

City of Gahanna

*200 South Hamilton Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230*



Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 4, 2013

Council May Meet in Caucus Beginning at 6:45 p.m.

7:00 PM

City Hall

City Council

*Stephen A. Renner, President
Ryan P. Jolley, Vice President*

Beryl D. Anderson

Karen J. Angelou

Brian D. Larick

David L. Samuel

Brandon Wright

Isobel L. Sherwood, MMC, Clerk of Council

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

Gahanna City Council met in Regular Meeting on Monday, February 4, 2013, at Gahanna City Hall, in Council Chambers, 200 South Hamilton Road. President of Council Stephen A. Renner called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Invocation was given by Council Member Jolley followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Member Anderson. Agenda for this meeting was published on February 1, 2013.

Members Present: Stephen A. Renner, Ryan P. Jolley, Brian D. Larick, Karen J. Angelou, David L. Samuel, Beryl D. Anderson and Brandon Wright

B. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA.

A motion was made by Samuel, seconded by Anderson, to add ORD-0031-2013 to the Consent Agenda under Item E, and to move RES-0005-2013 to Regular Agenda under Item K. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 President of Council Renner, Vice President of Council Jolley, Larick, Samuel, Angelou, Anderson and Wright

C. HEARING OF VISITORS.

Claire Yoder, School Board Representative, said Dewitt Harrell our newest member is also here; glad to have him with us; enjoyed the Groundhog Day Celebration; great event; understand the fiscal issues you are facing; appreciate the City letting the school board use the chambers for meetings for many years; sharing is what Gahanna is about; Superintendent Scrucci will be holding breakfast meetings at Panera on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month; also he will have a meeting on Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m.

Dewitt Harrell said I am glad to be a part of the school board; appreciate Gahanna's Mission and Vision statements; encompasses what Gahanna is.

D. INTRODUCTIONS AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE:

Ordinances were introduced, by title, by Jolley.

Ordinances - To Be Introduced and Assigned to Committee:**ORD-0040-2013**

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION - Police Duty Weapon Fund

Introduced

ORD-0041-2013

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH POLARIS SALES INC., FOR PURCHASE OF A POLARIS RANGER 800 ALL TERRAIN VEHICLE FOR THE DIVISION OF POLICE; AND TO SUPPLEMENTALLY APPROPRIATE \$18,200.

Introduced

ORD-0042-2013

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION - Sewer Capital Improvement, Capacity Charges

Introduced

ORD-0043-2013

TO AUTHORIZE THE RELEASE OF A MASTER LEASE AGREEMENT AND A CITY LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY URBAN REDEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AND THE CITY OF GAHANNA; TO ADOPT A FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE GROUND LEASE; AND TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN A GENERAL WARRANTY DEED TO TRANSFER PROPERTY KNOWN AS 977 GAHANNA PARKWAY (LOT 18 OF THE TIZ) TO ADB AIRFIELD

SOLUTIONS, LLC.

Introduced

E. CONSENT AGENDA:

Minutes - To Approve:

2013-0004 To approve the following set of minutes:
1) January 22, 2013 Regular Meeting

Approved and Filed

Ordinance: Introduce, Waive Second Reading, Adopt as Emergency:

ORD-0039-2013 TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH MOUNT CARMEL WORKPLACE HEALTH FOR CORPORATE HEALTH & WELLNESS TO PROVIDE INITIAL ASSESSMENT AND COACHING FOR ALL EMPLOYEES AND SPOUSES ELIGIBLE FOR THE GAHANNA GATEWAY TO HEALTH PLAN; 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-0023-2013 TO ACCEPT GENERAL WARRANTY DEED FOR 0.571+- ACRE ON TAYLOR STATION ROAD; FROM FRANKLIN STEEL COMPANY BY SIDNEY BLATT

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0027-2013 AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE IMPROVEMENT TO CERTAIN PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY IN THE CITY'S HAMILTON ROAD CORRIDOR TO BE A PUBLIC PURPOSE AND EXEMPT FROM TAXATION; ESTABLISHING A TAX INCREMENT EQUIVALENT FUND AND PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTION AND DEPOSIT OF SERVICE PAYMENTS INTO THAT FUND; SPECIFYING THE PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS DIRECTLY BENEFITING THE PARCELS; AND AUTHORIZING MAKE-WHOLE COMPENSATION PAYMENTS TO THE GAHANNA-JEFFERSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE EASTLAND FAIRFIELD CAREER CENTER.

