

MINUTES OF LIMA CITY COUNCIL
LIMA, OHIO

January 6, 2020

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; Anthony DiPietro, Deputy Law Director; Randall Bartels, Auditor; Steven Cleaves, Finance Director; Susan Crotty; Dir. Of DCD; Mike Caprella, Dir. of Util.; Howard Elstro, Dir. of Public Works; Chief Martin; Deputy Fire Chief Heffner; and Dana Addis, Clerk.

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

The swearing in Ceremony and the Oath of Office were given to Councilor Wilkerson, Councilor Ehora, Councilor Glenn and President Nixon.

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 Communication No. 15 and Ordinance No. 015-20. Motion carried.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Mike Thaman, 739 Ewing Ave., representing the Lima Astronomical Society spoke to Council about preparing for the 2024 Total Solar Eclipse. He said Lima will be in the path of totality and there will be people driving hundreds and thousands of miles to get in the path. He expressed the importance of planning for the influx of tourists.

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 Health Minutes of November 8, 2019.
- c. Treasurer's Report for August, 2019.
- d. Treasurer's Report for September, 2019.
- e. Treasurer's Report for October, 2019.
- f. Treasurer's Report for November, 2019.

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

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE PRESENTED:

1. From the Council President regarding the 2020 Council Committee Assignments. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Glenn, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

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2. From Downtown Lima, Inc. regarding 2020 funding. Moved by Thompson, seconded by Dixon, that the communication be received, filed and authorize the Law Dir. to prepare necessary legislation. Motion carried.

3. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to amend Ordinance 146-19. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Thompson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

4. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to amend Ordinance 055-18. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

5. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to amend Ordinance 213-18. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

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

7. From the Auditor regarding the November, 2019 Financial Report. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Glenn, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

8. From the Auditor regarding the November, 2019 Contract Labor Report. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Glenn, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

9. From the Auditor regarding legislation to enter into contract with Perry proTEC. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Glenn, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

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

11. From the Dir. of Community Development regarding legislation to enter into an agreement with Mullin & Lonergan Associates. Moved by Thompson, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

12. From the Dir. of Community Development regarding legislation to provide tax abatement for Lima 315, LLC. Moved by Thompson, seconded by Glenn, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

13. From the Chief of Staff regarding legislation to enter into an agreement with the American Bar Association. Moved by Wilkerson, seconded by Dixon, that the communication be received and filed. Councilor Dixon asked representatives from Artspace and League of Women Voters to speak about the project. Candace Newland, President of the League of Women Voters, expressed that they are proud to celebrate the 100th anniversary of their local league. She explained

that the project on the agenda is a request to partner with the League and Artspace to bring the conference of Women's Suffrage Exhibit to Lima in September. She expressed their excitement that the exhibit can be a focal point to the other great event in Town Square on September 12, 2020 where they will be re-enacting a suffrage march and educating the public on the struggles of the past and alerting them to the current issues. She thanked Council and said that Lima is a great place to live and work because of their efforts. Motion carried.

14. From the City Engineer regarding legislation to amend Ordinance 119-19. Moved by Ehora, seconded by Thompson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

15. From the Court Administrator regarding legislation to change the Strength Ordinance for Court Probate Officers. Moved by Wilkerson, seconded by Gordon, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Councilor Dixon reported that the Neighborhood Concerns Committee met on December 19, 2019 to discuss the New Lima Homes Contract with residents. He advised the end of the 15 year contract is coming up and residents are eligible to purchase the homes. He explained the Committee was able to review the contract line for line and were able to reach an understanding between the residents and the Agency. All members have received a copy. Dixon moved, seconded by Gordon, that the report be received, filed and approved. Councilor Glenn thanked Councilor Dixon and Councilor Thompson for making sure it was taken care of. He said it made him feel great that the Councilors put the time into it to help the residents understand. Councilor Thompson expressed the importance contacting Scott Frenger, who will walk them through the process. Motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES WERE PRESENTED:

001-20 Levying special assessments for property maintenance code charges on premises in the City of Lima. Thompson 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.

002-20 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Perry ProTEC. 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, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

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003-20 Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into contract with Mullin & Lonergan Associates. Thompson 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, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

004-20 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into a CRA Tax Exemption Agreement with Lima 315, LLC. Thompson 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.

005-20 Authorizing the Mayor to amend the contract with DLZ Ohio, Inc as authorized in Ordinance No. 119-19. Ehora 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, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

006-20 Authorizing the Mayor to amend the contract with Power Engineers as authorized in Ordinance No. 055-18. Gordon 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.

007-20 Authorizing the Mayor to amend the contract with S&ME Inc. as authorized in Ordinance No. 146-19. Gordo 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.

008-20 Authorizing the Mayor to amend the contract with Black and Veatch Corporation as authorized in Ordinance No. 213-18. 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.

009-20 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Quasar. 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.

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010-20 Amending Rule 16, Section 4 of the Lima Civil Service Board. Dixon 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, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

011-20 Amending Rule 17, Section 4 of the Lima Civil Service Board. Dixon 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, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

012-20 Repealing Rule 4, Section 8 of the Lima Civil Service Board. Dixon 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, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

013-20 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the American Bar Association. Wilkerson 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.

