



# Legislative Highlights

## Bimonthly Updates: November-December 2024

*In November and December*, City Council passed several pieces of legislation, including resolutions, ordinances, and motions that support community priorities and improvements.

### Meetings Held:

- **Regular Meetings:** [Nov. 4](#), [Nov. 18](#), [Dec. 2](#), [Dec. 16](#)
- **Committee of the Whole:** [Nov.12](#),[Nov. 25](#), [Dec. 9](#)
- **Finance Committee Meetings:** [Nov. 4](#), [Nov.12](#), [Nov. 18](#), [Nov. 25](#), [Dec. 2](#), [Dec. 9](#)

### Highlights Include:

- **2025 Budget Approval (ORD-0065-2024):** City Council approved the 2025 budget, ensuring funding for critical city services, including roads and sidewalks maintenance, public safety, playground equipment, community grants and much more. The budget was reviewed in detail over several meetings, including two Public Hearings on [November 18th](#) and [December 2nd](#).
- **Academy Park Improvements (ORD-0066-2024):** Authorizing the Mayor to enter a contract with POD Design for park upgrades.
- **Zoning Code Updates (ORD-0070-2024 to ORD-0081-2024):** Revisions to accessory structures, parking requirements, lighting standards, floodplain regulations, and design guidelines to align with community growth and sustainability goals. A Public Hearing was held on [December 2nd](#).
- **Street and Sidewalk Programs (MT-0017-2024, MT-0018-2024):** Authorizing bids for 2025 maintenance and improvement projects.
- **Community Safety (ORD-0069-2024):** Amended ordinances to address dangerous and vicious animals, prioritizing community safety.

[For complete agendas and legislative details and to sign up for agendas delivered to your inbox,, visit our official portal on Legistar](#) [<https://gahanna.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>].



Small Business  
Saturday Resolution



Councilman Renner  
Receives Resolution.



Veterans' Day  
Ceremony

### Recognitions

Council issued legislation commemorating:

1. Native American Heritage Month (Nov.) [RES-0039-2024](#)
2. Veterans Day (Nov.) [RES-0040-2024](#)
3. Small Business Saturday (Nov.) [RES-0043-2024](#)
4. World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims (Nov.) [RES-0042-2024](#)
5. National Impaired Driving Prevention Month (Dec.) [RES-0045-2024](#)

- 6. Commending Stephen A. Renner for His Enduring Commitment to Leadership, Service, and Sustainability Efforts in Gahanna (Dec.) [RES-0048-2024](#)
- 7. Supporting the Ohio Commission for United States Semi-Quincentennial (America250-OH) (Dec.) [RES-0049-2024](#)

# Member Spotlights

## Councilmember Activities



Council Members and staff participate in the City Top Out ceremony at the site of the future Gahanna Municipal Complex - December 3, 2024.

- **Power a Clean Future Ohio (PFCO):** PFCO recognized the City of Gahanna with the *Clean Energy Community & Climate Action Community* awards. Council President Bowers and Councilman Renner joined Mayor Jadwin and senior staff in receiving the recognition.
- **Gahanna Energy Plus Town Meetings:** Council President Bowers and Councilmember Renner cohosted these public meetings with Gahanna Administration. In attendance were Councilmembers Jones, McGregor, Padova, and Weaver. Members of the public were able to discuss the program directly with leadership. [Additional information regarding Gahanna Energy Plus can be found here at gahanna.gov.](#)
- **2024 Mid-Ohio Planning Region's (MORPC) Summit on Sustainability:** Councilmembers Bowers, Padova, Renner, Weaver, and Council Office staff attended the summit. Councilmember Renner delivered remarks on the core values and practical solutions of the *Voinovich School for Leadership and Public Service's Master's in Sustainability, Resilience, and Security*, through Ohio University.
- **Council Liaisons to MORPC and Gahanna Jefferson Public Schools:** Vice President Weaver represented Council at monthly MORPC meetings while Councilmember Jones represented Council at the *Gahanna Jefferson Public Schools Communication Ambassadors* meeting.
- **Budget & Breakfast Session:** Council President Bowers and Councilmember Jones co-hosted this community discussion on the city budget.
- **Our Gahanna Strategic Plan Community Engagement Session:** Council President Bowers and Councilmember Schnetzer joined community members and staff for the engagement session. [Learn more about Our Gahanna on the official webpage here at ourgahanna.com.](#)
- **Community Reinvestment Area Housing Council (CRAHC) and Parks & Recreation (P&R) Board Interviews:** Councilmembers conducted interviews to fill vacancies for the CRAHC and the P&R Board. [Learn about all board and commission opportunities on the city's official site here: <https://onboard.gahanna.gov>.](#)
- **Audit Exit Conference for the FY 2023 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report:** Councilmembers participated in the Audit Exit Conference for the FY 2023 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.



# From the Archives

## Preserving Gahanna’s History: A Vision for the Future

Did you know many of Gahanna’s earliest historical records are handwritten? These valuable documents tell the story of our city’s beginnings but remain inaccessible to search tools like OCR (optical character recognition).

As the Council Office looks to the future, we are exploring the idea of a **community crowdsourcing project** to help transcribe these records [<https://gahanna.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>], making them searchable and more accessible to all. This initiative is open to everyone with a passion for preserving Gahanna’s history.

This project is a priority for 2025. Stay tuned for updates in upcoming issues of this newsletter, where we will share how you can get involved in this exciting effort to bring Gahanna’s history to life! Please reach out to the project manager **Deputy Clerk Sophia McGuire** for more information on how you can join this exciting initiative.

