City of Gahanna

Meeting Minutes

City Council

200 South Hamilton Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230

Trenton I. Weaver, President
Jamille Jones, Vice President
Merisa K. Bowers
Nancy R. McGregor
Kaylee Padova
Stephen A. Renner
Michael Schnetzer

Jeremy A. VanMeter, Clerk of Council

Monday, February 2, 2026 | **7:00 PM** | **City Hall, Council Chambers**

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

Gahanna City Council met in Regular Session on Monday, February 2, 2026, in Council Chambers. President of Council Trenton I. Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Vice President of Council Jamille Jones delivered an Invocation and led members in the Pledge of Allegiance. The agenda was published on January 30, 2026.

Note: In recognition of Black History Month and at the invitation of Council and Mayor Jadwin, Mr. Tom Gregory delivered a special presentation at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers on Cora M. Jones Thurman, the first African American student to graduate from Gahanna High School in 1913. Community members joined city staff, Councilmembers, Mayor Jadwin, and City Attorney Tamilarasan to honor Ms. Thurman's life and legacy.

Present 7 - Merisa K. Bowers, Jamille Jones, Nancy R. McGregor, Kaylee Padova, Stephen A. Renner, Michael Schnetzer, and Trenton I. Weaver

B. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA:

None.

C. PRESENTATIONS:

Joint Resolution/Proclamation Presentation - Council, Mayor, City Attorney Recognizing Black History Month & Honoring the Legacy of Cora Thurman Recipients: Clemya Matthews and Tom Gregory

Vice President Jones stated that those attending in person or online had

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the opportunity prior to the meeting to hear a thorough presentation on the life and legacy of Cora May Thurman. She explained that Ms. Thurman made history in 1913 as the first African-American student to graduate from Gahanna schools and demonstrated profound courage and determination in pursuing her education at a time when racial barriers sought to limit her potential. She said that throughout her life's work, Cora Thurman embodied the belief that all people have value and deserve the chance to share their gifts, and she reminded those present that history is shaped not only by extraordinary figures but also by everyday people who inspire extraordinary things in others. Vice President Jones stated that Council felt excited to present a resolution to Mr. Tom Gregory, who conducted extensive research and delivered the earlier presentation on Ms. Thurman, and she encouraged everyone to watch the recording. She recognized Clemya Matthews, granddaughter of Cora Thurman, who attended the meeting to receive the resolution. She invited Mr. Gregory and Ms. Matthews to come forward, along with Council colleagues, City Attorney Tamilarasan, and Mayor Jadwin, for a photograph and invited Mr. Gregory and Ms. Matthews to share remarks.

Mr. Gregory noted that the year marked the 100th anniversary of the celebration of Black History, which began as Black History Week in 1926, as well as the 50th anniversary of Black History Month as a holiday. He stated that those milestones made the occasion very special and expressed his thanks.

City Attorney Tamilarasan described the presentation as outstanding and the story as inspiring. She stated that the story resonated with her and thanked Mr. Gregory for bringing the information forward.

Mayor Jadwin thanked those involved for the opportunity to participate. She described the presentation as amazing and thanked Mr. Gregory for the research he conducted and the information he gathered and shared. She strongly encouraged anyone watching to view the presentation. She stated that the phrase "ordinary people doing extraordinary things" resonated with her and described Cora Thurman's life as remarkable. She expressed appreciation for the presence of Ms. Thurman's family at the meeting and thanked Ms. Matthews for attending. Mayor Jadwin stated that Cora Thurman opened doors for many people and acted unselfishly and bravely as she stepped forward to fill roles, meet needs, identify those who required support, and create opportunities to help others. She acknowledged Black History Month and the barriers Ms. Thurman broke down for the African-American community. Mayor Jadwin also reflected on the leadership seated on the dais and noted that six of the nine elected positions were held by women. She stated that Cora Thurman created and opened the path for many of those serving and

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described the story as incredible and a wonderful testimony. She thanked Mr. Gregory for sharing it.

President Weaver added his thanks for the presentation. He stated that he had walked the halls of the former high school for years and had seen the class picture on the wall and wondered about the life of the woman pictured. He stated that learning more about her life and legacy proved amazing and that one person embodied an extraordinary amount of history and left a significant legacy. He thanked Mr. Gregory for bringing that history to light for the community and thanked those who joined the meeting.

D. HEARING OF VISITORS:

Ryan March, 278 Rivers End Road, Gahanna, OH addressed Council and stated that he wished to share a few thoughts and some positive energy. He said that if individuals were in Gahanna on Sunday, they saw a demonstration of human empathy that he found very inspiring. He described people coming together and expressing that Gahanna is a welcoming place that seeks to uphold the sense of human dignity that everyone deserves. He stated that hundreds of people showed that they believe in building, maintaining, and keeping that sense of community alive, which he said everyone can relate to and wants. Mr. March also referenced the recent significant snowstorm. He stated that the Gahanna plow team kept the roads clear. He said that when he checked nearby cities and roads, including routes leading to Easton, those areas did not keep up in the same way, but Gahanna roads remained clear. He stated that small things such as that can generate positive energy, and he wanted to reflect that positivity back into the community. He thanked Council.

E. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Minutes - To Approve:

2026-0023 Council Regular Minutes 2026-01-20

The minutes were approved on the Consent Agenda.

End of Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Bowers, seconded by Renner, to Pass the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Bowers, Jones, McGregor, Padova, Renner, Schnetzer and Weaver

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F. RESOLUTIONS:

RES-0002-2026 A JOINT RESOLUTION AND PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY 2026 AS "BLACK HISTORY MONTH" AND HONORING THE LEGACY OF CORA THURMAN

Councilmember Bowers briefly echoed her thanks to Vice President Jones, Clerk VanMeter, and the city staff who participated in presenting the legacy of Ms. Thurman. She also thanked Mr. Gregory and Ms. Thurman's family for attending in support, as well as the Ward family for generously sharing their photographs. Councilmember Bowers stated that the community's history remains connected and that the presentation demonstrated the integration present throughout the community.

Councilmember Padova thanked everyone who made the evening possible. She echoed Mayor Jadwin's recommendation to watch the earlier session, which she understood to be available through the city's YouTube channel. She stated that while the resolution was meaningful, it did not capture the full depth shared during the prior hour. She remarked that throughout the presentation, Mr. Gregory continued to share significant accomplishments and numerous firsts achieved by Ms. Thurman, layering one after another. She described Ms. Thurman as an incredible person and thanked Mr. Gregory for educating those present about her life.

President Weaver added that he appreciated Mr. Gregory's comments as he departed, which highlighted former President Ford's quote included in the resolution. He noted that Black History Month was declared a holiday in 1976 as part of America's bicentennial and stated that the timing felt fitting as the nation reflected on its progress and journey while celebrating its semi-quincentennial.

A motion was made by Jones, seconded by Padova, that the Resolution be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Bowers, Jones, McGregor, Padova, Renner, Schnetzer and Weaver

RES-0003-2026 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH FISHBECK FOR THE TAYLOR ROAD WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT (ST-1121 / WA-24-01)

Senior Director Schultz thanked Council for the invitation to introduce the item and explained that, because of the snow the previous week, the Committee of the Whole did not hear this item or another item on the agenda. He stated that the item before Council was a contract amendment for the Fishbeck design services contract for the Taylor Road waterline project. He explained that the project recently went out for

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bid and that the Fishbeck contract included provisions for contract administration, construction management, and inspection services. Senior Director Schultz referred to the letter attached to the agenda item and explained that, as the process moved forward, the Engineering Department recognized that the City's code requires sidewalk upgrades when completing major capital improvements. He stated that this requirement prompted a conversation with Fishbeck to design the sidewalks. He noted that the project included monitoring budgets and contingencies. He stated that the City had reached a point where it needed to make the contract whole in order to complete construction administration and inspection work. Senior Director Schultz reported that the administration requested a contract modification adding just under $70,000 to the existing Fishbeck contract, bringing the total contract amount to $312,121.80. He stated that the administration respectfully requested a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into the contract modification for the Taylor Road waterline replacement project.

Councilmember McGregor asked whether the project applied to the north or south side of the road. Senior Director Schultz responded that the work applied to the residential properties on the north side of the road and clarified that the code provision applied only to residential properties.

Councilmember Bowers asked for clarification regarding the specific location along the north side of Taylor Road. Senior Director Schultz explained that the project included all single-family residences from Helmbright heading west to an assisted living facility, which marked the end of the sidewalk work. He added that a condominium association located slightly farther west would include a very small section of work. He stated that the project involved approximately 3,000 linear feet of sidewalk on the north side only.
Councilmember Bowers asked whether the project would expand the existing sidewalk. Senior Director Schultz responded that the work would bring the sidewalks to the PROWAG standard by replacing four-foot sidewalks with five-foot sidewalks and bringing all facilities into compliance with ADA standards.

A motion was made by Renner, seconded by Jones, that the Resolution be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Bowers, Jones, McGregor, Padova, Renner, Schnetzer and Weaver

G. ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION / FIRST READING:

ORD-0005-2026 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS - Central Park TIF Fund, General Fund and Cul-de-sac Maintenance Fund for various purposes

President Weaver introduced the Ordinance and the Clerk read it by title. President Weaver noted the item would be discussed in Committee of the Whole on February 9, 2026.

ORD-0006-2026 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF GAHANNA CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 133.02 - PURCHASING PROCEDURES

President Weaver introduced the Ordinance and the Clerk read it by title. President Weaver noted the item would be discussed in Committee of the Whole on February 9, 2026.

H. ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING / ADOPTION:

Recommendation to Postpone to Date Certain (City Attorney):

ORD-0002-2026 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING, APPROVING, AND RATIFYING THE SUBMITTED RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL FOR TAX YEAR 2024

City Attorney Tamilarasan stated that, pursuant to the previous discussion of the item at Committee and questions raised by Council in preparation for the last Committee meeting that was canceled, she conducted research into the TIRC statute and contacted the Auditor's Office, which administers TIRC. She reported that, during discussions with staff at the Auditor's Office, they requested that Council postpone its vote on the item to allow further research into compliance issues that occurred during the TIRC meeting, including whether a sufficient quorum existed to vote on the matters before the council, specifically regarding the Mifflin Township incentives and abatements. She stated that her office recommended postponing the matter to a date certain. She requested that the item return to Committee of the Whole the following week and proceed to second reading at the next Council meeting.

