilman Peters thanked everyone for coming in this evening.

Councilman Smith thanked all for coming in and the EMS for all the information. He will look at all information.

He noted that great facilities coming together around town. Cowling Park and the dog park are awesome.

President Russel thanked all coming in and EMS for the additional information.

He also thanked administration for the dog park under construction.

Mayor Closser shared that fencing is being priced for the dog park.

ADJOURN Motion by Peters to adjourn.

Arlene Duffey, Clerk of Council

Joseph Russell, President