

City of Gahanna

*200 South Hamilton Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230*



Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 3, 2011

Organizational & Regular Meeting

6:30 PM

City Hall

City Council

David L. Samuel, President of Council

Brian D. Larick, Vice President of Council

Beryl D. Anderson

Shane Ewald

John R. McAlister

Nancy McGregor

Isobel L. Sherwood, MMC, Clerk of Council

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

The Honorable Rebecca W. Stinchcomb called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. and delivered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Shane W. Ewald, Nancy R. McGregor, John McAlister, Beryl D. Anderson, David L. Samuel and Brian Larick

MR-0002-2011

Motion Resolution to waive Section 5.20 of the Council Rules of Procedure to allow the organizational meeting of Council to be held at 6:30 p.m. on the day stated in Charter, January 3.

A motion was made by Ewald, seconded by Anderson, that this matter be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 6 Ewald, McGregor, Anderson, McAlister, President of Council Samuel and Vice President of Council Larick

B. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT:

A motion was made by Ewald, seconded by Anderson, to elect David L. Samuel as President of Council for the year 2011. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 6 Ewald, McGregor, Anderson, McAlister, President of Council Samuel and Vice President of Council Larick

C. ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT:

A motion was made by Ewald, seconded by Anderson, to elect Brian Larick as Vice President of Council for 2011. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 6 Ewald, McGregor, Anderson, McAlister, President of Council Samuel and Vice President of Council Larick

D. APPOINTMENTS:**MR-0001-2011**

Motion Resolution to appoint the following individuals to the 2011 Charter Review Commission: Bobbie Burba, Alvin J. McKenna, Margaret Trim and Dan Willis.

A motion was made by McAlister, seconded by Ewald, that this matter be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 6 Ewald, McGregor, Anderson, McAlister, President of Council Samuel and Vice President of Council Larick

Mayoral Charter Review Appointments:

Mayor Stinchcomb announced her Charter Review Appointments for 2011 as Andre Porter, DeWitt Harrell and Paul Bittner.

E. ESTABLISH TIME AND DAY: Regular Council Meetings; Committee Meetings

A motion was made by Vice President of Council Larick, seconded by Anderson, to establish regular Council Meetings to be held on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month, unless Monday falls on a holiday, then on the next Tuesday; Council Committees to be held on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month, unless Monday falls on a holiday, then on the next Tuesday.. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 6 Ewald, McGregor, Anderson, McAlister, President of Council
Samuel and Vice President of Council Larick

F. ADOPTION OF RULES OF COUNCIL:

A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Ewald, to adopt Council Rules of Procedure dated February 16, 2010. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 6 Ewald, McGregor, Anderson, McAlister, President of Council
Samuel and Vice President of Council Larick

G. COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES:

CIC - Samuel and Larick.

MOTION By Ewald, seconded by McAlister, to confirm the appointment of Brian Larick to the Community Improvement Corporation for the year 2011. ROLL CALL:
Voting yes: Ewald, McAlister, Anderson, Larick, McGregor, Samuel. Motion carried.

MORPC - Beryl Anderson, with another appointment to be made in order to split the assignment.

Convention & Visitors Bureau - Nancy McGregor
Office & Industrial Incentive Advisory Committee - Dave Samuel & Brian Larick
Parks & Recreation Foundation - John McAlister
Tax Incentive Review Council - Beryl Anderson
Board of Education - To rotate as follows:
January 13, 2011 - Anderson
February 10, 2011 - Ewald
March 10, 2011 - New Member
April 14, 2011 - Larick
May 12, 2011 - McAlister
June 9, 2011 - McGregor
July 14, 2011 - Samuel
August 11, 2011 - Anderson
September 8, 2011 - Ewald
October 13, 2011 - New Member
November 10, 2011 - Larick
December 8, 2011 - McAlister

H. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

Committee of the Whole - Brian Larick, Chair, as Vice President of Council, and all members of Council.

Finance Committee - Beryl Anderson, Chair, and all members of Council.

I. SPECIAL COMMITTEES: None at this time.

J. ADJOURNMENT OF ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING: 6:37 p.m. - Motion by Ewald.

K. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER:

Council President David L. Samuel called the regular meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

L. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA: None.

