



To: Gahanna City Council
Clerk of Council

From: Mayor Laurie A. Jadwin

Cc: Joann Bury, Director of Finance
Raymond J. Mularski, Esq., City Attorney

Date: September 8, 2022

Re: Office of the Mayor Request for Council Action (September 12, 2022 COTW Meeting)

ACTION ITEM

ACTION ITEM: ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH SEPARATE DEPARTMENTS FOR PUBLIC SERVICE AND ENGINEERING

Section 5.02 of Gahanna's Charter (amended by voters in November 2021) provides that the Mayor "may establish new departments, divisions or other sub-units thereof; abolish, revise, merge or combine departments, divisions or other subunits thereof, provided they shall not establish, abolish, merge or combine any department which is headed by an official elected by the people of the City; and from time to time may provide for the powers, duties and functions of the administrative departments, divisions and other sub-units thereof, provided such ordinances are consistent with this Charter."

At the present time, the Engineering Division is organized within the Department known as the "Department of Public Service & Engineering." The Engineering Division has its own budget line items within the Department.

Because of the significant increase in the number of capital, infrastructure and development projects within the City, the growth in the workload and staff of the Engineering Division, and the Division's expanding support of and work with multiple departments within the City, the Administration seeks to establish the Engineering Division as its own department to streamline projects based on expertise and improve overall operational efficiencies.

Although Section 5.02 of the Charter grants authority to the Mayor to establish new departments, doing so must be consistent with the Charter. Because Section 5.05 of the Charter specifically states that the Director of Public Service shall direct the "Department of Public Service & Engineering," the Administration is respectfully requesting an Ordinance from Council to officially establish the Department of Engineering, separate from the Department of Public Service.

Legislation Needed: Ordinance
Emergency/Waiver: None