

MINUTES OF LIMA CITY COUNCIL  
LIMA, OHIO

May 8, 2023

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; Eric Pheneger, Deputy Law Director; Randall Bartels, Auditor; Shane Coleman, Chief of Staff, Della Bradford, Dir. of Human Resources; Andria Perkins; Dir. Of Housing & Neighborhoods; Carmillia Zion, Deputy Dir. of Housing & Neighborhoods; Amber Martin, Workforce & Small Business Dev. Coordinator; Mike Caprella, Dir. of Util.; Kirk Niemeyer, Dir. of Public Works; Ric Stolly, Deputy Public Works Dir. I; Warner Roach, Deputy Public Works Dir.; Jessica Begonia, Public Information Officer; Police Chief Angel Cortes, Fire Chief Andy Heffner; 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, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon.

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE PRESENTED:

012-23 A resolution memorializing the late Alberta Lee, outstanding citizen, and extending condolences to her family on behalf of the Lima City Council. Neeper moved, seconded by Ehora, that the Resolution be adopted on the first reading after having been read. The Clerk read the Resolution. Councilor Neeper recalled his many conversations with Alberta over the years and more recently. He thanked the Lee family for allowing the City all of the years of their mother's experience and expertise. He extended his condolences to the family. Councilor Ehora recalled back to when she first met Alberta Lee. She described Alberta as a trailblazer and the gold standard for a lot of women in the community. She appreciates that Alberta was supportive of everyone especially for women who are in office and she also appreciates everything she did for the community. She extended her sympathy to the family. Councilor Wilkerson reminisced to when he went to Roosevelt. He expressed Alberta was a trailblazer for everyone in the area to be active and participate for a better community. Councilor Gordon imagine it was tiresome for the children to following Alberta's footsteps because she was an amazing person. He extended his condolences to the family. Councilor Dixon extended his condolences to the family. He recalled back to a conversation he had with Alberta his first year on Council. President Nixon extended his condolences to the family. He reminisced about the pencils she used to pass out when she was campaigning. 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. Misty Lee expressed her appreciation to the Lima City Council. She ensured that the family is going to carry out Alberta's name in many different ways. Brett Lee recalled all the ways he knew members of Council. He explained Alberta wasn't only a trailblazer but she was also a mom. He further recalled Mayor

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Smith's comments about Alberta being an inspiration to her while she was running for office. He thanked Council.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE PRESENTED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR:

- a. Minutes of the previous meeting not read since each received a copy;
- b. City of Lima Law Department 2022 Annual Report.

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

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE PRESENTED:

1. From the Interim Finance Dir. regarding legislation to amend the 2023 budget.
2. From the Chief of Staff regarding legislation to apply to become an Ohio ACE Qualified Education Service Provider.
3. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to amend Ordinance 078-21.
4. From the Chief of Police regarding a contract with Interaction Insight Corporation.
5. From the Fire Chief regarding legislation to enter into contract with Penn Care, Inc.
6. From the Dir. of Dept. of Housing and Neighborhoods regarding the 2023-2024 CDBG/HOME Action Plan Meeting Schedule and Proposed Allocations.
7. From the Deputy Dir. of Parks, Recreation and Forestry regarding legislation to accept a donation from the Lima Noon Sertoma Club.
8. From the City Engineer regarding legislation to allow the Mayor to receive a gift from Spring & Main, LLC.

Councilor Dixon moved, seconded by Glenn, that Communications No. 1 through 8 be received, filed, approved and authorize the Law Dir. to prepare any necessary legislation. Motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES WERE PRESENTED:

090-23 An Ordinance amending the 2023 annual budget. Neeper 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,

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none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

091-23 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to accept a donation from the Lima Noon Sertoma Club. Gordon moved, seconded by Glenn, to amend the Ordinance by striking the word "Noon" throughout the body of the Ordinance. Motion carried. Gordon moved, seconded by Glenn, 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 as amended by an 8-0 vote.

092-23 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to accept a donation from Spring & Main, LLC. Thompson moved, seconded by Neeper, 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.

093-23 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Penn Care, Inc., to purchase 1 medic unit for the Lima Fire Department. Dixon moved, seconded by Neeper, 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.

094-23 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to amend the contract with 120water authorized under Ordinance 078-21. Gordon moved, seconded by Wilkerson, 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.

#### MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Councilor Gordon reminded everyone to be good to each other.

Councilor Wilkerson explained he flew to Atlanta over the week for a death of a 22 year old who died from an addiction to opiates. He explained opiate addiction does not discriminate. He asked everyone to be good neighbors.

Councilor Thompson announced there will be a Here's to Your Health Block Party from 11-2 p.m. on Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. She explained she is working with a group of teen ambassadors that are working on violence reduction who have planned a "Love is a Battlefield" open mic night for teen performers at Vibe Coffeehouse on May 19<sup>th</sup> from 6-8:30 p.m. She welcomed her Aunt Melissa to Lima who moved from Oklahoma. She encouraged everyone to promote living in the

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Lima area.

Councilor Ehora referenced calls she received regarding the noise ordinance. She further referenced the meeting held last week over the Roosevelt project which had a good turnout. She expressed her excitement for the project and disproved the rumors that the project is going to be low income housing and the City of Lima is hiding it. She explained the building is perfectly designed for an apartment building. Ehora moved, seconded by Dixon, to refer the issue of the pool to the Public Works Committee. Motion carried. Ehora moved, seconded by Neeper, to authorize a Resolution memorializing Gene Amspaugh. Motion carried.

Councilor Dixon announced the Juneteenth celebration will take place Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup> from 12-6 pm in the Downtown Lima Square. He commended the Mayor and her administration for holding the NACA event. He announced the month of May is the Mental Health Awareness month and encouraged everyone to do some self-care which is vital for mental health. He wished all of the nurses a Happy Nurses Week. He also wished all of the mothers a Happy Mother's Day.


Councilor Glenn wished all of the mothers a Happy Mother's Day. He expressed his excitement for the NACA event which was a success. He announced they are training kids for the Hire a Kid program and gave details on the program. He expressed the need to help someone who had a tree strike her home. He expressed his appreciation to those who helped clean up over the weekend. He thanked whoever paid for toilets. He expressed the need to find a solution to the groundhog issue in the City. He spoke about the exercise program at the Lima Towers. He recognized Mr. Poland who has been working hard on the Memorial Day Parade. He encouraged everyone to attend the parade.

Councilor Neeper attended the Spring Clean Up on Saturday and is looking forward to many more in the future. He reminded everyone that it is spring and motorcyclists are out on the roads. He announced on May 9<sup>th</sup> there will be a job fair at ONU from 10-2 p.m. with over 100 employers. He expressed his appreciation to the Ohio Theatre and encouraged everyone to check out the shows and local plays that are held there. He wished all of the mothers a Happy Mother's Day.

President Nixon wished all of the mothers a Happy Mother's Day.

Gordon moved that Council adjourn until May 22, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., seconded by Dixon, motion carried.

  
Dana Addis, Clerk

  
John G. Nixon, President