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0028-2013 TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH BILL WALKER FOR CLEANING OF THE GAHANNA GOLF COURSE CLUBHOUSE FOR THE PERIOD OF FEBRUARY 1, 2013 THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2014.

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0029-2013 TO ACCEPT GENERAL WARRANTY DEED FOR PROPERTY LOCATED ALONG TECHCENTER DRIVE, CONSISTING OF 0.379 ACRES AND 2.978 ACRES FROM VALUE RECOVERY GROUP II, LLC.

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0030-2013 DETERMINING TO PROCEED WITH THE IMPROVEMENT OF CERTAIN AREAS WITHIN THE CITY OF GAHANNA BY CONSTRUCTING AND INSTALLING AN EXTENSION TO THE TRIANGLE EAST SANITARY SEWER, SA-871; EXTENSION ALONG EAST JOHNSTOWN ROAD NORTH OF RIVA RIDGE BOULEVARD

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0031-2013

TO REZONE 5.478+/- ACRES OF PROPERTY AS SO, SUBURBAN OFFICE; SAID PROPERTY LOCATED AT 975 NORTH HAMILTON ROAD; CURRENT ZONING PCC; OTTERBEIN HOMES, APPLICANT

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0033-2013

TO APPROVE CURRENT REPLACEMENT PAGES TO THE GAHANNA CODIFIED ORDINANCES.

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0035-2013

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH FRANKLIN SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT FOR GAHANNA WORKING AGREEMENT WITH REGARD TO EPA STORMWATER REQUIREMENTS OF OUR NPDES PERMIT.

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0036-2013

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH FRANKLIN SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT FOR ASSISTANCE WITH ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION AND ELIMINATION, A MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE FOR OUR MS4 NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT.

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0037-2013

TO SUPPORT THE CITY OF COLUMBUS APPLICATION TO REDUCE THE SPEED LIMIT ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF MORSE ROAD BETWEEN HAMILTON ROAD AND US 62; AND TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS WITH THE CITY OF COLUMBUS.

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0038-2013

TO WAIVE BUILDING PERMIT FEES FOR THE RECONSTRUCT OF THE HISTORIC ONE ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE.

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Resolutions to Adopt on First Reading:

Motion Resolution:

MR-0005-2013

Motion Resolution to confirm the appointment of the Municipal Fire Inspectors as the Fire Chief of Mifflin Township, and for those areas of Gahanna served by Jefferson Township Fire Department, Fire Chief of Jefferson Township, for the period of April 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014.

This Matter was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

MR-0006-2013

Motion Resolution to adopt Council Rules of Procedure dated February 4, 2013, with change to Article 1, Force and Effect; Section 1.11, to change to 11th Edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

This Matter was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

Passed The Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Samuel, 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 Renner, Vice President of Council Jolley, Larick, Samuel, Angelou, Anderson and Wright

End of the Consent Agenda

F. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

2013-0005

To consider an amendment to Section 161.03, Imposition of Tax, and 161.18, Credit for Tax Paid to Another Municipality, of Chapter 161, Income Tax, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Gahanna, related to increasing the City Income Tax Rate to the residents of the City of Gahanna.

John Williams, 5467 Havens Corners Rd., said my wife and I have been residents of Gahanna for 15 years; not a big fan of taxes but I believe that given what is happening with the State revenues that are not going back to the City it is necessary; because of the reduction of those; it is important to maintain the quality of life; did some research today on 4 suburbs of Columbus that are willing to spend and maintain infrastructure; suburbs of 30,000 to 36,000 people; statistics of the communities that spent money to build and maintain infrastructure; they all generally have a higher educational system and better quality of life; therefore we will support the tax increase.

