

**COUNTY OF LAUREL
CITY OF LONDON
RESOLUTION NO. 08**

**A RESOLUTION ISSUING AMENDED CHARGES OF MISCONDUCT AND SETTING
A PUBLIC HEARING PURSUANT TO KRS 83A.040(9)**

Whereas, KRS 83A.040(9), sets forth applicable provisions of law for the removal of any elected officer for misconduct, incapacity, or willful neglect; and

Whereas, KRS 83A.040(9), provides that a public hearing shall be conducted, with due deliberation and creation of a record, for any removal hearings; and

Whereas, while not set forth in KRS 83A.040(9), the proffering of charges to be considered regarding applicable facts for which removal is sought, it is the intention of the London City Council to present Mayor Randall Weddle notice of charges to be considered at a public hearing where the London City Council will consider his removal from office pursuant to KRS 83A.040(9).

Now, Therefore It Is Resolved By the London City Council as Follows:

(A) That pursuant to KRS 83A.040(9), the London City Council by this Resolution adopts and sets forth the following amended charges of Misconduct and/or Willful Neglect against Mayor Randall Weddle:

1. On October 1, 2023, Mayor Weddle removed three members of the London Housing Authority (which is questionable in and of itself), but acknowledged in that removal letter that he “will promptly undertake the responsibility to fill the vacant positions on the Housing Authority Commission,” and that doing this “as swiftly as possible” was necessary to “uphold our commitment to providing quality housing services to our community.” Mayor Weddle, either through misconduct or willful neglect, failed to even attempt to appoint members to the Housing Authority from October 1, 2023, until July, 2025, and only did so after he was contacted on May 5, 2025 by federal officials that the City was in non-compliance because of his willful neglect and inattention in failing to fill Housing Authority positions. Waiting 19 months to take action was not “as swiftly as possible,” and constituted willful neglect and/or misconduct.
2. When Mayor Weddle finally acted in response to the federal notification of non-compliance in July, 2025, Mayor Weddle violated KRS 80.030 and KRS 80.040 by (i) appointing members to the London Housing Authority without complying with that section, including obtaining the approval of the City Council as required by KRS 80.030(1); (ii) and in purporting to make four year appointments even though KRS 80.040(1)(a) requires staggered terms. Case law in Kentucky is clear that where statutes require Council approval, as KRS 80.030 does, it must be complied with to be legal. *Preston v. Floyd/Johnson County Pilots Ass'n*, 867 S.W.2d 474, 475-476 (Ky. 1993). The Mayor’s defense of having these illegal appointments have some validity under an attorney general’s opinion that invoked the *de facto* officer doctrine where

there was a honest mistake of law because of statutory publication issues in the early 1980s has no application here, because the statute is unambiguous and there is no publication issue at issue.

3. Mayor Weddle compounded the illegal appointments in charge 2, by having a meeting conducted of the illegally appointed London Housing Authority in July, 2025, and that illegally constituted body made decisions and took actions, including authorizing the spending of funds and hiring of an attorney, all by appointees without legal title to the office, as the Mayor well knew.
4. Mayor Weddle directed London Housing Authority employees to not comply with applicable laws and regulations, and/or misused police presence and/or made the statement that he was “not dicking around.”
5. Mayor Weddle misused the police department and its resources to create a personal protection detail for himself and/or failed to cease a “protection detail” that appears designed to intimidate residents and others.
6. Mayor Weddle refused to hold regularly called and scheduled meetings of the City of London City Council, and without the permission of a majority of the City Council, during the months of March, April and May, 2025 in violation of KRS 61.820.
7. Mayor Weddle, in violation of the law, KRS 83A.060, deliberately refused to publish, and prevented or delayed the timely publication of duly enacted ordinance(s). Mayor Weddle’s excuse about his concerns about an illegal meeting did not justify non-compliance with KRS 83A.060.
8. Mayor Weddle violated KRS 83A.130(3) and Ordinance 2023-10 by refusing to enforce and comply with the City’s Code of Ethics. Specifically, the Mayor has refused to acknowledge that a vacancy existed more than 60 days on the ethics commission, permitting the remainder of the ethics commission to fill the vacancy, which it did, and which Mayor Weddle illegally refuses to acknowledge, to include his attempts to fill vacancies despite the inability to act. To avoid that legal result, the Mayor suggested that the 60-day period was business days, even though London City Ordinance 10.003(H), KRS 446.030, and United States Supreme Court precedent that makes clear “days” means calendar days. *Velázquez v. Bondi*, 145 S. Ct. 1232 (2025). He also illegally took the position that he had to have notice of the vacancy, even though City of London Ordinance 10.002 makes clear that the vacancy occurs at the time when it is created, not when the appointing authority has notice of it. Problematically, as the person who makes nominations for vacancies, the Mayor should have been tracking vacancies but failed to do so.
9. Mayor Weddle wrongfully filed ethics charges against Justin Young, Kelly Greene, Anthony Ortega and Judd Weaver, knowing that the Board of Ethics did not have jurisdiction over those charges for purposes of harassing the foregoing. The Mayor has suggested he has immunity under City Ordinance 2023-10, for good faith complaints, however, and for the avoidance of all doubt, the City Council charges the Mayor with bringing the charges in question without good faith, as the Mayor admitted at a meeting of the Board of Ethics that he knew that the board did not have jurisdiction over the charges he brought.
10. Mayor Weddle illegally signed and executed a certain \$5,000,000 mortgage for property located at 998 Levi Jackson Road, London, KY, with Cumberland Valley National Bank & Trust Co. as the lender, without the approval of City Council, and/or in violation of the City’s budget ordinance, OAG 77-648, OAG 81-403, *City of*

