

MINUTES OF LIMA CITY COUNCIL
LIMA, OHIO

March 14, 2022

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

Attending were: Mayor Sharetta Smith; Tony Geiger, Law Director; Randy Bartels, Auditor; Susan Crotty, Dir. of Community Development; Steven Cleaves, Finance Director; Howard Elstro, Dir. of Public Works; Police Major Ron Holman; and Dana Addis, Clerk.

The invocation was given by President Nixon followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilor Gordon moved, seconded by Dixon, to amend the Agenda by adding John Rogers to Privilege of the Floor. Motion carried.

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

PUBLIC HEARING:

President Nixon called to order the Public Hearing for the amendment of Section 1242.06 – Petitions for vacations of streets and alleys – initiated by the City of Lima. There being no one wishing to speak, President Nixon closed the Public Hearing.

President Nixon called to order the Public Hearing for the amendment of Section 1240.01 – Words and Phrases Defined and Section 1252.01 – Class I Business District – initiated by the City of Lima. There being no one wishing to speak, President Nixon closed the Public Hearing.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Jon Rogers, 4062 Statesman Parkway, thanked Council for allowing him to speak about changing the perspective of Lima. He explained Lima was one of only two locomotive builders in the 1800s and there are references to trains all throughout Lima including painted mural of trains and a baseball team named Lima Locos. He believes a new slogan and mascot that included a train would better fit Lima in comparison to “Lima Bean”.

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 from February, 2022;
- c. Lima-Allen County Building Dept. 2021 Annual Report.

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Gordon moved that item “a” of the consent calendar be received, filed, and approved, and items “b-c” be received and filed, seconded by Neeper. Motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE PRESENTED:

1. From the Mayor regarding legislation increasing the seasonal pay scale.
2. From the Mayor regarding Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission Board Appointees.
3. From the Mayor regarding legislation to enact a 6 month moratorium on the processing of applications for the City’s LAND bank.
4. From the Auditor regarding the January 2022 financial reports.
5. From the Dir. of Community Development regarding an update to the Rezoning Petition filed by David Smith and Dan Campbell.
6. From the Dir. of Community Development regarding legislation to enter into an agreement with the Lima Community Improvement Corporation (LCIC).
7. From Police Major Ronald Holman regarding the number of police calls for businesses that have a permit to sell alcohol.
8. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to amend the contract with Peterson Construction previously authorized by Ordinance 079-21.
9. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to amend Ordinance 322-21.
10. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to enter into contract with Flex-Kleen.
11. From the Dir. of Public Works regarding legislation to enter into contract for the Seasonal Park Ranger for year 2022.
12. From the Deputy Dir. II of the Public Works Dept. requesting legislation to advertise for bids and enter into contract to sell scrap iron, steel, copper and brass.
13. From the Deputy Dir. II of the Public Works Dept. requesting legislation to sell accumulation of old materials from obsolete equipment.
14. From the Dir. of Public Works regarding legislation to adopt the revised Storm Water Program Management Plan.

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15. From the Dir. of Public Works regarding legislation to modify the pay rate for Seasonal Park Ranger.

Councilor Gordon moved, seconded by Dixon, that Communications No. 1 through 15 be received, filed, approved and authorize the Law Dir. to prepare any necessary legislation. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF OFFICIALS:

Howard Elstro, Dir. of Public Works, provided Council with the 2021 Public Works Annual Report. He advised this will be the last annual report submitted under his name. He explained he has had the pleasure of serving as Public Works Director for 32 years. He provided examples of the different projects that were initiated and supervised by the Public Works Department. He expressed how proud he is of the employees of the Public Works Department who have dedicated their time and talent towards the mission and goals of the department and City. He explained those who comprise the Public Works Department will continue to plan and manage infrastructure improvements and provide the best maintenance and services ensuring the continuation of the quality of life in the Lima community. (A complete copy of the report is on file in the Council office.)

Ric Stolly, Deputy Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry, provided Council with the winter wrap up for the parks maintenance. He advised the Maintenance Supervisor, Brett Caven, did a perfect job working with staff to get things done such as leaf mulching throughout the parks, helping the Streets Division with ice and snow removal, building maintenance, equipment repair and many other tasks. He explained the ECCO program is on its 3rd year and explained it is a great opportunity for the kids to work together outside of the classroom and get to know more about the community. He advised the recreation staff is busy with the Boys and Girls Youth Basketball Program and further advised there were nearly 300 regular season games scheduled, 40 tournament games, a total of 77 teams competing in the area and 9 different entities that participate. He explained there have been kids in the league who go on to play in the NBA and Division I College Basketball and grow up to be great people in the community. He explained the programs do not succeed without a committed City Council, a vision from a great administration who wants to see improvement, an excellent staff that is passionate about what they do and also great volunteers from a strong community. He expressed they look forward to the summer and all of the programs that come with it. He thanked Mayor Smith and former Mayor Dave Berger for the opportunity to work with the Public Works Director for 16½ years. He said it has been an honor and a privilege and Howard's leadership, attention to detail and ability to challenge his staff to think and work outside of the box to create opportunities for the community has been an honor. He thanked Howard for all of his efforts and reminded him that his efforts have made a difference in the community. Councilor Glenn inquired about the cost of the summer program. Stolly advised the cost will be \$30 for the entire summer. Glenn advised he is putting together a scholarship program for kids. President Nixon clarified Howard Elstro's last day is March 31st. (A complete

copy of the presentation is on file in the Council office.)

