

MINUTES OF LIMA CITY COUNCIL  
LIMA, OHIO

October 24, 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; Steve Cleaves, Finance Dir.; Sheena Conley, Deputy Finance Dir.; Carmillia Zion, Deputy Dir. of Housing & Neighborhoods; Amber Martin, Workforce & Small Business Dev. Coordinator; Mike Caprella, Dir. of Utilities; Kirk Niemeyer, Dir. of Public Works; Ric Stolly, Deputy Public Works Dir. I; Shane Coleman, Chief of Staff; Chief Cortes; and Chief Heffner; and Dana Addis, Clerk.

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

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

Councilor Gordon moved, seconded by Neeper, to amend the Agenda by adding Ordinance 235-22. Motion carried.

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARING

President Nixon called to order the Public Hearing for the vacation of two (2) alleys between the 300 block of S. Jameson Avenue and S. Charles Street – Petitioned for by Josh Unterbrink. There being no one wishing to speak to the alley vacation, President Nixon closed the Public Hearing.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE PRESENTED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR:

- a. Minutes of the previous meeting not read since each received a copy;
- b. Bd. of Health Minutes of September 9, 2022;
- c. Treasurer's Report of September 30, 2022.

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

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE PRESENTED:

1. From the Executive Dir. of Visit Greater Lima regarding renewal of the annual agreement with the City of Lima.

2. From the Auditor regarding legislation to enter into contract with Rea & Associates.
3. From the Auditor regarding the September, 2022 financial reports.
4. From the Civil Service Board Secretary requesting Council to remove pay range 23 ESI certificate specification from the Authorized Employment Positions Chapter 246.09.
5. From the Civil Service Board Secretary regarding recommendations to amend Chapter 246.10 for the Utilities Department as described.
6. From Municipal Court Judge Hursh requesting legislation to purchase goods and services from various funds during the 2022 fiscal year.
7. From the Workforce & Small Business Dev. Coordinator regarding legislation to bid and award a contract for a Citywide Wayfinding Sign Program.
8. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to purchase a dump truck for the Utilities Dept.
9. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to amend Ord. 105-22.
10. From the Housing and Neighborhoods Acting Dir. regarding legislation to dispose of one file cabinet.
11. From the Law Dir. regarding legislation to exercise a contract option with Matrix Pointe Software LLC.

Councilor Dixon moved, seconded by Glenn, that Communications No. 1 through 11 be received, filed, approved and authorize the Law Dir. to prepare any necessary legislation. Motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES WERE PRESENTED:

205-22 (THIRD READING) An Ordinance enacting Section 1060.11 designating all City owned parks and other outdoor recreational facilities as smoke and vape-free environment. Neeper moved, seconded by Thompson, that the Ordinance be defeated on the third reading. President Nixon reminded Council that a Yes vote was in favor to defeat the Ordinance. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Nixon, Dixon, Glenn, and Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the Ordinance is defeated on the third reading by an 8-0 vote.

226-22 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Rea & Associates, Inc. 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, Nixon, Dixon, Glenn and Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

227-22 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to exercise a contract option with Matrix Pointe Software, 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, Nixon, Dixon, Glenn and Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

228-22 An Ordinance amending Section 246.09 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Lima, Public Works Department Authorized Employment Positions. 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, Nixon, Dixon, Glenn and Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

229-22 An Ordinance establishing the salary for the Dir. of Housing & Neighborhoods. 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, Nixon, Dixon, Glenn and Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

230-22 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to amend the contract for removal of material from the City's water treatment plant lagoons, authorized under Ordinance 105-22. 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, Nixon, Dixon, Glenn and Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

231-22 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, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Nixon, Dixon, Glenn and Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

232-22 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Rush Truck Center, Lima for the purchase of a single axle dump truck for the Utilities Department. 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, Nixon, Dixon, Glenn and Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

233-22 An Ordinance vacating two alleys between the 300 blocks of South Jameson Avenue and South Charles Street. Glenn moved, seconded by Dixon, that the Ordinance be placed on a second reading. Motion carried.

