

September 7, 2017

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

MINUTES of the previous meeting were corrected to read Councilwoman Brenda Russell, (not Castle). All were in favor of the corrected minutes by stating "aye".

COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

AUDIENCE CONCERNS: Jerry Bales, 15 Graham Avenue, London, addressed council. He asked if they gave input, guidance for the upgrading of storm sewers.

President Joe Russell replied they are all involved. Council provides the funding and legislation. There is currently no legislation until it is determined exactly what needs to be done to fix the problems.

Mr. Bales pointed out that his area of town had a camera ran through the storm sewers. He was asking about the outcome.

Bill Long, street superintendent, said a contractor is looking at it.

Mr. Bales said that he had ran into the previous Mayor Eades who wished him "good luck" trying to get anything done. Mr. Bales said he did not appreciate his humor.

Mr. Bales shared he had been told since he made city council mad, he wouldn't get anything done now and besides, he lived on the "wrong side of the tracks".

He reminded that he had not been flooded, he was only trying to help the low income residents.

Mayor Closser stated that he has not talked to the previous mayor in over a year. He very much appreciated Mr. Bales and other residents coming in. He said there is no "other side of the tracks" in London. Everyone will be taken care of equally.

Mr. Bales asked if there was an update for the dog situation at 207 Graham Avenue. The smell is very nasty. The dog poop is not being cleaned up.

Councilman Castle said he couldn't find anything on the books that restricted the number of dogs someone could own.

President Russell wondered if maybe it is a property maintenance problem.

Mr. Bales asked if there was an ordinance regarding barking dogs.

Joe Mosier, safety service director, said he'd check into it.

Mr. Bales shared that another city's legislation stated that if police came to a house with barking dogs and a report was filed, and they had to come back more than once in the hour, the owner was fined.

Theresa Hines, 14 Graham Avenue thanked administration for the work that has been done. She very much appreciates the efforts being done with the cameras as a blockage was found on Stewart Avenue.

Ms. Hines shared that a house in the neighborhood has a lot of trash piling up in the alley. It's overflowing out of their sheds and fence. She asked if they were too poor to have their trash picked up, what happens.

Mayor Closser said a note will be sent to the code enforcer.

Mr. Mosier added that if the city has to clean it up, their property taxes will be assessed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Councilman Castle attended the city properties meeting on August 23 where they discussed the city building renovation project.

Not much progress has been made by Brightway. Owner Mr. Pizzino came and presented "dreams" for the property. Mr. Pizzino was asked for projection dates.

Councilwoman Long asked if any classes had been held at the school yet.

Mayor Closser replied that there's been one concrete class.

The next city properties meeting is September 27th.

The next finance committee meeting is September 11th.

The next public service meeting is September 14th.

CITY OFFICIAL REPORTS: Mayor Closser addressed council with his administrative update. (attached) He also read proclamations for "National Recovery Month" and "Hunger Action Month". (attached)

Councilman Castle said Councilman Minner shared there's been talk of a storm water utilities fund for years with legislation. Mr. Minner had asked "why reinvent the wheel".

President Closser said the legislation is on the previous law director's hard drive and to call the current law director Jennifer Hitt. The document needs worked on. He believes that the way it affected businesses may be why it had not passed before. Our aging infrastructure needs to be taken care of.

Mr. Castle asked if a committee is going to be formed to work on it.

President Russell said he will form the committee.

Mayor Closser explained there already is a line item in budget for a storm water utilities. Legislation is needed to determine how to collect for it.

Mr. Mosier said that once a committee is formed and a plan is decided, there may be grant funds to apply for.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE 158-17 Sponsored by: Josh Peters AN ORDINANCE AMENDING 438 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES Motion by Russell to place on first reading, second by Castle. Clerk read.

Councilman Peters explained that this is just to remove the wording "jake break" from the city's codified ordinances.

LEFT ON 1ST READING.

ORDINANCE 159-17 Sponsored by: Rex Castle AN ORDINANCE AMENDING 881 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES Motion by Peters to place on first reading, second by Douglas. Clerk read.

Councilman Castle explained that this aligns our tax code to match the state's income tax code. This will be in effect 2018.

Mayor Closser shared that the tax department agrees with this legislation.

LEFT ON 1ST READING.

ROUND TABLE:

Councilwoman Douglas thanked everyone for coming in this evening.

Councilman Castle shared that the codified ordinances can be found at the American Legal Publishing website.

He reminded everyone of the finance committee meeting on September 11 and the city properties meeting on September 27.

ADJOURN Motion by Russell to adjourn.

Arlene Duffey, Clerk of Council

Joseph Russell, President