Tom Weber, 444 Tresham Court, said I am here for RES-0005-2013; I believe in placing this matter on the ballot and actually having it approved; we are at critical and pivotal time for Gahanna; we are in competition with other neighboring cities; we have New Albany and Westerville, both who are thriving; be aware even though we are a public entity in matters of competition, we must attract younger families with children; we are in a demographic crisis in Gahanna; people who are young and have children are looking for places to raise their families; they expect superior services; cannot be a C+ city and survive in today's market; if we are going to be a city that can't do what we need to do we go into a holding pattern and we will lose these families; also concerned about businesses; if the City can't commit to higher taxes for improvements they may not want to stay committed to Gahanna; if we are just maintaining is actually a form of decline, and if we do not do something and do it quickly, will be in a downward spiral; if we can't take care of our needs including infrastructure we will be in decline; Council is being asked to put the issue on the ballot; that should be a minimum; Council needs to go out and sell it; to work on getting it passed.

Tom Kneeland, 123 Serran Dr., said I grew up in Gahanna and served on Council for almost 18 years; my main concern is survivability; we have been living off our savings for probably 30 years; savings that accumulated because of the explosive growth in the City and the low cost of living; we need to produce a steady source of revenue; that is what most of the other communities in this area have done; build that regional equity; most businesses that I talked to are more interested in the quality of life; not so much what taxes are; urge you to get behind this; very important to the future of this community.

Ed Toney, 626 Harrow Ct., said thank you for doing what you are doing; this is for the welfare of our City; have to have the infrastructure; I've been here for 30 years and watched Gahanna grow; this is a nice city; have a great police force and fire; we need to get behind this and make Gahanna a better city; concerned about traffic and quality of life; quality of our roads; they need repair; do not want Gahanna to have a negative image; know you will use the money wisely; want a City that we can continue to be proud to live in.

Jennifer Price, 1173 Rice Ave., said I am here to ask you to place this issue on the ballot and give Gahanna citizens their voice to decide how they want their City services to be funded and at what level; Gahanna is not alone in this situation; almost every community in Central Ohio is facing the same thing; in the last 3 weeks the Columbus Dispatch has run at least 3 stories about what is happening at the local level; we all know about the huge cuts in the local government fund, and the changes in the estate tax; the City has lost a big chunk of revenue, coming at the tail end of the recession; is an issue that needs to be addressed; think the proposal before you is a good way to handle this; let Gahanna residents be able to make the decision.

Renner asked for opponents.

Ray Kautz, 199 Regents Rd., said why I am an opponent is not that I am against the tax increase, but I think it would be better to go on the November ballot; would have more voters in November and would give a better voice of what Gahanna wants; in May special election voters are down at least 20%; both New Albany and Westerville have a 2% tax rate; maybe we should consider that; not have this special election in May; not rush the process. Angelou clarified it is not a special election; is a primary; not considered special.

Alicia Holloway, 962 Bryn Mawr, said I have been a Gahanna resident for 10 years; lived all over Central Ohio; lived in Columbus, Grandview, Upper Arlington and Genoa Township; found Gahanna to be a strong community based community; great schools; do not necessarily oppose the tax increase; I agree with the previous speaker that this should not be rushed to the ballot; would shorten the ability of the public to be well informed; do not necessarily have the informed voter at the polls; I would strongly urge you to consider putting this on the ballot in November. Thank you.

Renner asked for rebuttal; there was none. Renner closed the public hearing at 7:29 p.m.

G. STANDING COMMITTEES:

Committee of the Whole - Jolley

Jolley said we did discuss the issue that Nick Hogan brought up at the last Council meeting about Council ward member terms going back to what they were before the 2011 charter change; he asked Council to put it on the May ballot; result was that we do not have enough time and information to research this and possibly look at other options; will look at it in the future.

Finance, Service & Safety - Larick: None.

Development & Parks - Wright

Wright said ORD-0043-2013, on the consent agenda, came out of committee; in a nutshell it is part of the master plan for the area in the commercial, tech district; are just speeding up the time frame for the lots in that area to be released to the private sector; making sure it is off of Gahanna's books; the second issue is the two structures in front of Creekside for shade; had discussion on them; look to getting word out to the public; can check information on the kiosk there; will be tables and chairs under the structures where people can get out of the sun; going to have a big impact on the Creekside area.

H. CORRESPONDENCE AND ACTIONS:

Clerk - Nothing.

