

MINUTES OF LIMA CITY COUNCIL
LIMA, OHIO

November 19, 2018

The Council of the City of Lima met in regular session at 7:00 p.m.

Attending were: Anthony DiPietro, Assistant Law Director; Randall Bartels, Auditor; Susan Crotty; Dir. Of DCD; Mike Caprella, Dir. of Util.; Sharetta Smith, Chief of Staff; Chief Martin, Chief Black, and Dana Addis, Clerk.

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

ROLL CALL showed the following members present: Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Dixon, Glenn, Neepor and Nixon. Absent, Kreher.

McLean moved, seconded by Gordon, that the agenda be amended by adding Retired Officer Watkins and Randy Kohli under Reports of Officials, motion carried.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Jessie Roark, President of LACNIP, said LACNIP was founded in 1993 by Shirley Daley and others. She said LACNIP builds partnerships with other agencies and business to offer programs that improve the quality of life in Lima and Allen County. She has enjoyed working closely with the City of Lima, Community Development Director, Susan Crotty, and Neighborhood Specialist, Autumn Swanson, as well as numerous Council members and neighborhood leaders. Most importantly, she has met the citizens of Lima and Allen County, who live in Lima, love Lima and love to serve Lima. She said since 2012 the LACNIP Resource Center has been located at 1440 W. Spring Street and they will be purchasing the retired firehouse from the City. A greenhouse was built on the property and the flag pole was updated. In 2018, LACNIP has had three new neighborhood associations start and three more in the works for 2019. They are fortunate to offer three new programs; Teens who lead Lima, Citizens Block Patrol and Lima Sprouts. She said Ottawa River Cleanup had 464 volunteers this year. There are currently 12 Community Gardens in Lima with plans in the works for a community garden in Delphos in the Spring. She said their community gardens offer free community training and presentations, free seeds and starter plants. Citizens Block Patrol kicked off in March of 2018 and ran through October. They are continuing to recruit for 2019. She said Beanie has been out in the public more this year. The Resource Center has been very busy this year. National Night Out and Make a Difference Day was a great success. City Wide Pride collected 38.4 tons of trash, 26 cubic yards of brush and 1,823 used tires. The tool shed is being used again. The first annual "Dancing with Our Stars" event was a success with over 150 in attendance. LACNIP's budget is approximately \$25,000.00 a year and operates under a "raise funds as you need them" system. She reviewed LACNIP's financial situation. She asked for Council's consideration for funding LACNIP in the future and thanked Council.

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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 Public Health Minutes of October 12, 2018.
- c. Board of Building Appeals Minutes of October 18, 2018.

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

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE PRESENTED:

1. From Judge Hursh regarding legislation to purchase goods and services from various funds. Moved by McLean, seconded by Gordon, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

2. From the Court Administrator regarding legislation to dispose of City equipment. Moved by McLean, seconded by Gordon, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

3. From the Court Administrator regarding legislation to dispose of City equipment. Moved by McLean, seconded by Gordon, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

4. From the Director of Utilities requesting legislation to pay the Ohio EPA the annual license to operate fee. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Thompson, that the communication be received, filed and the Law Director authorized to prepare the necessary legislation. Motion carried.

5. From the Auditor regarding cost of living increases for City Council members and the City Auditor. Moved by McLean, seconded by Gordon, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

6. From the Director of Public Works regarding legislation to dispose of items from various departments. Moved by Neepor, seconded by Glenn, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

7. From the Director of Public Works regarding legislation to enter into contract with Downtown Lima, Inc. Moved by Neepor, seconded by Glenn, that the communication be received and filed. President Nixon asked Aubree Kaye from Downtown Lima, Inc. what the study will entail and what is driving the need? Ms. Kaye stated the last study was conducted in 1993. She said downtown currently has a mixture of parking and with downtown evolving, we need a more consistent system of parking. She said parking has changed quite a bit in 25 years and we should

