

MINUTES OF LIMA CITY COUNCIL  
LIMA, OHIO

March 28, 2022

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

Attending were: Mayor Sharetta Smith; Tony Geiger, Law Director; Randy Bartels, Auditor; Susan Crotty, Dir. of Community Development; Steven Cleaves, Finance Director; Howard Elstro, Dir. of Public Works; Police Chief Kevin Martin; Fire Chief Heffner; and Dana Addis, Clerk.

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

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

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE PRESENTED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR:

- a. Minutes of the previous meeting not read since each received a copy;
- b. Amended Bd. of Health Minutes of January 14, 2022;
- c. Bd. of Health Minutes of February 11, 2022;
- d. Lima Municipal Court 2021 Annual Report.

Gordon moved that item “a” of the consent calendar be received, filed, and approved, and items “b-d” be received and filed, seconded by Neeper. Motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE PRESENTED:

1. From the Division of Liquor Control regarding liquor permit renewals.
2. From AEP regarding an update to the North Delphos–Rockhill Transmission Line Rebuild Project.
3. From the Mayor regarding an appointment to the Traffic Commission.
4. From the Mayor regarding legislation to appoint Amy Craft to the Historic Preservation Board.
5. From the Mayor regarding appointments to the Board of Building Appeals.
6. From the Auditor regarding the contract labor report for January and February, 2022.
7. From the Auditor regarding the February, 2022 contract labor reports.

March 28, 2022

8. From the Dir. of Community Development regarding legislation to provide tax abatement to Greater Lima Acquisition Group, LLC for the rehabilitation of 702-720 North Baxter Street.

9. From the Chief of Police regarding legislation to enter into an agreement with Apollo Career Center.

10. From the Chief of Police regarding legislation to enter into contract with MNJ Technologies Direct, Inc.

11. From the Chief of Police regarding legislation to accept the bid and enter into contract with Statewide Ford.

12. From the Finance Dir. regarding legislation to amend the 2022 Budget.

13. From the Finance Dir. regarding the disposal of equipment.

14. From the Finance Dir. regarding legislation to amend the 2022 Budget.

15. From the City Engineer regarding legislation to enter into an LPA agreement with ODOT for the ALL-SPENCERVILLE RD SIDEWALKS, PID 110277.

Councilor Dixon moved, seconded by Glenn, that Communications No. 1 through 15 be received, filed, approved and authorize the Law Dir. to prepare any necessary legislation. Motion carried.

#### REPORTS OF OFFICIALS:

Lima Fire Chief Andy Heffner provided Council with the Lima Fire Department 2021 Annual Report. He summarized the department statistics including total call volume which has increased in the last year. He explained the investigations have gone down due to the department using their resources more wisely. He further explained they are looking to hire 4 more fire fighters in order to help the fire fighters maintain their life balance and reduce the overtime budget. Councilor Glenn thanked Chief Heffner. Councilor Dixon inquired about the need for additional storage. Chief Heffner explained they would like to be able to put another ambulance into service instead of having it stored off site since the call volume has increased. (A complete copy of the presentation is on file in the Council office.)

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES WERE PRESENTED:

074-22 An Ordinance amending the 2022 annual budget. Neeper moved, seconded by Dixon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading as amended. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 6; Gordon, Wilkerson, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 6-0 vote.

075-22 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Apollo Career Center. Dixon moved, seconded by Glenn, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 6; Gordon, Wilkerson, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 6-0 vote.

076-22 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an LPA Agreement with ODOT. Glenn moved, seconded by Neeper, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 6; Gordon, Wilkerson, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 6-0 vote.

077-22 An Ordinance approving the appointment of Amy Craft to the Historic Preservation Board. Wilkerson moved, seconded by Gordon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 6; Gordon, Wilkerson, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 6-0 vote.

078-22 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and enter into contract to sell scrap iron, steel, copper, and brass for the Public Works and Utilities Departments. Gordon moved, seconded by Dixon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 6; Gordon, Wilkerson, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 6-0 vote.

079-22 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to sell unneeded materials from obsolete equipment, poles, and signs for the Public works Department. Glenn moved, seconded by Dixon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 6; Gordon, Wilkerson, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 6-0 vote.

March 28, 2022

080-22 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a CRA Tax Exemption Agreement with Greater Lima Acquisition Group, LLC for 702-720 North Baxter Street. Gordon moved, seconded by Glenn, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 6; Gordon, Wilkerson, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 6-0 vote.

081-22 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Statewide Ford to purchase three police cruisers for the Lima Police Department. Dixon moved, seconded by Glenn, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 6; Gordon, Wilkerson, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 6-0 vote.

