

MINUTES OF LIMA CITY COUNCIL
LIMA, OHIO

November 4, 2019

The Council of the City of Lima met in regular session at 7:00 p.m.

Attending were: Mayor David Berger; Anthony DiPietro, Deputy Law Director; Randall Bartels, Auditor; Steven Cleaves, Finance Director; Susan Crotty; Dir. Of DCD; Mike Caprella, Dir. of Util.; Chief Martin, Chief Black, 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, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, Dixon, Neeper and Nixon. Absent: Glenn.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Dave Smith, 515 W. Ashwood Ave., voiced his concerns of the safety of the Union Street underpass. He said it is so badly deteriorating, you can stuff a cat through the holes in the beam. He knows it is the responsibility of the railroad but asked what the City can do to address the issue. He wants to know if Lima has any responsibility if something catastrophic happens. He believes the issue should be addressed and he encouraged City Council members to look at it themselves to see how bad it is. Mr. Smith also spoke regarding his observation of the City's Housing survey. He asked if the survey was done a few years ago and asked if this survey was created in house or by a third party. He said the survey is broad based, well detailed survey but expressed it may be too long. He believes the survey would make a great form for Neighborhood Associations or Focus Groups. He hopes it is successful.

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 Building Appeals Minutes of August 15, 2019.
- c. Board of Building Appeals Minutes of September 19, 2019.

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

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE PRESENTED:

1. From Judge Hursh regarding legislation to advertise for bids and enter into contract for equipment and installation of Court Room recording. Moved by McLean, seconded by Gordon, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

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2. From Judge Hursh regarding legislation to change the position of Chief Probation and Chief Security Officer to solely that of Chief Probate Officer. Moved by McLean, seconded by Gordon, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
3. From the City Engineer regarding legislation to enter into contract with RB Jergens Contractors, Inc. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Gordon, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
4. From the City Engineer regarding legislation to amend Ordinance 218-19. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Dixon, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
5. From the City Engineer regarding legislation to amend a contract with Technicon Design Group, Inc. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Thompson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
6. From the Deputy Director II of Public Works and Deputy Director of Utilities regarding legislation to advertise for bids and enter into contract to sell scrap iron, steel, copper and brass. Moved by Neeper, seconded by Thompson, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
7. From the Utilities Director regarding a copy of a letter that was mailed to waste haulers in the Lima area. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Kreher, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
8. From the Chief Technology Officer regarding legislation to purchase replacement storage for the City's Virtual Infrastructure. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Dixon, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
9. From the Chief Technology Officer regarding legislation to purchase replacement workstations for various departments. Moved by Gordon, seconded by Kreher, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
10. From the Chief of Police regarding legislation to disburse funds from the Asset Forfeiture Account. Moved by Dixon, seconded by Neeper, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.
11. From the Chief of Police regarding legislation to enter into contract with Civica Creative Microsystems, Inc. Moved by Dixon, seconded by Kreher, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

12. From the Chief of Police regarding legislation to enter into contract with Gemalto Government Business Group. Moved by Dixon, seconded by Neeper, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

13. 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. Councilor Dixon said about 6 months ago, he requested a report of the tax assessments and asked for an updated. Susan Crotty advised Councilor Dixon that she sent him an email today. Motion carried.

14. From the Finance Director regarding legislation to amend the 2019 official budget. Moved by McLean, seconded by Gordon, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

15. From the Law Director regarding legislation to enter into contracts for specialized legal services. Moved by McLean, seconded by Gordon, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

16. From the Director of Community Development regarding legislation to amend Ordinance 237-19. Moved by Thompson, seconded by Kreher, that the communication be received and filed. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Councilor Dixon reported that the Neighborhood Concerns Committee met on October 16, 2019 to discuss the issue of commercial trash pickup in residential neighborhoods. He said Communication Number 7 in the docket for this evenings meeting is the letter that was recommended by the Committee for the Utilities Department to send out to all trash companies that do business within the City limits. All Council members have received a copy. Dixon moved, seconded by Neeper, that the report be received, filed and approved. Motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES WERE PRESENTED:

258-19 Levying special assessments for property maintenance code charges on premises in the City of Lima. Thompson moved, seconded by Kreher, McLean moved, seconded by Gordon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, Dixon, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

259-19 Amending the 2019 Annual Budget. McLean moved, seconded by Gordon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, Dixon, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

260-19 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Lima-Allen County Convention and Visitors Bureau using funds from the hotel-motel tax. Thompson moved, seconded by Kreher, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. Councilor Thompson addressed the comments that she made during the last session regarding diversity inclusion when it comes to Visit Greater Lima. She explained that she met with Christine Pleva from Visit Greater Lima and she was pleased with their discussion and their efforts to increase diversity since their discussion last year. She said she got a better look at their marketing efforts and their websites. She said looking around at other Visitors Bureaus websites she noticed marketing diversity does not seem to be popular even though she knows diversity draws people and people that spend money. She encouraged Visit Greater Lima to include a diversity inclusion statement. She encouraged Visit Greater Lima to find a way to separate or make it clearer, the difference between their website and Greater Lima Region's website. She encouraged Greater Lima Region to speak with Visit Greater Lima about their diversity efforts because they can use some diversity love. She thanked Ms. Pleva for discussing her concerns with her. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, Dixon, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

