

MINUTES OF LIMA CITY COUNCIL
LIMA, OHIO

February 11, 2019

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; Steven Cleaves, Finance Director; Sharetta Smith, Interim Dir. of Human Resources; Susan Crotty; Dir. of DCD; Mike Caprella, Dir. of Util.; Howard Elstro, Dir. of Public Works; Chief Martin, Chief Black, and Dana Addis, Clerk.

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

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

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE PRESENTED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR:

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

McLean moved that item "a" of the consent calendar be received, filed, and approved, seconded by Dixon, 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 Dixon, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

2. From the Director of Community Development regarding legislation to enter into a CRA Tax Exemption agreement with CHG Lima, LLC. Moved by Thompson, seconded by Kreher, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

3. From the Finance Director regarding legislation establishing the 2019 Budget. Moved by McLean, seconded by Neeper, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

4. From the Director of Utilities regarding legislation to advertise for bids and enter into contract for removal of Bio Solids at the Wastewater Plant. Moved by Gordon, seconded by McLean, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

5. From the Director of Utilities regarding legislation to enter into contract with Azteca Systems, Inc. Moved by Gordon, seconded by McLean, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

6. From the Data Systems Manager regarding legislation to enter into contract with govdeals.com. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Thompson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

7. From the City Engineer regarding legislation to amend Ordinance 180-15. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Dixon, 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 Neeper, seconded by Glenn, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

9. From the City Engineer regarding legislation to amend Ordinance 219-14. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Glenn, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

10. From the Chief of Police regarding legislation to enter into contract with Tom Ahl Family of Dealerships. Moved by Dixon, seconded by Neeper, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF OFFICIALS:

Ric Stolly gave the Urban Forest Council Annual Report. He said the Urban Forest Council works closely with our City Forester to help grow and maintain our urban forest throughout the community. The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at the Cambridge Center. Some of the ongoing projects of the Council are facilitating Lima's Annual Tree Rebate Program, organize and maintain Lima's Champion Tree Program, organize the annual Urban Forest Council Tree Festival, hosting the Ohio Division of Forestry's Tree Care Academy and the annual Arbor Day celebration. He said the Urban Forest Council works with the City on certain projects including the Stadium Park plantings, Schoonover Dam project and the Elm Street Grade Separation. He said the goals for 2019 are to collaborate with community groups, to strengthen their role as an advisory council on City projects, implement a young tree training program and the potential for a tree risk assessment. He announced they will be celebrating Arbor Day on April 26th where they get together with a school and plant a couple trees on their site. He announced Earth Week activities will start taking place on April 22nd and will include the Ottawa River Cleanup. He announced the Tree Rebate Kickoff will be May 4th. He said this is a group of citizens volunteering their time and talent to come together to help us maintain and grow the urban forest. He said the group is about educating the community to better respect and enjoy the urban forest we have here in the City of Lima.

Susan Crotty presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER). She said the CAPER report is on CDBG and HOME fund activities that they provide to HUD each year. She explained they are in year 3 of the

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consolidated plan. She pointed out the Lima area median income is up to \$62,700 for a family of four. She said in 2017-2018 they received about \$1.2 Million in CDBG/HOME funds. From October 2017 to September 2018 the City spent approximately \$1.8 Million. She advised they spent about \$844,000 on housing development which includes carryover from previous years. She reviewed the different HOME projects that were complete and underway. She said First Home Lima was short on their goal but they do plan on marketing and meeting with the banks to increase the amount for 2019. She explained they did well on the HOME Updated/CDBG Emergency Repairs. They had 29 applications but some do not qualify because they do not have insurance or the repairs exceed their program limits. She explained Community Development spent over \$750,000 which was spread out among different programs but a lot of it was in street and curb reconstruction, property maintenance code enforcement and demolition. She reviewed the expenditures in different programs through Community Development including Police support services, demolition, neighborhood support, park improvements, Property Maintenance Code, street/curb reconstruction and fair housing. (A complete copy of the presentation is on file in the Council Office.)

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Councilor McLean reported that the Finance Committee met on January 22nd, 23rd and 24th to review the 2019 budget. He thanked the Administration, especially Steve Cleaves and Cindy Amburgy, who brought the information to the Committee. He said it was pretty easy to go through the line item stuff and ask questions. He advised one of the big changes this year was the IT services which will be broken down on a monthly basis and cross charged to each department. McLean moved, seconded by Gordon, that the report be received, filed and approved. President Nixon congratulated Councilor McLean and the Finance Committee because he knows going through the budget and understanding it is one of the best ways to understand City government. He thanked the Committee for all of their work. Motion carried.