234-22 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and enter into contract for the Citywide Wayfinding Sign Program. Thompson moved, seconded by Dixon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. Councilor Thompson asked for clarification of the Ordinance. Amber Martin advised the Ordinance will authorize signage in the downtown area to help residents and guests to be able to better navigate the downtown area. She explained the signs will identify businesses and points of attractions in downtown. Councilor Ehora inquired if the current signage will be incorporated with the new. Mrs. Martin explained they will present the consultant with photos of the current signage to determine if they can be incorporated or determine if they should be eliminated. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Nixon, Dixon, Glenn and Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

235-22 An Ordinance authorizing payment from various Lima Municipal Court Funds for 2023. 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, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Nixon, Dixon, Glenn and Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the motion carried and the ordinance passes on the first reading by an 8-0 vote.

#### MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Councilor Ehora advised the issue of smoke free parks stays in the Public Works Committee even though the Ordinance was defeated. She explained the Committee would like to review different avenues that can be taken such as adding signage to discourage smokers in the parks. She expressed the importance of having an open dialogue and having honest conversations about issues. She acknowledged Chief Heffner and the Lima Fire Department for their seamless response to the house explosion over the weekend. She referenced a property in her ward that had been an issue for three years and was cleaned up by a group of individuals over the weekend. She announced the CIC meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. and encouraged the public to attend and share their ideas of what needs to be developed. She announced trick or treat is Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm. She asked everyone to be good to each other.

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Councilor Dixon thanked the Fire Department for the job they did Saturday night during the house explosion and expressed how great it was to see them in action. He asked everyone to be safe and cautious during trick or treat. He announced the Peacemaker's Neighborhood Association will be taking a two month break from meeting and will reconvene in January. He acknowledged the young individuals in the audience and thanked them for attending the meeting. He expressed the hope that one day they will serve the community just as the Council members do. He acknowledged the youth for their academics as we typically only acknowledge for sports. He encouraged them to do the things they are doing as they do not go unnoticed.

Councilor Glenn announced there will be a Halloween Party on Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at the old American Legion. He explained this is the first time in the three years that he has awarded the Sixth Ward Kid of the Month Award. He further explained they will be awarding three awards. Awards were presented to Amilliyanna Nance from Heir Force Community School, G'Vonte Davis from Heir Force Community School and Destin Morris from Perry Schools for their achievements in school.

Councilor Neeper reminded everyone to be careful and slow down during trick or treat this year. He was able to attend one of the Lantern Tours over the weekend which he thought was very interesting and gave kudos to Downtown Lima for putting the event together. He explained the Public Works Committee did not have time to review the issue of grass and leaves in the streets. He inquired about the leaf pickup dates. Kirk Niemeyer advised they are planning to start leaf pickup around the second week of November, but the Mayor will announce the dates during the Mayor's Briefing about a week prior. Neeper reminded everyone that putting leaves in the streets is illegal and causes problems with drainage.

Councilor Gordon expressed how impressed he was with the kids who received awards this evening and encouraged them to keep up the good work. He reminded people to be good to each other.

Councilor Wilkerson reminded people to listen and respect each other. He referenced phone calls he received this weekend. He reminded everyone who has furry friends to ensure they are restrained during trick or treat. He acknowledged the kids who received awards and expressed how impressed he is with their leadership.

Councilor Thompson expressed how happy and proud she is that Councilor Glenn acknowledged the school kids and expressed that Council also does the same. She advised there is no substitute for knowledge and hopes the kids encourage their peers and lift them up. She announced the Central Lima Neighborhood Association will be meeting Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 300 W. Market Street. She announced the Goodwill Allen County Reentry Coalition will be at the Lima Public Library from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

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Councilor Ehora moved, seconded by Dixon, to re-refer the evaluation of parking on both sides of the streets to the Public Works Committee. Motion carried.


President Nixon announced leaf bags are available at the Utilities Billing Office or at the Central Services Building and residents must present a utility bill. He reminded residents to only fill the bags with leaves. Mike Caprella advised residents can also purchase a green containers for a one-time fee of \$20.00 to be used for yard waste. President Nixon congratulated the young individuals who received awards. He asked them to continue to work hard and excel.

Gordon moved that Council adjourn until November 7, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., seconded by Dixon, motion carried.



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John G. Nixon, President



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Dana Addis, Clerk