

City of Gahanna

*200 South Hamilton Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230*



Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 6, 2010

Council May Meet in Caucus Beginning at 7:00 p.m.

7:30 PM

City Hall

City Council

Thomas R. Kneeland, President

Shane Ewald, Vice President

Beryl D. Anderson

Brian D. Larick

John R. McAlister

Nancy McGregor

David L. Samuel

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

Gahanna City Council met in Regular Session on Monday, December 6, 2010, at Gahanna City Hall, in Council Chambers, 200 South Hamilton Road. President Thomas R. Kneeland called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Invocation was given by Council Member Shane Ewald followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Agenda for this meeting was published on December 2, 2010.

Members Present: Thomas R. Kneeland, Shane W. Ewald, Nancy R. McGregor, John McAlister, Beryl D. Anderson, David L. Samuel and Brian Larick

B. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA:

MOTION by Ewald, seconded by Samuel, to add Resolution Opposing S. 3194, the Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act of 2009, to the agenda under Item K, Motions and Resolutions. ROLL CALL: Voting yes: Ewald, Samuel, Kneeland, Larick, McAlister, McGregor, Anderson. Motion carried.

Clerk assigned number of RES-0016-2010.

C. HEARING OF VISITORS:

Kneeland presented a resolution to Rob Matney honoring his past service on the Community Improvement Corporation.

MOTION by Samuel, seconded by Anderson, to suspend the Rules of Council, to allow the Citizens Financial Advisory Committee sufficient time to make their report and recommendations during the Hearing of Visitors portion of our agenda without any time limits. ROLL CALL: Voting yes: Samuel, Anderson, Kneeland, Larick, McAlister, McGregor, Ewald. Motion carried.

2010-0067

Report and Recommendations of the Citizens Financial Advisory Committee presented to City Council on December 6, 2010.

Mayor Stinchcomb stated she had tasked this group of volunteers to get together to look at city finances; wanted them to take a deep look at any recommendations on their own with no guidance from me; they have done that; very grateful for their service; 3 members of the committee will make the presentation this evening - Matt Monell, Jan Ross and Eric Troy.

Clerk's Note: A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes as EXHIBIT A and is available in the Council office for review.

Kneeland stated he wanted to personally take this opportunity to thank everyone on the committee; know you spent many hours reviewing the information; we will take a few questions this evening; we will review in committee next week so we can spend time in a workshop environment; ask if you could, to please attend the committee meeting next week; gives us an opportunity to digest the report and form their questions; don't think there are any surprises; confirms some of the things we have been talking about.

McAlister stated he agreed with everything he read and it seems plausible; great recommendations; wondering if the committee had addressed the problem in government in general; we are a monopoly for the roads; we are a monopoly in the enforcement of traffic laws; within this monopoly are public employee unions; did this topic come up; we as a city don't have a lot of control over that; has to be controlled at the state level; did you consider this at all; is an issue for all cities in Ohio. Monell

stated he felt our charge was to develop an understanding of finances as they exist; didn't want to take it to a macro level; had such a limited time frame and with the great number of people we had, we focused on what we felt were priorities.

Anderson asked about timetable and time frame for the vision considering that this is a multi dimensional process. Monell stated they were not specific with timetables; some of these actions had been started and need to be finished; outside individuals are able to measure; some elements are already started; other elements have steps that have to take place each and every year.

Ewald stated that on page 6 there is a list of residents who worked on this; they did this for the love of the city; thank you for your time and effort; was a yeoman's job; encourage you to come next week for an open discussion.

Mayor Stinchcomb stated we have a long tradition of trying to thank and recognize people and wish to present certificates of recognition to our residents who served on the Citizens Financial Advisory Committee; were also very fortunate to have 2 city professionals donate their time to the city to mediate and moderate; Tim Hansley, Delaware County Administrator, and Michelle Crandall, Director of Administrative Services for the City of Dublin, wanted to give back to their profession; donated many hours to moderate the group; from all reports they did a wonderful job; will make sure they are properly recognized also. Kneeland thanked the committee for all their hard work; will be taking the report under scrutiny so we can implement the recommendations; will be discussed in Committee of the Whole next week.