082-22 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Peterson Construction for the progressive design of the Water Treatment Plan SCADA upgrades and to advertise for bids or RFP's and enter into contract for the construction of the project. Gordon moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 6; Gordon, Wilkerson, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 6-0 vote.

President Nixon moved, seconded by Dixon, to amend the Agenda by adding Resolution 004-22. Motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS PRESENTED:

004-22 A Resolution expressing the appreciation of the Lima City Council to Howard Elstro for his 32 years of service to the City of Lima. Gordon moved, seconded by Dixon, that the Resolution be adopted on the first reading after being read. The Clerk read the Motion. Councilor Glenn expressed his appreciation to Howard and recalled back to when he first worked with Howard during his employment with Project Rehab. He presented Howard with a plaque and wished him a happy retirement. Councilor Dixon explained Howard was the first Director that he met when becoming a Council member. He expressed his admiration to Howard for his hard work, tenacity and vision for Lima. He thanked Howard's children and wife for lending him to the City for many years. He advised Howard that he was his favorite member of administration because he never sugar coated anything and was honest, fair and consistent. He wished him best in his future endeavors. Councilor Gordon stated Howard is one of the hardest working guys and expressed Howard taught him a lot when he first started on Council. He thanked Howard for giving his time and heart. Councilor Wilkerson looked back to when he first met Howard back during Project Rehab on Union Street. He referred to Howard as being methodical, calm collective and professional. He thanked Howard for his service. Councilor Neeper explained Howard has always lend an ear to listen even when bickering during certain projects. He expressed his appreciation to

March 28, 2022

Howard. President Nixon said it is hard to get everything Howard has accomplished into one resolution and provided additional examples of projects that put the City of Lima ahead of the curve. He referenced the ice storm of 2005 where his leadership helped Nixon as acting mayor. He stated he is proud to call Howard a friend and wished him the best in his retirement. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 6; Gordon, Wilkerson, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the resolution is adopted on the first reading by a 6-0 vote. Howard Elstro expressed his appreciation to Council for the hard work they have done together. He thanked Mayor Berger and Mayor Smith for allowing him to serve. He recognized his wife and children for their sacrifices. He explained he has learned from citizens, fellow staff, fellow employees and Councilors. He expressed the current Council body is one of the better that he has had the privilege to serve with. He explained his admiration is for Council for many reasons. He wished everyone the best and hopes they will continue to do good work in the spirit of truth and decorum.

#### MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Councilor Dixon announced the Peacemakers Neighborhood Association will be meeting on April 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm located at 800 Franklin Street. He thanked the Park Rangers for the job they are doing with educating citizens of the trash can rules. He thanked the Mayor and the Department of Community Development for conducting Citizen Engagement meetings. He explained the meetings have allowed Councilors and administration to hear the challenges that are happening in the neighborhoods along with ideas that citizens have.

Councilor Glenn expressed his appreciation to Administration for holding the Citizen Engagement meetings. He thanked Mike Caprella for helping with an issue. He said the garbage issues are getting better. He expressed his appreciation to Chief Heffner for his report. He announced April 16<sup>th</sup> they will be holding an Easter egg hunt at Hoover Park. Glenn moved, seconded by Neeper, to refer LACNIP's financial status to the joint Neighborhood Concerns and Finance Committee. Motion carried. He thanked the Park Rangers. He thanked Dr. Bradley from Rhodes State for attending the Council meeting.

Councilor Neeper explained he had the opportunity to meet the new Crime Intervention Specialist and encouraged everyone to do the same as she has a lot of good ideas. He attended the Community Engagement meeting at St. Marks Church and applauded Mayor Smith's Administration.

Councilor Gordon expressed his appreciation to Chief Heffner and everyone on the Fire Department. He expressed his appreciation for the Community Engagement meetings. He reminded everyone to be good to each other.

March 28, 2022

Councilor Wilkerson announced the Human Resources meeting will be held on April 18, 2022 at 6:00 pm in Council Chambers. He recalled back to being called in by his employer when his daughter was young. He reminded everyone to help their neighbor out.

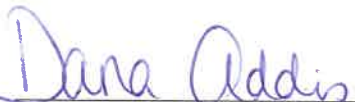
At the request of Councilor Ehora, President Nixon moved, seconded by Dixon, to authorize the Law Director to prepare a Resolution memorializing the late Lois Rubens. Motion carried.

President Nixon moved, seconded by Dixon, to authorize the absence and salary of Councilor Ehora and Councilor Thompson. Motion carried.

Gordon moved that Council adjourn until April 11, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., seconded by Glenn, motion carried.



John G. Nixon, President



Dana Addis, Clerk