

MINUTES OF LIMA CITY COUNCIL
LIMA, OHIO

June 14, 2021

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

Attending were: Mayor David Berger; Tony Geiger, Law Director; Randall Bartels, Auditor; Steve Cleaves, Dir. of Finance; Sharetta Smith, Chief of Staff; Susan Crotty; Dir. of DCD; Michael Caprella, Dir. of Util.; Howard Elstro, Dir. of Public Works; Chief Martin.

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

Nixon moved, seconded by Ehora, to appoint Tony Geiger as Acting Clerk. Motion carried.

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

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS PRESENTED:

007-21 Memorializing the late Willie D. Thompson. Moved by Dixon, seconded by Neeper that the resolution be adopted. Councilor Glenn extolled the contributions of Ms. Thompson and expressed his condolences to the family. Councilor Dixon thanked the family and friends of Ms. Thompson for sharing her with the community, said she lived up to her nickname of "Pie," she will be missed, and expressed condolences to the family. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper, and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the resolution is adopted by a 7-0 vote.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE PRESENTED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR:

- a. Minutes of the previous meeting not read since each received a copy.

Dixon moved that item "a" of the consent calendar be received, filed, and approved; seconded by Wilkerson, motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE PRESENTED:

1. From the Director of Community Development regarding legislation to place tax assessments. Moved by Thompson, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
2. From the Division of Liquor Control regarding a liquor permit transfer request to Marion Sky, 1263-69 Bellefontaine Ave. Moved by Thompson, seconded by Wilkerson that the communication be received and filed and the clerk notify the Department there is no objection. Motion carried.

3. From the Human Resources Director regarding legislation to change the strength Ordinance for the Finance Divisions Tax Department. Moved by Wilkerson, seconded by Neeper, that the communication be received and filed. Legislation is on the agenda. Motion carried.
4. From the Auditor regarding the April and May, 2021 contract labor report. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
5. From the Auditor regarding legislation to enter into contract with Stolly Insurance Group for Cyber Liability Insurance. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Legislation is on the agenda. Motion carried.
6. From the Auditor regarding legislation to enter into contract with Stolly Insurance Group for Liability Insurance coverage through The Ohio Plan. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Legislation is on the agenda. Motion carried.
7. From the Finance Director regarding legislation to amend the 2021 annual budget. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Legislation is on the agenda. Motion carried.
8. From the Chief of Police regarding legislation to enter into various contracts. Moved by Dixon, seconded by Neeper, that the communication be received and filed. Legislation is on the agenda. Motion carried.
9. From the Director of Utilities regarding legislation to pay the Water Research Foundation for the annual membership fees. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Legislation is on the agenda. Motion carried.
10. From the Utility Operations Manager regarding legislation to bid and award the purchase and installation of three boilers for the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
11. From the Utility Operations Manager regarding legislation to auction vehicles on govdeals.com. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
12. From the Utility Operations Manager regarding legislation to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Allen Water District. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Legislation is on the agenda. Motion carried.

13. From the City Engineer regarding legislation to enter into an LPA Agreement between ODOT and the City for the ALL-Main Street/Market Street Project. Moved by Ehora, seconded by Neeper, that the communication be received and filed. President Nixon stated he is opposed to this project and will be voting no on all future legislation related to it. Legislation is on the agenda. Motion carried 6-1, with Nixon voting no.
14. From the City Engineer regarding legislation to enter into an agreement with CMT. Moved by Ehora, seconded by Glenn, that the communication be received and filed. Legislation is on the agenda. Motion carried 6-1, with Nixon voting no.
15. From the Director of Public Works regarding legislation to modify the Strength Ordinance to increase the Seasonal Park Ranger pay rate. Moved by Ehora, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Legislation is on the agenda. Motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES WERE PRESENTED:

114-21 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, 7; 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 a 7-0 vote.

115-21 Authorizing the Auditor to make a payment to the Water Research Foundation. Neeper moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; 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 a 7-0 vote.

116-21 Enter into a Cooperative Agreement with Allen Water District and a contract with MS Consulting. Neeper moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; 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 a 7-0 vote.

117-21 Vacating two (2) unnamed alleys between the 400 block of Central Avenue and the CSX Railway. Wilkerson moved, seconded by Dixon, that the ordinance be amended to change the date in the third whereas clause from June 14, 2021 to November 23, 2020. Motion carried 7-0. Ehora moved, seconded by Dixon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading, as amended. Nixon asked for clarification of the date. Law Director Geiger explained that the hearing was indeed November 23, 202, but that the survey, legal description, and plat took a while to prepare. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper, and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance as amended passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

118-21 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with CMT. Ehora moved, seconded by Neeper, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. President Nixon is opposed to the project, and has concern about the change to pedestrian flow and safety. He is not supportive of roundabouts in general and will not support any aspect of the project. Councilor Ehora asked what the resolution for the square is. President Nixon stated he doesn't feel there are traffic issues in the square now that will be alleviated by this project, only compounded. Councilor Ehora said the traffic circle as it is today is very problematic. Councilor Dixon asked if the eastside roundabout has been an issue for traffic flow or safety. City Engineer Kirk Niemeyer responded that there have been about six vehicle crashes within that roundabout, and that before the roundabout there were almost double the crashes. He further stated there have been no pedestrian crashes or near misses at that location, and he feels that it is safer. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 6; Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, and Neeper. Nay, 1; Nixon. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 6-1 vote.