Snowden v. City of Wilmore, 412 S.W.3d 195 (Ky. App. 2013), and/or other Kentucky law, and/or including attempting to bind the City to future expenditures in contravention of KRS 91A.030(13), all of which makes clear that incurring debt and/or the liens in question is a legislative function requiring City Council approval. Mayor Weddle made representations and warranties in the loan/mortgage documents that he had all necessary approvals and authority to sign the documents, when he did not, and if the City Council were to invalidate the note/mortgage for lack of authority, the Mayor has likely exposed the City to a counter-suit by the bank for fraud as a result of these representations and warranties.

11. Mayor Weddle improperly has impeded or attempted to impede the investigation, charges, and/or disposition of the charges against him, and the charges herein. Among other things, Mayor Weddle purported to rule that the charges initially brought against him required a unanimous vote, even though the Kentucky Supreme Court has expressly ruled otherwise. *City of Harrodsburg v. Royalty*, 73 S.W.3d 618, 619 (Ky. 2002).
- (B) Furthermore, that these Charges of Misconduct and/or Willful Neglect, shall come for a hearing at 9:00 a.m. on September 5, 2025 at 9:00 a.m., at the Laurel County Judicial Center, 305 S. Main St., London, KY 40741, in the Courtroom of Hon. Gregory Lay, with overflow facilities to be provided.
- (C) Furthermore, that the London City Clerk shall cause this Resolution and Notice of Hearing to be served upon Mayor Randall Weddle and provide certification to the Council of said service.
- (D) The City Council authorizes its previously hired attorneys (Christopher Wiest or Conrad Cessna), to secure a court reporter service for the hearing, and authorizes these attorneys to issue subpoenas for witness attendance to be issued in the name and under the authority of the City Counsel, (including a reasonable number of subpoenas requested by counsel for the Mayor if Mr. Wiest or Mr. Cessna deem it appropriate to do so), pursuant to KRS 83A.040(9) and *Stansbury v. Maupin*, 599 S.W.2d 170 (Ky. 1980).
- (E) That Ashley Taylor, acting City Clerk, and Bobby Day, acting Chief of Police, are commanded to appear on September 5, 2025 at 9:00 a.m., at the Laurel County Judicial Center, 305 S. Main St., London, KY 40741, in the Courtroom of Hon. Gregory Lay to give testimony in this matter pursuant to KRS 83A.130(13).
- (F) The City Council appoints as hearing officer for these charges former Kentucky Supreme Court Chief Justice Joseph Lambert, and authorizes payment for his services in the amount of \$400 per hour.
- (G) Pursuant to KRS 61.823(2), the majority of the City Council hereby calls a special meeting for September 5, 2025 at 9:00 a.m., at the Laurel County Judicial Center, 305 S. Main St., London, KY 40741, in the Courtroom of Hon. Gregory Lay, with the agenda being: (1) call to order; (2) a public hearing on such charges, including