M. HEARING OF VISITORS: None.**N. INTRODUCTIONS AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE:****Ordinances - To Be Introduced and Assigned to Committee:**

Ordinances introduced, by title, by Anderson.

ORD-0006-2011

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH TERMINIX COMMERCIAL FOR A ONE YEAR PERIOD; FOR PEST CONTROL SERVICES AT THE GAHANNA MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE.

Introduced

ORD-0007-2011

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CHANGE ORDER AMENDMENT WITH UNDERGROUND UTILITIES, INC., TO ALLOW A REVISION TO THE LOCATION OF A PORTION OF THE SEWER LINE TO BE REALIGNED ALONG CHERRY ROAD; FOR THE WEST SIDE SEWER PROJECT; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Introduced

ORD-0008-2011

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH AMERICAN STRUCTUREPOINT INC., FOR STUDY AND ALTERNATIVES FOR THE BIG WALNUT TRAIL SECTION 8 UNDER I-270.

Introduced

ORD-0009-2011

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH BILL WALKER FOR CLEANING OF THE GAHANNA GOLF COURSE CLUB HOUSE FOR THE PERIOD OF FEBRUARY 1, 2011 THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2012; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Introduced

O. CONSENT AGENDA:**Minutes - To Approve:****2011-0003**

To approve the following sets of minutes:

- 1) December 20, 2010 Special Meeting Minutes
- 2) December 20, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes

This Matter was Approved and Filed on the Consent Agenda.

Ordinance: Introduce, Waive Second Reading, Adopt as Emergency:**ORD-0002-2011**

TO ESTABLISH THE RATES OF PAY AND BENEFITS FOR UNCLASSIFIED PERSONNEL OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2011 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2011; TO REPEAL ORD-0002-2010; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

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

ORD-0003-2011

TO ESTABLISH THE RATES OF PAY AND BENEFITS FOR COMMAND STAFF PERSONNEL OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2011 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2011; TO REPEAL ORD-0003-2010; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

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

Consent Agenda.**ORD-0004-2011**

TO ESTABLISH THE RATES OF PAY AND BENEFITS FOR SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2011 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2011; TO REPEAL ORD-0004-2010; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

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

ORD-0005-2011

TO ESTABLISH THE RATES OF PAY FOR PART-TIME PERSONNEL OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2011 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2011; TO REPEAL ORD-0005-2010; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

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

Passed The Consent Agenda

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

Yes	6	Ewald, McGregor, Anderson, McAlister, President of Council Samuel and Vice President of Council Larick
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End of the Consent Agenda**P. PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.****Q. CORRESPONDENCE AND ACTIONS:****Clerk - Legal:****2011-0002**

Letter received from Thomas R. Kneeland resigning his At-Large Council seat effective December 31, 2010.

Received and Filed

Council: None.

R. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:**ORD-0001-2011**

TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA, OHIO DURING THE FISCAL YEAR 2011

Introduced by title by Larick

Introduced

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

Yes	6	Ewald, McGregor, Anderson, McAlister, President of Council Samuel and Vice President of Council Larick
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Ewald asked what the requirement was to pass the appropriations ordinance since the waiver has passed. Weber stated it would take 5 votes to pass the waiver but 4 votes to pass the ordinance.

McGregor stated she will not support the appropriations tonight; believe this budget still has a structural deficit which means we are still spending more than our income; think there are cuts that still could be made to bring budget into balance; doesn't mean these cuts would be forever but when Gahanna citizens have their income cut they have to cut their expenses to meet the income and I think we should have a right sized government for the time and right now I think this government is a little bit large for the time; think Gahanna should lead the way and show we can cut our expenses to meet the time.

McAlister stated we have talked about this before; as I see it, the only place left to cut in this budget is salaries and benefits; am all for looking at that; know our hands are tied on the largest part of the salaries and benefits because we're hamstrung by contracts that are out of our control as far as state law is concerned; willing to vote no to keep this on the agenda and keep looking at it.

Ewald stated he doesn't disagree with what has been said; know that Council, the Mayor and administration have worked hard all year especially from budgetary time to now; will be supporting; not willing to shut government down as it were to make a political point; appreciate the positions my peers have taken, this is not a one day process; it is not a process that stops today; talked to Mayor and Directors and they have made a commitment to continue this discussion through next year's budget which will be mid-year; course corrections can be made at that time if we need to; to simply hold this hostage is not a responsible course of action; will be voting in favor of it even though I disagree with about 2% of the spending but will support; maybe some state laws will change between now and June that will have an impact on us by mid-year.

