

CITY OF LIMA
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 24, 2024 @ 7:00 PM
Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER:

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

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE:

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

ROLL CALL:

The roll call showed the following members present: Todd Gordon, Anthony Wilkerson, Carla Thompson, Jamie Dixon, Thomas Jones, Derry Glenn, Jon Neeper Absent: Jeannine Jordan

Others in attendance were: Dana Addis – Clerk, Sharetta Smith – Mayor, Shane Coleman – Chief of Staff, Anthony Geiger – Law Dir., Eric Pheneger – Deputy Law Dir., Warner Roach – Deputy Dir. of Public Works, Mike Caprella – Dir. of Utilities, Sara Weekley – Deputy Dir. of Utilities, Jessica Begonia – Public Information Officer, Debra Vobbe – Civil Service Board Dir./Sec., James Baker – Police Chief, Jack McDermitt – Deputy Fire Chief, Edward Moore – Public Works Dept., Ian Kohli – City Engineer

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA:

Gordon moved, seconded by Thompson, to remove Ordinance 165-23 from the table. Motion carried.

Gordon moved, seconded by Jones, to add Ordinance 199-24 and Ordinance 165-23 to the Agenda. Motion carried.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Lisa Ashafa was not present to speak.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE PRESENTED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR:

- a. Minutes of the previous meeting not read since all received a copy;
- b. Minutes of the special meeting held on Sept. 11, 2024 not read since all received a copy;
- c. Bd. of Health August 9, 2024 Meeting Minutes.

Gordon moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that item “a” be received, filed, and approved and item “b-c” be received and filed. Motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE PRESENTED:

1. From Mark Mullenhour regarding a request to not be re-appointed to the Civil Service Board.
2. From the Chief Technology Officer regarding legislation to bid and award a contract for Microsoft Licensing and Cloud Services.
3. From the Chief of Staff regarding the 2025 sidewalk resolution of necessity.
4. From the Chief of Staff regarding legislation to dispose of Public Works vehicles and equipment.
5. From the Chief of Staff regarding legislation to levy assessments for the 2023 Sidewalk Project.
6. From the Utilities Dir. regarding the purchase of a THM Analyzer.
7. From the Utilities Dir. regarding a contract with J&K Communications, Inc.
8. From the Fire Chief regarding legislation to enter into contract with Fire Safety Services.
9. From the Civil Service Board Dir./Sec. regarding a recommendation for the Identification Officer position.
10. From the Civil Service Dir./Sec. regarding the recommendation to reorganize the Data Systems Group Division.
11. From the Finance Dir. regarding legislation to amend the 2024 budget.
12. From the Auditor regarding legislation permitting the issuance of notes and bonds for the 2023 and 2024 Combined Sidewalk Projects.

13. From the Auditor regarding the August 2024 finance reports.
14. From Dalton J. Smith, Esq. regarding notice of filing a Petition for Annexation of Health Partners of Western Ohio with the Allen County Board of Commissioners.

Wilkerson moved, seconded by Jones, that communication numbers 1-14 be received, filed, approved and authorize the Law Dir. to prepare the necessary legislation. Motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE PRESENTED:

- 010-24 A resolution declaring the necessity of constructing certain designated sidewalks and requiring that the abutting property owners construct the same.

Thompson moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the resolution be adopted on the first reading. The following roll call vote was recorded on the motion: Yea, 7; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Dixon, Jones, Glenn, Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the resolution adopted on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES WERE PRESENTED:

- 188-24 An Ordinance amending the 2024 annual budget.

Neeper moved, seconded by Glenn, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following roll call vote was recorded on the motion: Yea, 7; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Dixon, Jones, Glenn, Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the ordinance passed on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

- 189-24 An Ordinance amending Section 246.08 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Lima, Finance Department authorized employment positions.

Neeper moved, seconded by Jones, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following roll call vote was recorded on the motion: Yea, 7; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Dixon, Jones, Glenn, Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the ordinance passed on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

- 190-24 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to amend the Better Blocks for Business Program (B3), as authorized under Ordinance 143-23.

Jones moved, seconded by Neeper, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following roll call vote was recorded on the motion: Yea, 7; Gordon,

Wilkerson, Thompson, Dixon, Jones, Glenn, Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the ordinance passed on the first reading by a 7–0 vote.

- 191-24 An Ordinance amending Section 246.11 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Lima, Police Department authorized employment positions.

Mayor Smith advised Council the Ordinance is for an additional Identification Officer in the Police Department which is needed because the City is relying more on technology to assist with solving crime. She explained adding the position will allow the City to continue to be compliant and work with other cities with national ballistics testing. She thanked the Civil Service Board and Council for their support.

Wilkerson moved, seconded by Jones, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following roll call vote was recorded on the motion: Yea, 7; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Dixon, Jones, Glenn, Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the ordinance passed on the first reading by a 7–0 vote.

- 192-24 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and enter into contract for Microsoft Licensing and Cloud services.

Gordon moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following roll call vote was recorded on the motion: Yea, 7; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Dixon, Jones, Glenn, Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the ordinance passed on the first reading by a 7–0 vote.

- 193-24 An Ordinance amending Section 246.10 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Lima, Utilities Department authorized employment positions.

Gordon moved, seconded by Thompson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following roll call vote was recorded on the motion: Yea, 7; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Dixon, Jones, Glenn, Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the ordinance passed on the first reading by a 7–0 vote.

- 194-24 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with govdeals.com and to otherwise dispose of vehicles and equipment for the Public Works Department.