261-19 Authorizing a payment from the Asset Forfeiture Fund. Dixon moved, seconded by Neeper, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, Dixon, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

262-19 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Civica Creative Microsystems, Inc. Dixon moved, seconded by Neeper, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, Dixon, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

263-19 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Gemalto Government Business Group. Dixon moved, seconded by Neeper, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, Dixon, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

264-19 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into contracts for specialized legal services during 2019 and 2020. McLean moved, seconded by Gordon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, Dixon, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

265-19 Amend Ordinance 237-19 to authorize the Mayor to enter into contract with New Lima-Housing for the Future, Inc., to serve as a CHDO for Housing Development. Thompson moved, seconded by Gordon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, Dixon, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

266-19 Authorizing the Mayor to amend the contract with Technicon Design Group, Inc. authorized in Ordinance 160-19. Dixon moved, seconded by Neeper, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, Dixon, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

267-19 Amending Ordinance 218-19 to authorize additional payment. Dixon moved, seconded by Neeper, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, Dixon, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

268-19 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with RB Jergens Contractors, Inc. Neeper moved, seconded by Kreher, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, Dixon, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

269-19 Authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and enter into contract for the Phase II Segmented Block Sewer Rehabilitation Project. Gordon moved, seconded by Dixon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, Dixon, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

270-19 Authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and enter into contract to sell scrap iron, steel, copper and brass. Gordon moved, seconded by McLean, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, Dixon, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

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271-19 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract for the purchase of two HP Enterprise Storeonce 3640 Systems. Gordon moved, seconded by Thompson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, Dixon, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

272-19 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract for the purchase of replacement workstations for various departments. Gordon moved, seconded by Dixon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, Dixon, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

273-19 Authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and enter into contract for the purchase of audio equipment and installation of an assistive listening system. McLean moved, seconded by Dixon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, Dixon, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

274-19 Establishing the positions and classifications hereinafter set forth and fixing the salary and compensation of such positions and classifications; repealing existing inconsistent ordinances as herein described. McLean moved, seconded by Gordon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, McLean, Thompson, Kreher, Dixon, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Councilor Thompson thanked Mr. Smith for speaking tonight about his concerns. She explained she has been personally going and looking at the Union Street underpass and has also been in communication with both the Public Works and Community Development. She explained between the three of them they are trying to figure out the best approach to the issue. She said it is on the radar. She said the housing Survey is due by the 7th and encouraged anyone who has not completed it to visit the City's website or Facebook Page and complete it. She encouraged everyone to attend the Community Input Forum at the Civic Center on the November 21st. She announced the Central Lima Neighborhood will not be meeting this month but instead will be attending and encouraging others to attend the Community Input Forum. She announced the City Focus meeting will be on November 7th and encouraged everyone to attend and ask questions. She encouraged everyone to join a neighborhood association.

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Councilor Kreher said the Sertoma Pancake Day was wonderful. She thanked everyone who supported the community by attending the event. She announced Tuesday is Election Day and encouraged anyone who does not know where to vote to visit the Allen County Board of Election's website to obtain the information.

Councilor Dixon thanked everyone who brought their children out for trick or treat. He had received a lot of phone calls from residents wondering why trick or treat was not re-scheduled, but he had a great turnout. He said he had the privilege of attending Books and Bonfires. He said it was phenomenal to hear the kids read books to each other. He looks forward to attending more events where they are getting kids out to read and letting them know literacy is important. He said they were able to sign some up to be library members.


Councilor Neeper announced Thursday, November 7, 2019, the Chamber of Commerce will be holding Chamberfest at the Civic Center and encouraged everyone to attend. He announced November 9, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. is the Metzger Reservoir dedication. He announced the LACNIP dinner will be held on November 14th from 6-8 pm at the City Club. He said it is a free dinner and all you need to do is call and make reservations. HE reminded everyone that Election Day is November 5, 2019 and Wards 2, 4 and 6 Council seats that are up and also the Council President.

Councilor Gordon said he will be attending the Metzger Reservoir dedication. He encouraged everyone to vote on Election Day. He reminded everyone that Veterans Day is next Monday and encouraged everyone to express their appreciation to a veteran. He reminded everyone to be good to each other.

Councilor McLean encouraged everyone to vote on Tuesday. He said Veterans Day is very important as they are the ones who fought for us and our freedom. He encouraged everyone to do something good for a veteran to express their appreciation. McLean moved, seconded by Kreher, to approve the absence and salary for Councilor Glenn. Motion carried.

President Nixon clarified that trick or treat was not moved because he made the decision as acting Mayor to hold with the coalition for the date and the time with the alliance of Townships that they have set that date and time with. He said a lot of time has gone into getting it coordinated with other Townships. He said it was a no-win situation and it's unfortunate that the weather was the way it was. He reminded everyone to vote on Tuesday.

McLean moved that Council adjourn until November 18, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., seconded by Dixon, motion carried.


Dana Addis, Clerk


John G. Nixon, President