

MINUTES OF LIMA CITY COUNCIL
LIMA, OHIO

November 18, 2019

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

Attending were: Mayor David Berger; 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.; Howard Elstro, Dir. of Public Works; Sharetta Smith, Chief of Staff; Chief Martin, Chief Black, and Dana Addis, Clerk.

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

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

President Nixon moved, seconded by Gordon, to amend the Agenda under Reports of Officials under Item B, the cops and kids program will be presented by Amanda Luegers and Alan Mefford. Motion carried.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Walt Upshaw was not present to speak.

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 11, 2019.

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

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE PRESENTED:

1. From the Chief of Staff regarding legislation to enter into contract with Modo Media. Moved by Dixon, seconded by Glenn, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
2. From the Chief of Staff regarding a Resolution to create a 2020 Census Lima/Allen County Complete Count Committee. Moved by Dixon, seconded by Thompson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

November 18, 2019

3. From the Dir. of Community Development regarding legislation to place tax assessments. Moved by Thompson, seconded by Dixon, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
4. From the Dir. of Community Development regarding legislation to place tax assessments. Moved by Thompson, seconded by Kreher, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
5. From the Auditor regarding legislation to enter into contract with Harris ERP. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Dixon, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
6. From the Chief Technology Officer regarding legislation to amend an agreement with Azteca Systems, LLC. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Kreher, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
7. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to amend Ordinance 147-18, contract with Degen Excavating. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Kreher, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
8. From the Civil Service Board regarding the recommendation to modify multiple Classification titles to be more inclusive and gender neutral. Moved by Kreher, seconded by Dixon, that the communication be received, filed and approved and the Law Dir. authorized to prepare the necessary legislation. Motion carried.
9. From the Civil Service Board regarding the recommendation to reclassify the Secretary II position in the Human Resources Department. Moved by Kreher, seconded by Glenn, that the communication be received, filed, approved and referred to the Human Resources Committee. Anthony DiPietro advised that the communication should only be received and filed. Councilor Kreher withdrew the initial motion and Councilor Glenn withdrew his second. Councilor Kreher moved, seconded by Glenn, that the communication be received, filed and referred to the Human Resources Committee. Motion carried.
10. From the Finance Dir. regarding legislation to amend the 2019 official budget. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Kreher, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
11. From the City Engineer regarding legislation to enter into contract with Blausey Truck Service & Excavating, LLC. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Glenn, that the communication be received and filed. Councilor Neeper asked Mr. Elstro what the project entails. Mr. Elstro explained the bowl area of Faurot Park is the recessed area where four ball diamonds are located. He advised that those fields have been inaccessible to the City due to persistent flooding. He explained this project will re-tile that area and they plan to put a check light valve where the tiles

go into the storm sewer as part of the flooding over the years has been the river backing up waters into the bowl area. Motion carried.

12. From the Auditor regarding the contract labor report for October, 2019. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Thompson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

13. From the Auditor regarding the cost of living salary increase for 2020. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Thompson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

14. From the Fire Chief requesting legislation to enter into contract with Fire Safety Services Inc. Moved by Glenn, seconded by Neeper, that the communication be received, filed and authorize the Law Dir. to prepare the necessary legislation. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF OFFICIALS:

Howard Elstro gave an outline of the actions the City of Lima will take for snow removal efforts for the snow season of 2019-2020. He said over the last winter, they had concerns expressed to them that some of the neighborhoods felt that the crews were not plowing snow in a timely fashion and in fact that was accurate. They found that some of the two-way streets are narrow and in repeated snow events the snow gets cleared from the center of the street to the side of the street and people begin to encroach the center of the street which prevents large snow plows from being able to remove snow. He explained the Public Works Dept. will issue a media release asking for resident's assistance through the winter season highlighting ways drivers and residents can assist the City. He gave examples of the ways the public can voluntarily help. He advised for every 4 inches of snow fall, a snow advisory will be issued alerting the public of the requirement of parking on alternate sides of the streets concurrent with the numerical calendar date. Vehicles observed causing obstruction of snow removal will be referred to LPD for violation. He explained residents of narrow streets that are typically difficult to plow will be mailed an advisory of the intended enforcement actions, parking requirements, and advise that non-compliance will result in either a fine, removal or impoundment of vehicle. He encouraged all residents to sign up for "Alert Allen County", which can be found on the City's website, to be updated on the parking requirements. Councilor Glenn expressed parking has been an issue on Holly Street for years and residents don't have anywhere else to park their car. Mr. Elstro explained the only solution is to park on one side in order for snow plows to get down the street. He said they are trying to let the residents know ahead of time what needs to be done. Mayor Berger explained the bottom line is they are not seeking new authority and the requirements are already in the Ordinance. He said they intend to provide a lot of public information and they are asking for cooperation. He explained residents may in fact need to find other places to park as a storm is coming in. He recognizes that it is an inconvenience, but they need to be able to clear the streets. He advised Glenn that they are not permanently requiring parking on one side of the street. Councilor Neeper thanked Mr. Elstro for following through with this as he remembers talking about this last snow season. He asked if the alert is going to be in the mailing that is sent to residents. Mr. Elstro explained there will be an

November 18, 2019

attachment to the letter with detailed instructions on how to sign up for the alert services.

Amanda Luegers and Alan Mefford gave a report on the Cops and Kids Program. Amanda Luegers is the school resource officer for Lima City Schools. She said she is very passionate about being able to be on the F.O.P. Cops and Kids Foundation Board. She explained this is the 11th year doing the Cops and Kids trip. She said this program was started because they wanted to break the stigma of cops being bad and to make sure the kids saw them in a positive light. She explained they have the option to service 8500 students in 20 different school districts and are able to take 85 kids this year due to funding abilities. She gave an example of how children are chosen for the program. Alan Mefford reiterated they want the kids to run to them not away from them. He said they saw a need for it 11 years ago and the first year they took 27 kids at \$100 a piece which is all the money they had. He explained as the word has spread, they have gotten more people involved. He gave examples of donors including many individuals and businesses. He explained why the program is called Cops and Kids instead of Shop with a Cop. He said out of the 8500 potential students they have, they can't do them all. He said they don't choose the children as he sends out letters to the school principals, guidance counselors and resource officers throughout the entire county giving them the criteria. He explained the charity also donates to other causes and are always accepting donations. He explained what the children can purchase and for whom. He encouraged everyone to attend. It will be held on December 7, 2019 starting around 7:30 am. Councilor Kreher expressed that this is her favorite day of the year. She said this year it will be on her birthday and it is one of the best experiences that changes the entire family dynamic in one day. Councilor Glenn said he appreciates this program so much and it is a great way for children to see what officers do. Councilor Dixon thanked them for the great job that they do. He was able to take part of it last year and he always remembered the boy who had money left over and got chips to pass out gifts to other kids in the neighborhood. He encouraged everyone to mark their calendars to come out and support them.

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE PRESENTED:

021-19 A Resolution Supporting the Creation of the 2020 Lima/Allen County Census Complete Count Committee. Dixon moved, seconded by Thompson, that the Resolution be adopted on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion: Yea, 7; Gordon, Thompson, Kreher, 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:

275-19 Levying special assessments for property maintenance code charges on premises in the City of Lima, Ohio. 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, Thompson, Kreher, 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.

November 18, 2019

276-19 Levying special assessments for property maintenance code charges on premises in the City of Lima, Ohio. 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, Thompson, Kreher, 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.

277-19 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Modo Media. Dixon moved, seconded by Glenn, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, Thompson, Kreher, 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.

278-19 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Harris ERP. Gordon moved, seconded by Kreher, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, Thompson, Kreher, 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.

279-19 Authorizing the Mayor to amend the contract with Azteca Systems, Inc. as authorized in Ordinance 027-19. Gordon moved, seconded by Kreher, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, Thompson, Kreher, 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.

280-19 Authorizing the Mayor to amend the contract with Degen Excavating as authorized in Ordinance 147-18. Gordon moved, seconded by Thompson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, Thompson, Kreher, 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.