119-21 Enter into an LPA Agreement with ODOT. Ehora moved, seconded by Glenn, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 6; Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, and Neeper. Nay, 1; Nixon. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 6-1 vote.

120-21 Enter into contract with Stolly Insurance Group for liability insurance through the Ohio Plan. Neeper moved, seconded by Glenn, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; 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 a 7-0 vote.

121-21 Enter into contract with Stolly Insurance Group for cyber liability insurance coverage. Neeper moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; 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 a 7-0 vote.

122-21 Enter into contract with NEC Corporation of America. Dixon moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; 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 a 7-0 vote.

123-21 Enter into contract to purchase in-car computers for the Police Department. Dixon moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; 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 a 7-0 vote.

124-21 Enter into contract to purchase Motorola portable and in-car radios for the Police Department. Dixon moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; 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 a 7-0 vote.

125-21 Enter into contract to purchase computer equipment and Microsoft software for the Police Department. Dixon moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; 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 a 7-0 vote.

126-21 Enter into contract to purchase an in-house phone recording system for the 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, 7; 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 a 7-0 vote.

127-21 Establishing the positions and classifications and fixing the salary and compensation of such positions and classifications. Wilkerson moved, seconded by Neeper, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; 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 a 7-0 vote.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Councilor Thompson thanked everyone who attended Coffee with Carla last week. Residents are concerned with what is happening with Schoonover, the observatory, and landlord issues. Citywide Pride was a great success, thanks to the Department of Community Development for organizing the event. The next Central Lima Neighborhood Association meeting will be in-person on June 23, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. at the Lima Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at 875 West Market Street. Thank you to neighborhood association members, Sharetta Smith, Bart Mills, Alter Ego Comics, and other people coming onboard for piloting the summer reading program. More information on the program will be released soon. Thank you to the city officers for coming out and dealing with children in our neighborhood. Community policing is more than just a handful of officers, it is an attitude and a way of approaching citizens and residents. Also stated she has been working with her employer, Crime Victim Services, other agencies, and Councilors Dixon and Glenn, and city residents, with a goal of reducing violence in those wards. The first community listening circle will be for the Third Ward, June 30th, at the YWCA. Will be discussing how to reduce crime and improve the safety of residents. More information will be out soon.

Councilor Ehora discussed the recent accident between a vehicle and a mini-bike at the intersection of Jameson Avenue and North Street. Said the outcome could have been worse, but that there is a large amount of mini-bike/go-kart traffic in town. She is afraid that accidents are going to continue to happen if we don't get a handle on it; it is chaotic for the neighborhoods and the traffic. Need to keep having conversations with the Chief of Police and whomever else should be involved, that these things are not street legal. Further stated she receives complaints from her ward about code enforcement, property maintenance issues, cars, etc. Would like to see solutions found so these issues don't continue to be discussed with no changes. Ehora moved, seconded by

Dixon, that a Resolution be authorized memorializing Tom Dee, former 4th Ward council member and longtime educator, who died on Saturday. Motion carried. In the absence of Councilor Gordon, she asks that everyone be kind to each other. Ehora moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the mini-bike issue be referred to the Neighborhood Concerns/Safety Services Committee. Motion carried.

Councilor Dixon wishes all fathers a Happy Father's Day. Also stated, in the words of Councilor Gordon, be good to each other.


Councilor Glenn thanked Councilor Ehora for bringing up the issues she did with code enforcement and mini-bikes, as his constituents are also concerned. He appreciates the good ideas that have been brought up by Chief Martin, Chief of Staff Sharetta Smith, Councilors Ehora, Dixon, and Wilkerson, regarding code enforcement and affordable housing. Two new neighborhood associations are being pushed. Lima Baptist Temple had a great carnival for the children. Great food and entertainment, which was all provided at no cost to the attendees. Glenn moved, seconded by Dixon, to authorize a Resolution of appreciation for the Reverend Charles Manley, for his 54 years of service as a pastor. Motion carried. Councilor Glenn thanked Councilor Dixon for the work done to cut grass for community members. Congratulations to Dr. Shurelds on the Shakespeare award.

Councilor Neeper asks for prayers for former council member, Rebecca Kreher. She lost a pet in a fire at her home. Neeper moved, seconded by Thompson, to approve the absence and salary of Councilor Gordon. Motion carried. He reminded everyone that with it being summertime, to stay hydrated and watch for children as you are driving. Also reminded everyone to be good to each other.

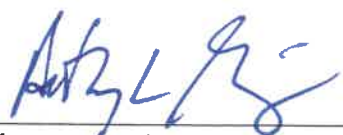
Councilor Wilkerson spent time this weekend at a wedding. Had the pleasure of eating with his children and grandchildren, was a wonderful feeling to be with family again. Encourages everyone to think about those men who are fathers and give them a word of encouragement, surrogate fathers are needed. Be good neighbors.

President Nixon said due to technical issues, this meeting had to be virtual, but the next meeting on June 28, 2021 will be in-person.

Dixon moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the meeting be adjourned until June 28, 2021 at 7:00 p.m, in council chambers. Motion carried 7-0.



John G. Nixon, President



Anthony L. Geiger, Acting Clerk