

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

**MINUTES** of the previous meeting were approved as received.

**COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Liquor control request for La Carreta Mexican Restaurant, LLC for a new liquor license. Council members approved by responding "aye".

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None

**AUDIENCE CONCERNS:** None

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilman Josh Peters attended the public service meeting. Recreation Director Tammy Braskett reported that the horse shoe pits at Cowling Park are being renovated. Youth basketball sign-ups are underway.

The street department continues to clean basins and street sweeping. They are prepping truck for the winter and are installing Christmas lights.

The next public service meeting is December 14, 6:00 p.m.

Councilwoman Long attended the public safety and finance committee meetings.

Councilwoman Russell attended the finance committee meeting.

Councilman Castle reported on the finance committee meeting. The committee worked on the 2018 budget. The auditor is waiting on insurance quotes and revenue figures. The group agreed to get the legislation on the docket, as is, to get in the three readings before the end of the year. There will be changes.

The next finance committee meeting is December 11, 6:00 p.m.

The city properties meeting is November 11, 7:00 p.m.

Councilman Hatt reported on the public safety committee meeting. He congratulated Ross Tipton on his retirement from the police department after 27 years. Police officer Laura Wilson accepted a position with the Grove City police department.

The department received its newest "investigator", Ygor, a 16 month old Belgian Malinois. Ygor has been assigned to officer Mike Combs.

The police department passed the FBI audit with a perfect score.

The department will be hiring a new officer.

**CITY OFFICIAL REPORTS:** Mayor Closser gave his administrative report at this time. (attached)

Ygor and Officer Combs entered at this time. Ygor is a 16 month old Belgian Malinois from Czech Republic. Ygor stands for "warrior of peace". He is trained to track fleeing suspects, hunt for missing persons, and sniff out contraband and illegal drugs.

Officer Combs shared that Ygor is assigned to him and is part of his family. They train once a week. He has a special K-9 vehicle. He explained his training and answered questions.

Officer Combs and Ygor will be visiting the schools.

President Russell and Mayor Closser thanked council for authorizing funds for the K-9 unit.

Officer Combs invited council members to see the K-9 car anytime.

Police Chief Nicol thanked his department for preparing for the FBI audit. "It was quite the undertaking". It involved everything from making sure all officers were fingerprinted and proper filing to appropriate signage within the department. He was grateful for the hard work of his officers.

He thanked council for authorizing the funds for the K-9 unit.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

RESOLUTION 168-17 Sponsored by Dick Minner AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ELECTED OFFICIALS AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS WAGE ADJUSTMENTS Motion by Peters to place on first reading, second by Russell. Clerk read.

Councilman Minner felt it was time we adjusted the pay of elected officials.

Safety Service Director Mosier shared that elected officials have not received a raise since 2008. This one time raise of 33% reflects over the past years of union raises.

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

ORDINANCE 169-17 Sponsored by Josh Peters AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 171-16 TO REFLECT A RANGE OF SALARIES OF DEPARTMENT HEADS AND NON-UNION PERSONNEL (attachment) Motion by Long to place on first reading, second by Castle. Clerk read.

Councilman Peters explained this will align non-union with union employees.

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

RESOLUTION 170-17 Sponsored by: Rex Castle A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS Motion by Russell to place on first reading, by Hatt. Clerk read.

Councilman Castle explained that because of a water department employee being out an extended period of time due to surgery the sick leave pay line item has ran out of money. This is just transferring money from operating to personnel. The employee needs paid.

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

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

RESOLUTION 171-17 Sponsored by: Trint Hatt A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS AND INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS Motion by Long to place on first reading, second by Hatt. Clerk read. Hatt explained that this \$200,00 will purchase a camera and other needed equipment.

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

Motion by Russell, second by Castle. Roll: Long, yes; Peters, yes; Hatt, yes; Castle, yes; Russell, yes; Minner, yes. **ADOPTED.**

Mayor Closser thanked council. This will help with the city's aging infrastructure. This is money well spent and will make the citizen's happier!

RESOLUTION 172-17 Sponsored by: Trint Hatt A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION 113-17 Motion by Long to place on first reading, second by Peters. Clerk read. Councilman Hatt explained that this is not new money. It's just correcting the original resolution.

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

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

**ADOPTED**

RESOLUTION 173-17 Sponsored by: Josh Peters A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AUDITOR'S WARRANT FOR PAYMENT Motion by Long to place on first reading, second by Minner. Clerk read. Councilman Peters explained this was for new computer software for the building and zoning department.

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

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

**ADOPTED.**

ORDINANCE 174-17 Sponsored by: Rex Castle AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF LONDON, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2018 Motion by Long to place on first reading, second by Hatt. Clerk read.

Councilman Castle shared that there are additional funds in here to provide for more services for the public. There is an 8% increase in health insurance. Revenue will be evaluated. There will be changes to this ordinance.

**LEFT ON 1ST AREDING.**

ORDINANCE 175-17 Sponsored by: Rex Castle AN ORDINANCE IN SUPPORT OF COALITION OF MUNICIPALITIES RETAINING SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR PURPOSES OF INITIATING LITIGATION TO CHALLENGE THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 718 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE RELATING TO MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY Motion by Long to place on first reading, second by Minner. Clerk read.

Councilman Castle explained that there are a group of municipalities suing the state against how the state proposes to collect taxes.

Mayor Closser added that they are not sure if they are going to participate in the actual lawsuit, but are sending a letter of support. "It needs to be stopped."

He asked that council make a decision tonight.

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

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

Mayor Closser shared he's been the Mayor for two years and this is the best budgeting process ever. He appreciated everyone working as a team and trusting administration to accomplish what needs done. The city is growing. Recreation and safety services need to be able to service the citizens.

Mayor Closser thanked Councilman Dick Minner and Councilwoman Megan Douglas for serving on city council.

## **ROUND TABLE**

Councilman Hatt congratulated Officer Combs and feels he will do a great job in the position.

He thanked officers Rusty Tipton and Laura Wilson.

Councilman Castle reminded of the upcoming property's meeting on November 22 and finance on December 11<sup>th</sup>.

Councilwoman Russell just wanted to let administration know that the work being done around the city is not going unnoticed. Residents are noticing that infrastructure is being taken better care of. There is a team effort between administration and council.

Councilman Minner commented that the mayor and safety service director are doing a great job!

Councilwoman Long thanked Office Combs for bring in Ygor.

Councilman Minner shared that he's been on city council for 14 years and served as the fire chief for 38.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Motion by Councilman Hatt to enter into executive session to consider employment or compensation of a public employee or official. He invited Mayor Closser and safety service director Joe Mosier. Motion second by Castle.

Roll to adjourn to executive session: Peters, yes; Hatt, yes; Castle, yes; Russell, yes; Minner, yes; Long, yes.

**REGULAR MEETING:** Motion to reconvene the regular meeting by Hatt, second by Castle. Roll: Castle, yes; Russell, yes; Minner, yes; Long, yes; Peters, yes; Hatt, yes.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by Russel to adjourn the meeting.

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Arlene Duffey, Clerk of Council

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Joseph Russell, President