

City of Gahanna

*200 South Hamilton Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230*



Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 7, 2008

Council May Meet in Caucus Prior to regular meeting.

7:30 PM

City Hall

City Council

Nancy R. McGregor, President

Thomas C. Evers, Vice President

Beryl D. Anderson

Shane Ewald

Thomas R. Kneeland

John R. McAlister

David L. Samuel

Isobel L. Sherwood, MMC, Clerk of Council

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

Gahanna City Council met in Regular Session on Monday, July 7, 2008, in Council Chambers of City Hall, 200 South Hamilton Road, Gahanna, Ohio. President of Council Nancy R. McGregor called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Council Vice President Evers delivered the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Agenda for this meeting was published on July 1, 2008.

Members Present: Nancy R. McGregor, Thomas C. Evers, Thomas R. Kneeland, Shane W. Ewald, John McAlister, Beryl D. Anderson and David L. Samuel

B. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Motion by Kneeland, seconded by Evers, to add MR-0029-2008 to the Consent Agenda. ROLL CALL: Voting yes: Kneeland, Evers, Ewald, McAlister, McGregor, Samuel, Anderson. Motion carried.

C. HEARING OF VISITORS:

State Representative James F. McGregor, 180 Academy Ct., Gahanna, OH, thanked Council for their time; wanted to give a quick annual report; one bill of great concern was for a study of local governments; with your input many changes were made; this City has strived to work with other entities and share costs for services which have resulted in huge savings; the Indiana model which was used was dictatorial; many cities protested; rewritten and passed in the budget bill; future is going to be more expensive for everyone; have to find ways to save money; thank you for your calls on that bill; energy is increasing in cost and will continue to for a number of years; traditional forms of energy have been increasing dramatically; coal is a major export for the US; Ohio especially is well positioned to take advantage of technologies like wind; wind is proceeding in Ohio; good opportunities in Lake Erie; out of the sea lanes and the bird migratories we can build thousands of large industrial wind turbines which will produce enough energy to light the entire state; fuel cells are extensive and price is coming down; expect thousands of farms will begin to capture their methane; that happened here 15 years ago in Gahanna and Council made it possible; couldn't have worked if we hadn't allowed a company to capture that methane; was a successful use of that; ODOT needs to do the same thing by allowing our rights of way to be used to allow carbon dioxide to be sequestered; ODOT has taken an extraordinarily narrow and ignorant view for pipelines for this use; our rights of way are for use of the public to accomplish good things; now the sequestration of carbon is important; we are a big farm state which means we have a lot of methane; we can capitalize on what is on the market today; we are still the 3rd or 4th largest manufacturing state in the union which allows us to build those windmills and we should encourage all invention and engineering companies to accomplish that; in the interim prices will go up; am chair of the Alternative Energy Committee; part of SB 221 is the alternative energy provisions; continue to fight for the right to use our rights of way for carbon sequestration.

Anderson asked McGregor his thoughts on the long term and the Governor's stimulus package short term; in the legislative branch what is the vision for the short term fix and is Ohio at the bottom instead of the top of the list regarding economics? McGregor noted we have seen strong industrial growth in some areas; with regard to solar cells we are the center of the world; WalMart is now starting to cover their roofs for solar cells; strong growth in the Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus corridor with significant growth in the economy; other areas are in trouble; Columbiana County has an opportunity for a \$5.5 billion chemical plant in that county to allow that area to grow; Bart Energy will turn Ohio coal to liquid fuel; what they need from us is use of rights of

way for carbon sequestration; sulphur is one more product; great opportunity for 20% increase in coal production in Ohio once Bart opens; another one is the Lake Erie Wind; as Chair of Alternative Energy Committee, am working with billable, saleable lots for windmills in the lake; want to see ODNR subdivide that lake bottom and take that before the Energy Siting Committee so we have buildable lots and when we have investors ready to go we will be ready; can only improve the aquatic environment; another win-win; Cuyahoga is the wealthiest county in the state although Cleveland itself has problems; just recently passed payday lending bill; think its a fine bill; was a lot of concern by payday industry that it would put them out of business; here in Gahanna, KEMBA Credit Union already has a product on the market that provides our citizens with short term money within the law; fear that there would not be a product to meet those concerns has proved to be false and have fine institutions leading the charge. Profit is not a dirty word in the 20th district.

