

MINUTES OF LIMA CITY COUNCIL
LIMA, OHIO

October 12, 2020

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 Dir.; 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 Councilor Wilkerson 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:

014-20 A Resolution memorializing the late Ruth Kreher. Neeper moved, seconded by Glenn, that the Resolution be adopted on the first reading after having been read. The Clerk read the Resolution. President Nixon extended his condolences to the family and appreciation for the many individual and group contributions that Ruth made to the community. Councilor Thompson knew of Ruth Kreher and understood she inspired Rebecca to be the activist that she is. Her heart goes out to the family and Lima for the loss of Ruth Kreher. 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. Rebecca Kreher was present to speak but was having technical difficulties. Jonathan Kreher thanked the Lima City Council and all of Lima for recognizing his grandmother's contributions.

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 item "a" of the consent calendar be received, filed, and approved, seconded by Wilkerson, motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE PRESENTED:

1. From the Executive Director of Visit Greater Lima regarding the renewal of their annual agreement with the City of Lima. Moved by Thompson, seconded by Dixon, that the communication be received, filed and authorize the Law Director to prepare the necessary legislation. Motion carried.

2. From the Chief of Police regarding legislation to enter into contract with Civica Creative Microsystems Inc. Moved by Dixon, seconded by Glenn, that the communication be received, filed and approved. Motion carried.

3. From the Dir. of Human Resources regarding legislation to enter into contract with Anthem. Moved by Wilkerson, seconded by Glenn, that the communication be received, filed and approved. Motion carried.

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

5. From the Chief Technology Officer regarding legislation to dispose of numerous old computers, printers and miscellaneous electronic equipment. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Neeper, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

6. From the Chief Technology Officer regarding legislation to purchase Voice Host Server Hardware. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Neeper, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

7. From the Chief Technology Officer regarding legislation to subscribe to the Barracuda Cloud Archive Service. Gordon moved, seconded by Neeper, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

8. From the Chief Technology Officer regarding legislation to purchase Voice Gateway hardware and a partnering Fax Server Solution. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Neeper, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

9. From the Systems Administrator regarding legislation to dispose of numerous old printers and miscellaneous equipment. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Wilkerson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

10. From the Dir. of Public Works regarding legislation to amend Ordinance 08-18, contract with Jutte Excavating, Inc. Moved by Ehora, seconded by Glenn, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

PETITIONS:

1. Petition for alley vacation of 2 alleys off Central Avenue. Petitioned for by Everett S. Kirk Company. Moved by Dixon, seconded by Glenn, that the City Planning Commission Staff Report header properly state 400 Block of Central Avenue instead of Dewey Ave. and Hill Street and for the City Planning Commission to provide a clean copy. Motion carried. Moved by Dixon, seconded by Glenn, that the petition be received and filed as amended; that the Law Director prepare the necessary legislation; that the Clerk cause publication of the legal ad and notify abutting property owners of the Public Hearing to be held on November 23, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF OFFICIALS:

Howard Elstro, Dir. of Public Works, provided Council with a Demolition Report. They have issued 30 demolition permits consisting of 19 residential and 11 commercial. The City has demolished 16 properties consisting of 15 residential and 1 commercial. He provided Council with an updated demolition list which includes 39 Block Grant eligible properties should they have sufficient funds. He estimated the City would need approximately a Half Million Dollars to take care of all demolitions currently on the list. The current funding through CDBG is approximately \$116,000. He explained the process that takes place prior to a building being demolished. Councilor Ehora inquired about additional funding available to use towards demolitions. Elstro advised there are no additional funds that the City knows of and as opportunities arise, they will apply. Ehora expressed her concerns of lack of funding and the need to remove blight. Elstro explained how Fire Bonds can be used. Councilor Dixon asked how long owners are given to demolish. Mr. Elstro explained the process and could not provide a specific time frame. He explained the list is prioritized by the building official who determines the most server properties to be demolished first. The funds provided in the current report include the 2021 CDBG Funding. Councilor Glenn expressed his concern of buildings in his ward that need prioritized. (A complete copy of the presentation is on file in the Council Office.)

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Councilor Dixon moved, seconded by Glenn, that the Joint Committee Report of Thursday February 20, 2020 be amended to state Safety Services & Neighborhood Concerns Committee. Motion carried. Dixon moved, seconded by Glenn, that the Joint Committee Report of Thursday February 20, 2020 be received, filed and approved as amended. Motion carried.

Councilor Dixon moved, seconded by Neeper, that the Joint Committee Report of Monday, September 21, 2020 be amended to state Safety Services & Neighborhood Concerns Committee. Motion carried. Dixon moved, seconded by Neeper, that the Joint Committee Report of Monday, September 21, 2020 be received, filed and approved as amended. Motion carried.