plan ahead, so we are prepared as new businesses come in. Nixon asked what the total cost of the study is? Ms. Kaye stated the original quote was \$45,000-\$47,000 but they were able to negotiate the price down to \$32,000. She said they have sent out letters to multiple organizations regarding funding and will be meeting with a couple of them in the upcoming weeks. She said this study includes City, private and County lots. Councilor Thompson asked if just the City would benefit? Ms. Kaye said this is beneficial to the whole downtown area. She said they want to get all parking signed correctly and uniform throughout downtown. Ms. Kaye said they have approached Allen County, Allen Economic Development Group, Chamber of Commerce, Rotary and Rhodes State College to contribute. Thompson said she believes this is absolutely necessary and incredibly beneficial but wonders what the incentive would be for the other groups to agree to finance if the City has already agreed to pay the full amount. Ms. Kaye said everyone needs to be on board and she encouraged Council to voice their support of this plan financially. Councilor Dixon asked what other things this study will entail other than parking. Ms. Kaye said the CT Consultants will do a Land Use Analysis of downtown where they will look at empty lots and building inventory to determine current and future parking needs. Dixon asked if this expense was discussed during the semi-annual budget review meeting. Councilor McLean said this subject has come up numerous times while he was on Council but the expense did not come up during that meeting. McLean said there is money available that can be used for things of this nature. Dixon said Council should wait to vote on this Ordinance until after Downtown Lima has met with the other organizations to discuss contributions. Ms. Kaye said from history point of view, when they did the streetscape in downtown, no one else stood up to contribute. Councilor Glenn said in the past, the city has always had to step up and we should step up. He doesn't think we should wait around. Councilor Dixon doesn't see why the City should be on the hook for the full amount if others will benefit. Councilor Thompson said she is comfortable with putting this on a second reading and would like to see the County start to act like Lima is viable and important. Councilor Neepers said he doesn't see the incentive for any other entity to contribute if we agree to pay the full amount. President Nixon said he doesn't have a problem putting the Ordinance on a second reading but history has shown that the ultimate entity that will be stuck with solving any parking issues will be the City of Lima. He said if nothing else, the diligence so far has saved thirty percent in cost. Councilor McLean said the RTA is a prime example of the County not contributing. If it weren't for the City's contribution, they would have a lot less services to the underprivileged. He said the parking is under the City's development and they should want to take the lead because they want to be able to use that information for the good of the City. President Nixon asked if it is conceivable that they will receive commitments from the other entities. Ms. Kaye said she can't guarantee it, but there should be a meeting in the two weeks to determine that. Motion carried.

8. From the City Engineer regarding legislation to enter into contract with American Athletix. Moved by Neepers, seconded by Dixon, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

9. From the Deputy Director of Parks & Recreation regarding legislation to apply for, accept and expend funds from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources NatureWorks Grant. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Dixon, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

10. From the Director of Community Development regarding legislation to place tax assessments. Moved by Thompson, seconded by McLean, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

11. From the Law Director regarding the move of the Law Department's offices. Moved by Dixon, seconded by Glenn, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF OFFICIALS:

Randy Kohli and Mike Watkins gave a report on the FOP Christmas program "Cops & Kids". Mr. Kohli said it will be on December 1st at the FOP Hall. He said the program started out with just a few individuals. He said officers go to Meijer with kids who will receive a \$200 gift card to purchase a gift for each member of their family and after they purchase those gifts, they can then purchase a gift for themselves. Mike Watkins said they are fortunate to have Meijer as they corporate sponsor this year. Meijer also provides funding for this program as part of their community relations. He said they also have other donors and hold a raffle each year to help generate funds. He said the FOP does not select any of the children for this program. He said they contact each elementary school in Allen County and the age limit is 5-12 years old. He said after the shopping is complete, they go back to the FOP Hall and wrap the gifts with the children. He said it is a great event and thanked everyone who donated. They hope to take fifty kids shopping this year.