Kneeland noted that the energy alternatives are very intriguing; need as a country to look at those; commend you for taking the fight up for us on HB 521; would be a stranglehold on local government; could have been disastrous; two things come to mind; know intentions were one thing but outcome was something else; lead by example comes to mind and state can do a self examination; with regard to our joint use, I think a lot of our cities are doing that; other term is glass houses; enough areas at the state that need to be looked at instead of trying to find ways to stranglehold local municipalities, which original 521 would have done; thank you for taking up the fight to get us out of that; think what passed is more what was wanted. McGregor noted that 521 is dead but original concept went into the budget bill; have other cities look at Gahanna and what we have done; best practices bill is now what it is; are a lot of things we at the state could do; ODOT has 30,000 acres of right of way along freeways which they mow with expensive gas; certainly there are run up areas where they don't want anything solid and that's a good thing; but instead of mowing that right of way they could raise switch grass for diesel fuel and jet fuel for us; devoted in our committee to getting those changes through; working harder and smarter.

McAlister asked if it would be possible to get minutes of your committee. McGregor stated he can get minutes to you for the last year or so; presently adjourned for the summer; not having meetings until September; will have a meeting in our committee; glad to put you on the mailing list.

Weber asked status of Mayor's Court bill. McGregor stated he feels it is dead at this point; but like a cancer may pop back on us; comes up every so often; presently the system works well; we have a marvelous local justice system which is swift and sure; absolute right to appeal downtown; there are other ways for City to economize; local government needs broader authority not less; Mayor's Court bill is similar to mandarin system in China; brilliant leaders that were given power of life and death; never invented for ruling a conquered people; we are not a conquered people and we want to rule ourselves; Mayor's Courts are a democracy at its best; may be dead for this year; will continue to fight.

Anderson thanked McGregor for all he does and for his report.

Jeff Carson, Gahanna Jefferson Board of Education, stated we have an exciting event on September 6; we are hosting the first annual Grid Iron Classic with Chris Spielman; Cleveland Glenville is coming here for a football match we hope will be televised; could bring 10,000 visitors; want to pack the house; will have breakfast in the morning, see Ohio State play Ohio University and then come back here and battle it out in the evening; hope to continue that tradition; we approved the FY08 actual budget and

09-12 projected; hope with this to stay off the ballot until 2010; every elementary school will have full day kindergarten; announced that Brad Barbosa has been hired as principal at MSE; Mark White as Assistant Superintendent, Beth Speith as Testing Coordinator, Barb Murdock from Chapelfield to the administration and Scott Schmidt as principal at Chapelfield; Kroger site is driving innovation on two fronts; academically it is driving our faculty and administrators to think about educating students in the 21st century; ways we can move up and out; faculty and administration are excited; the parallel is that we are looking for ways to finance it; public private partnerships are being explored; everything is on the table right now; very excited about that; Superintendent goals meeting was held and one of the goals is the environmental readiness committee; lay out a 1 year and a 5 year map for the district on how to reduce our carbon footprint; run off solar paneling etc; will be bringing forth recommendations to the administration; let me know if there is anyone in the community who might wish to serve; looking to staff this and do good things.

Samuel asked if enrollment figures are following projections. Carson stated we lost students from beginning of year to end of year; started out with a number but was lower at end of year; suspect it has plateaued out for the next year also; think we decreased by about 80 students.

Anderson asked for clarification and goals for community on this new committee. Carson stated they will be making recommendations to the administration to reduce the carbon footprint in the schools; something we can do now or 5 years from now; put together a comprehensive plan; things like we would need a 10 year budget to do "X" but we can put it in a plan; new construction would meet this technology; can't do it today; OSU has done it; percentages and emphasis on green technology and weight in building; something I'd like to do.

