



City of Gahanna

Meeting Minutes

City Council

200 South Hamilton Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230

Brian Metzbower, President
Stephen A. Renner, Vice President
Karen J. Angelou
Brian D. Larick
Jamie Leeseberg
Nancy R. McGregor
Michael Schnetzer

Krystal Gonchar, Deputy Clerk of Council
Council may caucus at 6:30 p.m.

Monday, June 3, 2019

7:00 PM

City Hall, Council Chambers

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

Gahanna City Council met in Regular Session on Monday, June 3, 2019, in Council Chambers of City Hall, 200 S. Hamilton Road, Gahanna, Ohio. President of Council, Brian Metzbower, called the meeting to order at 7:22 p.m. Vice President of Council, Stephen Renner, delivered an invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Agenda for this meeting was published on May 31, 2019.

Present 7 - Karen J. Angelou, Jamie Leeseberg, Stephen A. Renner, Michael Schnetzer, Brian D. Larick, Brian Metzbower, and Nancy R. McGregor

B. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA: None.

C. HEARING OF VISITORS: None.

D. INTRODUCTIONS AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE:

Ordinances - To Be Introduced and Assigned to Committee:

Vice President Renner introduced the items under Section D.

[ORD-0048-2019](#) TO LEVY THE ASSESSMENTS FOR CERTAIN REAL ESTATE ON PRICE ROAD AND JAMES ROAD, FOR SANITARY SERVICES.

This item was introduced.

[ORD-0050-2019](#) TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH BRONSON BATTLE CREEK HOSPITAL, DBA HELPNET EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

This item was introduced.

[ORD-0053-2019](#) SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION- Hamilton Road TIF.

This item was introduced.

[ORD-0054-2019](#) TO AMEND SECTION 133.09 - CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND, OF CHAPTER 133 - DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, OF TITLE FIVE- ADMINISTRATIVE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA.

This item was introduced.

[ORD-0055-2019](#) TO ESTABLISH THE FOLLOWING THREE SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS: PUBLIC SAFETY FUND, PUBLIC SERVICE FUND, AND PARKS & RECREATION FUND; TO DEPOSIT MONEYS GENERATED FROM THE TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE ONE PERCENT INCOME TAX INCREASE AUTHORIZED BY THE VOTERS ON MAY 7, 2019.

This item was introduced.

[ORD-0056-2019](#) SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION- 2019 Funding.

This item was introduced.

[ORD-0057-2019](#) TO APPOINT APRIL BEGGEROW AS CLERK OF COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF GAHANNA, AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

This item was introduced.

E. CONSENT AGENDA:

Minutes - To Approve:

[2019-0077](#) Council Meeting Minutes to be approved.

These Minutes were Approved on the Consent Agenda.

Ordinance to Adopt as Emergency and Waive Second Reading:

[ORD-0051-2019](#) SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION- TEMPORARY WORK AT A HIGHER CLASSIFICATION FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE & ENGINEERING; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

This Ordinance was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Ordinances on Second Reading:

[ORD-0045-2019](#) TO AMEND CHAPTER 945- WEEDS AND GRASS, OF TITLE FIVE- OTHER PUBLIC SERVICES, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA.

This Ordinance was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Resolutions to Adopt on First Reading:

[RES-0006-2019](#) TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SUBMIT A FORMAL GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE 2019 OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ODOT) MUNICIPAL BRIDGE PROGRAM; AND TO AUTHORIZE THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO ESTABLISH A SPECIAL FUND FOR THE GRANT, IF AWARDED.

This Resolution was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Pass the Consent Agenda

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

Yes: 7 - Angelou, Leeseberg, Renner, Schnetzer, Larick, Metzbower and McGregor

End of the Consent Agenda**F. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

[ORD-0042-2019](#) TO AMEND PART ELEVEN, PLANNING AND ZONING CODE, CHAPTERS: 1105, 1108, 1131, 1133, 1153, 1169, 1177, 1181, AND 1193, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA.

President Metzbower opened the Public Hearing at 7:25 p.m. There were no speakers so he closed the Public Hearing at 7:25 p.m. After opening and closing the Public Hearing for ORD-0047-2019 after no one wished to speak, a resident approached and said she wished to speak on the ordinance regarding public hearing notices.

Metzbower entertained a motion to re-open the public hearing for ORD-0042-2019. A motion was made by Leeseberg, seconded by Angelou, to re-open the public hearing. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes- (7) Leeseberg, Angelou, McGregor, Metzbower, Renner, Schnetzer, Larick.

Metzbower opened the Public Hearing at 7:28 p.m.

Diana Redman, 598 Codrington Circle; stated that she was not in favor of eliminating the legal ads in the newspaper; stated that she reads the paper and does not want to rely on social media, the city website, or have to take a trip to City Hall in order to find out when the public hearings will be; stated that Council should consider waiting a year in order to get the word out to residents that this change will occur in the next year or so.

Metzbower closed the Public Hearing at 7:29 p.m.

[ORD-0047-2019](#) TO AMEND PART ELEVEN, PLANNING AND ZONING CODE, CHAPTER 1165 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA.

Metzbower opened the Public Hearing at 7:29 p.m. There were no public comments. Metzbower closed the Public Hearing at 7:30 p.m.