Received and Filed

D. INTRODUCTIONS AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE:

Ordinances - To Be Introduced and Assigned to Committee:

Ordinances introduced, by title, by Samuel.

ORD-0192-2010

TO REAPPOINT RICHARD PECK AS TRUSTEE TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF GAHANNA COMMUNITY URBAN REDEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (CURC); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Introduced

ORD-0193-2010

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION - Reserve for Sick/Vacation Fund

Introduced

ORD-0194-2010

TO AMEND CODE SECTION 1195.04, SEDIMENT AND EROSION CONTROL STANDARDS AND CRITERIA, OF CHAPTER 1195, SOIL EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION POLICY, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

Introduced

ORD-0195-2010

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT AND APPROVE THE FINAL RESOLUTION WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR FRA-TECHCENTER DRIVE EXTENSION, PID NUMBER 80722; ALSO KNOWN AS THE TECHCENTER DRIVE WEST IMPROVEMENT NO. 762; TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT TO ODOT FOR THE CITY'S PORTION OF THE PROJECT; TO SUPPLEMENTALLY APPROPRIATE \$1,802,972; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Introduced

ORD-0196-2010

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH BIRD HOUK, A DIVISION OF OHM, FOR CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS FOR THE BIG WALNUT TRAIL SECTIONS 1 AND 2; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Introduced

ORD-0197-2010

TO ACCEPT EASEMENTS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF SLOPES AND CHANNELS FROM ANDRE M. BUCKLES FOR RIGHT OF WAY NEEDED FOR THE TECHCENTER DRIVE WEST PROJECT.

Introduced

ORD-0198-2010

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO SETTLEMENT WITH MCDONALD'S USA, LLC, FOR PROPERTY AT 110 NORTH HAMILTON ROAD, FOR TEMPORARY RIGHT OF WAY NEEDED FOR THE HAMILTON/GRANVILLE INTERSECTION PROJECT; IMPROVEMENT NO. 883; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Introduced

ORD-0199-2010

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO OPTICAL FIBER USE AGREEMENT WITH THE GAHANNA JEFFERSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Introduced, to Committee of the Whole

ORD-0200-2010

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO FIBER INTERCONNECT AGREEMENT WITH THE GAHANNA JEFFERSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Introduced, to Committee of the Whole

E. CONSENT AGENDA:**Minutes - To Approve:****2010-0064**

To approve the following set of minutes:

1) November 15, 2010.

This Matter was Approved and Filed on the Consent Agenda.

Ordinances on Second Reading:**ORD-0178-2010**

TO AMEND CHAPTER 921, SANITARY SEWER CONNECTIONS AND RENTAL RATES, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA, TO BE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2011; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

This Matter was Adopted as an Emergency on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0179-2010

TO AMEND CHAPTER 927, STORM SEWERS, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA; TO BE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2011; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

This Matter was Adopted as an Emergency on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0180-2010

TO AMEND CHAPTER 929, WATER CONNECTIONS AND RATES, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA, TO BE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2011; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

This Matter was Adopted as an Emergency on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0181-2010

TO AMEND CHAPTER 941, GARBAGE AND RUBBISH COLLECTION, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA, TO BE EFFECTIVE

JANUARY 1, 2011; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

This Matter was Adopted as an Emergency on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0182-2010

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CHANGE ORDER AMENDMENT WITH UNDERGROUND UTILITIES, INC., TO ALLOW A REVISION TO THE LOCATION OF A PORTION OF THE SEWER LINE FOR THE WEST SIDE SEWER PROJECT

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0183-2010

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH SZD WHITEBOARD, LLC, FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BROADBAND PROJECTS; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

This Matter was Adopted as an Emergency on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0184-2010

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH ADVANCED CIVIL DESIGN FOR THE DESIGN AND ENGINEERING TO DEVELOP A DEMOLITION PLAN FOR THE SCIENCE BOULEVARD FUEL SITE; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

