



City of Gahanna

Meeting Minutes

City Council

200 South Hamilton Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230

Trenton I. Weaver, President
Jamille Jones, Vice President
Merisa K. Bowers
Nancy R. McGregor
Kaylee Padova
Stephen A. Renner
Michael Schnetzer

Jeremy A. VanMeter, Clerk of Council

Monday, July 6, 2026

7:00 PM

City Hall, Council Chambers

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

Gahanna City Council met in Regular Session on Monday, July 6, 2026, in Council Chambers. President of Council Trenton I. Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Councilmember Kaylee Padova delivered the invocation, reflecting on the recent Independence Day celebrations and the nation's 250th anniversary and led members in the Pledge of Allegiance. The agenda was published on Thursday, July 2, 2026.

Present 6 - Merisa K. Bowers, Nancy R. McGregor, Kaylee Padova, Stephen A. Renner, Michael Schnetzer, and Trenton I. Weaver

Absent 1 - Jamille Jones

B. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA:

None.

C. PRESENTATIONS:

1. Joint Resolution/Proclamation Presentation - Council & Mayor Jadwin Honoring KyLee Tibbs, State Wrestling Champion

President Weaver presented Joint Resolution and Proclamation RES-0022-2026 honoring Gahanna Lincoln High School junior KyLee Tibbs for capturing her second consecutive Ohio High School Athletic Association State Wrestling Championship. He highlighted her season record, victories over several top-ranked opponents, recognition as both OCC Wrestler of the Year and Ohio High School Wrestling Coaches Association Wrestler of the Year, and her academic achievements as a

student-athlete maintaining a GPA above 3.5. President Weaver also recognized her upcoming participation in international and national wrestling competitions representing both Gahanna and Team Ohio.

Ms. Tibbs thanked Council for the recognition and shared her experience training and competing in Italy. She described the opportunity to compete alongside wrestlers from several countries and discussed the friendships and training opportunities she gained. Although she sustained an injury during the trip, she expressed her determination to continue competing. She thanked her coaches, teammates, family, and supporters for helping her achieve success.

Coach Jamie Leeseberg congratulated Ms. Tibbs on her accomplishments and praised her leadership within the wrestling program. He noted that her work ethic has helped elevate the entire girls wrestling program, resulting in increased participation, multiple state qualifiers, and continued competitive success. He also discussed the value of her international training experience and wished her success at the upcoming USA Wrestling National Championships in Fargo, North Dakota.

Council, Mayor Jadwin, and City Attorney Tamilarasan joined Ms. Tibbs and her family for a commemorative photograph. Following the presentation, President Weaver wished Ms. Tibbs continued success during the remainder of her wrestling career.

D. HEARING OF VISITORS:

Tim McClurg, 935 Leaflock Court, Gahanna, OH, addressed Council.

Mr. McClurg expressed appreciation for Council's continued recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and reflected on the significance of the nation's 250th anniversary. He complimented the City's Independence Day fireworks celebration, thanking Parks & Recreation staff, the Division of Police, and other employees and volunteers for hosting a successful event. He noted that he had observed large crowds with no significant incidents and commended staff for their planning and execution. Mr. McClurg requested additional information regarding the delays associated with the City's new Civic Center facility, specifically asking for an explanation of the electrical deficiencies that required corrective work

after construction. He questioned how the issues had progressed through inspections and expressed interest in understanding what occurred. Mr. McClurg also inquired about future plans for the existing buildings at 200 S. Hamilton Road after the new facility opens, noting the value of the property. Finally, he asked where the stage for future Creekside Blues & Jazz Festival performances would be located following planned changes near the Sanctuary parking lot.

President Weaver thanked Mr. McClurg for his comments and noted that Council would receive an update on the new facility during the Committee of the Whole meeting immediately following the Regular Meeting.

E. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Minutes - To Approve:

[2026-0133](#)

Council Regular Minutes 2026-06-15

The minutes were approved on the Consent Agenda.

[2026-0134](#)

Committee of the Whole Minutes 2026-06-15

The minutes were approved on the Consent Agenda.

