

City of Gahanna

*200 South Hamilton Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230*



Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 13, 2000

8:30 PM

City Hall

Finance Committee

Karen J. Angelou, Chairman

L. Nicholas Hogan

Sherie James-Arnold

Rebecca W. Stinchcomb

Michael O'Brien

Thomas R. Kneeland

Debra A. Payne, ex officio

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES:

Debra Payne, Mayor McGregor, Tom Weber, Jennifer D'Ambrosio, Jerry Isler, Raleigh Mitchell, Karl Wetherholt, Tom Komlanc, Dave Thom; Press.

PENDING LEGISLATION**ORD-0045-2000**

TO CREATE THE FULL-TIME UNCLASSIFIED POSITION OF SECRETARY TO THE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT; TO PROVIDE COMPENSATION THEREFOR; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

2nd reading; Consent.

Recommended for Adoption, Consent

NEW LEGISLATION

Members Absent: Sherie James-Arnold and Thomas R. Kneeland

Members Present: Karen J. Angelou, L. Nicholas Hogan, Rebecca W. Stinchcomb and Debra A. Payne

Eastgate TIF

Wetherholt said Pizzuti has given him a redo of the project with items totalling \$1,782,875 from the General Fund to Capital Project Development, TIF account. He also has an RCA for the inspections; \$30,000. Pizzuti is ready to start construction. Wetherholt continued that the sewer is not quite ready to go; need to get easements thru the Singh property and he is refusing; not want to grant easements. Weber said he has also spoken with him on two occasions and has no intent to grant easements through his property. Wetherholt said that a pump station is an option, but he has not figured cost yet. He wants to start Resolution of Necessity and Intent to Acquire Parcels of land for Sanitary Sewer Easements from Ken Singh. There was discussion about this being in Jefferson Township. It was agreed to proceed with the Resolution of Intent.

Recommendation: 1st Reading Consent; ordinance for Phase I construction; ordinance for TIF project inspections; and Resolution of Intent; to come back to committee March 27.

Recommend for Introduction

ISSUES**Employee Audit (including Zoning Administrator Position)**

Angelou reported that the Civil Service Commission voted unanimously to classify the position of Zoning Administrator, and that Bonnie Gard be grandfathered into the position at a C-14-C step, \$37,023. It was stated that an ordinance would be needed to take the position out of the Unclassified salary ordinance, and another ordinance to place the position in the Classified Supervisory salary ordinance.

Recommendation: 2 ordinances, 1st reading; Consent; no need to come back to committee.

Recommend for Introduction

Hotel/Motel Tax

Isler said our ordinance levies an excise tax of 4%, of which 3% can be used at Council's discretion for special events, promotion of development and any other project that would enhance the City. Then 1/2% is for Administrative costs, cost of collection, and 1/2% to the tourism and visitors bureau. It was agreed that a center for tourism and visitors bureau needs to be established. Isler continued that if we do not have one Columbus could come out and take over the 1/2%; also it has to be audited. There was lengthy discussion about CIC being established as the tourism and visitors bureau. Isler said that would work, but it would have to be a completely separate entity, and would have to set up a full visitors bureau; separate not for profit organization.

Hogan asked how much revenue we are talking about. Isler said approximately \$24,000 the first year; \$48,000 the second year and then going as high as \$250,00 to \$300,000.

O'Brien said CIC would have to form a corporation with a Board of Directors; form is not hard to fill out. Mayor McGregor said we could take over the upstairs of the Chamber building and have literature there and that could be the call visitors bureau. It was suggested that if we hire a full-time person for Creekside they could have their office there. Payne suggested Gary Jones on for CIC would be a good person to contact. It was agreed that the Mayor would contact CIC about this and report back to Council at the next meeting. D'Ambrosio was asked to put the tourism and visitors bureau on for the next CIC agenda for discussion.

Isler said he can isolate the funds from the General Fund to go into a separate community development fund. Council agreed that there should be a separate fund.

Harry Bauer Island

Angelou said Dave Thom was present and presented the balance needed for the plaque on the island. He has obtained donations of almost \$1,000; asking City to pay the balance of \$669.95 (\$639.95 actual). Thom related how the idea of naming it Harry Bauer Island came about. As children he and many others had their bikes fixed by Harry and it was just his island; he lived there; was something very special for the children of Gahanna then; he also recycled a great deal of trash long before it was the right thing to do. Harry was a very unique person with a long heritage in Gahanna. Stinchcomb said Council did have a concern that they were not consulted in any way about naming the island; neither was the Park Board; this should not happen again in the future; all Council members agreed. Thom said he and Mayor talked about it and it just sort of grew; group of citizens must wanted to honor Harry.

It was agreed funding would come from Misc. Misc.

Recommendation: 1st reading; Consent; no need to come back to committee.

Recommend for Introduction

Supplemental Appropriations (See Isler memo)

Council was in receipt of memo from Isler about supplemental appropriations over the last 3 years. For 1999 total for funds passed was \$6,468,030 and \$4,900,323 was from the general fund, and as of February last year \$222,400 in supplementals had been approved. For 2000 General Fund has \$7,500,759 available for supplemental appropriation, and it is estimated that \$3,500,000 will be needed for the TIF; that leaves \$4million for general fund supplementals.

DONNA JERNIGAN, CMC/AE, Deputy Clerk of Council