Steven Guendert, 214 McKenna Creek Drive; stated he hoped everyone had a nice July 4th weekend; we had a lot of fun; couple of things tonight; first is the bleak financial picture article; hope you are not looking to raise taxes; McGregor did a great job in his 18 years; read the Creekside article and then it began to make sense to me; Creekside seems to be doing well and businesses are doing well; had concerns when reading the article when it talked about the lack of business acumen with business owners; have an MBA but it doesn't take that to ask why a person managing the project wouldn't take into account a major piece of federal legislation; we are looking at a major expense regarding ADA; don't see anybody accepting responsibility for that; we are at 60% cost overruns; on a \$10.5 million project in the corporate world, the person responsible would be shown the door at such a tremendous overrun; a 15 year projection on payback period seems to be quite expensive and extensive; lot of smoke screens being thrown around and is hard to get information; in closing, what you typically see with government project is one of two things - incompetence or fraud; ask you tonight to take a look at passing a resolution requesting the State Auditor to come in and audit the Creekside project and look at the Development Director.

Mike Dehlendorf, 7459 Spanish Bay Ct., Blacklick, Oh, stated he agreed with Guendert regarding having the State Auditor come in; also have the Ohio Ethics Commission look at it; will be holding a press conference next Wednesday outside of Seekers at 4:00 p.m.

D. INTRODUCTIONS AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE:

Ordinances - To Be Introduced and Assigned to Committee:

Ordinances introduced, by title, by Evers.

ORD-0136-2008

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO ACCESS AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN VRG II OR ASSIGNED AFFILIATES WHICH INCLUDES CENTRAL PARK PARTNERS AND THE CITY OF GAHANNA, OHIO, FOR TEMPORARY ACCESS TO THE CITY OF GAHANNA FUEL SITE ON SCIENCE BOULEVARD.

Introduced

ORD-0137-2008

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH SAFEX FOR SAFETY SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF GAHANNA; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Introduced

ORD-0139-2008

TO ACCEPT THE ANNEXATION OF 3.9+/- ACRES FROM JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP TO THE CITY OF GAHANNA, OHIO, LOCATED AT 4705 EAST JOHNSTOWN ROAD; REQUESTED BY DOUGLAS R. MCCLOUD, AGENT FOR PETITIONER EDWARD J. DOERSAM.

Introduced, to Committee of the Whole

E. CONSENT AGENDA:**Minutes - To Approve:**

2008-0001

1) July 7, 2008 Regular Meeting Minutes

This Matter was Approved, on the Consent Agenda.

Ordinance: Introduce, Waive Second Reading, Adopt as Emergency:**ORD-0138-2008**

TO AMEND SECTION 333.01, DRIVING OR PHYSICAL CONTROL WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE, OF CHAPTER 333, OVI, MISCONDUCT, SPEED, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

This Matter was Introduced, Second Reading Waived, and Adopted as an Emergency on the Consent Agenda.

Ordinances on Second Reading:**ORD-0131-2008**

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION - Salaries and Fringe Benefits

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0132-2008

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH SZD WHITEBOARD, LLC, FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BROADBAND PROJECTS, AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

This Matter was Adopted as an Emergency on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0134-2008

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH GEORGE J. IGEL & CO., INC. FOR SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION, IMP. SA# 921, AT HANNAH FARMS PARK; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

This Matter was Adopted as an Emergency on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0135-2008

TO REZONE 3.861+/- ACRES AS L-SO, LIMITED OVERLAY - SUBURBAN OFFICE; FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 167 STYGLER ROAD, NATIONAL

CHURCH RESIDENCES; NATIONAL CHURCH RESIDENCES, OWNER, BY
GEORGE BERARDI, APPLICANT.

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Ordinance - To Amend by Substitution and Adopt:

ORD-0102-2008

TO ADOPT THE FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
GUIDELINES, DATED DECEMBER, 2007

This Matter was Amended by Substitution and Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Motion Resolution:

MR-0026-2008

Motion Resolution that this Council has no objection to the transfer of the D1, D2 and D3 Liquor Permits from Nagi International LLC, dba Maharajas, 389 Stoneridge Lane, Gahanna, to Casa Gahanna LLC, 93 North High Street, Gahanna, Ohio.

