

MINUTES OF LIMA CITY COUNCIL
LIMA, OHIO

April 19, 2021

The Council of the City of Lima met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. via audio/video communication.

Attending were: Mayor David Berger; Tony Geiger, Law Director; Anthony DiPietro, Deputy Law Director; Randall Bartels, Auditor; Steven Cleaves, Finance Director; Kari Keener, Dir. of Human Resources; Susan Crotty; Dir. Of DCD; Mike Caprella, Dir. of Util.; Chief Martin, Fire Chief Heffner; and Dana Addis, Clerk.

The invocation was given by Councilor Neeper followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL showed the following members present: Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon.

Councilor Gordon moved, seconded by Neeper, to remove Cherie Snyder from Privilege of the Floor and remove Sharetta Smith from Reports of Officials. Motion carried.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Della Bradford and Machell Price with the Ohio Department of Transportation, discussed the apprenticeship program that is available with ODOT District 1. Ms. Bradford asked for solicitation of the program by Council and the City of Lima. She reviewed the requirements for the positions and advised they will be accepting applications until June 6, 2021.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE PRESENTED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR:

- a. Minutes of the previous meeting not read since each received a copy;
- b. Board of Health Minutes of Marcy 12, 2021;
- c. Report from the Law Director concerning Residency Issues in Elections for Lima City Officials.

Gordon moved that item "a" of the consent calendar be received, filed, and approved and that item "b-c" be received and filed, seconded by Dixon, motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE PRESENTED:

1. From the Ohio Division of Liquor Control regarding a Liquor Permit Application for Eats Holdings, LLC dba Frickers. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Gordon, that the communication be received, filed and authorize the Clerk to file with the Ohio Division of Liquor Control with no objections. Motion carried.

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2. From the Finance Director regarding legislation to amend the 2021 Budget. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Gordon, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
3. From the Dir. of Public Works regarding legislation to enter into contract with the Ohio Dept. of Transportation. Moved by Ehora, seconded by Thompson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
4. From the Auditor regarding the contract labor report for March 2021. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Gordon, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
5. From the Dir. of Community Development regarding legislation to place tax assessments for property maintenance code charges. Moved by Thompson, seconded by Glenn, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
6. From the Dir. of Community Development regarding legislation to approve designation of the building located at 147 South Main Street as a Historic Structure. Moved by Thompson, seconded by Ehora, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
7. From the Dir. of Community Development regarding legislation to accept the minutes of the 2021 Tax Incentive Review Council. Moved by Thompson, seconded by Ehora, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
8. From the Dir. of Community Development regarding legislation to provide tax abatement to EATS Investments, LLC. Moved by Thompson, seconded by Neeper, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
9. From the Civil Service Board Secretary regarding the recommendation to amend the pay range for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Supervisor IV and the Water Supply Plant Supervisor IV. Moved by Wilkerson, seconded by Thompson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
10. From the Fire Chief regarding legislation to dispose of City surplus through govdeals.com. Moved by Dixon, seconded by Glenn, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
11. From the Chief Technology Officer regarding legislation to purchase software from ESO Solutions, Inc. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Thompson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
12. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to purchase additional licenses for the City's Customer Information System through Advanced Utility Systems. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Neeper, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

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13. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to modify the Strength Ordinance. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

14. From the Utility Operations Manager regarding legislation approving the purchase of 814 W. Kibby St. from Peterson Construction. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Neeper, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

15. From the Utility Operations Manager regarding legislation to enter into contract with Peterson Construction. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Neeper, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

16. From the Utility Operations Manager regarding legislation to enter into an agreement with Allen Water District and Rudolf Foods. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF OFFICIALS:

Kari Keener, Dir. of Human Resources, presented Council with the Human Resources 2020 Annual Report. She reviewed the goals of the Department and the unplanned initiatives for 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. She provided a breakdown of the employee demographics and insurance costs for employees and the City. She also provided an overview of Workers' Compensation. Mrs. Keener discussed the response of her Department to the COVID-19 Pandemic. She advised the City partnered with Ohio Means Jobs on three different initiatives to offer on the job training, incumbent workforce training and the State of Ohio Tech Cred Program. Councilor Dixon thanked Mrs. Keener for her work leading the City to cost savings and prevention. Councilor Ehora inquired about the accuracy of the COVID vaccination stats. Keener explained there is a possibility they are not aware of everyone who has been vaccinated. Councilor Thompson expressed her appreciation to Mrs. Keener and inquired about the ability of those who choose to remain unvaccinated to file a Workers' Comp claim if they become ill. Keener explained they could still file a claim. Councilor Glenn referenced the high number of employees who are not vaccinated. Councilor Wilkerson thanked Kari Keener and commended everyone for driving the numbers down. (A complete copy of the presentation is on file in the Council office).

