

MINUTES OF LIMA CITY COUNCIL
LIMA, OHIO

February 22, 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; Anthony DiPietro, Deputy Law Director; Randall Bartels, Auditor; Steven Cleaves, Finance Director; Kari Keener, Dir. of Human Resources; Mike Caprella, Dir. of Utilities; Susan Crotty; Dir. Of DCD; Howard Elstro, Dir. of Public Works; Sharetta Smith, Chief of Staff; Chief Martin; and Dana Addis, Clerk.

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

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

Councilor Gordon moved, seconded by Dixon, that the Agenda be amended to add Jalina Rucker under Privilege of the Floor. Motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE PRESENTED:

002-21 A Resolution memorializing the late Daryl Styer. Neeper moved, seconded by Gordon, that the Resolution be adopted on the first reading after having been read. The Clerk read the Resolution. Councilor Neeper explained Daryl Styer had a passion to help and teach people. He expressed it was a privilege and honor to call him a friend and thanked Pam for sharing. Councilor Dixon said it is hard to call him Daryl when you know him as "Big D". He expressed his condolences to the family. Councilor Glenn explained he has known Daryl for 25 years and reminisced about him performing inspections. He said Daryl loved his family, his grandkids and Perry Township. He expressed his condolences to the family. Councilor Ehora expressed her condolences to Pam Styer and the family. She had the privilege of working with Chief's of may municipality and said she can't name one that was nice or easier to work with than Chief Styer. Councilor Gordon said Daryl always brightened his day and expressed his condolences to Pam. President Nixon expressed his appreciation for Daryl Styer's commitment to the community and expressed his condolences to Pam and the family. 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. Pam Styer thanked Council and said it wasn't a job to Daryl, it was his love.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Jalina Rucker, 236 S. Kenilworth, Apt. 4, Lima, Ohio, explained her landlord had just sold the building that she is currently residing to Blass Holdings who has issued a Notice to Leave Premises by March 1st. She explained four of the 7 tenants (including her) have not where to go. She is disabled and currently on MET Housing. She said WOCAP is offering shelter but there is a waiting list. She is having a hard time understanding how they can ask her to move in order to make room for UNOH students and hospital residents. She expressed she has nowhere to go and asked for help. President Nixon explained Council is not an arbiter of these issues but he recommended that the Clerk provide her with Susan Crotty and/or the Assistant Law Director's name and phone number for guidance of available services. Councilor Glenn advised her to call him. Councilor Thompson explained she knows the issues aren't addressed right away, but Jalina is one of her constituents and she believes we are talking about issues that can be referred to the Housing Task Force and possibly Economic & Community Development Committee.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE PRESENTED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR:

- a. Minutes of the previous meeting not read since each received a copy;
- b. Treasurer's Report for January, 2021;

Gordon moved that items "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 Division of Liquor Control regarding a liquor permit application for CHG Lima, LLC dba Townplace Suites by Marriott. Moved by Dixon, seconded by Ehora, that the communication be received, filed and authorize the Clerk to file with the Ohio Division of Liquor Control with no objections. Motion carried.

2. From the Civil Service Secretary regarding a request to modify the Deputy Fire Chief Pay Range. Moved by Wilkerson, seconded by Neeper, that the communication be received, filed and referred to the Human Resources Committee. Motion carried.

3. From the Finance Dir. regarding legislation to amend the 2021 Budget. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Gordon, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

4. From the Auditor regarding the financial reports for December, 2020 and January 2021. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Thompson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

5. From the Auditor regarding the contract labor report for January, 2021. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

6. From the Dir. of Community Development regarding legislation to place tax assessments. Moved by Thompson, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

7. From the Dir. of Community Development regarding legislation to provide tax abatement for PLAYWITHYOURFOOD, LLC. Moved by Thompson, seconded by Ehora, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

8. From the City Engineer regarding legislation to levy special assessments for the construction of sidewalks. Moved by Ehora, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

9. From the Dir. of Public Works regarding legislation to proceed with the emergency replacement of diesel line for the fuel distribution system at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Moved by Ehora, seconded by Glenn, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

10. From the City Engineer regarding legislation to enter into contract with Ward Construction for the Dr. Martin Luther King Parking Lot Improvements, Project No. 5-21. Moved by Ehora, seconded by Neeper, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

11. From the Deputy Dir. of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry regarding legislation to receive a gift from the Junior Service League. Moved by Ehora, seconded by Neeper, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

12. From the Chief Technology Officer regarding legislation to enter into contract with Azteca Systems, LLC. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

13. From the Chief Technology Officer regarding legislation to enter into contract with Utilities Metering Solutions. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Councilor Gordon advised the Utilities Committee met on February 9, 2021 to discuss concerns and the need for quality improvement of Rumpke. All Council members have received a copy. Gordon moved, seconded by Neeper, that the Utilities Committee Meeting Report of February 9, 2021 be received, filed and approved. Motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES WERE PRESENTED:

033-21 An Ordinance levying special assessments for property maintenance code charges on premises in the City of Lima, Ohio. Thompson 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.