This Matter was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

MR-0027-2008

Motion Resolution that this Council has no objection to the transfer of the D1, D2 and D6 Liquor Permits from George T II LLC, dba Aladdins Eatery, 1307 Stoneridge Drive Unit 3, Gahanna, to Christos Custom Homes Inc., dba Mykonos Taverna & Bakery, 1307 Stoneridge Drive, Unit 3, Gahanna, Ohio.

This Matter was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

MR-0028-2008

Motion Resolution that this Council has no objection to the new D3 and D3A Liquor Permits for Christos Custom Homes Inc., dba Mykonos Taverna & Bakery, 1307 Stoneridge Drive, Unit 3, Gahanna, Ohio.

This Matter was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

MR-0029-2008

To approve the year 2009 Budget as submitted to Council on June 18, 2008, and to direct and authorize the Director of Finance to deliver said budget to the Franklin County Office of Budget no later than July 21, 2008.

This Matter was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

Passed The Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Kneeland, seconded by Anderson, including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes	7	President of Council McGregor, Vice President of Council Evers, Kneeland, Ewald, Anderson, McAlister and Samuel
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End of the Consent Agenda

F. PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.

G. STANDING COMMITTEES:

Development & Parks Committee - Ewald: No Report.

Public Service & Safety Committee - McAlister: No Report.

Committee of the Whole - Evers: No Report.

Finance - Kneeland:

Kneeland thanked everybody for taking the time to get through the budget; sure we will expect to see many changes as we get close to appropriations.

H. CORRESPONDENCE AND ACTIONS:**Clerk - Legal:****CC-0003-2008**

To recommend to Council changes to Title Three - Zoning, of Part Eleven - Planning and Zoning Code, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Gahanna by replacing Chapter 1179, Satellite Earth Station with new Code pertaining to Personal Wireless Service Facilities.

Clerk noted the Public Hearing will be held on August 4, 2008.

Scheduled for Public Hearing**2008-0027**

To recommend to Council the vacation of a portion of a water line easement for property located at 207 Highmeadow Drive, Deborah S. Kellogg, owner; City of Gahanna by Karl Wetherholt, City Engineer, applicant.

President scheduled this item for Public Service and Safety Committee.

Received and Filed

Council: None.

I. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES: None.**J. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:****ORD-0140-2008**

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION - Creekside/Unsuitable Soils

Introduced by title, by Evers.

President noted we will discuss in committee next week; however, White asked to make a short presentation this evening. (Clerk's Note: A power point presentation, attached to the hard copy of these minutes as EXHIBIT A was presented).

White asked to clarify a statement made earlier about the business acumen of tenants at Creekside; my statement was to the fact that they are not national or regional tenants but local; business acumen is that of what small businesses would have.

Ewald stated that in 2004 we approved a concept and we signed an initial developers agreement; basically a box in which everything would be based; we were all aware that there would be changes along the way; we approved all the items that you have listed including accepting grants for the streetscape and additional income we have applied to the project. White replied that was correct.

Evers asked if the administration was still seeking waiver of second reading. Stinchcomb stated it is up to Council; broke the request into three separate ordinances; developer is looking to be paid; if you feel comfortable at this point then request you pass them; if you wish to discuss further in committee, that is acceptable; is how you would like to proceed. Weber stated you can do first reading or you can do a waiver. Ewald stated he has no objection to a waiver on ORD-0140-2008; ready to move forward with that one; would like to see the other two deferred to committee. McGregor stated based on conversations with others have no objection to

ORD-0140-2008 moving forward; feel it is best to bring the other two back next week. McAlister stated he agreed with Ewald.

McAlister commented that he recalls the night of the vote approving the concept; believe it was my concept that said in building a doghouse you will spend more than you anticipate; this was a \$10.5 million project; made comment that night that it would cost a lot more than that; would you have voted for \$16.5 million? is a rhetorical question; voted for some of these supplementals that have come down through the years; what choice did we have? remember buying a product for my personal business which was going to be \$12,000; once bought, found developer was on verge of bankruptcy; he did a conference call with everyone who purchased and said believed in his heart he could do it but circumstances were beyond my control; only way out is for everyone to pay another \$4,000 and you will each get a product; that's about how I felt when I voted for these; it made sense to locate the pump room where it is; stage configuration was additional; a place for a police office; was just like backing me into a corner; don't want to be the scab that helped take down Creekside; I never wanted Creekside; would say to the schools before you enter into an agreement, see me first; will vote for every one of these; that's my feeling on it; that's the only way I can justify voting yes.

