

September 21, 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, present; 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. All council members were in favor by responding "aye".

**COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:** President Russell read Mayor Closser's request to approve Joann Fisher to the Historic District Review Board and Marcus Vest to the Board of Public Utilities.

Council members were in favor by responding "aye".

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None

**AUDIENCE CONCERNS:** Mr. Jerry Bales, 15 Graham Avenue, London, asked if there was an update of the blocked storm sewer line. He had heard that the block was 15' out.

Bill Long, street superintendent, replied they are waiting to hear if they can buy or rent a camera system.

Mr. Bales asked if they had to have the camera first to do something.

Mr. Long said they did as it would be a waste of tax payers money to start digging, not knowing exactly where the problem lies. They are currently using a push camera and they need to borrow Mt. Sterling's (on wheels). The block is further than 15' out and their camera will allow them to go further into the pipe.

Mr. Bales had really hoped that the storm sewers would be the top priority, yet he saw street employees out painting curbs at 6:30 in the morning. He thought the storm sewers would be more important than painting curbs.

Mr. Bales feels that his begging for help these past three months is just falling on deaf ears.

Mr. Joe Mosier, safety service director, assured Mr. Bales that they are working on this, but there are other things that need taken care of too.

Theresa Hennis, 14 Graham Avenue, addressed council. She shared that the former mayor is making fun of current administration and council. He did nothing either, yet is spouting off that there is month there to fix up sewers. He said the paper work is here.

President Russell said that council will be working on a storm drain study. We're going to collect all information and look at a storm water utility fun. If there is a plan in place, we don't want to reinvent the wheel.

Ms. Hennis shared that she had seen a truck with equipment that appeared to be scoping the drains.

Mr. Long explained that was Columbia gas putting in a new service. They are surveying. Two completely different things.

Ms. Hennis asked if it couldn't be jetted at the 15' foot block.

She commented that if a plan is in place, that would be great and would save some money.

She shared that she's also heard comments at the Sr. Citizen Center from the previous mayor, that there is a plan already prepared for a storm water utility fund.

President Russell said that as soon as the details are worked out for the study committee, an announcement will be made so the public can participate.

Mayor Closser stated that this is the project they are working hardest on since he's been here. They are working with Mt. Sterling to see if it's possible to trade services for use of their camera. There are other parts in town too that flood.

There is legislation being proposed for \$150,000 tonight that will allow for funds to look at purchasing a camera system or to hire a company to come out and do it. "We're not dragging our feet."

Ms. Hennis noted that the trash is still piling up at 10 Graham Avenue, just for the record.

Mayor Closser commented that if anyone knows what has been done in the past that would be useful right now, please let them know. I would hope instead of talking about things that happened, if it's things that could benefit us and they are citizens of the city, that they would say "this is when it was, look it up, let us know."

"I wasn't part of the government 10 years ago. It is a daunting task to work through all information here."

Mayor Closser said that their phones are always on if anyone has useful information to share. Instead of talking about it, help us locate the information. If any previous board of public utilities or council members have information that would help, their assistance would be appreciated.

Jerry Bales also added that the Mayor Eades had said there was \$900,000 available. He said if someone just wants to call him, he'll come up and show them where it is.

President Russell said he'll announce the work group at the next meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Councilman Castle attended the September 11 personnel and finance committee meeting where the auditor presented his report. It was discussed that the general fund was much bigger than it should be. Legislation is being proposed this evening to transfer \$150,000 to get this storm sewer project taken care of.

The next finance committee meeting is October 9.

The next city properties meeting is September 27.

Councilwomen Russell and Long attended the finance committee meeting.

Councilman Peters attended the public service meeting and reported that the street department is cleaning catch basins, paint and stripping, and are to continuing to mow.

He also reported that Tammy Braskett, recreation director, painted the pool now instead of waiting until next spring.

The next public service meeting is October 12<sup>th</sup>.

Councilwoman Douglas attended the public service meeting.

The next public safety meeting is Monday, September 25.

**CITY OFFICIAL REPORTS:** Mayor Closser addressed council with his administrative update (attached).

Councilman Hatt asked Mayor Closser how long it would be before the city got the grant, to be used for the Park Avenue sidewalk project, he referred to in his update.

Safety Service Director Joe Moser explained that the grant has been approved. There are a lot of steps that city has to go through prior to getting the funds. The city has to have all the engineering done first.

Mr. Hatt asked how long High Street will be closed for the repair work.

Street superintendent Bill Long replied "five days". It will be closed from Walnut to the "Y".

Councilman Castle asked when the High street paving will be done by ODOT.

Mr. Mosier replied that it should happen sometime next Spring.

Mayor Closser shared that he is nervous getting under the road for the East High Street repair. He presented a picture of a small sink hole. There are collapsed bricks under there and once they start moving bricks, it could cause a domino effect

**OLD BUSINESS:**

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

Councilman Peters explains this amends the ordinance to eliminate the term “jake break”.

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

**SUSPENDED**

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

**ADOPTED.**

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

Councilman Castle explained that this changes the wording in the tax code to match up with the state.

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

**SUSPENDED**

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

**ADOPTED.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

RESOLUTION 160-17 Sponsored by: Rex Castle A RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS Motion by Russell to place on first reading, second by Long. Clerk read.

Councilman Castle explained that due to a retirement, pay out needed to be made, but the fund was low. This resolution increases the fund for the payout.

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

**SUSPENDED**

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

**ADOPTED.**

RESOLUTION 161-17 Sponsored by: Rex Castle A RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS Motion by Russell to place on first reading, second by Douglas. Clerk read.

Councilman Castle explained that a resident had applied for CHIP grant for a new roof. The money needs transferred to pay the bill.

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

**SUSPENDED**

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

**ADOPTED.**

RESOLUTION 162-17 Sponsored by: Brenda Russell A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS AND INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS Motion by Douglas to place on first reading, second by Peters. Clerk read.

Motion by Russell to amend to add the emergency clause “That this resolution is hereby declared an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the city to take effect and be in full force immediately upon its passage.” Motion second by Castle.

Roll to amend to add emergency clause: Russell, yes; Minner, yes; Long, yes; Peters, yes; Douglas, yes; Hatt, yes; Castle, yes. **AMENDED.**

Auditor Zsabo explained that a Section I needs to be added approving a fund appropriation increase of \$150,000 so he can transfer funds to the storm water utility.

Motion by Castle, second by Russel to amend Resolution 162-17 to add a new section I. Section I will become Section II, Section II will become Section III.

**SECTION I:**

Council hereby approves the following fund appropriation increase:

101.990.57016	Transfer – Storm Sewer	\$150,000.00
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Roll to amend: Minner, yes; Long, yes; Peters, yes; Douglas, yes; Hatt, yes; Castle, yes; Russell, yes.

**AMENDED**

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

**SUSPENDED**

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

**ADOPTED.**

**ROUND TABLE:** Councilman Castle thanked the street department saying he had received compliments for the employees checking storm sewers and weed eating.

The next city properties meeting September 27<sup>th</sup>.

The next finance committee meeting October 9<sup>th</sup>.

Councilman Minner commented that the intersection at Elm and High Street has been a problem for the last 40 years. He's sure the will be correcting a lot of problems from back then even.

Councilwoman Douglas thanked everyone for coming in.

**ADJOURN**

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Arlene Duffey, Clerk of Council

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Joseph Russell, President