

City of Gahanna

*200 South Hamilton Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230*



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 12, 2002

8:15 PM

Council Committee Rooms

Finance Committee

*Debra A. Payne, Chair
Karen J. Angelou
L. Nicholas Hogan
Robert W. Kelley
John McAlister
David B. Thom
Michael O'Brien, ex officio
W. Jerome Isler, ex officio*

Members Present: Debra A. Payne, L. Nicholas Hogan, Michael O'Brien, Karen J. Angelou, Robert W. Kelley, John McAlister and David B. Thom

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES:

Mumma, Franey, Hall, Mitchell, Komlanc, Wetherholt, Stinchcomb, Isler, Treadway, White, Weber; press and visitors.

PENDING LEGISLATION:

ORD-0212-2002

TO ADOPT THE CITY OF GAHANNA OFFICE & INDUSTRIAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM GUIDELINES PREPARED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT

White reviewed changes as asked for at the last committees; on page 2, "The term" changed to say "or" up to five (5) years; Claw Back Agreement require the company to repay the incentive at a rate of two years for every one year the project was exempt. Angelou asked that it be put on regular agenda.

Recommendation: Amend by substitution, Regular Agenda.

Recommended for Substitution and Adoption

ORD-0220-2002

TO ACCEPT A CONTRIBUTION BY ST. MATTHEW THE APOSTLE CHURCH TOWARD THE WIDENING OF HAVENS CORNER ROAD

White said Hogan had some questions; church neighbors wanted to have a fence between their property and the church; discussed this with Ellen Smith; no screening required because it was under old zoning; treated as a residence; when fee submitted was for \$28,000, had taken cost of fence out of the \$40,000 total. White said there was nothing in writing, just the conversation she had with Smith; side bar agreement; checked with the Mayor and explained the situation; not confirmed an amount; that is how occurred. Isler asked where the documentation was to deduct the price for the fence; never any documentation and explained how occurred; not aware the church had actually taken her up on the offer; not renege on it, but no amount bantered around; had an administrative meeting and reported it out of Development committee.

White continued that negotiation is probably 50% of her job; been negotiating long before Planning Commission sees an application come to them; authority lies there. Hogan said he is questioning the negotiations to reduce the amount; not talking about money changing hands; talk to the process; check received over 90 days ago, and Council is just getting this; need much better communication; need to get things in writing; Council responsible for expenditures.

Mayor said that negotiations go on all the time; must have that ability; had to determine why the deduct to see if accept or reject the \$28,000. Hogan said since there was no requirement to put the fence up in the first place, taxpayers are paying for the fence for a bunch of neighbors.

Angelou asked why it was not brought to Council's attention 3 months ago; come directly to us. White said that they were still discussing whether to go back to the church and say you owe us this. Isler brought it up again about what we were going to do with it and the Mayor said to take it to Council.

Kelley said we are not going to go back to the church now; what shocked him was he was expecting \$40,000; we need to know before it gets to this point.

Recommended for Adoption, Consent

ORD-0222-2002

TO AMEND SECTION 161.07, COLLECTION AT SOURCE, AND 161.08, DECLARATIONS, OF CHAPTER 161, INCOME TAX, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA

Weber said it is state law; we have to do it; no choice.

Recommended for Adoption, Consent

ISSUES - From Director of Development:

CDBG Grant Acceptance.

White said the grant was accepted; \$150,000; need an ordinance to accept the CDBG Grant; requested waiver of second and emergency.

Recommendation: 1st Reading, waiver of second, emergency, Consent Agenda.

ISSUES - From Council Office:

Staffing/Civil Service & Human Resource Functions.

Sherwood said she needs to address staffing needs; concerned what duties/functions will stay in the Council office. This time last year voters passed a Charter change to establish an HR Dept.; HR dept. will effect the Civil Service operations; what duties will stay in the office. When Stacey chose to stay home after Hunter was born chose not to replace her right away until the HR Director came on board and see how it would function. Now we are in the police application season which is a very high time for CS work; need to make a decision. Stacey is going to work on a call in basis. Sherwood continued that she sees the true HR function in the future taking the applications, placing ads, and dealing with questions of the applicants; if this is taken away from CS, then she feels she does not need to replace Stacey with a permanent part-time employee; that being said she will turn it over to Treadway.

Treadway said that she has a letter from Mike Underwood renummerating the value of having an HR Dept.; has met with the Mayor, Sherwood and Jernigan, and passed out Job Descriptions for both the Dir. of Human Resources and a proposed Administrative Assistant to the Dir. of HR, and reviewed responsibilities; will not be able to do all of this by herself; department would take over the application process; create all job descriptions; do job audits; work with CS on the testing process; her goal is to take as much off the managers and supervisors as possible and bring everything into compliance.

Kelley said this is too much to absorb in such a quick time; give us time to reflect in appropriations. Stinchcomb said that is why they are presenting it now so that Council can have time to think it over. Angelou said this was not discussed at budget time. Payne asked what Sharon Montgomery's function is; Sherwood said that she still serves as the Records Clerk and she is making good strides with our files.

Kelley said HR and CS need to be separate; how much of CS is going to be taken into HR. Treadway said she would not be taking the administrative stuff; still have CS Commission.

Sherwood said we are not talking about taking the CS function out of our office. Hogan said very simply it needs to be separate from HR; don't want to create a slippery slope where you can't see a difference in CS and the Administration. Treadway said that employees will not be losing any right to be heard by the CS Comm.; would still be responsible for taking the minutes, correspondence and the testing functions.

Sherwood said that if these duties are not taken away from the office, she will have to replace Stacey with a permanent part-time person.

Stinchcomb said we are asking for a lot to be done by one person and there is a lot to be done to get the City into compliance; combined effort between the Administration and Council to take care of these needs; handle at appropriation time.

ISSUES - From Previous Committees.

Thom said from Development we have a land swap for Mattlin; deed for 0.33 acre from Mattlin, and deed from the City to Mattlin 0.296 acre parcel. White said we need right of way for Stygler Road improvement to add right hand turn lane; is requesting waiver of second reading and emergency.

Recommendation: 1st Reading, waiver of second, emergency, Consent Agenda.

Donna Jernigan, CMC/AAE, Deputy Clerk of Council