Kneeland stated he will answer McAlister; I would have supported \$16.5 million for the community park, for the part of Gahanna we recreated and the economic engine we created; with any type of sizeable project, we usually have a contingency; on this project, we had no contingency; everything that was a change order was not an overrun but an upgrade; did not think we would be able to stay within the constraints we originally outlined without some changes; still firmly behind this project

Evers stated he was one of the original supporters; continue to be because of the standpoint of that economic engine; look at the pro forma; does provide revenue; could challenge Isler on how much revenue this building produces; Creekside is a different project; focus on being an economic catalyst; we took an old gas station, an old building that housed a post office, a run down apartment building, among others, that was providing no meaningful economic stream for the City; some of our predecessors when they looked at our Industrial Zone were faced with this same turmoil; they turned it into the economic engine that provides 12.5% of our income tax; we are lower than most of the other communities in Central Ohio; our predecessors had the vision to see that land as an economic engine; classifying as overruns is a misrepresentation at best; we have three additional changes; unsuitable soils was part of the contract and has been outstanding for a long time; with regard to the other items, would it have been ideal if we hadn't made them? maybe, but they enhanced the project and don't negatively impact the pro forma; also willing to send back to committee the other two ordinances.

Samuel stated he is a new member and was not involved in the decision making; think we need to continue to do a better job of informing the public on projects like this; commend White for information provided tonight; but in going forward we need to constantly inform the public clearly so they understand what is going on.

Ewald stated that when we started the project goals were two fold; one to revitalize Olde Gahanna and to turn it into an opportunity to bring jobs into Gahanna; actually brought another opportunity in that going forward not only does it provide the opportunity for jobs but also for additional revenue from parking garage; not funded by taxpayer dollars; is to be self sustaining by 2015; at this point we need to draw attention to the fact that it is a bonded project; does bring in income; Evers makes good point that public projects don't usually pay projects back; that is something to

remember.

Anderson stated she was also not a member of Council when this was originally done but was a resident; reiterate that these decisions were made in an open forum; discussions were vetted; people were given the opportunity to share their opinions through all of this and Council voted for what the public wanted; Creekside is bonded but it is an investment on many different levels; is an opportunity to Gahanna as it will attract visibility for economic opportunity and growth; allows people to connect with the park and golf course; has opportunity to begin something that is a process and a project; there will always be some extenuating circumstances or some cost overrun or ideas that will generate something new; but also from the things heard from being on Council there is the importance of knowing what is going on in your community; there needs to be more communication and more diverse communication; everyone knows City Council meets on a regular basis; onus is also on the community to come out to help facilitate that; will be voting on the supplemental for the unsuitable soils; would like the opportunity on other two issues for further discussion; also like for people to know that committees are also an open meeting; we can vet that out further; all of this process is open; each of us has something to say; onus is not just on elected officials; each of us has something to give; you also have to take responsibility; applaud the process and urge you to get involved if you have a concern; come not only to meetings but to committee meetings.

Stinchcomb stated a lot of good points have been raised and won't repeat; need to emphasize this was an as-built project; different than what we have done; is different for government; was not designed to a "T" and then put out to bid; comment made that there are lessons to be learned; there will be; what we have learned and what we would have; why did we do it as an as-built? because it was not designed; we picked a developer; we had developers come in and apply; had three designs; we chose this one; we knew in 2004 costs were rising; the cost of oil, cement, etc; if we were to try to rebuild today would cost substantially more; chose to do as an as-built; developer signed and committed to a fixed price contract; his investment is substantially greater because he kept his word; costs are going to continue to rise; those that know Isler and Mumma know we have an excellent Finance Department; Mumma can account for every penny spent on that project; for all dollars that left this building, we can account for every penny.

