

MINUTES OF LIMA CITY COUNCIL  
LIMA, OHIO

January 4, 2021

The Council of the City of Lima met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. via audio/video communication.

Attending were: Mayor David Berger; Tony Geiger, 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; and Dana Addis, Clerk.

The invocation was given by President Nixon 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:

022-19 A Resolution memorializing the late Paul Reiser. Thompson moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the Resolution be adopted on the first reading after having been read. The Clerk read the Resolution. Councilor Thompson said she knows how important a parent is especially after losing one. She said Paul was a gift who attended her church and music was his life. Her goal is to be as cool as Paul and Pat. She extended her condolences to the family and said his he and his love of music will be missed. President Nixon extended his condolences to the family and thanked them for sharing him with the community. 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. Jenny Webb thanked Council for passing the Resolution honoring her father. Paula Hodges thanked Council for their kind words and for passing the Resolution. She explained he taught her how to play the saxophone and often would play gigs with him.

Gordon moved, seconded by Dixon, to amend the Agenda by adding Communication Number 8. Motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE PRESENTED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR:

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

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

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THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE PRESENTED:

1. From Downtown Lima, Inc. regarding 2021 funding. Moved by Thompson, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received, filed and authorize the Law Director to prepare legislation, if necessary. Motion carried.

2. From the Auditor regarding legislation to allocate a Worker's Compensation rebate. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

3. From the City Engineer regarding legislation to enter into contract with Brenneman Excavating, Inc. Moved by Ehora, seconded by Neeper, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

4. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to purchase a Vacuum Priming System. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

5. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to enter into an agreement with Jones & Henry Engineers. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Neeper, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

6. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to enter into an agreement with Jones & Henry Engineers. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Neeper, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

7. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to enter into contract with Republic Services. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

8. From the acting Fire Chief regarding Allen County Paramedics' request for exemption. Moved by Dixon, seconded by Ehora, that the communication be received, filed and approved. Motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES WERE PRESENTED:

240-20 (Third Reading) An Ordinance approving a substantial plan amendment to the 2020-2021 CDBG/HOME Annual Action Plan and authorizing submission to HUD. Moved by Thompson, seconded by Neeper, to table the Ordinance to the January 25, 2021 meeting. Councilor Dixon requested the Administration provide Council with the framework for the rental assistance program and the small business assistance for review prior to the Council of the Whole meeting. Mayor Berger advised the work has not yet been done. Dixon asked for a time frame for

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the framework. Berger does not have a time frame due to the extensive amendment process. Vote held and the Chair declared the motion carried by an 8-0 vote, and the Ordinance is tabled until the January 25, 2021 meeting.

001-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Auditor to allocate a Worker's Compensation rebate from the State of Ohio. Neeper moved, seconded by Dixon, 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, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

002-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Jones & Henry Engineers, LTD. Gordon moved, seconded by Neeper, 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, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

003-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Jones & Henry Engineers, LTD. Gordon moved, seconded by Neeper, 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, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

004-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Combined Fluid Products Company. Gordon moved, seconded by Neeper, 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, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

005-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Republic Services. Gordon moved, seconded by Neeper, 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, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

006-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Brenneman Excavating, Inc. Ehora moved, seconded by Gordon, 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, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

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007-21 An Ordinance establishing the positions and classifications hereinafter set forth and fixing the salary and compensation of such positions. Wilkerson moved, seconded by Neeper, 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, 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 continue to be safe as he is noticing more people are getting COVID. He congratulated the Ohio State Buckeyes for their victory and is looking forward to the Championship game on Monday. He reminded people to be good to each other.

Councilor Wilkerson congratulated the Ohio State Buckeyes. He reminded people that you can't pick and choose a company's policies and procedures and expressed the importance of adhering to their own company's policies as well as out in public. He noticed during Christmas there were more people wearing masks.

Councilor Thompson announced Wednesday, January 28, 2021 will be the first Central Lima Neighborhood Association meeting via zoom. She said going into the New Year the climate has been snarky and rude with others. She explained this year she wants everyone to work on making a conscious effort to remember the person across from them is a fellow human being who deserves dignity and respect. She said everyone has a part to play to make sure the country doesn't fall apart. She encouraged everyone to continue wearing a mask. She explained she lost her grandmother to COVID last week and no matter whom it is and their age, each loss is truly felt.

Councilor Ehora said her resolution was to continue efforts to further the dialogue and communication in the community because she feels like we are still lacking. She agrees the climate is not the way it should be and they have an obligation as local officials to make that happen at a local level. She encouraged everyone to do and continue to do what they need to do to keep themselves and everyone else safe.

Councilor Dixon asked everyone to continue to be safe. He said his family has been touched with COVID. He asked churches to encourage their congregation to wear masks while in the sanctuary. He reminded everyone to be kind to each other.

Councilor Glenn said it is tough because we have the pandemic and the race problem. He is asking people to change. He has been watching the news and everything is going on and he agrees with Councilor Ehora that it starts locally. He said they have eased away from Black Lives Matter and put a band-aid on it and it is time for them to find a remedy. He said they are working on changing things around for the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Dinner. He expressed appreciation to the Public Works Dept. for their work in alleys. He explained why he had to abstain

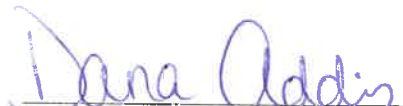
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from voting on Ordinance 240-20 and expressed he was not being attacked by President Nixon because he could not comment during discussion.

Councilor Neeper said he listened to a podcast that explained issues start within each person individually. He encouraged people to relax and not react to others as you don't know what people are going through. He asked everyone to be better to each other. He congratulated the Ohio State Buckeyes. He expressed appreciation to Mike Caprella and the Utilities Dept. for swiftly dealing with an issue on his street.

President Nixon announced a Council of the Whole Committee meeting on Monday, January 11, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss Ordinance 240-20. He announced the Council of the Whole Committee will meet again on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the Appeal from the Design Review Board Decision.

Gordon moved that Council adjourn until January 25, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., seconded by Ehora, motion carried.

  
Dana Addis, Clerk

  
John G. Nixon, President