President Nixon moved, seconded by Neeper, that the Council of the Whole Committee Report of October 6, 2020 be received, filed and approved. Motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE PRESENTED:

015-20 A Resolution in Support of the expenditure of Federal Coronavirus Relief Fund Payments to the City of Lima. Dixon moved, seconded by Neeper, that the Resolution be adopted 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 resolution was adopted on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES WERE PRESENTED:

191-20 An Ordinance authorizing payment from various Lima Municipal Court funds for 2021. 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.

192-20 An Ordinance authorizing the disposal of printers at Lima Municipal Court. 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.

193-20 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Civica Creative Microsystems, Inc. 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.

194-20 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Anthem for administration of medical, pharmacy and vision insurance. Wilkerson moved, seconded by Dixon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. Councilor Dixon thanked Kari Keener and the HR Dept. for saving the City of Lima expenses in healthcare. 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.

195-20 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to amend the contract with Jutte Excavating Inc. as authorized in Ordinance 008-18. 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.

196-20 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with govdeals.com and dispose of computers, printers and miscellaneous electronic equipment. 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.

197-20 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Micro Systems Management. Gordon 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.

198-20 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Perry Protech. 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.

199-20 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Perry Protech. 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.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Councilor Wilkerson reminded everyone that early voting has started at the Allen County Board of Elections. He thanked the Public Works Dept. and the Streets Dept. for repairs done in his ward. He thanked Chief Martin and the Lima Police Dept. for their assistance with a Brower Road resident. He congratulated Mr. Major Gordon for turning 100 years old and has been a pillar in this community forever.

Councilor Thompson announced the Central Lima Neighborhood Association will meet in person, on zoom and broadcast on Facebook Live Wednesday, October 21st from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. She announced Judge Hursh has organized a “Know Your Worth” Symposium on Saturday, Oct. 17th at the Jackson Street Garden starting with Yoga at 9 am. She announced Citizen Block Patrol will be conducting training on October 21st virtually from 5-8 pm. She encouraged everyone to attend as it is pleasant to get to know your neighbors. She encouraged everyone to vote and reassured them that their vote does count and matter. She expressed the importance of checking sources, being educated, making the right decision and voting. She reminded everyone to make a safe plan for distributing candy this Halloween.

Councilor Ehora encouraged everyone to vote and to talk to their kids and grandkids and involve them in the voting process. She announced Friday, Oct. 23rd, the Fraternal Order of Police is holding a pulled pork dinner at the F.O.P. Lodge on Robb Avenue. She indicated the Chief of Police and the Officers have done a wonderful job but she expressed her concern with speeding vehicles and revving engines now that school is back in session. She announced the Census has been extended until the end of the month and encouraged people to complete the Census. She asked everyone to be the “I” in kind.

Councilor Dixon wished Mr. Major Gordon a Happy 100th Birthday. He explained Mr. Gordon is everyone’s wish to get to that golden age. Dixon moved, seconded by Glenn, to authorize the Law Dir. to prepare a Resolution honoring Major Gordon on his 100th Birthday and becoming a Centenarian. Motion carried. He reminded everyone who is riding small off road vehicles in the City that they are not licensed to be on the roadways. Dixon reminded everyone this month is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and also Domestic Violence Awareness Month. He encouraged those who hear or see something happen to speak up and let the person being abused know that there are programs that can help such as Crossroad Health Center or Crime Victim

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Services. He expressed how important it is to vote and announced there will be transportation available to residents in the Fifth Ward by going to the back parking lot of Meat City located at 801 E. Kibby Street on Monday, October 19th at 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.; Wednesday, October 21st at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.; Wednesday, October 28th at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.; and also on Sunday, November 1st at 2:00 p.m. and 4 p.m.

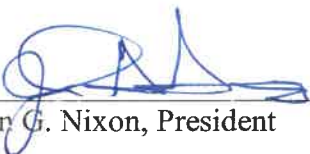
Councilor Glenn wished Mr. Major Gordon a Happy Birthday. He explained Dr. Hedges and Dr. Shurelds got together volunteers to make sure people get picked up to vote. They will also have dispatcher than can be called to set up transportation. He asked everyone to be careful with sending out absentee ballots. He announced the 6th Annual Trunk or Treat for the 6th Ward will be held on October 31st, 2020. He reminded everyone to wear gloves, masks and keep social distancing. He announced Chris Jackson is looking for adult volunteers for the Big Brother, Big Sister program and can be reached at 419-222-8500. He announced October 17th is the last day to sign up for a free turkey. He knows there are a lot of trucks on 4th Street and there is a lot of noise.

Councilor Gordon reminded people to be good to each other.


Councilor Neeper reminded everyone that their vote does count and encouraged everyone to do their research and vote. He encouraged everyone to complete the Census.

President Nixon expressed the importance of voting and being informed and wise. He said nearly everyone has someone in their ancestry who has served, fought or perhaps died for their right to vote and they should be honored by casting a vote. Nixon asked Administration look at the cost of demolishing the Lima T.B. Hospital and report those costs back to Council.

Gordon moved that Council adjourn until October 26, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., seconded by Neeper, motion carried.



John G. Nixon, President



Dana Addis, Clerk