



# City of Gahanna

## Meeting Minutes

### City Council

200 South Hamilton Road  
Gahanna, Ohio 43230

*Trenton I. Weaver, President*  
*Jamille Jones, Vice President*  
*Merisa K. Bowers*  
*Nancy R. McGregor*  
*Kaylee Padova*  
*Stephen A. Renner*  
*Michael Schnetzer*

*Jeremy A. VanMeter, Clerk of Council*

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Monday, April 27, 2026

7:00 PM

City Hall, Council Chambers

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**A. CALL TO ORDER: Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call**

*Gahanna City Council met in Regular Session on Monday, April 27, 2026, in Council Chambers. President of Council Trenton I. Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Vice President of Council Jamille Jones delivered an Invocation and led members in the Pledge of Allegiance. The agenda was published on Friday, April 24, 2026.*

**Present** 7 - Merisa K. Bowers, Jamille Jones, Nancy R. McGregor, Kaylee Padova, Stephen A. Renner, Michael Schnetzer, and Trenton I. Weaver

**B. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA:**

None.

**C. HEARING OF VISITORS:**

None.

**D. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

[ORD-0018-2026](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA CODE, PART ELEVEN - ZONING, TO UPDATE AND CLARIFY CODE PROVISIONS, REINSTATE OMITTED STANDARDS, AND IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF ADOPTED PLANS

President Weaver explained the Council's rules of procedure for the Public Hearing. He noted that the hearing concerned Ordinance 0018-2026, an ordinance to amend various sections of the City of Gahanna Code, Part 11, Zoning, to update and clarify code provisions, reinstate omitted standards, and implement recommendations of adopted plans. He then asked if the administration wished to make a

presentation. Mayor Jadwin stated that the administration did not wish to make a presentation at that time. President Weaver shared that the item was slated for a First Reading on Monday, May 4, 2026, would return to the Committee of the Whole on Monday, May 11, 2026, and had a tentative vote scheduled for Monday, May 18, 2026.

President Weaver opened the Public Hearing at 7:03 p.m. and asked if anyone wished to speak for or against the item. Seeing none, President Weaver closed the Public Hearing at 7:03 p.m.

**E. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**1. Minutes - To Approve:**

[2026-0078](#) Council Regular Minutes 2026-04-06  
The minutes were approved on the Consent Agenda.

[2026-0079](#) Committee of the Whole Minutes 2026-04-06  
The minutes were approved on the Consent Agenda.

**End of Consent Agenda**

A motion was made by Schnetzer, seconded by Renner, to Pass the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Bowers, Jones, McGregor, Padova, Renner, Schnetzer and Weaver

**F. ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION / FIRST READING:**

[ORD-0013-2026](#) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH DECKER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR THE 2026 SIDEWALK LOOKBACK PROGRAM (ST-1123/TR-CM-03)  
President Weaver introduced the Ordinance, and Clerk VanMeter read it by title.

[ORD-0014-2026](#) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH DECKER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR THE 2026 STREET AND SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE PROGRAM (ST-1122/TR-CM-01)  
President Weaver introduced the Ordinance, and Clerk VanMeter read it by title.

[ORD-0015-2026](#) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF GAHANNA CODIFIED

ORDINANCE SECTION 133.02 - PURCHASING PROCEDURES

President Weaver introduced the Ordinance, and Clerk VanMeter read it by title.

[ORD-0017-2026](#) AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL ORD-0045-2021 RELATED TO TAX INCREMENT FINANCING FOR PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF GAHANNA

President Weaver introduced the Ordinance, and Clerk VanMeter read it by title.

**G. ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION, WAIVER & ADOPTION:**

[ORD-0016-2026](#) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS; AND WAIVING SECOND READING - Capital Improvement Fund for Bond Interest Related to the Gahanna Civic Center Project

President Weaver introduced the Ordinance, and Clerk VanMeter read it by title.

A motion was made by Schnetzer, seconded by Bowers, that the Ordinance be Waived for Second Reading. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Bowers, Jones, McGregor, Padova, Renner, Schnetzer and Weaver

A motion was made by Schnetzer, seconded by Bowers, that the Ordinance be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Bowers, Jones, McGregor, Padova, Renner, Schnetzer and Weaver

**H. CORRESPONDENCE AND ACTIONS:**

1. Clerk - None.

2. Council - None.

**I. REPRESENTATIVES:**

1. Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) - Renner, Padova

None.

2. Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) - Weaver

[2026-0080](#) Councilmember Weaver's MORPC Report to City Council 2026-04-27

President Weaver encouraged his Council colleagues to review the report that staff included, noting that it contained many useful links and events of interest. He reported that MORPC canceled its April 2026 full commission meeting and instead held regional breakout meetings. He stated that the Northeast meeting took place on April 16, 2026, in the City of Johnstown and noted that the city recently renovated and expanded its municipal center, repurposing a former grocery store into city hall. He remarked that it was good to see development repurposed for the benefit of a city and noted that Council looked forward to similar progress with its own city hall and municipal complex. He stated that the next commission meeting would occur on May 14, 2026.

### **3. Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) - Padova**

Councilmember Padova reminded attendees that Herb Day would take place on Saturday, May 2, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Creekside Plaza. She stated that, in addition to the plant sale, approximately 30 vendors would attend with herb and plant-themed activities and noted that a list of vendors appeared at [OhioHerbCenter.Org](http://OhioHerbCenter.Org). She also announced that Herb'n Restaurant Week would begin on Saturday, May 2, 2026, with 11 participating businesses, and stated that the list of menu items appeared at [VisitGahanna.Com](http://VisitGahanna.Com). She noted that Thursday, April 30, 2026, marked International Jazz Day and stated that Creekside Blues and Jazz Festival tickets would be discounted by \$5 with the promo code "Jazz Day." She explained that presale tickets already included a discount and that purchasing on that day with both discounts would reduce the cost of a one-day ticket to \$10. She stated that tickets could be purchased at [CreeksideBluesAndJazz.Com](http://CreeksideBluesAndJazz.Com). She added that the festival still needed volunteers and noted that volunteers would receive free admission, a T-shirt, snacks, and an invitation to a summer volunteer picnic. She stated that interested individuals could sign up at the same website.

### **4. School Board (SB) - Jones**

Vice President Jones provided an update on upcoming meetings. She stated that a board workshop would occur on May 7, 2026, a finance and facilities meeting on May 19, 2026, and a regular board meeting on May 21, 2026. She noted that all meetings would begin at 6:30 p.m. in Clark Hall and confirmed that the workshop would also take place at that time and location. She also reminded attendees that the entire district would

be closed on Friday, May 1, 2026, for a staff professional development day and advised residents to be mindful of youth who would not be in school that day.

**J. OFFICIAL REPORTS:**

**1. Mayor**

Mayor Jadwin provided several updates. She stated that the 2026 Community Grant Program portal opened and was now closed, and she reported that the City of Gahanna received 24 applications from 21 entities, which reflected a significant increase in applications and interest compared to previous years. She noted that the committee convened, held at least one meeting, and continued to evaluate the applications. She stated that the city would announce funding recommendations once the committee completed its review. She also recognized the work of local nonprofit organizations. Mayor Jadwin highlighted recent events. She stated that the Parks and Recreation Department, in partnership with the Central Ohio Mountain Bike Association, held the Gahanna Bike Rodeo for the second year. She explained that the event honored longtime resident Denny Oswald, an advocate for bicycle safety and repair, and noted that participation increased by 50 percent from the previous year. She stated that the event offered free bike helmet fittings and bicycle repairs and continued to grow. She reported that, for Arbor Day, the Parks and Recreation Department partnered with the Sycamore Woods Homeowners Association and the Franklin County Soil and Water District to plant more than 100 tree saplings along the embankment behind Sycamore Woods to prevent erosion. She stated that the city recognized and appreciated their efforts and collaboration. Mayor Jadwin stated that Make Gahanna Yours held its spring community litter cleanup and noted her participation. She stated that the city planned to begin a promotional campaign focused on keeping Gahanna clean and indicated that staff would work with the business community on related messaging. She thanked Make Gahanna Yours for its efforts. Mayor Jadwin also announced that the American Legion would host the fourth annual Walk In Our Boots 5K on Saturday, with proceeds benefiting homeless veterans and supporting their transition into housing. Mayor Jadwin stated that the city would host its economic development event during National Economic Development Week, scheduled for Friday, May 8, 2026. She explained that the event would focus on local