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE PRESENTED:

014-18 A Resolution supporting Ohio House Bill 160, the Ohio Fairness Act. Thompson moved, seconded by Dixon that the Resolution be adopted on the first reading. Councilor Thompson said this Resolution means a lot to her as an LBGTQ advocate. She said this Resolution shows that we believe that it is important that the State practice the same fairness rules. She appreciates being able to do this tonight. The following vote was recorded on the motion: Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the resolution was adopted on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES WERE PRESENTED:

262-18 Levying special assessments for property maintenance code charges on premises in the City of Lima. Thompson moved, seconded by Dixon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

263-18 Enter into an Agreement with Lima-Allen County Convention and Visitors Bureau. McLean moved, seconded by Gordon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

264-18 Appointing Sean Carpenter to the Lima Civil Service Board. Gordon moved, seconded by McLean, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

265-18 Enter into contract with govdeals.com. McLean moved, seconded by Gordon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

266-18 Enter into contract with govdeals.com. McLean moved, seconded by Gordon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

267-18 Dispose of miscellaneous City vehicles and equipment. McLean moved, seconded by Gordon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

268-18 Apply for, accept, and administer funds from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Natureworks Grant. Neeper moved, seconded by Glenn, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

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269-18 Enter into contract with Downtown Lima, Inc. Neeper moved, seconded by Dixon, that the ordinance be placed on a second reading. Motion carried.

270-18 Enter into contract with American Athletix. Neeper moved, seconded by Dixon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

271-18 Authorizing payment from various Lima Municipal Court Funds for 2019. McLean moved, seconded by Gordon, to amend the title to read 2019 instead of 2018. Motion carried. McLean moved, seconded by Gordon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading, as amended. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Councilor Gordon moved, seconded by Glenn, to refer the request for a traffic study on the corner of W. Murphy and McDonel Street to the Traffic Commission. Motion carried. He reminded everyone to have a good Thanksgiving and to be good to each other.

Councilor McLean thanked his best friend who is his wife, for 36 years of marriage today. He said thanksgiving is a time for family and encouraged everyone to spend time with family or friends, eat too much and take a nap. McLean moved, seconded by Neeper, to approve the absence and salary for Councilor Kreher. Motion carried.

Councilor Thompson said she appreciates the report from Jessie Roark and she appreciates her and her husband for volunteering so much. She encouraged everyone to get involved with LACNIP and to find out what all there is to do in Lima. She announced the Central Lima Neighborhood Association will be having a gathering on November 21st at 6:30 pm at 875 West Market Street. She said it is a potluck and encouraged everyone to hang out and enjoy each other's company. She said to have a beautiful Thanksgiving.

Councilor Dixon said he has had residents that live on Harrison, Orena, Scott and McPheron that have complained in regards to the Marketplace newspapers being thrown out in the streets and curbs and it is becoming more like littering. He asked the carriers to please aim for the porch. Dixon moved, seconded by Glenn, to refer the issue of creating a Citizens Review Board for CDBG/HOME Funds be placed in the Neighborhood Concerns Committee. Motion carried. Dixon moved, seconded by Glenn, to refer the issue of a review of specified parcel mowing contracts be placed in the Neighborhood Concerns Committee. Motion carried. He said for everyone to have a Happy Thanksgiving.

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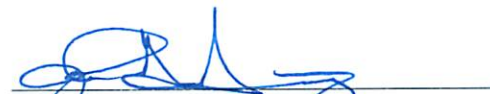
Councilor Glenn thanked all who helped out with the Thanksgiving dinner at the Lima Towers. He said they gave out the Good Neighbor Award to Randy Thomas and Julie Briggs because they do a great job in the 6th Ward community. He said he appreciates everyone coming out for the Spartans Boxing at the Bradfield Center. He said they will be selling chicken dinners at the 311 Building at 11:00 a.m. and encouraged everyone to purchase at least one dinner. He announced Christmas with the Kids will be held at Fresh-N-Faded on December 23rd at 3:00 pm. He asked parents not to sign up their children for both Christmas giveaway events because they try their hardest to give every child a toy this year. He thanked everyone for donating turkeys this year. They had 350 people donate. He said to have a Happy Thanksgiving and said he will deeply miss his father at the dinner table this year.

Councilor Neeper said he had the privilege of attending the dedication of the Canon at Faurot Park as well as the dedication of the Freedom Wall on Buckeye Road. He said we soon forget things that have happened in the past. It was the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI and the birthday for the Marine Corps. He admires all of the men and women that are serving and have served for us. He said those are things to give thanks for. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and to remember to give thanks for what we have and safety first.

President Nixon wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

McLean moved that Council adjourn until December 3, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., seconded by Dixon, motion carried.


Dana Addis, Clerk


John G. Nixon, President