This Matter was Adopted as an Emergency on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0185-2010

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH WATCON CONSULTING ENGINEERS & SURVEYORS TO PERFORM ENGINEERING AND SURVEYING SERVICES FOR THE TECHCENTER DRIVE EXTENSION, PHASE 1

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0186-2010

TO ACCEPT SIDEWALK EASEMENT FROM 825 TECHCENTER DRIVE, LLC FOR PROPERTY LOCATED ON TECHCENTER DRIVE

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0187-2010

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH BRICKER & ECKLER FOR CONSULTING SERVICES RELATED TO THE CITY'S 2005 BOND ISSUE

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0188-2010

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION - EASTGATE TIF/PIZZUTTI

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0189-2010

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION - EASTGATE TIF/TRIANGLE

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0190-2010

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION - OLDE & WEST GAHANNA TIF

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0191-2010

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION - TIZ REAL ESTATE ESCROW

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Resolutions to Adopt on First Reading:

RES-0015-2010

TO HONOR AND COMMEND ROB MATNEY

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Motion Resolution:**MR-0046-2010**

Motion Resolution to set organizational meetings for Year 2011 as follows:

January 4, 2011 - 6:30 p.m. - Civil Service Commission

January 5, 2011 - 6:00 p.m. - Landscape Board

January 5, 2011 - 7:00 p.m. - Parks & Recreation Board

January 5, 2011 - 6:30 p.m. - Planning Commission

This Matter was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

MR-0047-2010

Motion resolution to appoint Hakim Ben Adjoua to the Board of Zoning and Building Appeals for a 3 year term commencing January 1, 2011.

This Matter was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

MR-0048-2010

Motion Resolution to reappoint Stephen Renner to the Civil Service Commission for a 3 year term commencing January 1, 2011.

This Matter was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

MR-0049-2010

Motion Resolution to reappoint Mark DiGiando to the Landscape Board for a 3 year term commencing January 1, 2011.

This Matter was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

MR-0050-2010

Motion Resolution to reappoint Laurel Naegele to the Parks & Recreation Board for a 3 year term commencing January 1, 2011.

This Matter was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

MR-0051-2010

Motion Resolution to reappoint Donald R. Shepherd to the Planning Commission for a 3 year term commencing January 1, 2011.

This Matter was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

MR-0052-2010

Motion Resolution to reappoint Laura Dachenbach to the Records Commission for a 3 year term commencing January 1, 2011.

This Matter was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

MR-0053-2010

Motion Resolution to authorize the transfer of \$280 from Account No. 101.431.5306, Parks Maintenance, to Account No. 101.431.5510, Parks, Minor Capital, for the purchase of a replacement backpack blower.

This Matter was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

MR-0054-2010

Motion Resolution to authorize the transfer of \$22,148 to Account No. 101.343.5547, Development Brownfields from the following Accounts:

101.343.5111, Part Time \$11,000

101.343.5131, PERS \$ 1,540

101.343.5132, Workers Comp. \$ 330

101.343.5138, Medicare \$ 159

101.343.5251, Tech Maintenance \$ 4,828

101.343.5254, Promotion \$ 310

101.343.5275, Annual Dues \$ 530

101.343.5483, Utilities/Cell Phone \$ 284

101.343.5596, Capital Projects \$ 3,167

for the payment of post closure monitoring expenses for the Bedford Landfill I authorized by ORD-0225-2007.

This Matter was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

MR-0055-2010

Motion Resolution that Council has no objection to the transfer of D1, D2, D3, D3 A Liquor Permits for Sellers Services LLC, dba Granville Street Tavern & Patio, 258 Granville Street, Gahanna, Ohio.

This Matter was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

MR-0056-2010

Motion Resolution that Council has no objection to the transfer of D5 and D6 Liquor Permits for American Blue Ribbon Holdings, LLC, dba Max & Ermas, 1317 Hamilton Road & Patio, Gahanna, Ohio.