Thompson moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following roll call vote was recorded on the motion: Yea, 7; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Dixon, Jones, Glenn, Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the ordinance passed on the first reading by a 7–0 vote.

- 195-24 An Ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of bonds in the maximum principal amount of \$68,800 for the purpose of paying the

property owners' portion, in anticipation of the collection of special assessments, of the costs of constructing sidewalks at various locations in the City, together with all necessary appurtenances thereto, in the manner provided in Resolution No. 018-22 and Ordinance No. 037-23, and declaring an emergency.

Neeper moved, seconded by Glenn, to receive, file and approve the Fiscal Officer's Certificate. Motion carried.

Neeper moved, seconded by Jones, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following roll call vote was recorded on the motion: Yea, 7; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Dixon, Jones, Glenn, Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the ordinance passed on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

- 196-24 An Ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of \$118,500 of notes, in anticipation of the issuance of bonds, for the purpose of paying the property owners' portion, in anticipation of the levy and collection of special assessments, of the costs of constructing sidewalks at various locations in the City, together with all necessary appurtenances thereto, in the manner provided in Resolution No. 018-23 and Ordinance No. 033-24, and declaring an emergency.

Neeper moved, seconded by Glenn, to receive, file and approve the Fiscal Officer's Certificate. Motion carried.

Neeper moved, seconded by Glenn, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following roll call vote was recorded on the motion: Yea, 7; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Dixon, Jones, Glenn, Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the ordinance passed on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

- 197-24 An Ordinance levying special assessments for the 2023 combined sidewalk project, project no. 1-23, for construction of certain described sidewalks in accordance with Resolution 018-22, adopted November 7, 2022.

Thompson moved, seconded by Jones, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following roll call vote was recorded on the motion: Yea, 7; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Dixon, Jones, Glenn, Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the ordinance passed on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

- 198-24 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Fire Safety Services, Inc. and Spencer Manufacturing, Inc. for the Lima Fire Department.

Wilkerson moved, seconded by Gordon, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following roll call vote was recorded on the motion: Yea, 7; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Dixon, Jones, Glenn, Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the ordinance passed on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

- 199-24 An Ordinance consenting to the proposed annexation of approximately 9.825 acres of real estate in American Township owned by Health Partners of Western Ohio, and setting forth municipal services, zoning buffers, and road maintenance.

Thompson moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the ordinance be passed on the first reading. The following roll call vote was recorded on the motion: Yea, 7; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Dixon, Jones, Glenn, Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the ordinance passed on the first reading by a 7-0 vote.

- 165-23 An Ordinance authorizing all actions necessary to establish a governmental natural gas aggregation program with opt-out provisions pursuant to Section 4929.26 Ohio Revised Code and directing the Allen County Board of Elections to submit a ballot question to the electors.

Gordon moved, seconded by Glenn, that the ordinance be defeated on the second reading. The following roll call vote was recorded on the motion: Yea, 7; Gordon, Wilkerson, Thompson, Dixon, Jones, Glenn, Neeper. Nay, none. The Chair declared the ordinance defeated as amended by a 7-0 vote.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Councilor Wilkerson referenced phone calls he has received about people parking on particular streets. He expressed the need to be better neighbors and think of each other while parking vehicles. He cautioned everyone to be careful and more cautious while driving. He encouraged parents to ensure their children have some type of reflective gear on while out in the dark. He reminded everyone to be good neighbors.

Thompson moved, seconded by Jones, to authorize the absence and salary for Councilor Jordan. Motion carried.

Councilor Thompson thanked Council for rescheduling the Council meeting so they were able to attend the Enbridge Public Hearing. She advised residents that they can still comment on the proposed rate increase on PUCO's website. She announced the Central Lima Neighborhood Association will be meeting at the Lima Public Library on September 25th at 6:00 p.m. She also announced Growing Seeds of Peace will be at the Center for Peace and Reconciliation on Saturday, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. She thanked Bloom Recovery, Crime Victim Services and Lima Police Department for bringing the event to light.

Councilor Jones referenced the upcoming election and encouraged everyone to get involved and register to vote. He asked the community to be respectful of each other's opinions, privacy and rights concerning voting.

Councilor Glenn stated it was great to be able to attend the PUCO Public Hearing and represent his Ward. He expressed his appreciation to the Township Trustees who were in attendance at the Public Hearing. He referenced loud noises and expressed his appreciation to those who are respectful and turn their music down after 9:00 p.m. He announced the Kibby Corner Neighborhood Association is coming back on November 23rd at Lima Towers. He advised the turkey sign up will be posted in October. He explained he will be going to Springfield Ohio tomorrow.

Councilor Neeper reiterated the need to be cautious while driving. He thanked the Police Department as they are starting to follow up on the tree lawn issues. He complimented the Mayor for putting together various programs including Walking the Wards. He explained Walking the Wards gives administration a different look when they are with the Councilor that can point out the various issues they have been complaining about. He explained if you are having a hard time finding things to do in Lima, you aren't looking very hard.

Councilor Gordon referenced the PUCO Public Hearing and the various entities that were in attendance sticking up for their constituents which is what Council is there for. He thanked the Law Dept. and the Police Dept. for helping him with a situation in his Ward. He reminded people to be good to each other.

ADJOURNMENT:

Gordon moved, seconded by Jones, to adjourn until October 7, 2024. Motion carried.

Dana Addis, Council Clerk

Jamie Dixon, Council President