Councilor Neeper reported that the Public Works Committee met on February 5, 2019 to review the Engineer's Project List and the Public Works Capital Request for 2019. He said it was very informative as far as what projects are coming up and what their wish list is. He said there are a lot of things we need to consider improving as far as equipment. Neeper moved, seconded by Glenn, that the report be received, filed and approved. Motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES WERE PRESENTED:

022-19 Establishing the budget for the City of Lima, Ohio for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2019. McLean moved, seconded by Gordon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, 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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023-19 Levying special assessments for property maintenance code charges on premises in the City of Lima, Ohio. 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, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, 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.

024-19 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with govdeals.com and to otherwise dispose of non-functional miscellaneous computer equipment. 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, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, 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.

025-19 Authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and enter into contract for bio solid disposal at the Wastewater Plant. Gordon moved, seconded by Thompson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, 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.

026-19 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with EMA Drive & Automation. Gordon moved, seconded by Thompson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, 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.

027-19 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Azteca Systems, Inc. Gordon moved, seconded by Thompson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, 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.

028-19 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Tom Ahl Family of Dealerships. Moved by Glenn, seconded by Neeper, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, 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.

029-19 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into a CRA Tax Exemption Agreement with CHG Lima, 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, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, 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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030-19 Amending Ordinance No. 219-17. 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, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, 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.

031-19 Amending Ordinance No. 180-15. 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, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, 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.

032-19 Levying special assessments for the 2018 combined sidewalk project in accordance with Resolution No. 06-17. 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, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, 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 Glenn moved, seconded by Dixon, that a Resolution be prepared honoring the late Reverend James White. Motion carried. Glenn said Friday is a big day, and they are getting another plan together to prepare for another government shutdown. He thanked Lima City Council for holding a surprise birthday party for him. He said happy birthday dad.

Councilor Neeper moved, seconded by Kreher, to refer the review and request for a four-way stop at the intersection of Brice and Kenilworth to the Traffic Commission. Motion carried. He asked Howard Elstro to speak regarding snow plows. Howard Elstro said there have been concerns expressed from residents regarding streets are not being plowed. He said they have 12 snow plows and a couple pickup trucks clearing off 160 miles of streets. He said there is no way possible they can clean up a 16 hour storm in a matter of 12-16 hours. He explained the that there is an issue with residents parking along both sides of the streets at once which prevents the large snow plows from plowing the street. He advised that there are Ordinances that control parking on particular streets when we get snow fall for over 4". He explained the Ordinance requires vehicle owners to park on the even numbered side of the street on even days and odd numbered side of the street on odd days. He asked Council to relay the information to their constituents in order to help the drivers plow effectively. Councilor Thompson asked if there was any way residents can avoid having their driveway plowed in. Elstro advised the snow plow drivers are sensitive to the issue, but in order to plow streets, they must have enough forward momentum to push that snow to the side. Councilor Neeper said he understands the frustration that the plow drivers have.

Councilor Gordon thanked the Council Clerk for preparing the Guide to City Council Meetings which are placed by the door to chambers. He reminded everyone to be good to each other.

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Councilor McLean reminded everyone that Valentine's Day is on the 14th. He said to be good to your significant other and have a good time on Valentine's Day.

Councilor Thompson announced that February is teen dating violence awareness month and February 12th is wear orange day. She announced there will be an Economic & Community Development Committee meeting on February 20, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers. She announced she will be having "Coffee with Carla" February 23rd from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at the Meeting Place on Market. She announced that LACNIP has started a Neighborhood Leadership Series which starts on February 26th. She said the program helps people who are interested in volunteering for neighborhood improvement. The program is completely free and encouraged everyone to attend. She announced the Central Lima Neighborhood Association will be meeting on February 27th at the Elks at 6:30 pm.

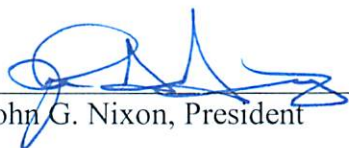
Councilor Kreher reminded everyone that there will be a free pancake breakfast with the local C.O.P. on Saturday, February 16th from 8-11 a.m. at the Bradfield Center.

Councilor Dixon thanked John and Steve from the Streets Dept. and Councilor Kreher because he was able to ride-a-long with the plow team the prior night. He said it was an experienced and encouraged Council to ride-a-long. He announced the month of February is special and encouraged everyone to grab a piece of cherry pie from Kewpee. He said most importantly it is Black History Month. He said although this month is a short month, it can be full of knowledge. He said we know black history played a vital part in not only building the infrastructure of this country but also many inventions. He repeated a quote by Dr. Mae Jemison. He believes that sometimes we are all trapped inside of our own imaginations, believing we have boundaries or that we have to stay within. He believes everyone should step out of their comfort box and reach for their dreams.

Councilor Dixon moved, seconded by Glenn, to refer the capital expenditure plan for safety services to the Safety Services Committee for review and discussion. Motion carried.

McLean moved that Council adjourn until February 25, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., seconded by Kreher, motion carried.


Dana Addis, Clerk


John G. Nixon, President