Metzbower asked staff if there was a presentation. Deputy Director of Planning & Development, Michael Blackford, stated that there was nothing additional to add to what was discussed at the Committee of the Whole discussion.

G. COMMITTEE UPDATES: None.

H. CORRESPONDENCE AND ACTIONS:

Clerk: None.

Council: None.

I. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES:

[ORD-0043-2019](#) TO AUTHORIZE A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA AGREEMENT (CRA) WITH SUBURBAN STEEL SUPPLY CO. LLC, FOR A TAX ABATEMENT FOR A TWELVE YEAR PERIOD; FOR ONE HUNDRED PERCENT PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT ON THE INCREASED VALUE OF THE PROPERTY; FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1900 DEFFENBAUGH COURT; PARCEL ID NO. 025-013006; PART OF COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA #1.

Renner stated for the record that he would have to abstain from voting; he works for the County Commissioners, who had to weigh in on this item.

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

Yes: 6- Larick, Leeseberg, McGregor, Metzbower, Schnetzer, Angelou

Abstain: 1- Renner, COI

[ORD-0042-2019](#) TO AMEND PART ELEVEN, PLANNING AND ZONING CODE, CHAPTERS: 1105, 1108, 1131, 1133, 1153, 1169, 1177, 1181, AND 1193, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA.

Leeseberg requested that the Ordinance be brought back to Committee of the Whole; had additional questions for the City Engineer, who is not present tonight.

Angelou asked that the questions for the City Engineer be prepared in advance. Leeseberg confirmed that he would.

A motion was made by Leeseberg, seconded by Renner, that the Ordinance was Postponed to Date Certain, to the Committee of the Whole, due back on 6/10/2019. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Angelou, Leeseberg, Renner, Schnetzer, Larick, Metzbower and McGregor

[ORD-0047-2019](#) TO AMEND PART ELEVEN, PLANNING AND ZONING CODE, CHAPTER 1165 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA.

Larick asked Blackford to address the color choices for electronic signs; why limit the colors when there are other colors being used today.

Blackford said as part of discussions with Planning Commission that the amber color was least intrusive than signs with red for example, that have a more adverse effect; as our discussion evolved, we opened up the idea for more colors if approved by Planning Commission; the idea was to limit the impact of electronic signs.

Leeseberg said the conversation had to deal with full screens being very distracting too. Larick said this is a good update, better than where we were.

Metzbower asked if these specific standards were based on surrounding communities; did this come about from a conference. Blackford said after the code was written, was fortunate enough to attend a conference on signage, and learned a lot about what can and cannot be limited due to the First Amendment; the changes we made are enforceable; we were not concerned with what surrounding communities were doing so much as what struggles we had; wanted to make a more modern code but not character changing. Metzbower asked if this was reviewed by legal counsel. Ewald confirmed.

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

Yes: 7 - Angelou, Leeseberg, Renner, Schnetzer, Larick, Metzbower and McGregor

J. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES: None.

K. RESOLUTIONS/MOTION RESOLUTIONS: None.

L. REPRESENTATIVES:

Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) - Larick

Larick said the next CIC meeting will be 6/18/19 but he will not be able to attend.

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) - Angelou

Angelou said the MORPC Executive meeting will be held this week and the regular meeting will be next week.

Government Liaison - Metzbower

No report.

Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) - Schnetzer

Schnetzer said the Creekside Blues & Jazz fest is only 12 days away, and they are still looking for volunteers; visit creeksidebluesandjazz.com to sign up.

M. OFFICIAL REPORTS:

Mayor- Not present.

City Attorney

Ewald said to enjoy the summer, and be safe because the children are out for the summer; please drive safely; law enforcement will be out in strong forces.

N. COUNCIL COMMENT

Angelou said after 26 years, our community is losing a wonderful figure,

Pastor Kai Neilsen is leaving Peace Lutheran and moving to Minnesota; is very sad that he is leaving; there is an event at Nostalgia until 8 p.m. if anyone wants to attend; wishes the best for him and his family.

Leeseberg reiterated what the City Attorney said, about driving slow in the community.

McGregor stated that drowning does not look like it does on tv; at Foxboro pool there was a young child rolling in the pool without a floatation device, and my daughter was able to jump in and save the child who was later taken to the hospital and will be ok; there was no thrashing around; must be careful.

Larick stated that he was not aware of Kai Neilsen leaving the community, he is a resident of Ward 3.

Metzbower said that over Memorial Day weekend, he took his daughters to the Gahanna pool and the new liner is a great addition.

Angelou stated that the Memorial Day celebration was wonderful, probably the best I've been too; McGregor's granddaughter sang the National Anthem, the speaker was beautiful. Larick said she was the best speaker he had seen in a long time. Angelou said she was a Gold Star wife and had a great story. McGregor said it was a powerful and moving speech.

O. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Leeseberg, seconded by Angelou, to go into Executive Session under authority of Section 5.40(a) to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official, or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual, unless the public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual requests a public hearing.

Council rose to report to Executive Session at 7:49 p.m. Council rose to report from Executive Session at 8:15 p.m. with no action taken.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Angelou, Leeseberg, Renner, Schnetzer, Larick, Metzbower and McGregor

P. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:15 p.m.