Samuel said this is a bandaid approach; but like my colleagues are saying, we will be looking at this closely all year long in meeting with the administration and with the department heads; also will be looking with CFAC members and continuing our discussions with them; this is going to continue all year long; finances will be the big thing this year.

Anderson stated she agreed with comments by peers; this is something that has not just been looked at this year but also in the past; we all do realize the importance of having a balanced budget and moving forward, but by the same token there are things that need to be accomplished; there are ideas that are being put forth and possibilities for income generation; with that in mind as we continue to look at that closely, we are not just analyzing it on a daily basis or a weekly basis but something that can be reconfigured as we move forward; will be voting in favor but with the knowledge that there is a possibility for either further cuts or further income generation as we move forward down the pike.

A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Ewald, that this matter be Introduced, Second Reading Waived, and Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes	4	Ewald, Anderson, President of Council Samuel and Vice President of Council Larick
No	2	McGregor and McAlister

S. OFFICIAL REPORTS:

Mayor:

Mayor Stinchcomb wished everyone a Happy New Year; appropriations will be an ongoing process for all of us; have opportunity to defund any line item at any time; pledge to continue to work together to make the appropriate and feasible cuts that will

still maintain a level of services that our residents want and demand from us; will be the number one topic of discussion this year; know it will be a challenge; committed to working with Council all year long; will be a challenging but good 2011.

City Attorney: No Report.

T. COUNCIL COMMENT:

McAlister stated finances will be on front burner every month; citizens demand and want services; they also do not want employees running around with \$100 deductible health insurance plans that we have to pay for; they are demanding we make these kind of changes; will put forth a resolution that I hope this Council will pass to our state assembly and to the new Governor in favor of getting this job done at the state level and get our cities and villages some relief from outrageous demands from public employee unions and outrageous benefits being made.

Anderson wished everyone a Happy New Year; as we move forward we are all in this together; thank our new President for his leadership and willingness to serve as President and for his assignment of me as Finance Chair; am committed and dedicated to that; have a law and economic background; will be diligent; will see a lot of Mumma and other directors; this is something that we cumulatively will be coming together to be creative with our individual and unique backgrounds to discuss as we move forward with these economic challenges; let's link arms and move forward.

Ewald wished everyone a Happy New Year; thank you students for coming in; at any time you have an interest in government please reach out to elected officials; there are always opportunities to serve especially through our Parks Department and some of the events put on throughout the year.

Larick stated that to Anderson's point of working together, it is imperative that we do work together; there are segments of our staff that continue to get increases that the citizenry can't continue to pay for; can't be expected to have to pay for; as we move forward and have discussions and make decisions that will decide how this moves forward; ask that all of our membership pay attention to that and thinks about that and works together moving forward.

Samuel wished everyone a Happy New Year; keep positive; there are good things around the corner for Gahanna as long as we plug away and keep working; old saying that when times get tough the tough get going; we have a group of folks up here and a dedicated group out there working for the City of Gahanna; want the union to join with us and do some sacrificing also; putting that out there; unions you need to step forward and sacrifice and help us out.

HEARING OF VISITORS:

Bill Richards, 1262 Pond Hollow Lane, stated he appreciated this opportunity to speak; I think one of the main responsibilities of government is the well being of its citizens, taking care of them and making sure they are safe; come back with me now to the Friday before Christmas and we had some snow; our street wasn't plowed; drove out onto Harrison Pond Drive and it was plowed; had this Orwellian feeling that some are more equal than others; came home and called the Service Director's office and no one was there; message said Wednesday was last day of work and no one would return until Monday and if there is a problem call Police Department which I did and spoke with the dispatcher; explained the situation and she was not sure what to do; only number she had was the number I had; I gave up; but the street still wasn't plowed and then it turned to ice and was probably an inch thick; after 3 or 4 days decided to go and see what other

streets looked like that were comparable to ours; checked on Cloverly Drive and it was very clean; checked on Serran Drive and it was pretty clean also; again an Orwellian feeling of why isn't our street getting cleared; there was no attempt to address the problem following the snowfall; it became ice and the sun was left to take care of melting the ice and snow.

