

CITY OF LIMA
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 02, 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 Neeper followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

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

Others in attendance were: Dana Addis – Clerk, Sharetta Smith – Mayor, Shane Coleman – Chief of Staff, Randy Bartels – Auditor, Anthony Geiger – Law Dir., Eric Pheneger – Deputy Law Dir., Carmillia Zion – Dir. of Housing and Neighborhoods, Della Bradford – Human Resources Dir., Edward Moore – Public Works Dept. , Warner Roach – Deputy Dir. of Public Works, Ric Stolly – Deputy Dir. of Parks and Rec., Mike Caprella – Dir. of Utilities, Jessica Begonia – Public Information Officer, Meri Foster – Finance Dir., Ron Holman – Police Major, Jack McDermitt – Fire Chief

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE PRESENTED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR:

- a. Minutes of the previous meeting not read as all received a copy;
- b. Bd. of Health Minutes of October 11, 2024.

Neeper moved, seconded by Wilkerson, that the consent calendar item “a” be received, filed and approved, and item “b” be received and filed. Motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE PRESENTED:

1. From the Auditor regarding legislation to invoice the City's ARPA fund.
2. From the Finance Dir. regarding legislation to enter into contract with Veterans Memorial Civic & Convention Center.
3. From the Finance Dir. regarding legislation to amend the 2024 budget.
4. From the Fire Chief regarding legislation to apply for the 2024 Assistance to Firefighters Grant.
5. From the Human Resources Dir. regarding legislation to establish the position of Interim Director of Public Works.

Neeper moved, seconded by Glenn, that communication numbers 1 through 5 be received, filed, approved and authorize the Law Dir. to prepare the necessary legislation. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

1. Finance Committee Report of November 12, 13 & 14, 2024.

Neeper moved, seconded by Jones, that the committee report be received, filed, and approved. Motion carried.

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES WERE PRESENTED:

263-24 An Ordinance amending the 2024 annual budget.

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

264-24 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with the Veterans Memorial Civic & Convention Center Foundation.

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

- 265-24 An Ordinance authorizing the Auditor to invoice the City's State and Local Recovery Fund (ARPA) for certain prior year general fund expenditures.

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

- 266-24 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into agreement with the Lima-Allen County Convention and Visitors Bureau using funds from the Hotel-Motel tax.

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

- 267-24 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Downtown Lima, Inc.

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

- 268-24 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to apply for, receive, and administer funds from the 2024 Assistance To Firefighters Grant (AFG) for the Lima Fire Department.

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

- 269-24 An Ordinance amending Section 246.09 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Lima, Public Works Department authorized employment positions.

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

270-24 An Ordinance establishing the salary for the Interim Director of Public Works.

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

REPORTS OF OFFICIALS:

Sgt. Torres provided Council with an update on the Lima Police Department K-9 Unit. He explained they currently have five dogs in the K-9 Unit. He explained all of the dogs they currently have are trained in narcotics and patrol work. He advised this year to date, they have had 250 deployments, 200 of which are narcotics based. He advised the goal is to have 6 dogs in the unit so there are 2 dogs on each shift at all times.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

President Dixon recognized Sr. Vice Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Education, Mr. Gary Cates, who was in the audience.

Councilor Neeper advised he attended the ribbon cutting for the Central District and encouraged the public to visit the area as it is a wonderful collaboration of public and private funds.

Wilkerson moved, seconded by Glenn, to refer the issue of the Aquatic Center to the Public Works Committee. Motion carried.

Councilor Wilkerson recognized that residents are getting better at putting the leaves in the curb lawn as opposed to the street. He applauded the Streets Department for completing their first round of leaf pickup without any major hiccups. He asked the landlords in the community to be more mindful and conscious of the trash when evicting tenants.

Councilor Thompson announced the Christmas Tree Festival is happening at the Museum this week and encouraged the public to attend. She announced the Central Lima Neighborhood Association will not be meeting in December and will pick back up in January.

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

Councilor Jordon thanked the residents of Lima for all of the Christmas lights that have been put out all over the City. She reminded everyone that there is assistance available to those who need help paying for their energy bills and an application for assistance can be found at the Library or online at energyhelp.ohio.gov.

Councilor Jones thanked Mr. Caprella, President Dixon and Mr. Grimsley from Rumpke for taking care of an issue on Essex.

Councilor Glenn reminded the 6th Ward they are last to have their leaves picked up. He thanked Councilor Wilkerson for loving Lima as City Council looks out for one another. He referenced his first Town Hall meeting to discuss mental health. He thanked everyone who attended. He referenced everyone on City Council that is involved in mental health. He referenced the Thanksgiving dinner at Lima Towers which was a success. He explained on December 4th they will be awarding 10 kids \$20 to open a checking account at Top Mark Federal Credit Union. He announced they will be giving 20 families \$50.00 to go towards a Christmas dinner. He announced January 19th will be the 39th Annual I Have A Dream Awards Banquet at the City Club.

ADJOURNMENT:

Neeper moved, seconded by Thompson, to adjourn until December 16th, 2024. Motion carried.

Dana Addis, Council Clerk

Jamie Dixon, Council President