

MINUTES OF LIMA CITY COUNCIL  
LIMA, OHIO

September 11, 2023

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

Attending were: Mayor Sharetta Smith; Eric Pheneger, Deputy Law Director; Randall Bartels, Auditor; Shane Coleman, Chief of Staff; Meredith Foster, Finance Dir.; Della Bradford, Dir. of Human Resources; Carmillia Zion, Deputy Dir. of Housing & Neighborhoods; Amber Martin, Workforce & Small Business Dev. Coordinator; Mike Caprella, Dir. of Util.; Sara Weekley, Deputy Dir. of Util.; Kirk Niemeyer, Dir. of Public Works; Jessica Begonia, Public Information Officer; Police Major John Bishop; Fire Chief Andy Heffner; and Dana Addis, Clerk.

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

President Nixon called for a moment of silence to honor those who were lost on September 11, 2001.

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

John Yohe was not present to speak.

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 Neeper, motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE PRESENTED:

1. From the Division of Liquor Control regarding a liquor permit application for Heavenly Soul Food Supper Club at 704 E. Eureka St. Dixon moved, seconded by Glenn, that the communication be received, filed and approved and to authorize the Clerk to file with the Ohio Division of Liquor Control with no objections. Motion carried.

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2. From the Division of Liquor Control regarding a liquor permit transfer to Bite & Buzz LLC at 701 S. Main St. Glenn moved, seconded by Dixon, that the communication be received, filed and approved and to authorize the Clerk to file with the Ohio Division of Liquor Control with no objections. Motion carried.

3. From the Auditor regarding legislation to accept the amounts and rates as determined by the Allen County Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies as required by Ohio law.

4. From the Auditor regarding legislation to amend the starting salary and leave benefits for the Chief Deputy Auditor position.

5. From the Chief of Police regarding legislation to disburse funds from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund to the West Central Ohio Crime Task Force.

6. From the Fire Chief regarding legislation for additional funding for the newly purchased ambulance.

7. From the Chief Technology Officer regarding legislation to amend Ordinance 138-22.

8. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding an agreement with Moody's of Dayton, Inc.

9. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to sell vehicles through govdeals.com.

10. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to enter into an agreement with Everett J. Prescott, Inc.

11. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to enter into an agreement with Jones and Henry Engineers, Ltd.

12. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding a request to enter into an agreement with E.J. Prescott, Inc.

13. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to amend Ord. 59-23.

14. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding a request to enter into an agreement with The AUMA Group.

15. From the Dir. of Utilities regarding legislation to advertise for bids and enter into contract to purchase a ½ ton four wheel drive truck.

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16. From the Dir. of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry regarding legislation to allow the Mayor to receive a gift from Mercy Health.

17. From the City Engineer regarding legislation to submit three applications to the Ohio Public Works Commission requesting State Issue I funds.

18. From the Dep. Dir. of Public Works regarding legislation to procure a Street Sweeper from Mtech Co.

19. From the City Engineer regarding a professional engineering services contract with Choice One Engineering.

20. From the City Engineer regarding a contract with Garmann/Miller & Associates, Inc.

21. From the Finance Dir. regarding legislation to amend the 2023 budget.

Councilor Dixon moved, seconded by Neeper, that Communications No. 3 through 21 be received, filed, approved and authorize the Law Dir. to prepare any necessary legislation. Motion carried.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Councilor Dixon advised the Safety Services Committee met on August 16, 2023 to discuss the ways in which the Police Department reports calls to establishments that hold liquor permits and to also discuss golf carts. All members have received a copy. Dixon moved, seconded by Glenn, that the report be received, filed and approved. Motion carried.

#### THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES WERE PRESENTED:

176-23 An Ordinance authorizing a payment from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund to the West Central Ohio Crime Task Force. Dixon 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.

177-23 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Everett J. Prescott, Inc. for the Utilities Department. 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.

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178-23 An Ordinance authorizing a second amendment to the contract with Jones & Henry Engineers, Ltd., for the Utilities Department, authorized under Ordinance 249-22. 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, 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.

179-23 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and enter into contract for the purchase of a ½ ton four wheel drive truck for the Utilities Department. 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.

180-23 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Jones & Henry Engineers, Ltd., for the Water Treatment Plant Miscellaneous Improvements Project. 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.

181-23 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with govdeals.com or otherwise dispose of vehicles for the Utilities Department. 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.

182-23 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to amend the contract with Pen Care Inc. authorized under Ordinance 294-21. 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.

183-23 An Ordinance accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission, authorizing the necessary tax levies, and certifying them to the County Auditor. 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, 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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184-23 An Ordinance amending Section 246.05 of the Codified Ordinances of Lima, Ohio. 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.

185-23 An Ordinance amending the 2023 annual budget. 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, 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.

186-23 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to accept a monetary gift from Mercy Health – St. Rita’s Medical Center for the Parks and Recreation Program. Ehora 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.

187-23 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to apply for, receive, and administer State Issue I funds from the Ohio Public Works Commission for the Public Works Department. Ehora 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.

188-23 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with MTech Company for the Public Works Department. 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.

189-23 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to amend the contract with Brightly Software, Inc. authorized under Ordinance 138-22. 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.

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MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Councilor Wilkerson asked all drivers to respect the likes of others as they also use the streets. He asked parents to encourage their children to involve themselves in extra-curricular activities as a more involved child is less likely to find themselves in trouble. He recited Psalms 133:1.

Councilor Thompson announced Café Convo will be held Wednesday Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at Mercy Health - St. Rita's Medical Center. She announced there will be a Here's to Your Health Block Party at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> at the Central Lima Neighborhood Association Reading Park. She thanked Council President Nixon for the moment of silence. She encouraged everyone to teach the young about what it was like on 9/11 and teach them what it means to sacrifice and be a community.

Councilor Ehora expressed her appreciation for the moment of silence. She explained the first few years after 9/11 it was a thing, but it started to fade. She reminisced where she was when 9/11 happened and how it felt to watch it on the television. She explained 9/11 is a day she will never forget. She explained the community is still suffering with employment issues and encouraged young kids to go out and apply for jobs. She referenced the number of issues with dogs and cats in this community and encouraged people to quite breeding animals.

Councilor Dixon announced the Peacemaker's Neighborhood Association will meet on September 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at St. James Church. He thanked President Nixon for the moment of silence for 9/11. He provided the numbers of individuals who passed away due to 9/11 and reminisced where he was when 9/11 happened. He explained one of his cousin's was on Flight 77 which made the attack a reality. He encouraged everyone to stand united, not matter what is going on in the world. He announced September is National Recovery Month and expressed that hope is real.

Councilor Glenn pointed out that he had his 40 year Class reunion over the weekend and referenced a classmate who passed away. He announced they had a great turnout at the back to school giveaway that happened over the weekend. He thanked Mr. Doyle. He also thanked his fellow Council members for acknowledging 9/11 and encouraged everyone to keep loving on each other.

Councilor Neeper recited a writing by his best friend who is currently suffering the aftermath of being at the site of 9/11. He asked everyone to remember 9/11 and also remember how everyone was to each other on 9/12.

Councilor Gordon reminded people to be good to each other.


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Gordon moved, seconded by Dixon, to adjourn into executive session for the purpose of real estate. The following vote was recorded on the motion. Yea, 8; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Ehora, Dixon, Glenn, Neeper and Nixon. Nay, none. Motion carried. Council adjourned into executive session.

Gordon moved, seconded by Neeper, to adjourn from executive session. Motion carried.

Gordon moved that Council adjourn until September 25, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., seconded by Glenn, motion carried.

  
Dana Addis, Clerk

  
John G. Nixon, President