Council

Larick said I have received emails about putting the tax issue on the ballot in November instead of May.

Anderson said I have gotten the same emails in regard to the tax issue being on the ballot in November instead of May; also in announcements I have information about a symposium to take place on May 4th at New Life Church; Sex Trafficking Awareness; effort is to bring awareness to this; is happening in Gahanna especially with us being near the airport, Easton and Stoneridge; is the fastest growing crime next to drug trafficking.

I. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES:**ORD-0032-2013**

TO AMEND SECTION 161.03, IMPOSITION OF TAX, OF CHAPTER 161, INCOME TAX, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA, RELATED TO INCREASING THE CITY INCOME TAX RATE TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA

Renner read ORD-0032-2013 by title.

Motion to adopt ORD-0032-2013 by Larick, seconded by Samuel. Discussion.

Anderson said for the audience, the request to postpone is that the electorate has to make the decision first on the tax issue; if it passes we will go ahead with this legislation; we are living in tumultuous economic times; Gahanna is not immune to that; in the Kiplinger report that Council receives states that the economy is not that bad, it's just so not good; for every job that opens up there are nearly 3 job seekers; nearly 8 million part timers can't find full time work; wages are stagnant; there is an uncertainty with regard to our economy and where we are going; families are having to tighten their belts and make priorities and very hard choices; we are asking them to consider what kind of Gahanna they want to live in, and at what cost; need to make a strong evaluation of needs; need education about Gahanna's priorities, finances and options; Administration has been ramping up to do just that; so it will be coming to a neighborhood near you; also important with the current predicament things are not getting better soon and other City services will be going up too; your gas, electric, food and possibly levies for the school and fire; personally I think we should not be raising taxes, however I believe that it is a decision the electorate should make, so I will be voting in favor of this, but personally, despite the comments of the proponents, I think this is a time in which you the people need to think long and hard and for the residents to know that it is not just this issue; there are many other issues that are going to impact you; what kind of Gahanna do you want to live in and how that will affect your wallet; need to understand the breadth of things that will be going up in this uncertain economy.

Wright asked as a point of order, the motion that is on the table is on the postponement. Renner said yes to June 17, 2013 awaiting the outcome of election.

A motion was made by Vice President of Council Jolley, seconded by Wright, to postpone ORD-0032-2013 to date certain, June 17, 2013. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 President of Council Renner, Vice President of Council Jolley, Larick, Samuel, Angelou, Anderson and Wright

ORD-0034-2013

TO AMEND SECTION 161.18, CREDIT FOR TAX PAID TO ANOTHER MUNICIPALITY, OF CHAPTER 161, INCOME TAX, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA.

Renner read ORD-0034-2013 by title.

Motion to adopt ORD-0034-2013 by Samuel, seconded by Jolley. Discussion.

Council members questioned why Jolley was postponing to March 4th instead of June 17th. Jolley said I am making a motion to postpone to March 4, 2013; subsequent to the third public hearing required by Section 161.18; the language we introduced is contingent upon the passage of the ballot measure; so if voted in the affirmative on March 4, 2013, it would not take effect until and unless the ballot measure passes.

Ewald said I need to check our code, but am sure that it says that 30 to 60 days prior to any revision, Council must conduct 3 public hearings on any proposed amendment. It was agreed to take a 5 minute recess so that Ewald could confirm this.

President called a 5 minute recess at 7:44 p.m.; the meeting was reconvened at 7:50 p.m., with all members returning to dais.

Jolley said I would like to amend my former motion to postpone to May 6, 2013.

Renner said the discussion will be on the motion to postpone to May 6, 2013.

Angelou asked Jolley why are you wanting to change it to May 6, 2013 instead of June 17, 2013. Jolley said because the language introduced at the last meeting is contingent language so it will only go into effect if and when the ballot measure is passed; Council does not have the power to increase the income tax of the City; only the citizens have that; Council does have the power and obligation to set the rate of the credit; so there are two items in conjunction that have to happen. Angelou said why would you not consider putting them both on June 17th so there is no confusion. Jolley said it is a good faith measure on our part to indicate to the citizens that we will be changing the credit to 100%; if we postpone this to June 17, 2013, they may vote for a 2 1/2 % tax rate without the guarantee of the tax credit being increased to 100%.

