



City of Gahanna

Meeting Minutes

Finance Committee

200 South Hamilton Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230

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

Krystal Gonchar, Deputy Clerk of Council

Monday, March 11, 2019

Council Committee Room

***Immediately following the Committee of the Whole**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Leeseberg called the meeting to order at 8:09 p.m.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

- Credit for taxes paid to other municipalities

Leeseberg said he wanted to keep this topic of the idea behind adjusting the credit in the forefront. Schnetzer said when this was first proposed and introduced, there was no formal legislation or ballot language in front of us; would like to make the credit contingent on the tax rate; becomes a binary choice for residents when they go to ballot box.

McGregor asked what the earliest date possible is to vote. Metzbower stated 3/25/19; so the Regular Meeting on 4/1/19; said one point contemplated is to what extent does that create anger for residents feeling boxed in. McGregor said some people said last time that they weren't told it was a possibility so they didn't vote for it; asked if they could vote on this or after May.

Leeseberg said they discussed making it progressive. Schnetzer said we sit up here with decades of experience and we know where the money goes, but not sure if the population does; we have said this is what is needed and this is what will happen if it does not pass; let's make it official; on deck now is 50%, and 0% later. Renner said fully and strongly endorses getting this passed, where it is very clear before May

7. And making it active as of July 1; concerned about time but can overcome that with public awareness; don't buy into voter anger, believes we have been loud and clear that we need to ensure voters have a choice; other question about amount needed, thinks the 50% mark is a concern; how much of an impact does that make administratively; is 50% really worth it or not.

Larick said there is personal dollar impact; would give time to plan if progressive. Angelou said no matter the choice, there will be those who say "they can do this at any time"; we can't and wouldn't do that; no matter what we do it won't be well received by those who don't want it; putting it now in writing will make them know and they can't say "we didn't know"; said she wants issue 12 to pass and not have to lower the credit for anyone; must be ready to go to 0%. Larick said we spent better portion of a year getting a clear need of what the city needs to go forward, that number does not change; we either have a path of uncertainty or a path of certainty; if we have a known demand, a shortfall, does it not have logic to creating a known fact of how to overcome shortfall; an unknown is: what to do if issue 12 fails.

Schnetzer said from a budget standpoint, there may be some compliance challenges in regards to collections, but there is some value in seeing those hiccups; did not fully fund capital projects; that's more being deferred; there's a value in phasing it in; some collections in July, more in Jan. Mcgregor said to Schnetzer's point this is less of a threat and more of a "this is what will happen"; message is out before the May vote; may be better choice. Metzbower said there was a meeting by administration to discuss potential cuts should issue 12 not pass; something appropriate for us to review going forward, to let people know what is at stake; asked council if there's a majority consensus to amend the language to legislation to make it contingent to include the tax rate. Consensus. Ewald confirmed they would create a draft.

ADJOURNMENT

By Leeseberg at 8:25 p.m.