Ewald stated that during discussions of visioning sessions we focused on an as-built because of public input, and input from other committees and Planning Commission; had 6 to 8 months of continual meetings and hundreds of people gave us their thoughts and what they would like to see; simply reiterate for press; because it was a public process it necessitated an as-built project.

A motion was made by Vice President of Council Evers, seconded by Anderson, that this matter be Waive Second Reading. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes	7	President of Council McGregor, Vice President of Council Evers, Kneeland, Ewald, Anderson, McAlister and Samuel
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A motion was made by Vice President of Council Evers, seconded by Kneeland, that this matter be Introduced, Second Reading Waived, and Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes	7	President of Council McGregor, Vice President of Council Evers, Kneeland, Ewald, Anderson, McAlister and Samuel
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ORD-0141-2008

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION - Creekside/Pond Pump Room

Introduced by title, by Evers.

Introduced, to Committee of the Whole

ORD-0142-2008

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION - Creekside/Stage Reconfiguration

Introduced by title, by Evers.

Introduced, to Committee of the Whole

K. MOTIONS/RESOLUTIONS:

RES-0011-2008

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION TO GROW OHIO'S ECONOMY.

Kneeland stated he understands the intention of this; darned if you do and darned if you don't; it's a quandary; based on N. McGregor's comments and my same feelings, believe we would be a hypocrite by supporting this and then asking for funds; won't be supporting this.

Ewald stated he agreed with Kneeland; need to go outside the box and find alternative sources of income; did not support original proposal; won't support this one; disagree with funding; but it has passed at the state; borrowing money from set asides meant for health issues was not a good idea; won't support this evening.

McAlister stated this came from MORPC resolution on the bipartisan economic stimulus; is like taking water out of shallow end and putting it in deep end or some other taxpayer's pocket; this resolution came about from a comment from Anderson asking me to come up with an alternative; this resolution is a result of that request; Section 2 states that henceforth; it is past history; promote economic development by reducing taxes for everyone in state; right now if you have a bottled water business, you have to have a bureaucrat inspect the business; what's going on in this state; economic stimulus won't happen; this is a perfectly legitimate thing to act on; we need a right to work law; if you look at a budget for millions of dollars of capital, you can't use the best and cheapest contractor to do the work; no, you have to pay up to 20% in prevailing wage to the contractors; is a direct sop to unions in this state; as long as that exists in this state we will continue to be backwards; these are legitimate things to ask our legislature; if we pass a resolution we might make a statement, but it might start a grass roots movement; as far as they are concerned we are just part of this huge thing called government; as the closest elected officials we should be staying on our state legislators; would defer to Stinchcomb as she said she would wait until Council meeting to give us her thoughts.

Stinchcomb stated she did have some issues with the whereas clauses; do feel Council's position; if Council passes this I will sign it; agree with most of it although have a problem with some of it.

Samuel stated he did support this resolution; agree with most of the principles that McAlister is supporting; not sure about supporting a grass roots effort; agree with this and it is the right thing to do.

Anderson stated she agreed with Samuel's comments and am in support; something for the record; don't think this is a precedent for something else; have spent time and thought about this; just because it passed doesn't mean we couldn't apply for funds.

McGregor stated she thinks it is hypocritical to pass this and then apply for the funds it criticizes like Clean Ohio and other things; have gotten a lot of money in the past from

these programs.

McAlister stated that not voting for those things is not being hypocritical; legislature has blackmailed us into a corner by taking the money out of Gahanna and putting it in a box; if you want it, then these are the strings you need to pull; need expertise and know how to solve this problem; that's the position that the state legislature and the federal government have put us in; not hypocritical; apply for those grants under protest.

Ewald stated he doesn't agree with intention; however, the fact that this Council chose not to support the original is a protest in itself; need to be able to apply for additional funds in good faith.