Anderson asked Ewald to explain to the electorate what his research was for the time frame after the hearings. Ewald said I will just read from Section 161.18(a) which is what requirements are placed on Council by the code; "Prior to any alteration of this section, Council shall, at least 60 days prior to any revision, conduct a minimum of 3 public hearings on any proposed amendment"; if you box that in, the requirement is that we have to have 3 public hearings 60 days prior to the date of any change; so there has to be a 60 day separation from the last public hearing to the day we make the change; so the 61st day you can make that change.

A motion was made by Vice President of Council Jolley, seconded by Larick, to postpone ORD-0034-2013 to May 6, 2013 The motion carried by the following vote:

No 1 Angelou

Yes 6 President of Council Renner, Vice President of Council Jolley, Larick, Samuel, Anderson and Wright

J. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES: None.

K. MOTIONS/RESOLUTIONS:**RES-0005-2013**

TO PROVIDE FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA AT THE PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD MAY 7, 2013, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 75-76, PASSED AUGUST 17, 1976, SO AS TO INCREASE THE GAHANNA INCOME TAX FROM A RATE OF ONE AND ONE HALF (1-1/2) PERCENT TO A RATE OF TWO AND ONE HALF (2-1/2) PERCENT; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Renner read RES-0005-2013 by title.

Motion to adopt RES-0005-2013. Discussion.

Jolley said we all have responsibilities in our government; voters have a responsibility in our government to be well informed, yet only a small handful of citizens turn out, or have turned out; we have done everything clearly out in the open; has been discussed in the newspaper several times and there is plenty of time from today, more than 90 days for the public to be informed about this; whether May or November, frankly we have been discussing these financial issues for a year; have a new revamped, transparent, easy to follow budget process; have had in depth discussions at multiple committees and Council meetings; our budget process is easy to follow; now we have the 3 public hearings; there is plenty of time for folks to be educated; only so much of this is in our control; yes we have the right to put this on the ballot whenever we want; reality is there are fiscal constraints larger than the City of Gahanna that we are dealing with; the state budget, cuts to the local government fund; the estate tax; those are completely out of our control; those are fiscal realities that we have to deal with; not up to us to say we can just wait to November when the reality is that we don't have the opportunity to do that; we either need to pass this if the citizens choose and implement their decision or we are going to have to come up with some fairly drastic measures to proceed; cannot wait until November election results; our budget is due in to the State in June; we have to know how we will be going forward; only have so much control over education and participation; want Gahanna to go forward; what kind of City do you want to see Gahanna going forth; urge you to vote yes.

Samuel said I will reiterate some of what Jolley said; why May 6th; our budget is due in June; process starts in spring; need to have a time line; if issue is voted down we have to get crucial information from staff; have to get information from Finance Director; have to have HR work on staff reductions and cutbacks; this is a crucial decision for our citizens to make; the Mifflin Township fire levy in 2011 had 8,500 residents voting in May; we budget on what our citizens want; open discussion in chambers since 2007 about finances; had CFAC make recommendation to proceed with increase; website is loaded with information; can come here any time to get information; May 6th - why not.

Wright said I am definitely going to vote in favor; very simple; City Council has a simple process; put on the May ballot; up to the people to make that decision; up to City to show this is why we need this; City has done an extraordinary job squeezing as much out of your dollar as you can; time to make decision and move forward, or say no and go down to austerity matters; not us saying we are voting for the tax or not; we are voting to allow the citizens to make the decision; 37 years the income tax has been the same; who else can say that; CFAC did a wonderful job when they were commissioned; citizens should say thanks to the City leaders who accomplished this; we did know that this was coming; move forward and let the people decide.