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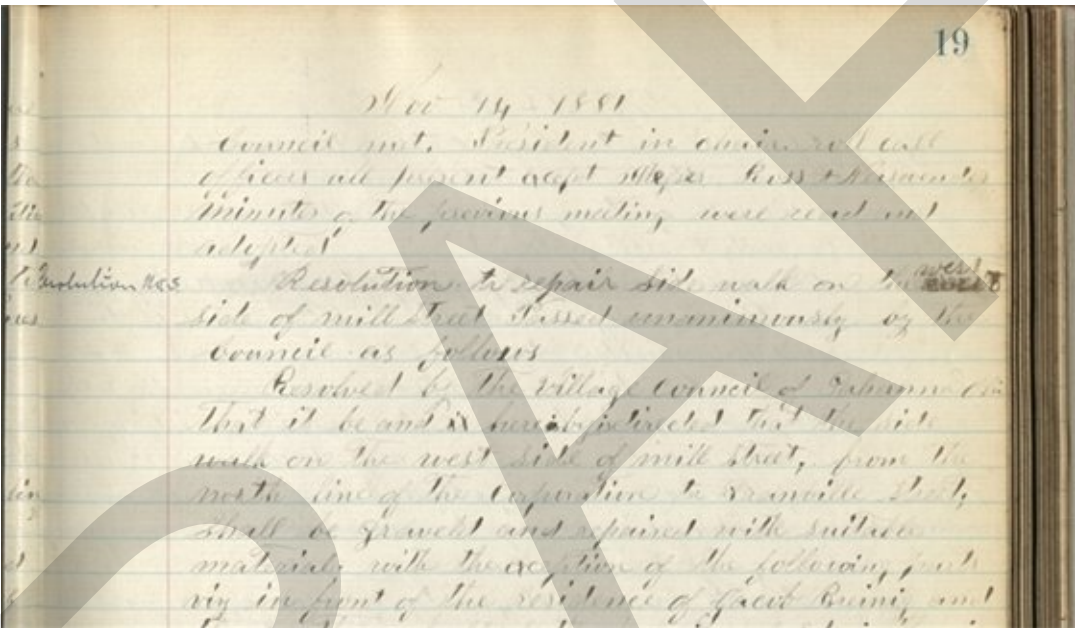


Image of handwritten Council Minutes from 1881

# Community Highlights

## Celebrating Service and Engagement in Gahanna

From community partnerships to acts of advocacy and celebration, Gahanna City Council continues to champion community involvement and civic pride.

- **Advancing Sustainability:** Councilmember Renner earned a Master’s in Sustainability, Security, and Resilience from [Ohio University’s Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Service](#), bringing valuable insights back to Gahanna.
- **Celebrating Cultural Diversity:** Councilmember Jones is a founding member of the resident-led Juneteenth Planning Committee for 2025 ; she is also advocating for the recognition of South Asian holidays in Gahanna.
- **Supporting Families in Need:** Council President Bowers and Councilmembers Jones and Padova partnered with Reynoldsburg officials to deliver donations to Gahanna Residents in Need - Food Distribution Center (GRIN), celebrating the Lincoln Lions’ victory over the Reynoldsburg Raiders.
- **Promoting Local Business Growth:** Councilmembers attended the grand openings of several businesses, including Orthopedic ONE, Recreate Behavioral Health of Ohio, and The Bibliophile Room, showcasing Gahanna’s thriving economy.
- **Amplifying Holiday Spirit:** Councilmembers joined their neighbors in celebrating the annual Creekside Holiday Lights Celebration and SantaRace 5k.

Coming Up

- **Empowering Women:** In partnership with Visit Gahanna and the Gahanna Division of Police, Council President Bowers leads Gahanna's inaugural *Walk for Women*, Noon on February 2nd at the Big Walnut Trail. [Check out the Council Members Updates page for more details!](#)

Thank you to all Councilmembers, partners, and volunteers for their continued dedication to making Gahanna a thriving and inclusive community!



Walk for Women



Orthopedic ONE  
Grand Opening



Holiday Lights  
Celebration

In the Know

Stay Connected with Your City Council and stay informed about the decisions shaping Gahanna’s future!

January Council Meetings

2 JAN 7 PM	ORGANIZATIONAL & REGULAR MEETING
13 JAN 7 PM	COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
21 JAN 6 PM	STRATEGIC PLAN TABLE TALK & REGULAR MEETING
27 JAN 6 PM	COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL PLANNING WORKSHOP

Upcoming Community Hours

18 JAN	Councilwoman Jamille Jones 11:00 A.M., Gahanna Branch Library 310 Granville St. Gahanna 43230
25 JAN	Council President Merisa Bowers 10:00 A.M., Gahanna Branch Library 310 Granville St. Gahanna 43230

Meet the Council

- [Stephen Renner – Ward 1](#)
- [Michael Schnetzer – Ward 2](#)
- [Kaylee Padova – Ward 3](#)
- [Trenton Weaver – Ward 4](#)
- [Jamille Jones – Member at Large](#)
- [Merisa Bowers – Member at Large](#)
- [Nancy McGregor – Member at Large](#)

# Meet the Council Office Staff

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<b>Jessica Hilts CMC</b> Mgmt. Analyst - Comms & Research	<b>Jeremy VanMeter CMC</b> Clerk of Council	<b>Sophia McGuire CRA</b> Deputy Clerk of Council
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## Want to Know More?


### Get Connected

- **Stay Updated:**
  1. [Subscribe to email updates for Council news and city communications.](#)
  2. [Sign up to receive agendas for public meetings via email.](#)
- **Watch Online:** Can't make it in person? [View streamed meetings on the city's YouTube channel.](#)

### RESOURCES

- [Learn about the many resources awaiting you.](#)
- [Find the answer to many \*Frequently Asked Questions\*.](#)

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