businesses and include information from Director of Economic Development Jeff Gottke regarding the city's strategy and results from a small business survey. She added that the city would relaunch the Gahanna Business Excellence Awards. She stated that the event would take place at 8:00 a.m. with networking at The Menlo, that attendance was free, and that registration was required through Director Gottke or her assistant, Jen McBroom. Finally, Mayor Jadwin announced the hiring of Dr. Hossein Naraghi as the city's new Director of Engineering. She stated that he would begin onboarding the following day and would meet with staff that week. She noted that he held a Ph.D. in civil engineering and brought extensive public sector experience in infrastructure and transportation safety, as well as experience in policy development and work with a state legislature. She stated that the city would introduce him to Council at a future meeting and expressed enthusiasm for welcoming him to the Gahanna team.

## 2. City Attorney

City Attorney Tamilarasan provided an update on the tobacco litigation pending before the Ohio Supreme Court. She stated that the case was fully briefed and that the court scheduled oral argument for Tuesday, June 9, 2026. She noted that she would inform the Council if the court made the argument available for streaming or provided other means of access. She stated that all briefs, including several filed on the appellant side and multiple amicus curiae briefs, were available on the Ohio Supreme Court's website.

### K. COUNCIL COMMENT:

Councilmember Renner expressed appreciation to his colleagues and Mayor Jadwin for the joint resolution recognizing Earth Day. He stated that the resolution was actionable and forward-looking and expressed his impression with the activities led by City Hall and community organizations. He emphasized the importance of remembering that every day is Earth Day and that caring begins with sharing the places the community values.

Councilmember Schnetzer shared that a friend forwarded him a recent 60 Minutes interview with former Senator Ben Sasse, which he watched. He noted that Senator Sasse faced a diagnosis of stage 4 pancreatic cancer and acknowledged limited time. He reflected on the honesty and

wisdom expressed in the interview and noted that Senator Sasse stepped away from the U.S. Senate, which he viewed as indicative of strong character. He summarized key points from the interview, including concerns that neither political party addressed significant issues and that politics had become performative. He highlighted the importance of community and relationships over political identity and encouraged others to watch the interview, noting that both an abridged and an extended version were available.

Councilmember Padova stated that she planned a litter cleanup at her daughter's school on Earth Day but had to change plans due to tree trimming and playground closure. She reported that she instead visited Creekside, where her daughter expressed disappointment at the lack of litter. She commended the team responsible for maintaining Creekside. She added that she later participated in a cleanup event where she found litter behind the Wendy's parking area, and thanked those who participated in keeping the city clean.

Councilmember Bowers thanked Councilmember Schnetzer for referencing the Sasse interview and stated that its message resonated with her. She reflected on the importance of using time effectively to benefit the community. She reported that the Columbus Metropolitan Club Forum hosted a discussion on data centers and encouraged others to view it online, noting that panelists discussed energy, infrastructure, and land use impacts. She also announced an upcoming "Breaking the Silence" panel discussion and resource fair on April 29, 2026, at ETSS focused on domestic violence and related issues, including participation from local experts. She referenced a domestic violence fatality report and noted that incidents between domestic partners remained high despite overall declines in homicide rates. She also referenced her constituent report and highlighted recognition of volunteer contributions, including honoring an Eagle Scout, and emphasized the importance of civic engagement.

Vice President Jones thanked Councilmember Schnetzer for sharing the interview and stated that she appreciated the message and intended to watch it.

President Weaver echoed his colleagues' comments and expressed appreciation for the success of the community grants program, noting the

strong participation from organizations and the continued need within the community.

[2026-0081](#)

Councilmember Merisa K. Bowers' Constituent Report - March-April 2026

**L. ADJOURNMENT:**

*With no further business before the Council, President Weaver adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m.*

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**Jeremy A. VanMeter**  
Clerk of Council

*APPROVED by the City Council, this  
day of 2026.*

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**Trenton I. Weaver**