This Matter was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

MR-0057-2010

Motion Resolution that Council has no objection to the transfer of C1, C2 and D6 Liquor Permits for Ohio CVS Stores LLC, dba CVS Pharmacy #3410, 60 N. Stygler Road, Gahanna, Ohio.

This Matter was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

MR-0058-2010

Motion Resolution to confirm the Mayor's appointments of Pam Evans and Carla Wilke Jones as trustees of the Community Improvement Corporation for a term ending December 31, 2013.

This Matter was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

MR-0059-2010

Motion Resolution that this Council has no objection to the Liquor Agency Contract permit with Tamarkin Co., dba Giant Eagle 6501, 1250 N. Hamilton Road & Mezzanine, Gahanna, OH 43230.

This Matter was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

MR-0060-2010

Motion Resolution to confirm the Mayor's appointment of Alvin J. McKenna, Jr., to the Income Tax Board of Review for a 3 year term commencing January 1, 2011 and ending December 31, 2013.

This Matter was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

Passed The Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Vice President of Council Ewald, including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

| | | |
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| Yes | 7 | President of Council Kneeland, Vice President of Council Ewald, McGregor, McAlister, Anderson, Samuel and Larick |
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End of the Consent Agenda

F. PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.

G. STANDING COMMITTEES:

Development & Parks Committee - Anderson: No Report.

Public Service & Safety Committee - McAlister: No Report.

Committee of the Whole - Ewald: No Report.

Finance - Samuel: No Report.

H. CORRESPONDENCE AND ACTIONS:

Clerk - Legal:

2010-0063

Notice to legislative authority of a transfer of C1, C2, and D6 liquor permits from Revco Discount Drug Centers, Inc., DBA CVS/Pharmacy #3410, 60 N. Stygler Road, Gahanna, OH 43230 to Ohio CVS Stores LLC, DBA CVS/Pharmacy #3410, 60 N. Stygler Road, Gahanna, OH 43230. Last day to file objections is December 20, 2010.

Received and Filed

2010-0065

Notice to Legislative Authority of a change in the liquor agency contract for Tamarkin Co., dba Giant Eagle 6501, 1250 N. Hamilton Road & Mezzanine, Gahanna, OH 43230. Last day to file objections is December 30, 2010.

Received and Filed

Council: No Report.

I. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES:

ORD-0173-2010

TO AMEND CODE SECTION 563.05 FIREARMS; WEAPONS, OF CHAPTER 563, PARK CONDUCT, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA.

MOTION by McAlister, seconded by Ewald, to adopt ORD-0173-2010.

Samuel stated he wished to emphasize that this whole issue has been blown out of proportion; voting no based on control and safety; gun safety classes are very important but you want control; will be voting no.

Anderson stated she would underscore what Samuel said; am very much in favor of gun training just not in Gahanna parks; read the article in This Week; mentioned a specific place for programming; mentioned city's image; it is not just the image, but safety and liability as well as image; with regard to safety have a big concern; youngest and most innocent of our citizens may not be able to read at all; may not be able to appreciate the harm; not every parent wants their child to be exposed to guns; there are other venues that are available for this to happen; Boy Scouts do use other venues currently; it isn't like there is no place else available; am for gun training just not in parks; discussion in committee was about a specific location; didn't really flesh that out; if this passes people might not be aware even with signage; on liability issues, when did that stop someone from suing; we have exposure to liability; finally image; we are on the bleeding edge of this; is no other municipality in this area that allows guns in their parks; we are on cutting edge to be able to invite people to Gahanna; is important, but not in parks; once you open the door other organizations will come behind and do their gun training as well; this is not fleshed out enough; it is of high risk and requires higher level of scrutiny; this goes beyond merit badges; need to be forward thinking and look at the long vision with regard to this; applaud the idea of teaching but not in Gahanna parks; think it is the wrong decision; have many constituents who agree with me; I represent the voice that says no; don't think we should do; is not wise; need to protect our resources and the brand; think safety, liability and image.