Larick said when I first came to Council, I sat down with as many of the directors that I could; I sat down with the Angel Mumma who was Finance Director at that time; needed to get an understanding of our finances and the process; we needed to enhance the

information for Council members so that we could be better educated on how we made our decisions; also enhance the information to the public so they could see how things run; 2011 was my first experience with the appropriation process; at that time the documentation was simply a spread sheet of numbers; I struggled to understand what the City has; and what does the City not have; how do they spend money; what are the priorities of the different departments; as we moved forward implementing changes in 2012 we made dramatic improvements in visibility; what are the constraints/objectives of different directors; what is the overall plan; what direction do they want to take for the City; with that each of those objectives are not arbitrary; takes funds/revenue; are things that have been assessed based on feedback from the community; in order to accomplish those things revenue is needed and it simply does not exist; every budget written since I have been on Council has been zero dollar budget; that is my term for it; all revenue for a particular year was budgeted and not a single dollar more; at the same time that call on revenue did not include the most basic services and functions of the City; Chief Murphy did not get a single cruiser in budget for 3 years; streets were an absolute minimum; only major potholes and major infrastructure was covered; until 2013, that was the first year since I had been on Council that funds were allocated within the appropriations process to encompass some of those fundamental requirements of the community; to accomplish that it took the expenditure of a portion of the reserves just to get us to reasonable function; simple basic maintenance has not been done; the complexities of City budget are long; in order for the City to move beyond even basic functions to become the competitive community that Mr. Weber described earlier, so that young professional families have this community on their list of places they would like to live requires expenditure, requires revenue; if we do not have this community on the short list for young professional couples we are forgotten; we will no longer be the City we are today or the City we expect to be.

Renner said I will just provide final comments; am in favor of putting this on the ballot for some simple reasons; our charter gives the people the right to choose the tax for the City; is about freedom and democracy; we talked about building a stronger Gahanna; what type of Gahanna do you want; with this democratic process the people actually get to choose what type of Gahanna they want at the polls in May; we did hold multiple open public hearings on the budget; did we have anyone come to the podium and tell us that we want one program eliminated; did we have anyone come to the podium and tell us to subtract all these expenses - no; do we have lots of information for voters - yes; there is a ton of stuff on the website; do we have enough time for voters - absolutely; I have a very optimistic view of Gahanna voters; clearly there is enough time for people to read information; the City actually put a widget on the website so that you can see what a tax increase will do to your pocket book; see the effect it will have; think people will clearly see; the other dimension to this is the credit which I think should have been done a long time ago; the State set up the game that says you are taxed on your income where you work; so all of us who work in a 2 1/2% income tax City; today your net effective tax rate on the majority of Gahanna is 2.75% ; so what we are doing with this credit is lowering that to 2 1/2%; most people will actually see a reduction in their taxes; let's let the people choose; definitely voting yes on this; that is the proper way to do it; put it on the ballot.

Angelou said I will not be voting for this; in 2011 I ran for office on a platform of no new taxes; I believe that if I vote to put this on the ballot, even though it gives the people the choice, I do not want it to be construed that I am endorsing this ballot issue; because I do not endorse it I will be voting no; thinking back to 2011 if I had been serving on City Council we might have \$1 million more dollars because I would not have voted to purchase the property on Granville; that should not have been purchased; I hope that the people of Gahanna think long and hard on what they want in the City; am hearing doom

and gloom like we are the poorest City in the area, and do not think we are.

Jolley said I just wanted to clarify that we are talking about a deficit of \$8 million every single year; whether or not the City purchased a building for \$1 million, one time, is not going to change whether the City is short \$8 million a year; short in providing basic, vital services.

A motion was made by Vice President of Council Jolley, seconded by Wright, to adopt RES-0005-2013. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes	6	President of Council Renner, Vice President of Council Jolley, Larick, Samuel, Anderson and Wright
No	1	Angelou

L. REPRESENTATIVES:

Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) - Larick/Renner: No Report.

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) - Angelou

Angelou said the next meeting is February 14, 2013.

Bd. of Education, Gahanna-Jefferson Public Schools

Anderson said this is from the January meeting; was the organizational meeting; School Board representatives are Claire Yoder and Dewitt Harrell; President is Yoder with Dr. Schuler as Vice President; new board member Dewitt Harrell is CFO of the Columbus Metropolitan Library; appointed from a pool of 23 candidates; Scrucci gave an update on redistricting; spoke to revenue from Ohio Casino; Gahanna received \$153,792.03; less than anticipated; schools are looking into school safety; the physical layout of the schools; things to do to make the schools safer; from high school "Gahannathon" was 6 1/2 hour dance marathon which raised \$8,000 for pediatric cancer for Children's Hospital.

Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) - Jolley

Jolley said we are still in the process of choosing a new Executive Director; hope to have someone by March.

Central Ohio Transit Authority - Samuel

Samuel said good news; Columbia Gas completed the CNG pipeline for the McKinley Avenue fueling station; all new buses will be CNG buses; predicted by 2016 the fleet will be run on compressed natural gas, saving a lot of money on fuel.

M. OFFICIAL REPORTS:

Mayor

Mayor Stinchcomb thanked all who came to the State of the City address; small crowd; speech is on website along with the slide show presentation, and there is a video link to Gahanna TV; thank majority of Council for putting this on the ballot; is important that citizens tell Council and the Mayor what kind of Gahanna they want; pivotal time; have the ability to work with whatever cards we are dealt; if it doesn't pass this will not be the

Gahanna we are used to; Administration is prepared to launch a web page dedicated to this; will include an income tax calculator on the page so that anyone can see what their taxes will be; had a very interesting day Friday with a delegation of students from China; they presented us with the banner you see on the wall; will let Renner speak to this.

City Attorney

Ewald said HB 601 died in committee last year; it has been revived as HB 5 reintroduced; what it has to do with is regulation of local income tax; was introduced on January 30th and assigned to Ways and Means; will continue to track it.

N. COUNCIL COMMENT

Larick said I just want to thank everyone who came this evening.

Wright said Groundhog Day event was again impressive; the Gahanna DECA program is competitive and we are one of the better groups; commend the schools and school board; also Speech and Debate team is great; continuing on my radar is HB 5; contact representatives on the State level and let them know how you feel about this; thank Larick and Administration in making changes as to how we present our budget.

Samuel said I too would like to thank everyone who came out tonight; citizen involvement is very important; also if HB 5 is signed into law it could mean less revenue to the City; Groundhog day was a great event.

Anderson said thank you to all who came out tonight; we had a very busy week last week; had the Board & Commission reception to thank and honor those people who give of their time to serve; opportunities come up on a frequent basis so watch for those and consider serving; thank the Mayor for the State of the City address; congratulations on the Groundhog Day event; great opportunity for civic leaders, political leaders and community leaders to come together; also February 1st was national Wear Red Day to emphasize heart disease; today would be the 100th birthday of Rosa Parks; this month is National Black History month.

Angelou asked Anderson to share about her trip to Washington. Anderson said I was sent with blessings from the Martin Luther King Day committee where I was supposed to speak; had the opportunity to take my mother to some of the inaugural activities; also able to give my daughter that experience; saw the parade and went to the inaugural ball.

Jolley said first I want to commend everyone on the Groundhog Day event; great event and great speaker; thank everyone who came out tonight; truly appreciate your involvement; encourage folks to get involved; looking forward to sharing as we go forward.

Renner said I too want to thank you for the Groundhog Day event; very optimistic economic outlook; was about education, understanding and appreciating the finer details in economic reports; concerning the Chinese program, my son is in his 3rd year of Chinese at school; very big supporters of this program; Hank Langhals is the coordinator of the Chinese program; there was a contingent of Chinese students coming here for a science symposium at the high school; kids coming together, even if they don't speak the same language, science is universal; they were looking for host families; when I heard about it I suggested that they include a trip to Gahanna City Hall on their journey to learn about the power and strength of local governments; worked with the administration on this and approximately 60 Chinese students and their translator came on Friday; students were generally in the 9th or 10th grades; was an incredible experience; we both learned some incredible information from them about their experience over in China;

when they asked questions about how our government worked you really got a window into their government structure; also with the Asian culture, when you go abroad or anywhere to a host, you take a gift; they presented us with the wall scroll that one of their students actually did; felt it was good to keep it here at City Hall; very positive thing for all. Thank everyone who came tonight; this is something that is very important to the future of our City; as a reminder this is the first of 3 public hearings; next one is on February 19th and the last on March 4th.

O. ADJOURNMENT: 8:56 p.m.; Motion by Jolley.

Stacey Bashore
Deputy Clerk of Council

*APPROVED by the City Council, this
day of 2013.*

Chair Signature