



City of Gahanna

Meeting Minutes

Committee of the Whole

200 South Hamilton Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230

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

Jeremy A. VanMeter, Clerk of Council

Monday, June 1, 2026

City Hall, Council Chambers

Immediately following the regular City Council meeting beginning at 7:00 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER:

Gahanna City Council met for Committee of the Whole on Monday, June 1, 2026, in Council Chambers. Vice President of Council Jamille Jones, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:06 p.m. The agenda was published on May 29, 2026. All members were present at the meeting. There were no additions or corrections to the agenda.

B. ITEMS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION:

[ORD-0020-2026](#) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS - State Capital Grant Fund and Capital Improvement Fund for Academy Park and Friendship Park Projects

Stephania Ferrell, Director of Parks and Recreation, requested an ordinance authorizing supplemental appropriations related to improvements at Academy Park and Friendship Park. Director Ferrell reported that the City was awarded a \$113,000 scrap tire grant through the efforts of Management Analyst Sean Bock and Project Manager Catherine Eichel. The grant will support the installation of a poured-in-place playground surface as part of the Academy Park playground renovation project. She explained that the funding will allow the entire playground surface to utilize poured-in-place material rather than a combination of poured-in-place surfacing and engineered wood fiber, resulting in improved accessibility and inclusivity. Director Ferrell stated that the grant requires a 100 percent local match and the establishment of a separate account for grant administration. She

explained that a separate account has already been set up. She requested a supplemental appropriation totaling \$226,000, consisting of the grant award and required local match, from the unencumbered, unappropriated balance of the State Capital Grant Fund to the Ohio EPA grant account established for the Academy Park project.

Director Ferrell also reported that Parks Manager Zac Guthrie presented the Friendship Park playground improvement project to the Gahanna Kiwanis Club. She stated that the organization donated \$10,000 to support the project. The donation will be used to enhance the playground value and inclusive features of the playground. Director Ferrell requested a supplemental appropriation of \$10,000 from the unencumbered, unappropriated balance of the Capital Improvement Fund for the Friendship Park playground project.

There were no questions or concerns raised by members of Council.

Recommendation: Introduction/First Reading on Regular Agenda on 6/15/2026; Second Reading/Vote on Consent Agenda on 7/6/2026.

[RES-0021-2026](#)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND AND AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO THE STATE CAPITAL GRANT FUND FOR THE ACADEMY PARK PROJECT

Director Ferrell requested a resolution authorizing the transfer of appropriations within the Capital Improvement Fund and the transfer of funds to the State Capital Grant Fund for the Academy Park playground project. Director Ferrell explained that the legislation would authorize the transfer of \$113,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund to the State Capital Grant Fund to satisfy the local match requirements associated with the scrap tire grant awarded for the Academy Park playground renovation project.

No questions or concerns were raised by members of Council.

Recommendation: Introduction/Vote on Consent Agenda on 6/15/2026.

C. ITEMS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE:

[RES-0017-2026](#)

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TAX BUDGET OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA, OHIO, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2027

Joann Bury, Director of Finance, presented the proposed 2027 Tax Budget and requested adoption of a resolution authorizing its submission to the Franklin County Budget Commission. She explained that the annual tax budget is required to allow the Budget Commission to determine the City's need for existing tax levies and establish the corresponding levy amounts and rates.

President Weaver requested clarification regarding an increase in expenditures within the Community Environment category reflected in the 2025 actual financial data. Director Bury explained that the increase was primarily attributable to the Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) supplemental appropriation approved during 2025. President Weaver inquired about projected 2026 expenditures exceeding anticipated revenues. Director Bury stated that the variance was attributable to a supplemental appropriation approved late in 2025 for the Central Ohio Health Care Consortium (COHCC) assessment. She explained that the associated encumbrances rolled into 2026 when payment was made, resulting in a limited use of fund balance during the fiscal year.

No additional questions were raised by members of Council.

Recommendation: Introduction/Vote on Consent Agenda on 6/15/2026.

D. ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business before the Committee of the Whole, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

Jeremy A. VanMeter
Clerk of Council

APPROVED by the Committee of the Whole, this
day of 2026.

Jamille Jones