034-21 An Ordinance 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, 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.

035-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Westech Engineering, Inc. Gordon moved, seconded by Wilkerson, 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.

036-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Utilities Metering Solutions (UMS). 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.

037-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Enterprise License Agreement renewal with Azteca Systems, LLC. 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.

038-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to accept a gift from the Junior Service League. Ehora 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.

039-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract for emergency replacement for a fuel line for the Fuel Distribution System at the Water Treatment Plant. Ehora moved, seconded by Dixon, that the Ordinance be amended by replacing "Waste Water Treatment Plant" with "Water Treatment Plant" in the Ordinance title, the first Whereas and Section 1. Motion carried. Ehora moved, seconded by Neeper, that the ordinance be passed on the first

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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 by an 8-0 vote.

040-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Ward Construction. Ehora moved, seconded by Wilkerson, 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.

041-21 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a CRA Tax Exemption Agreement with PLAYWITHYOURFOOD, LLC. Thompson 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 Thompson thanked Ms. Rucker for speaking to Council. She explained she wanted Council to be aware of the need for more low to moderate housing, the need to protect the vulnerable citizens from the effects of gentrification and homelessness and to keep in mind the actions of developers as Council is considering legislation. She believes they want all citizens to have safe and affordable, for their income, housing. She believes the situation is gentrification at its finest. She explained most low income people do not have the money sitting around to move on short notice. She doesn't believe this is what the soul of Lima's redevelopment should look like. She hopes Ms. Rucker's bravery isn't rewarded with retaliation. She thanked Councilor Glenn for allowing herself and Crime Victim Services to be a part of the first Annual John Lewis celebration. She was impressed with the program along with the food and clothing distribution, the student essay contest and winners. She announced the Central Lima Neighborhood Association will be meeting on Wednesday, February 24th at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom. She said starting this Wednesday, they will have one Lima Mayoral candidate take questions each month. She addressed her wish to continue as Third Ward Councilor.

Councilor Ehora asked everyone to clear their sidewalks of snow for pedestrians. She asked everyone to think of those living in Texas and the struggles they are facing. She explained it is a reminder to everyone that it only takes one moment to change everything in our lives and asked everyone to be grateful. She reminded everyone to be good to each other.

Councilor Dixon said it was an honor to be the first recipient of the John Lewis "Good Trouble" Award. He thanked Councilor Glenn, Dr. Freeman and the Committee members for their hard work and dedication to serve the community. He explained it was more than just an award banquet, it was also a way to give clothing and food to the community. He thanked City Council for the work they are doing which is having a ripple effect on the community. He referred to an article in the paper over the last week that talked about the programs the CDBG money has funded

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including My Brother's Keeper, the Lima Startup Lab and other programs. He reminded everyone that we are still in a pandemic and asked everyone to continue to be safe, wear a mask and social distance.


Councilor Glenn explained he can't stand to see someone go homeless. He appreciates the owners who helped residents find placement while they are remodeling. He said he will speak out when he sees people being displaced, especially during a pandemic. He appreciates Heir Force Community Schools, Liberty Arts Magnet, North Middle School and many others for their participation in the John Lewis program. He learned a lot about John Lewis. He explained they are going to start working on curbs and explaining options with residents.

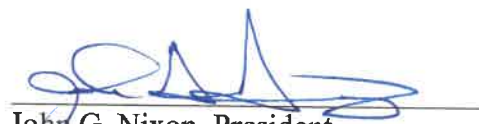
Councilor Neeper reminded everyone there are ordinances in place and cars need to be moved off of the streets according to the schedule listed in the Ordinance or tickets will start to be issued. He asked everyone to take care of their properties.

Councilor Gordon thanked Warner Roach and Howard Elstro for taking care of some issues in his Ward. He explained the importance of remembering those folks who were born on leap year and don't have a birthday, including himself. He reminded everyone to be good to each other.

Councilor Wilkerson announced the Human Resources Committee will meet on March 1, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. and the Clerk will issue a notice with the meeting details. He reminded everyone to mask up and continue social distancing. He encouraged everyone to sign up to be vaccinated. He reminded everyone March 14th is the deadline to apply to take the Civil Service Test for the police officer positions. He reminded everyone to be nice to each other.

Gordon moved that Council adjourn until March 8, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., seconded by Neeper, motion carried.


Dana Addis, Clerk


John G. Nixon, President