2. Resolutions:

[RES-0022-2026](#)

A JOINT RESOLUTION AND PROCLAMATION HONORING AND RECOGNIZING KYLEE TIBBS FOR HER BACK-TO-BACK OHSAA STATE WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS AND OUTSTANDING ATHLETIC AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

The Resolution was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

[RES-0023-2026](#)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH PLAYCORE WISCONSIN INC. DBA GAMETIME FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A NEW PLAYGROUND AT FRIENDSHIP PARK

The Resolution was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

[RES-0024-2026](#)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH MIDSTATES RECREATION FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A NEW PLAYGROUND AT ASHBURNHAM PARK

The Resolution was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

3. Ordinances for Second Reading and Adoption:

[ORD-0020-2026](#) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS
- State Capital Grant Fund and Capital Improvement Fund for Academy
Park and Friendship Park Projects

The Ordinance was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

End of Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Renner, seconded by Schnetzer, to Pass the Consent
Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Bowers, McGregor, Padova, Renner, Schnetzer and Weaver

Absent: 1 - Jones

F. RESOLUTIONS:

[RES-0025-2026](#) A RESOLUTION OF AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR THE
NATUREWORKS GRANT PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE OHIO
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR THE CREEKSIDE
REIMAGINED PROJECT

Councilmember Bowers noted that the legislation had not previously
appeared before Committee of the Whole and requested clarification
regarding its purpose. She asked whether the legislation simply
authorized submission of a grant application rather than approval of any
specific project improvements.

Senior Director of Operations Kevin Schultz explained that the legislation
authorized the City to apply for grant funding through the Nature Works
Program for temporary flood barriers associated with the Creekside
Reimagined Project. He stated that the barriers represented one
component of the overall flood protection strategy and that the opportunity
to seek grant funding became available after Committee scheduling,
requiring Council action prior to the July 15, 2026, application deadline.
He noted that no specific product had been selected and that cost
estimates were being used solely for the application.

Councilmember Bowers asked when the temporary barriers would be
deployed. Director Schultz explained that similar temporary flood
protection currently exists beneath the bridge and at the south garage
entrance. He stated the barriers are generally deployed only when

significant flooding approaching a 100-year flood event is anticipated and are used infrequently. He added that the proposed system would replace the City's existing system with a more effective flood protection solution. Councilmember Bowers asked whether the existing system had become obsolete. Director Schultz responded that while the existing system remains functional, the proposed system would provide greater effectiveness.

A motion was made by Renner, seconded by Bowers, that the Resolution be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Bowers, McGregor, Padova, Renner, Schnetzer and Weaver

Absent: 1 - Jones

G. ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION / FIRST READING:

[ORD-0021-2026](#) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ISSUE A NOTICE OF AWARD AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH RUMPKE OF OHIO, INC. FOR RESIDENTIAL WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES

President Weaver introduced the Ordinance, and Clerk VanMeter read it by title.

[ORD-0023-2026](#) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA AGREEMENT WITH DEFFENBAUGH FLEX, LLC FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FLEX OFFICE/INDUSTRIAL BUILDING ON PARCEL NO. 025-014174-00, PART OF COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA NO. 1

President Weaver introduced the Ordinance, and Clerk VanMeter read it by title.

H. ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION, WAIVER & ADOPTION:

[ORD-0022-2026](#) AN ORDINANCE MAKING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS AND WAIVING SECOND READING - Capital Improvement Fund for the Friendship Park Playground Replacement Project

President Weaver introduced the Ordinance, and Clerk VanMeter read it by title.

A motion was made by Bowers, seconded by Renner, that the Ordinance be Waived for Second Reading. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Bowers, McGregor, Padova, Renner, Schnetzer and Weaver

Absent: 1 - Jones

A motion was made by Renner, seconded by Bowers, that the Ordinance be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Bowers, McGregor, Padova, Renner, Schnetzer and Weaver

Absent: 1 - Jones

I. CORRESPONDENCE AND ACTIONS:

1. Clerk - None.

2. Council - None.

J. REPRESENTATIVES:

1. Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) - Renner, Padova

None.

2. Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) - Weaver

[2026-0132](#)

Councilmember Weaver's MORPC Report to City Council 2026-07-06

President Weaver encouraged residents to review the written MORPC report included with the agenda. He reported that the Commission met on June 11 and that the next meeting would occur on August 13. He highlighted recent legislative updates, noted Governor DeWine's approval of the State Capital Budget, and encouraged residents interested in passenger rail and regional mobility planning to listen to a recent WOSU interview with MORPC Chief Mobility and Infrastructure Officer Parag Agrawal. He also announced several upcoming MORPC events, including the Ohio Association of Regional Councils candidate forum, the MORPC Social Media Summit, and the Summit on Sustainability.

3. Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) - Padova

Councilmember Padova reminded residents that the Gahanna Market would take place July 8, 2026, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Creekside and noted that Tyy Perkins would provide live music.

4. School Board (SB) - Jones

None.

K. OFFICIAL REPORTS:**1. Mayor**

Mayor Jadwin opened her report by expressing condolences to the family and loved ones of Toby Forsythe following his tragic passing. She recognized the difficulty of losing a young member of the community and expressed hope that the Gahanna community would continue supporting the family during the days ahead. Mayor Jadwin discussed her recent participation in MORPC's inaugural Mobility Exchange, where she joined representatives from Grove City and Dublin to discuss comprehensive transportation and mobility planning. She described Gahanna's efforts to develop a transportation network that considers economic growth, multimodal transportation, infrastructure, safety, and community expectations while balancing the needs of pedestrians, cyclists, scooters, and motorists. Mayor Jadwin thanked City staff, the Division of Police, Mifflin Township Fire, Parks & Recreation, Public Service, Visit Gahanna, the Gahanna Lions Club, volunteers, sponsors, and community partners for their work organizing the Creekside Blues & Jazz Festival, Independence Day fireworks, and Fourth of July parade. She recognized the months of planning required to successfully host the events and thanked all involved for their dedication. Mayor Jadwin also reminded residents that Cinema Under the Stars would return later that week with a showing of *National Treasure*.

2. City Attorney

City Attorney Tamilarasan reported that review of the City's traffic code updates had been completed and that work continued on revisions to the criminal code. She anticipated presenting the updates to Council during an August Committee meeting.

L. COUNCIL COMMENT:

Councilmember Renner congratulated KyLee Tibbs on her accomplishments and reflected on the importance of local government and civic participation during the nation's 250th anniversary. He thanked City staff, volunteers, and residents for their service to the community and also acknowledged the recent period of extreme heat, expressing appreciation for first responders and City employees who continued

serving residents during difficult conditions.

Councilmember McGregor reflected on the recent Independence Day celebrations and reminded those present that the freedoms celebrated during the holiday were secured through the sacrifices of generations of military service members.

Councilmember Schnetzer briefly reflected on America's founding ideals, sharing that the nation's celebration of the Declaration of Independence represents optimism and continual progress toward the principles upon which the country was founded.

Councilmember Padova thanked Parks & Recreation staff, the Division of Police, City employees, volunteers, and the Gahanna Lions Club for their work organizing the Independence Day festivities. She remarked on the enthusiasm shown by residents throughout the parade and community celebrations.

Councilmember Bowers joined the Mayor in extending condolences to the Forsythe family and encouraged residents to promote safe driving during the summer months. She noted that her May-June Constituent Report had been attached to the meeting agenda and thanked members of the Charter Review Commission for their service in advance of their presentation during Committee of the Whole. She also expressed appreciation for Councilmember Padova's invocation and emphasized the importance of civic participation.

President Weaver echoed the condolences expressed to the Forsythe family and thanked City staff, volunteers, public safety personnel, and community partners for their work supporting the City's recent events. Speaking as a first-generation American, he reflected on the significance of Independence Day and the opportunity to celebrate the diverse backgrounds that contribute to the nation's continued success. He also thanked members of the Charter Review Commission for their time and service to the community.

[2026-0135](#)

Councilmember Merisa K. Bowers' Constituent Report - May-June 2026

M. ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business before the Council, President Weaver adjourned the

meeting at 7:36 p.m.

Jeremy A. VanMeter
Clerk of Council

APPROVED by the City Council, this
day of 2026.

Trenton I. Weaver