

MINUTES OF LIMA CITY COUNCIL  
LIMA, OHIO

July 11, 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; Randall Bartels, Auditor; Steven Cleaves, Finance Director; Susan Crotty; Dir. Of Housing & Neighborhoods; Carmillia Zion, Deputy Dir. of Housing & Neighborhoods; Amber Martin, Workforce & Small Business Dev. Coordinator; Della Bradford, Dir. of Human Resources; Mike Caprella, Dir. of Util.; Kirk Niemeyer, Dir. of Public Works; Police Major John Bishop, Fire Chief Andy Heffner; and Dana Addis, Clerk.

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

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

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

President Nixon called to order the Public Hearing for the 2023 Tax Budget for the City of Lima. There being no one wishing to speak to the Tax Budget, President Nixon closed the Public Hearing.

President Nixon called to order the Public Hearing to review the projects and proposed allocations of the 2022-2023 CDBG/HOME Funds. Dave Smith, 515 W. Ashwood Avenue, expressed his concern with the payment for building a home but not funding the down payment assistance program. He inquired about the repayment specifics of the down payment and repair assistance programs and expressed concern as to whether the City collected those funds in the past. Councilor Neeper expressed the first public hearing it was discussed to possibly provide additional funds to a few other programs and he cannot support the funding as proposed until those discussions take place. Neeper moved, seconded by Glenn, to refer the 2022-2023 CDBG allocations to the Economic and Community Development Committee. Motion carried. Councilor Glenn expressed the need to look at all of the programs. There being no one else wishing to speak to the alley vacation, President Nixon closed the Public Hearing.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

John Robinson was not present to speak.

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Dave Smith, 515 W. Ashwood Avenue, referenced a home on S. Central that was built with CHDO funds which the owner was given \$5,800 to assist with the down payment. He explained that he inquired to the Housing and Neighborhoods Dir. if the \$74,000 payment for the home came back to the City of Lima and she advised him that CHDO receives the money. He will be requesting an audit on that transaction.

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 Auditor regarding the contract labor report for June, 2022.
2. From the City Engineer regarding legislation to advertise for bids and enter into a contract to reconstruct certain sidewalks.
3. From the Chief of Police regarding legislation to accept an award from the State of Ohio's 2021-2022 Ohio Law Enforcement Body Armor Program.
4. From the Finance Dir. regarding legislation to amend the 2022 Budget.
5. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to enter into contract with Chemco Systems.

Councilor Dixon moved, seconded by Glenn, that Communications No. 1 through 5 be received, filed, approved and authorize the Law Dir. to prepare any necessary legislation. Motion carried.

PETITIONS:

Petition for the Vacation of an Alley between Grove Ave. and the Indiana & Ohio Railroad, South of E. Market Street. Petitioned for by the City of Lima. Dixon moved, seconded by Glenn, that the petition be received and filed; 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 August 22, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

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Petition for the Vacation of an Alley Segment in the 1100 Block of Bellefontaine Ave. – Petitioned for by DW Plaza, LLC. Dixon moved, seconded by Gordon, that the petition be received and filed; 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 August 22, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES WERE PRESENTED:

145-22 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to accept an award to the City from the State of Ohio's 2021-2022 Ohio Law Enforcement Body Armor Program. Dixon moved, seconded by Glenn, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, Wilkerson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

Nixon moved, seconded by Dixon, to let the record reflect the absence of Councilor Thompson for the purposes of roll call votes. Motion carried.

146-22 An Ordinance amending Section 246.10 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Lima, Utilities Department Authorized Employment Positions. Gordon moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, Wilkerson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

147-22 An Ordinance adopting the Tax Budget for the 2023 Fiscal Year for the City of Lima, Ohio. Neeper moved, seconded by Glenn, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, Wilkerson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

148-22 An Ordinance amending the 2022 annual budget. Neeper moved, seconded by Ehora, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, Wilkerson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

149-22 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and enter into contract for the construction of certain sidewalks for the 2022 combined sidewalk project. Ehora moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 7; Gordon, Wilkerson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, 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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MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Councilor Gordon moved, seconded by Dixon, to approve the absence and salary of Councilor Thompson. Motion carried. He reminded everyone to be good to each other.

Councilor Wilkerson thanked the Streets Department for the no parking signs at the corner of Northwold and Murphy. He believes the City needs to evaluate our intersections prior to the snow season. He is thankful the City Police Officers have body cameras. He reminded everyone to be good neighbors and take care of each other.

Councilor Ehora thanked the Police Department for the speed trailers in the Boulevard along with the police presence. She referenced all of the talk surrounding what the City should do with Memorial Hall and clarified the City of Lima does not own the building, the County does. She expressed the importance of being kind to each other and being a good neighbor.

Councilor Dixon commended the Parks and Recreation Department for the new playground equipment at Faurot Park. He announced the Peacemaker's Neighborhood Association will be meeting on Wednesday, July 13, 2022 at 5:30 located at St. James Church. He invited the public to attend a meeting on July 21<sup>st</sup> at the Civic Center to discuss the City Pool. He recited the definition of Swatting and referenced a swatting situation that took place in Lima over the weekend. He expressed the types of issues that can arise from swatting pranks and asked the public to have conversations with their children about these situations.


Councilor Glenn thanked Hope and Nova residents for getting together and cleaning up the area. He expressed the need to put programs together for the kids to keep them busy. He thanked everyone who attended the celebration that was put on for him over the weekend. He said there is still a lot of work that he needs to do and he isn't retiring anytime soon.

Councilor Neeper moved, seconded by Glenn, to refer the re-evaluation of parking on both sides of the streets to the Public Works Committee. Motion carried. Mayor Smith advised the City has a list of streets that they send out during the snow season that have been identified as too narrow for plows. Neeper expressed appreciation to the Police Department for the speed trailers.

President Nixon congratulated the individuals who put on the Fourth of July celebration. He advised the City of Lima does not single handedly put on the entire Fourth of July event. He explained, although the City is a major sponsor and provider of workers and security, there are other organizations that are involved in determining the specifics of the event. He further explained the challenges of getting everyone back to the previous level of support after COVID. He congratulated the City and everyone who was involved in putting on the event.

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Gordon moved that Council adjourn until July 25, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., seconded by Ehora, motion carried.

  
Dana Addis, Clerk

  
John G. Nixon, President