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE PRESENTED:

005-21 A Resolution Adopting the Allen County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Gordon moved, seconded by Glenn, that the Resolution be adopted on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion: Yea, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the resolution was adopted on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES WERE PRESENTED:

067-21 An Ordinance levying special assessments for property maintenance code charges. Thompson moved, seconded by Glenn, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

068-21 An Ordinance amending the 2021 Annual Budget. Neeper moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

069-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with govdeals.com. Dixon moved, seconded by Gordon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

070-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with ESO Solutions, Inc. Gordon moved, seconded by Glenn, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

071-21 An Ordinance authorizing the continuation of and amendments to the following Enterprise Zone and Community Reinvestment Area Agreements based on the recommendations of the Tax Incentive Review Council. Thompson moved, seconded by Ehora, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

072-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a CRA Tax Exemption Agreement with Eats Investments, LLC. Thompson moved, seconded by Neeper, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

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073-21 An Ordinance designating the building located at 147 South Main Street as a historic structure. Thompson moved, seconded by Ehora, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

074-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with the Ohio Department of Transportation for the purchase of sodium chloride (rock salt). Ehora moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

075-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Advanced Utility Systems. Gordon moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

076-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with HDR. Gordon moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

077-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and enter into contract to upgrade the instruments and controls at the water treatment plant. Gordon moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

078-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with 120Water. Gordon moved, seconded by Glenn, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. President Nixon requested clarification that the contract is EPA mandated at \$43,000 per year for three years. Mike Caprella advised the EPA is revising the Lead and Copper Act which now requires a complete inventory of the service lines in the City, additional testing and other requirements. He explained they may not need the contract for the second and third year. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

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079-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Peterson Construction. Gordon moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

080-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to acquire 814 W. Kibby Street. Gordon moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

081-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract(s) with Allen Water District and Rudolph Foods. Gordon moved, seconded by Neeper, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. President Nixon moved, seconded by Wilkerson, to authorize the Clerk to correct spelling errors throughout the Ordinance and submit a clean copy. Motion carried. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

082-21 An Ordinance establishing the positions and classifications hereinafter set forth and fixing the salary and compensation of such positions and classifications; repealing existing inconsistent ordinances as herein described. Gordon moved, seconded by Dixon, that the Ordinance be amended by on page 8, in the parenthetical under the position of Wastewater Treatment Supervisor Class IV, delete everything after the word "thereafter," and insert the words "according to the Parity Employee vacation schedule." and on page 10, in the parenthetical under the position of Water Treatment Supervisor Class IV, delete everything after the word "thereafter," and insert the words "according to the Parity Employee vacation schedule." and authorize the clerk to provide a clean copy. Motion carried. Gordon moved, seconded by Neeper, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading as amended. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

083-21 An Ordinance approving the application filed by the Mayor and authorizing the establishment of a designated outdoor refreshment area. Thompson moved, seconded by Ehora, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. Councilor Thompson thanked Administration for doing a good job as far as research, documentation and presentation to Council about all of the aspects of the DORA. She is looking forward to this being a part of the revitalization of the downtown area. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

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MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Councilor Neeper encouraged everyone to get out and vote, do their own research on the candidates and pick the candidate you support.

Councilor Gordon referenced an anonymous letter he and other Councilors received regarding noise in the City. He expressed he would like the Chief to really hammer down on the issue because he is tired of the noise also. He asked residents to mow their yards and take care of their homes. He encouraged landlords to ensure their properties are mowed. He reminded everyone to be good to each other.

Councilor Wilkerson reminded everyone to continue to mask up, social distance and wash their hands. He also reminded everyone to obtain the proper permits when doing home projects. He asked everyone to do for others and pray for them.

Councilor Thompson thanked Megan Fisher and the other students from OSU that put together the We Love Lima Cleanup Project over the weekend which was a success. She also thanked those who donated and volunteered for the event. She explained there is a lot of hurt going on in the world and asked everyone to be kind and remember to do an act of kindness. She announced Tuesday, April 27th the Central Lima Neighborhood Association will be having its last Mayoral Candidate Forum with Sharetta Smith. She announced the regular meeting of the Central Lima Neighborhood Association will be on April 28th where they will discuss City Wide Pride. She asked everyone to be respectful of others health wishes and not to get rude or cruel with each other. She explained local politics are the most important politics and encouraged the public to vote.

Councilor Ehora advised she also received the anonymous letter about noise concerns which she believes seemed appropriate considering the conversations they have been having. She believes they need to find an answer to it as it is not better, but worse. She recommended having conversations with outside entities who can help with issues that could be connected to them as well. She has received a lot of emails regarding various issues and she appreciates when people say they have a problem. She is perplexed by what is happening with the garbage. She explained people not wearing masks in our area is so prevalent. She also explained vaccinations are not 100% effective so the masks are important to prevent the spread. She encouraged residents to be kind to each other and get to know their neighbors. She will not allow people to continue to perpetuate that Lima is a dangerous city because it is not true.

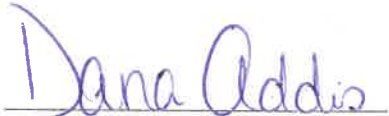
Councilor Dixon encouraged everyone to continue to be kind and to be humble. He reminded that mental health is real and encouraged those who know someone struggling with mental health to check on them and inform them of the services that are available. He thanked everyone for the work that they do to make Lima a better place to live, play and work. He expressed his support for Councilor Ehora as he does not believe there is a high presence of crime

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in our downtown area where it wouldn't be safe for people to come and play, work or live. He thanked Councilor Ehora for being bold and standing up. He reminded everyone to be kind to each other.

Councilor Glenn advised he also received the anonymous letter and expressed the importance of doing something about the noise. He gave examples of the noise issues he has been dealing with in his ward. He expressed Downtown Lima is safe and he gets upset when people talk bad about the City. He expressed the importance of listening to the constituents. He said they will be doing vaccination pop-ups. He asked for a status of the dump on 5th Street and McClain Road. He encouraged people to pick up the litter. He expressed his appreciation for his fellow Council members and also expressed his appreciation for Tony Geiger's report on residency.

Gordon moved that Council adjourn until May 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., seconded by Neeper, motion carried.


Dana Addis, Clerk


John G. Nixon, President