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

President Nixon advised the Council of the Whole Committee met on March 7, 2022. All members have received a copy. Nixon moved, seconded by Dixon, that the report be received, filed and approved. Motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES WERE PRESENTED:

057-22 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to amend the contract with Peterson Construction as authorized in Ordinance 079-21. 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.

058-22 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with CECO Flex-Kleen. 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.

059-22 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to amend the contract authorized under Ordinance 322-21. 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.

060-22 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Patrick Staffing. Wilkerson 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.

061-22 An Ordinance amending Section 246.16 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Lima, Part-time Seasonal Employment Authorized Positions. Wilkerson 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.

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062-22 An Ordinance amending Section 246.09 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Lima, Public Works Department Authorized Positions. 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.

063-22 An Ordinance establishing a six-month moratorium on the processing of applications for property under the City's Lank Bank I and Land Bank II programs. Thompson moved, seconded by Ehora, 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.

064-22 An Ordinance amending Section 1240.01 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Lima, Ohio. Thompson moved, seconded by Ehora, 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.

065-22 An Ordinance amending Section 1242.06 of the Codified Ordinances of 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.

066-22 An Ordinance amending Section 1252.01 of the Codified Ordinances of 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.

067-22 An Ordinance approving the City of Lima Stormwater Management Program Plan. Ehora 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.

068-22 An Ordinance confirming the appointment of Bailey Joseph to the Board of Adjustment. 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.

069-22 An Ordinance confirming the appointment of Daily Jones to the Board of Adjustment. 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.

070-22 An Ordinance confirming the appointment of Doug Daley to the Board of Adjustment. 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.

071-22 An Ordinance confirming the appointment of Grant Sullivan to the Board of Adjustment. Thompson moved, seconded by Ehora, 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.

072-22 An Ordinance confirming the appointment of Michael Ley to the Board of Adjustment. 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.

073-22 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Lima Community Improvement Corporation. 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 Gordon thought Jon Rogers' concept of a new mascot was something to think about. He inquired about a project on Grand Avenue. He reminded people to be good to each other.

Councilor Wilkerson said spring has sprung and reminded everyone to be conscious of the young bodies that are playing outside.

Councilor Thompson announced the Central Lima Neighborhood Association will be meeting on Wednesday, March 23rd at 6:30 pm at 8785 W. Mark Street. She expressed her excitement for Walk the Ward on March 28th at 12:00. She explained all of her interactions of

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being a Lima Bean starting with Mr. Elstro and his wife. She expressed her appreciation for Mr. Elstro and his wife and further expressed she will miss his promptness and knowledge.

Councilor Ehora explained in her 33 years of working in the utility industry, her relationship with Lima has always been good. She expressed Howard Elstro is a huge asset to the City and will be missed. She thanked Ric Stolly for his report and for all that he does in the Parks Department. She mentioned the LED lighting in the Rhodes State College downtown. She referenced a previous discussion during the Budget Hearings regarding window replacement in the City Hall. She inquired about having a discussion about remodeling City Building because it is rough and has not updated. She recommended that all customer service positions should be located on the first floor. Ehora moved, seconded by Dixon, to refer the remodeling of the City Building to the Public Works Committee and the Finance Committee so they may meet jointly or separately. Motion carried. Ehora moved, seconded by Thompson, to refer the issue of the definition of “residency” for purposes of election of all City elected officials to the Human Resources Committee. Motion carried.

Councilor Dixon invited 5th Ward residents to the Peacemakers Neighborhood Association Meeting on March 16th at 5:00 PM at St. James Church.

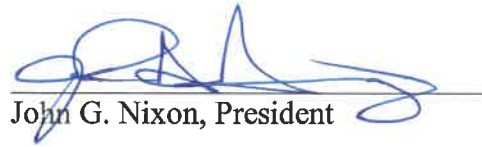
Councilor Glenn thanked everyone who came out to the Bradfield Center last week. He expressed his condolences to the Manley family. He reminded everyone to keep their yards clean and to clean up any extra debris. He thanked the Police Dept. for handling a Pit Bull situation. He expressed the need to work with the dog warden to find out what they can do in the City of Lima. He said the paint program is under way. He thanked the sponsors of a new roof and windows. Glenn moved, seconded by Gordon, to refer the process of selecting a new Police Chief to the Safety Services Committee. Nixon advised he will not support the motion because the conversation has come up many times and all times the conversation has rested back to the way the Charter has it established right now is the best workable way for the interest of the City of Lima. Yea, 8; Gordon, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn and Neeper. Nay, 2; Wilkerson and Nixon. Motion carried by a 6-2 vote.

Councilor Neeper announced the Boulevard Neighborhood Association will be meeting on March 24th at the Community Resource Center to meet the new Neighborhood Specialist. He reiterated the need to watch out for kids running out in the streets now that the weather is nice. He reminded everyone to keep an eye on the drains near their homes to help prevent flooding and other issues. He encouraged the public to attend the Community Engagement meeting will be held at St. Luke’s Church on March 15th at 7:00 p.m. He recalled back to when he first started on Council he was assigned the Public Works Committee. He said Howard Elstro walked him through every step of the way. He expressed his appreciation to Howard Elstro.


President Nixon wished everyone a Happy Ides of March.

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Gordon moved that Council adjourn until March 28, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., seconded by Glenn, motion carried.



John G. Nixon, President



Dana Addis, Clerk