



# CITY OF LONDON

MAYOR RANDALL WEDDLE

501 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
LONDON, KENTUCKY  
606.864.4169

London City Council,

I will not provide my approval to Ordinance 2026-14 but will allow the ten-day period to lapse thereby requiring publication and permitting enactment.

The following ordinances passed by you on June 24, 2026 and submitted to my office for approval on that same day are hereby formally being returned to you with notice of my disapproval:

**Ordinance 2026-11:** an Ordinance Amending The Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026; **VETOED**

**Ordinance 2026-12:** An ordinance establishing budget for fiscal year July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027; **VETOED**

**Ordinance 2026-13:** An Ordinance establishing a new Pay and classification Plan; **VETOED** and

**Ordinance 2026-15:** An Ordinance amending the City's Ethics Ordinance; **VETOED**

Our municipality is not constitutionally created. Rather, local government is created by statute and the powers granted to you, the legislature, and me as mayor, the executive branch, are specifically delineated. Each of the above referenced Ordinances are replete with blatant legislative overreach and violations of the separation of powers prescribed by statute, fail to honor your duties and fiscal obligations, and trample on the rights of our City employees and London's citizens.

I hope that prior to any meeting to override my veto of these Ordinances, you will review my specific reasons for disapproval and veto of these ordinances which are set forth below, and truly reconsider the ordinances you have passed and how they can be modified to comply with the law, maintain proper funding for our essential services, and protect the rights of all of the individuals affected within our employ, and the citizens of whom we are jointly charged with serving.

As to **Ordinance 2026-11**, The numerical adjustments are accurate and there is no dispute therewith. However, there is no statutory authorization for the imposition of the restrictions or mandates contained in Section III A-K. KRS 91A.030 (80 authorizes the Council to adopt a budget ordinance making appropriations for the fiscal year in such sums as it finds sufficient and proper. Subsection 11 authorizes and places the duty on the Mayor to administer and implement the adopted budget. Nowhere in 91A.030 is the legislative body empowered to impose the restrictions and mandates and thereby hold hostage the appropriations necessary for operation of city government as is required of Council pursuant to KRS 83A.130(12). It is clearly an attempt to of Council to perform functions under the exclusive power of the Mayor in violation of KRS 83A.130(11). Moreover, Section III, K violates KRS 83A.065 (5) as willful violations already constitute Official Misconduct under KRS 532.050 and the penalties set forth in this ordinance are greater than those imposed by statute. Therefore, Council is statutorily preempted from imposing the penalty as set forth in the ordinance.

As to **Ordinance 2026-12**: The approved budget fails to provide for sufficient revenue to operate city government. Nearly 1.9 million dollars of revenue from FEMA reimbursement anticipated to be received during the fiscal year has not been allocated. Proper inclusion and allocation of those funds would eliminate the need to reduce any employee positions and would allow staffing levels within the police and fire departments to remain sufficient to provide safe and efficient service to our Citizens. While not including that anticipated revenue, the budget includes a contingent legal fund based upon increased deductibles. However, the pending lawsuits are covered under the old deductibles. There is also almost no likelihood that any of the pending actions will conclude within the fiscal year nor is it a certainty that any, let alone all, will result in liability on behalf of the City. Additionally, placing revenue from the sale of recycled material within the sanitation lite items rather than in general fund is inappropriate. The Sanitation budget and funding is from user fees and must be used for sanitation purposes. Therefore, funds from other revenue ( non-user fees) sources cannot be lawfully co-mingled within user fee accounts.

*Section III C -* KRS 183A.130 (3)&(4)... mayor has exclusivity authority over administration of city subject to reporting conditions. The mandate to release a state issued Certificate of Need usurps the Mayors executive power in violation of KRS Chapter 216 B;

*Section III D, F, K* Legislative overreach as under KRS 83A.130 mayor has exclusive power of a daily administration and operations of city employees provided he works within the funds appropriated by Council. Unlawfully holds operational lines in reserve requiring per expense approval of Council outside the statutory framework set forth in 91A.030

*Section III E & H* Legislative overreach into Mayor’s power under KRS 83A.130 (8) to make all contracts of the city ( not just those

less than \$2,500.00).

*Section III G*

Violation of KRS 83A.130(3), 91A.030(11) power of Mayor to administer budget within appropriation confines and general administration of the city government.

*Section III O*

Again legislative overreach and impeding upon power of the Mayor. 91A.030 requires the Mayor to prepare and provide the legislature with operating and budgetary statements “not less than once every three months”. The statute is void of any monthly requirement, under oath or notarized statement requirement. Willful misuse of governmental appropriations of City funds is a crime punishable by law. Council, has authority to create law -not execute the law or and enforce the law.

*Section III P*

Violates KRS 83A.130 and Council is preempted from such action under KRS 83A.065 (5).

*Section IV*

Attempts to create a situation wherein Council can pass any law with any restriction and not be subject to judicial review. This violates all violates Constitutional right to seek judicial review of governmental action; is a blatant violation of separation of powers. It is also a “poison pill” within the legislation the likes of which have been deemed invalid. *See, e.g., LRC v. Brown 664 S.W.2d 907 (Ky 1984)*; Not to mention it clearly a violation of Council’s statutory duty to provide sufficient revenue for operation of city government and provide for orderly management of city resources.

**As to Ordinance 2026-13:** As general matter, the need for reduction in staffing positions is falsely narrated by the failure to include \$1.9 million in anticipated revenues from FEMA for reimbursement to expenditures made the general fund for tornado and flooding disasters.

*Section II -* KRS 183A.130 (9) Mayor has exclusive power to appoint, remove, and manage city personnel.

*Section IV -* The imposition of a unilateral 10% or \$5,000 health insurance costs to our city employees violates employee contracts and established personnel policy.

*Sections V - A, C, D, E, G, & H*

Each of these sections constitutes legislative overreach into Mayor’s exclusive power of administrative management under

KRS 83A.130.

*Section V- J*

This restriction places unconstitutional restraints on employees who hold non-federally funded positions. Political speech, including, running for partisan office, is a First Amendment Right which should not be trampled by this Ordinance. It clearly opens the City up to unnecessary legal action.

**As to Ordinance 2026-15:**

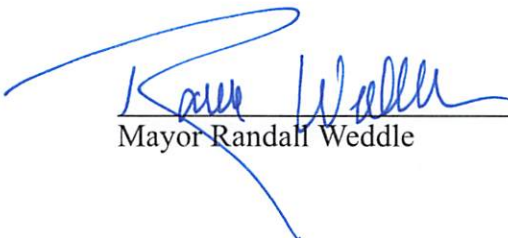
Council predicates its authority to appoint its own members to the Ethics Board upon Taylor V. Carter, 333 S.W.3d, 437 (Ky. App. 2010). The opinion in this case was written by Judge Caperton (current Laurel Circuit Judge) and it expressly indicates that the issue of the Council's appointments to an Ethics Board were not raised on appeal and were therefore not being addressed in the Court's opinion. Again, this is a manipulation of the law and flies directly in the face of the statutory delineation of executive versus legislative powers under KRS 83A.130.

*Section II - B*

This section is overly broad as it fails to define "close friend, political supporter, or associate". It fails to give fair and proper notice of the prohibited conduct subjecting the City to claims of violating Due Process Clause

*Sections II- F; IV- A; V- B,C,D,E,& L*

Each section constitutes Council micro-managing the daily administrative functions of the City which are powers and duties expressly assigned to the Executive Branch under KRS 83.080 and KRS 83A.130

  
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Mayor Randall Weddle

7/6/26  
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Date