A motion was made by McAlister, seconded by Vice President of Council Evers, that this matter be Adopted. The motion failed by the following vote:

Yes	3	Anderson, McAlister and Samuel
No	4	President of Council McGregor, Vice President of Council Evers, Kneeland and Ewald

L. REPRESENTATIVES:

Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) - Ewald/Kneeland:

Kneeland stated next meeting will be August 5 to continue goals and visioning started in the last two meetings; 5:30 p.m. here in City Hall.

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) - McGregor/Anderson:

McGregor stated next meeting is July 17th.

Bd./Ed., Gahanna-Jefferson Public Schools - Evers:

Clerk noted Evers is the representative to the School Board meeting for July 10.

M. OFFICIAL REPORTS:

Mayor:

Stinchcomb stated she had been invited to the last Olde Gahanna Community Partnership meeting; received the award I have with me tonight; stated it says, "presented to City of Gahanna in recognition and appreciation of the vision, persistence, and dedication of so many who helped create Creekside Gahanna, a 'new heart' for Olde Gahanna" from the OGCP 2008; is meaningful to me more than the national awards we have won because this is from the local community; this group is individuals and small businesses who meet on their own and decide how they act and want to be recognized; they have been supportive on the whole of the Creekside project; did it for them because they knew our downtown needed to be saved and stimulated; critical mass of these businesses recognize they need to have enough business so people want to come and spend an evening or an afternoon and that it would help their businesses to grow.

Stinchcomb continued that she also wanted to bring in the communication piece that Anderson and Samuel brought in; agree we need to do a better job of communicating; is a challenge of mine; it is a tight budget year; but whether we call it a public information officer or something else, we need someone in this administration whose

sole job is to communicate; we can do this a little better; newspaper business is changing; advertising is changing; local papers have a smaller news hole while national coverage is increasing; never ever heard the word bleak mentioned in the meeting but the headline said bleak; was amazed to hear that; story was pretty good but it doesn't reflect the headline; paper came up with a headline that was unfortunate; is it a tight budget, yes it is; is it a bleak budget - no; are we much better off than other cities - yes we are; but we are tighter than typical; no it is not bleak; look at our expenses and revenues; nothing different than we always do; agree with comments made that we need to do a better job; only so much time and only so much gets reported; we've got to get better and use new media on the Internet and better our website; anxious to hear the results from the committee and to hear from the public; have to find new ways to communicate; I am committed to it.

City Attorney: No Report.

N. COUNCIL COMMENT:

Ewald stated the fireworks were excellent.

Samuel thanked visitors for comments; also thank Collins for the Freedom Festival activities; thank Emery and Wetherholt for the public meeting regarding the Fleetrun detention.

McAlister stated he heard so many reiterations tonight that there is a myth in America when there is blight; never thought downtown was blighted; at least we did it with local money; this article about Chattanooga government using tax dollars to develop things; allowing free market solution to downtown development will not necessarily produce the results that mesh with visions of civic leaders; what appeals to an investor may not appeal to a city planner; uses that keep the market in mind will be more beneficial than those based on political wishlists; hope this huge investment will pay off for the City and that it is not someone's wish list.

Anderson thanked Collins and Parks & Recreation Department for the wonderful 4th of July weekend activities; thank those individuals for coming out and expressing your views as we share in this partnership towards making this community a better place.

Evers thanked Lions Club for the parade; very good turnout although a little smaller this year; thank City staff for all their efforts on Freedom Festival, particularly parks since it rained most of the day; Herculean efforts; regarding the fireworks will quote Maggie, my 7 year old, "the fireworks were really good this year"; thank Emery and Wetherholt for public input meeting for Fleetrun; approximately 40 to 50 residents showed up and spent time sharing their thoughts; a good example of how system and process should work.

McGregor stated she enjoyed parade; appreciate the Lion's Club; because of illness in family did not attend fireworks; last thing is that Ecclesiastes says there is a time to be born and a time to die; since our last Council meeting we welcomed our 5th grandchild - Colton Shay on June 17 and my mother-in-law passed away last night; will miss her a lot; she was a blessing to all of us.

O. ADJOURNMENT: 9:18 p.m. - Motion by Evers.

Isobel L. Sherwood, MMC
Clerk of Council

APPROVED by the City Council, this
day of 2008.

Nancy R. McGregor
President of Council