Mayor stated question was asked at last committee about our insurance coverage; my understanding is that they have no concern.

McAlister stated he made some comments in committee; stand by those; a bb gun is an air pistol; is shot with adult supervision; you are pointing at targets; don't see that as a huge liability; cities are being held hostage by the FOP and demands for constant increases in salaries and benefits; may need to lay off some police officers; would feel safer with the younger generation knowing how to handle guns given the level of decrease in police protection; think it is a great idea.

Anderson stated people are still being trained; issue is just whether it should be done in our parks.

McGregor stated she will be supporting; need to see that more kids are trained in gun safety; Boy Scouts can't use schools any more; want to use some shelter houses to do gun instruction; Boy Scout day camp wants to train on bb use; need to get more kids familiar with guns; safety town for kindergartners teach what to do when you see a gun; see nothing wrong with this; is done with licensed instructors and feel it is a good thing.

Larick said he takes children's safety as serious as anything; have children starting elementary through college freshman; providing knowledge is key; knowledge of effective use, of dangers and fundamentals; see this as being provided through appropriate training and knowledge on what a weapon is and what harm it can do; will be supporting.

Mayor stated as a Boy Scout leader went to meritbadge.org and looked at requirements; pretty innocuous - what to do, how to treat with respect; a large part of this merit badge training; only 2 of the 126 merit badges that can be earned; the range part would not take place in Gahanna parks; encourage anyone interested in the subject to take a look at the requirements.

Kneeland asked Collins if there was an urgency to this legislation. Collins replied there is not an urgency; most of the programs are offered in the warmer months; no specific time. Kneeland stated he feels this needs greater debate; were hit with this at appropriations; is as important; understand their passion but we need to focus on finances right now and the need to financially survive.

Kneeland stated we need to understand all sides; all of us have ears to ground; need to be hearing, saying, and understanding; need to focus on education on the finances; need time to educate people about this for a better appreciation.

McGregor stated she doesn't see a need to postpone; have debated in length and is on agenda for vote. Ewald stated he has no problem postponing even though he is supporting; postponing won't change my position.

A motion was made by President of Council Kneeland, seconded by Anderson, that this matter be Postponed Indefinitely. The motion carried by the following vote:

| | | |
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| Yes | 4 | President of Council Kneeland, Vice President of Council Ewald, Anderson and Samuel |
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| No | 3 | McGregor, McAlister and Larick |
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J. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES: None.

K. MOTIONS/RESOLUTIONS:

RES-0016-2010

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING S. 3194, THE PUBLIC SAFETY
EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE COOPERATION ACT OF 2009

Ewald stated that the reason this is coming forward is that it has been added to the agenda of the U.S. Senate for cloture; most municipalities were caught off guard as they thought it was a dead issue. Kneeland requested the Clerk forward copies to our Senators as soon as possible as it is believed the vote is scheduled for Wednesday.

A motion was made by President of Council Kneeland, seconded by Anderson, that this matter be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 President of Council Kneeland, Vice President of Council
Ewald, McGregor, McAlister, Anderson, Samuel and Larick

L. REPRESENTATIVES:

Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) - Ewald/Kneeland:

Kneeland noted the next meeting is December 14 at 6:00 p.m.

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) - McGregor:

McGregor stated the next meeting is Thursday.

Bd. of Education, Gahanna-Jefferson Public Schools - Samuel:

Samuel stated he will be attending Thursday evening.

Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) - Kneeland.: No Report.

M. OFFICIAL REPORTS:

Mayor:

Mayor stated she wanted to thank all members of CFAC and the facilitators; knew the task would not be easy when I asked you to serve; appreciate your commitment and work through this process and look forward to your continued involvement as the City works to educate residents and plan for the future; also would like to thank Ron Smith, owner of SOH Productions in Gahanna, for agreeing to record the CFAC presentation on very short notice for a marginal fee.