014-20 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the League of Women Voters of the Lima Area and Artspace Lima. Wilkerson 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.

015-20 Establishing the positions and classifications hereinafter set forth and fixing the salary and compensation of such positions and classifications. Wilkerson 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.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Councilor Neeper moved, seconded by Dixon, to refer the 2020 Budget to the Finance Committee and authorize Public Hearings to be held regarding the 2020 Budget. Motion carried. Neeper announced the Finance Committee meetings will be set for the 2020 Budget on January 13th, 14th and 15th, 2020 at 5:30 pm in Council Chambers. Discussion was held regarding the requirements for Committee Meeting and Public Hearing notices. Neeper congratulated the new

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Council members and the former old/new Council members.

Councilor Gordon welcomed the new Council members and said he believes they will all do well. He expressed his appreciation for the service the new members are doing for their community. He said the Lima Astronomical Society is a great place to go and expressed his appreciation for them. He expressed the importance of attending the upcoming Finance Committee Meetings. He said the meeting is long and tedious but it is an opportunity to get a good feel of what is going on. He reminded people to be good to each other.

Councilor Wilkerson thanked his fellow Counselors for welcoming him aboard. Wilkerson recognized Mr. Vince Koza for his long years of loyalty to the City of Lima. He said he can't think of anyone locally with a celebrity status as Vince Koza who promotes Lima. Wilkerson moved, seconded by Dixon, to authorize a Resolution Memorializing Vince Koza. Motion carried.

Councilor Thompson thanked the Lima Astronomical Society for coming to Council and for making her an honorary member. She said people should take the information seriously as they will see a massive influx of people in four years. She said the observatory is a beautiful gem that the society has done a wonderful job of taking care of. Thompson moved, seconded by Dixon, to refer the issue of the upkeep and maintenance of the Schoonover Observatory to the Community and Economic Development Committee. Motion carried. Thompson welcomed the new Council members and said this has been a positive start to the New Year. She is looking forward to what they will all do together. She announced the Central Lima Neighborhood Association will be meeting on January 22, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at the Elks.

Councilor Ehora thanked everyone for the warm welcome from the moment they were elected. She said everyone has been gracious, accommodating and educational. She said this is a process that is really new to her but she is grateful and humbled to be here and appreciates the opportunity to serve her City in a different capacity. She said the Astronomical Society is one of the best kept secrets in Lima. She said Vince and Holly Koza epitomize what they want as a community. She said they have both made Lima their home and have championed the City without fail. She said Vince was the biggest cheerleader for Lima and they were bonded by being Ohio University Bobcats. She said her heart breaks for the Koza's and the Lima Community as he is a great loss. She asked everyone to keep Jay Begg in their prayers. She said as a fellow servant and someone who has served the community, Jay Begg has a road ahead of him. She expressed her excitement to be on Council and said she will do her best to serve the community well.

Councilor Dixon asked everyone to look around at Council and expressed that this is what community looks like. He said he is very hopeful with the new Council because there is a new day on the horizon that will hopefully bring change. He thanked the new Council members for joining them. He told Councilor Glenn that the City and the Dixon family are keeping him in their prayers after the loss of his dear mother. He said growing up as a kid, working at the Market Street McDonalds, Mr. Koza would come in and do his sports show in his lobby and no matter the outcome of the game, he always said he loved it. He extended his love and prayers to the Koza family.

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Councilor Glenn thanked everyone who called him after the loss of his mother. He said it has been tough. He thanked Councilor Dixon for being by his mother's side a lot. He said his mother was supposed to be at the meeting tonight to swear him in. He thanked his mother's best friend for stepping in. He said his mom was a praying mom and he misses her very much. He asked everyone to excuse him for taking time off. He said Vince Koza was a great man and he appreciates him and his wife coming to Lima. He said they will be having their 40th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Dinner at New Hope Church on January 19, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. He said they will be giving out multiple awards during the dinner. He said they will be having a 10th Annual March. He thanked Councilor Dixon and Councilor Thompson for doing a dynamic job handling the New Lima Homes contract issue. He announced there will be a 6th Ward Town Hall meeting on January 29, 2020 at Lima Towers at 5:00 p.m., January 30, 2020 at Fresh-n-Faded at 5:00 p.m. and also on February 2, 2020 at the American Legion at 5:00 p.m. He thanked Mr. Jackson and his wife for being a part of the neighborhood and encouraged them to stay.

President Nixon congratulated Councilor Glenn on his new term and welcomed Councilor Wilkerson and Ehora aboard. He said hopefully they will find serving on Council to be the number one civics lesson they will ever have. He expressed the importance of attending the Budget Hearings. He said being a part of the Budget Hearings will help give an understanding as the Ordinances come through the course of the year.


Councilor Gordon moved, seconded by Thompson, to adjourn into executive session to discuss pending and eminent litigation. The following vote was recorded on the Motion: Yea, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Nixon, Dixon, Glenn and Neeper. Nay, None. Motion carried. Council adjourned into executive session.

Councilor Neeper extended his congratulations to WLIO reporter, Camri Nelson, on her recent engagement.

Gordon moved, seconded by Thompson, to adjourn from executive session. Motion carried.

Dixon moved that Council adjourn until January 27, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., seconded by Gordon, motion carried.


Dana Addis, Clerk


John G. Nixon, President