With no opposition from Council time was extended for this speaker.

Richards continued that this is not just an issue of "I'm a homeowner and I deserve better treatment than anybody else"; I am a homeowner and I deserve the same treatment as everyone else; it would have been nice to have it cleared at some time especially when there was ice; during Christmas holiday there are people parking on the street; I drove down that street and an emergency vehicle could probably have gotten through but it couldn't have gone very fast; my recollection is that a house fire doubles in size every 18 seconds; would have had a tough time at curve in our street in any kind of order to get to a house fire or to a heart attack or stroke victim; know there was a lot of reasons why it was done that way; have read the newspapers; think those are reasons not excuses; but think it is the responsibility of our government to fund these things; don't understand why even after the initial snowfall the ice wasn't taken care of and we had to wait for the sun to clear it up; thank you.

Mayor Stinchcomb stated she was a bit surprised that there weren't messages referring you and that the dispatcher couldn't help; the dispatchers have been clearly instructed on what they are supposed to say; apologize for that; urge you not to give up; my home phone number is still in the book and encourage you to call; don't know that it would have made a difference; it depends; we are in tight financial times; before my taking office we did have a policy of just doing our main streets and our arterial streets; know we didn't plow courts; times got better and we changed policy and cleared every single street; think you would say that other than this year we have done a good job of it; we have a lot of compliments; people say I can tell when we enter and leave Gahanna because of how well the streets are plowed; also know from reading about Chicago and New York that snow plowing can make or break a Mayor; this is our tightest budget in 20 years of elected service; set out a streets plan where we chose to prioritize streets and it will be our main streets first, our arterial streets second, and list goes on from there; that's why you would have seen arterial streets plowed before side streets and courts; this is not the kind of cuts I enjoy; these are what we are facing as we go forward; would like to get back to the point where we could clear every street, every time; had a few complaints about streets not being cleared; this is a no win situation; also had complaints the other way; people will say why do you plow every street when there's only an inch of snow; this is a waste of taxpayer dollars; so it goes both ways; is a no win situation; will say however that we do have a backstop to this plan; the Police Department at any time day or night, if they deem a particular street dangerous, have the freedom to call our crews; even if it is only one street and we pay a 3 hour minimum by union contract to have our people come out on overtime; we always have a safety backdrop.

Emery stated he would only add that we have modified the program; have talked on other topics; our department is responsive; had we been notified of this particular situation, we would have had someone checking it out to determine what needed done' there may have been some sort of a breakdown there; don't hesitate to call me and you know how to track me down; new program in place because of our budget situation; something that has been hard for us because we always have been very aggressive and very interested in having an aggressive program; however, we spent about \$400,000 last winter because of the numerous events we had on labor and materials; we can't afford to get to that situation again; our modified program is to prioritize streets from arterials

first, to collectors second, to residential third, and to courts fourth, and that program includes mechanisms by which we plow amounts of snow, salt distribution; have to be consistent as we can be; pledge leaving here today that Richards has our program and how it functions today; even the implementation has changed already; we have followed up in some areas based on what we have seen and made modifications to that; if there has been a warranted request we have quickly modified; police have been excellent in notifying us of areas that needed to be addressed; hopefully we won't have a lot of this this winter but do have to be cognizant of the money that we're working with here and what's affordable and still provide the best product and program we can; will have an opportunity to get with Richards after tonight.

Anderson stated we normally meet at 7:00 p.m. in committees and regular meetings are at 7:30 p.m.; please feel free to come back.

U. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Vice President of Council Larick, to go into Executive Session under authority of Section 5.40(d) of the Council Rules of Procedure to prepare for, conduct or review negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning compensation or other terms and conditions of employment and also under Section 5.40(a) of the Council Rules of Procedure to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a public employee, official, licensee or regulated individual unless such public employee, official, licensee or regulated individual requests a public hearing.. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes	6	Ewald, McGregor, Anderson, McAlister, President of Council Samuel and Vice President of Council Larick
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Council rose to Executive Session at 7:05 p.m. Council rose to report from Executive Session at 8:26 p.m. with all members returning to the dais.

V. ADJOURNMENT: 8:27 p.m. - Motion by McAlister.

Stacey Bashore
Deputy Clerk of Council

*APPROVED by the City Council, this
day of 2011.*

Chair Signature