281-19 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Blausey Truck Service & Excavating LLC. 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, Thompson, Kreher, 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.

282-19 Amending the 2019 Annual Budget. Gordon moved, seconded by Kreher, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, Thompson, Kreher, 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.

November 18, 2019

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Councilor Kreher scheduled a Human Resource Committee meeting for November 27, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. She thanked the two officers that saved a man who was considering suicide. She encouraged everyone to reach out to people to see how they are doing. She said she is seeing more "You Matter" signs and she loves them. She encouraged everyone to become a part of You Matter or be an advocate for someone. She encouraged everyone to visit You Matter Bradys Bunch on Facebook. She wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. She said it is a time to reflect and find joy.

Councilor Dixon told Chief Martin that he has great men and women on his force. He said he was able to witness the suicide attempt situation first hand while he was working with city employees. He said in that moment he felt helpless and didn't know what exactly to do. He said to see those officers to spring into action and pull him off the bridge was something. He thanked them for all they do. He thanked Code Enforcement for allowing him to ride along and said it was a learning experience. He thanked Susan for holding a briefing after the ride a long where they were able to discuss some things and was able to see some things change and be implemented in the department. He recognized Bob Freeman who was awarded the Shirley Daley Community Leadership Award as well as the Outstanding Services Award. He said Bob works very hard at volunteering in this community and there has not been a volunteering event in the City of Lima that Bob has missed. He said that takes a lot of dedication and heart for someone who really loves this community. He acknowledged and congratulated Sharetta Smith for completing the Ohio Leadership Class Course through the State of Ohio. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and said last but not least Go Bucks!

Councilor Glenn told Bob Freeman he deserves the awards he received. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. He said the suicide rate has gone up and said it is our job to look after folks who are feeling down and out. He encouraged those who feel down to call 227-HOPE. He said if someone needs something we should try to help them out.

Councilor Neeper said Bob Freeman is the second set of eyes and ears officially in his ward and he appreciates his calls. He announced Tuesday, November 19th is the Spaghetti Dinner at the F.O.P. and encouraged everyone to attend. He announced Thursday, November 21, 2019 the City of Lima is holding a Community Meeting from 5-7 pm. He said housing is a big problem in the City and they need to see people show up. He said as Counselors they have heard the cries from the public about the housing issues but they aren't getting a response. He encouraged everyone to get out and make their voice heard. He announced on Thursday, November 21, 2019 the Boulevard Neighborhood Association will be meeting at LACNIP at 7:00 pm. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and said it is a season for giving thanks and what you can give back.

November 18, 2019

Councilor Gordon thanked the Fire Dept. for a speedy response to an issue he had at work. He told Chief Black the guys he has are excellent. He said this City is really blessed with a great Police Dept. and Fire Dept. He reminded everyone to be good to each other.

Councilor Thompson thanked Bob Freeman for being so amazing and always encouraging everyone to volunteer. She reminded everyone they were giving that award on the 25th Anniversary of LACNIP which is something to celebrate. She encouraged everyone to consider joining a Neighborhood Association, starting a Neighborhood Association, just getting to know what LACNIP has to offer as it is a wonderful tool for being involved in the community. She announced there is a Three Part Blessing from 4-7p.m. at the Bradfield Center on Tuesday, November 19th. She said the Central Lima Neighborhood Association in lieu of meeting, will be at the November 21st Community Meeting at the Civic Center. She encouraged others to attend the meeting and make their concerns known and any solutions they may have. She asked everyone to enjoy their holidays coming up no matter what they may be.

President Nixon referred the issue of Council Chambers Equipment Training to the Council of the Whole. He advised the meeting will be held on December 9, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. Seconded by Glenn. Nixon advised this is for training on new equipment in Council Chambers and because a quorum of Council will be in attendance, it needs to be a Council of the Whole Meeting. Motion carried. President Nixon moved, seconded by Dixon, to approve the absence and salary of Councilor McLean. Motion carried. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving

Dixon moved that Council adjourn until December 2, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., seconded by Glenn, motion carried.


Dana Addis, Clerk


John G. Nixon, President