

City of Gahanna

*200 South Hamilton Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230*



Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 27, 2000

Convenes following 7 p.m. committees.

7:30 PM

Council Committee Rooms

Development Committee

Sherie James-Arnold, Chairman

Karen J. Angelou

Thomas R. Kneeland

Debra A. Payne, ex officio

Sadicka White, ex officio

PENDING LEGISLATION

Members Present: Sherie James-Arnold, Karen J. Angelou and Thomas R. Kneeland

ORD-0051-2000

TO NAME A PORTION OF THE AREA KNOWN AS CREEKSIDE AS CREEKSIDE PARK

Angelou stated Council had expressed concern last week with formally naming Harry Bauer Island; not uncomfortable with naming of Creekside Park.

RECOMMENDATION: Redo legislation deleting references to Harry Bauer Island; consent agenda; no need to come back to committee.

Recommended for Introduction

RES-0004-2000

REGIONALISM PLEDGE

Payne stated this item had come from a subcommittee of MORPC; asking for people to commit to collaboration; asking municipalities to buy into this.

Angelou stated she felt this did bind us; may take away what's best for our City and go regionally. Payne stated she did not agree; just asking for a show of support from all communities. Angelou stated she felt this was in the best interest of MORPC to get a bigger hold on putting this together; see this the same as at the County Commissioner level with them working at what is best for Jefferson Township over the City. Payne stated that MORPC will not dictate what is best for the community; is up to us on how to decide to collaborate; already working together on Morse Road and on joint dispatching; collaborating with other jurisdictions right now; feel we are already doing this. Angelou stated she felt this resolution almost goes a step beyond; don't feel comfortable with it; don't want to come back at a later date and say we are going to have give up what is in our best interests; what if two entities don't agree. Payne stated that already happens; we can do our own wording; change any wording you would like to; feel uncomfortable as incoming President of MORPC if we don't do this. Angelou stated she did not feel it was ever the intent not to pass something; took it off for further discussion; slightly uncomfortable to the extent it was reaching; maybe reading more into this than it is.

Kneeland stated he had sent an e-mail questioning this; had missed committees and asked for clarification; didn't know what it was trying to accomplish; what will this accomplish other than making a statement. Payne stated it is just making a statement; looking for a spirit of cooperation among communities; doesn't change how you make policy; says we are willing to look at regional issues; already communicating on telecommunications; we share information with each other; didn't all pass the same legislation; worked jointly to come up with what is best individually; MORPC may work as an aggregator; share with all communities. Kneeland stated that with the non binding aspect can support this. Angelou stated she can see it pinpointed to neighbors to the east; looking at health of all citizens in the region; what may be general health, safety, welfare for northwestern Franklin County may truly impact Gahanna poorly; this may be a step too far. Payne stated she did not read that depth into this resolution. Angelou questioned if MORPC was trying to find a reason to justify themselves. Payne stated they did not need to justify themselves; federal law requires their existence; are trying to find ways to work together; working together as an 8 county region on issues that are related to the region.

In response to question from Kneeland, Weber stated he felt this was generic; don't want to compromise our autonomy; want us to work collectively when we can; be sensitized

to regional problems; have no problems with this as written. Angelou reemphasized that we don't want to take away our rights as a charter city; can support.

Recommended for Adoption, Consent

All American City Award

Rittner stated this award has been recognizing cities for their excellence in challenging major problems for the past 51 years; is sponsored by Allstate Insurance; filed an application on March 9; application consisted of 3 sections which was attached to last report; on April 11, the 30 finalists will be announced; winners will be announced in Louisville on June 3; understand that Toledo and Gahanna were the only applicants from Ohio.

Olde Gahanna Fire Station

D'Ambrosio stated that we needed to extend our contract with Mifflin Township; prepared an addendum to agreement that was previously approved; signed agreement is on file. Weber questioned that this was originally approved by legislation; need legislation to approve the addendum. Committee requests legislation be prepared for 1st reading, waive second reading, and as emergency.

Recommended for Immediate Adoption

2000 Business Survey

Rittner stated survey has been distributed to over 600 businesses; is a comprehensive questionnaire evaluating the current economic conditions and demographics of the business community; another component is the expansion relative questions which will evaluate our commercial expansion needs; have had 70 returns to date; may do a more specific mailing to target the industrial district and some other much needed sectors of the commercial industry; data will be analyzed with the assistance of Professor Hazel Morrow-Jones at OSU; future implications could include GIS mapping for infrastructure needs, growth concerns, and utilities analysis. In response to question from Kneeland, Rittner stated that the GIS will help determine where industry is most intense; where infrastructure needs are; know there is a congestion problem in TIZ; can analyze our traffic congestion problem; do we need another bridge in that area; layers and layers of information can be developed; would like to do another intensified mailing to the TIZ to measure their level and needs a little better. D'Ambrosio stated they will be using the survey on our visitations; is a new program this year where we are visiting our businesses; trying to address the threat of relocation to other communities; let them know we are here and available to help them. In response to question, Rittner stated there was an open return date on the survey; responses are trickling in now; hope to do one more mailing in the next month or so. James-Arnold questioned if there was anyone we could use to follow through with businesses to see if they had received and returned the survey; possibly next receptionist if she has a good phone presence. Rittner stated he would check; do have a ten week time frame with OSU; will put something together in next few months.

Convention/Visitor Center

D'Ambrosio stated they will be meeting with Gary Jones next week; will then take to CIC and bring to Council; will then be coming into compliance with state statutes for disbursement of hotel/motel tax monies.

T.I.R.C. Board

Clerk distributed draft of legislation for formation of the T.I.R.C. Weber stated his issue

was using a Council member as a resident and Development Director as a minority resident; spirit is to have people involved who don't have another identity with City and not to use City officials; resident and minority resident should not be City officials.

After discussion it was requested to limit the terms of the residents to 3 year terms; prepare legislation for 1st reading with residents names blank if no names offered by administration in time for legislation; possible substitution to add names at time of second reading; no need to come back to committee.

Recommended for Introduction

ISOBEL L. SHERWOOD, CMC, Deputy Clerk of Council, reporting