Mayor continued that she would like to announce her 2011 Board and Commission appointments; all are being reappointed and like to thank them for their continued service to Gahanna: BZA, Ben Winkler; Civil Service, Dave Schroeder, Landscape, Melissa Hyde; Parks & Rec, Cynthia Franzmann; and Planning Commission, David Andrews.

Mayor stated that today we learned from Leah Evans who is at the Mid-American Economic Development Council Conference in Chicago that the city won two awards - Best Annual Report and Best Special Event for Groundhog Day; the awards program recognizes outstanding efforts in development of marketing materials, marketing events and economic development efforts in our ten Midwestern states; award winners will be featured in the January 2011 issue of Site Selection Magazine and will also be recognized in the monthly newsletter and on the website.

Stinchcomb continued that as a reminder the City is accepting letters of interest and resumes for persons who are interested in serving on the City's Charter Review Commission; organized every 5 years by charter with 7 members, 4 appointed by Council and 3 by the Mayor; must conclude work by July 1; please send resumes to Council Clerk.

City Attorney:

Weber stated he would like to make one comment regarding S. 3194; one concern in this type of legislation is that it violates the concept of federalism; certain areas are reserved to the states and ancillary to local governments; this erodes our authority as a Charter city; one concern is once this starts, federal supremacy clause would go into effect and our state laws could be nullified; many states had a change in administrations; movement in Ohio to level the playing field with regard to state collective bargaining; need to cut this off at the pass

N. COUNCIL COMMENT:

Larick stated he would like to thank the committee for their time and effort; much appreciated; to the high school students, this is one of the more informative meetings recently; picked a good night to come.

Anderson stated she would like to thank CFAC and facilitators; also give kudos for the Holiday Lights festival; was great to see people converging on the plaza and have ensuing business across the street; spoken to several businesses who said they did well on the kick off for Holiday Lights; in that vein, Happy Holidays.

Samuel also thanked CFAC; great example of citizen participation; looking forward to the implementation of recommendations where possible; was truly an education process for committee members; agree with the committee that we have not been effective in promoting that financial prudence to the citizens of Gahanna as listed on page 3 of the report; in response to this am proposing that the City establish a "Citizens' Academy" ("Inside Gahanna") which educates citizens about all aspects of Gahanna city government; Rock City, South Carolina, has an excellent program we can learn from; agree with the recommendation to examine collaboration and partnerships as mentioned on page 16 of the report; believe this is an area that needs further development; Mayor Corey Booker of Newark, NJ, and Mayor Michael Nutter of Philadelphia strongly encourage seeking assistance from private businesses, nonprofits, civic organizations, and religious organizations; would like to take this one step further and recommend that our City expand our volunteer program to take up the slack in needed areas of service; would like to suggest looking at current volunteer programs in other cities; we could begin by looking at a successful program in the City of Kettering, Ohio, where 1,200 volunteers have saved the city \$800,000 a year; are in a new period of history where we have to reset the way we operate; the city is where the "rubber meets the road"; can not depend on the federal or state governments any longer; Chuck Hagel, former Senator and advisor to President Obama and Ben Bernanke agree that things will not get better soon; Bernanke says that we will have a high unemployment rate for the next 4 to 5 years; we need shared sacrifice from citizens, employees (union members included) and city officials; and last but not least, unlike the federal and state governments, where there is a lot of fluff, city tax money goes where we say it is going; thank you for letting me comment.

Ewald also thanked CFAC members; look at the list of names of participants; they aren't just one time participants; they continue to volunteer; look around this room and you also see Andre Porter, Rob Matney and others who provide free service of the knowledge and information; people like these committee members help out with the issues; this is not just a council and administration; this is collaborative; thank everyone for their time; recognize all the hard work and time put in.

Kneeland stated he would also like to thank the committee; gave us a lot of detailed insight; good to know where the citizens expect service; something we really need;

looking forward to next week when we can delve deeper into this.

O. ADJOURNMENT: 8:32 p.m. - Motion by Samuel.

Clerk's Signature

*APPROVED by the City Council, this
day of 2010.*

Chair Signature