President Weaver asked whether Council had any questions for City Attorney Tamilarasan. Hearing none, he requested a motion to postpone the vote on Ordinance 0002-2026 to a date certain of February 16, 2026.

A motion was made by Bowers, seconded by Renner, that the Ordinance be Postponed to a Date Certain, February 16, 2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Bowers, Jones, McGregor, Padova, Renner, Schnetzer and Weaver

I. ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION, WAIVER & ADOPTION:

ORD-0004-2026 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS AND WAIVING SECOND READING - TIF, State Capital Grant, Capital Improvement, Water Capital, and Sewer Capital Improvement funds for Capital Improvement Projects

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Senior Director Schultz explained that, as part of the Capital Improvement Plan, the CIP Advisory Committee and the structure of the document required a process at the end of each year to return any unencumbered funds for each project. He stated that, for projects requiring reallocation, the administration would return to Council in the early part of the year, which explained why the item appeared before them. He noted that this marked the second time they had followed this process and stated that the process aimed to increase transparency with Council and the public. Senior Director Schultz stated that the attached item included a list of projects that would receive funding back. He clarified that these projects were not included in the 2026 budget request but that the City returned the funds at the end of December. He stated that the administration now requested the return of those funds to make the projects whole. He explained that, in some instances, projects had not progressed in a manner that allowed the City to encumber the funds, but the projects had not stalled. He stated that the circumstances reflected the natural life cycle of a project and that the funds remained necessary to continue each project listed.

President Weaver thanked Director Schultz and asked whether Council had any discussion on the waiver request. He then asked for the reason for the waiver. Senior Director Schultz responded that the waiver would allow the City to utilize and access the funding more expediently and make it available sooner by avoiding the two-week time window.

A motion was made by Jones, seconded by Renner, that the Ordinance be Waived for Second Reading. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Bowers, Jones, McGregor, Padova, Renner, Schnetzer and Weaver

Councilmember Bowers stated that she appreciated the process that Mr. Schultz outlined. She noted that all of the items had been incorporated into the Capital Improvement Plan and that Council had anticipated them as expenditures. She stated that she appreciated the opportunity to refresh everyone and receive an update on the status of the projects. She added that she believed the practice represented a great approach and thanked him for bringing the item forward.

Councilmember McGregor stated that one of the items under capital improvements referenced gateways and entryways. She said that, for the third time, she requested the removal of the sign on Taylor Road at the entrance to the city because it looked terrible. She stated that she had offered to paint it herself and had done so before, but she asked that the City remove it. She said that people who worked at Mount Carmel had asked her why the sign looked so bad, and she told them she had requested its removal several times. She reiterated her request to take it down, even if the City did not replace it. Senior Director Schultz

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responded that they would take it down the following day. Councilmember McGregor thanked him.

A motion was made by Bowers, seconded by Jones, that the Ordinance be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Bowers, Jones, McGregor, Padova, Renner, Schnetzer and Weaver

J. CORRESPONDENCE AND ACTIONS:

1. Clerk - None.

2. Council

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2026-0024 Your City Council at Work Newsletter - November-December 2025

President Weaver stated that he wanted to recognize the Council Office for preparing and publishing the City Council at Work Newsletter. He specifically thanked Ms. Hilts, along with everyone in the Council Office and all who shared information and photos for inclusion in the publication.

K. REPRESENTATIVES:

1. Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) - Renner, Padova

Councilmember Padova reported that the CIC Board met on January 21, 2026, for its organizational meeting. She stated that the Board conducted the election of officers and selected George Mrus as President, Betty Collins as Vice President and Secretary, and Jeff Kessler as Vice President and Treasurer. She noted that the committees would remain the same, with Jodelle Carder serving on Real Estate and Jeff Kessler serving on Finance. Councilmember Padova stated that the Board formally set its meeting schedule as the third Wednesday of each month at 8:00 a.m., which she had previously announced. She also stated that the Board agreed to continue holding twice-yearly meetings with Council, with the dates to be determined. She indicated that the Board would review the timing in order to present its strategic planning efforts and the strategic plan to Council. She reported that, following the organizational meeting, the Board moved into its regular meeting and spent the majority of the time discussing the strategic plan and how the process would proceed. She also stated that the Board received an update on the Mill Street property demolition and noted that anyone who had visited the site likely observed the progress. She added a reminder

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that the meetings remain open to the public, except during executive session when members of the public must step out.

Councilmember Renner stated that he was unable to attend the meeting.

2. Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) - Weaver

President Weaver noted he would have a full report at the next meeting.

3. Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) - Padova

Councilmember Padova announced that the Creekside Charity Chocolate Walk would take place on Sunday, February 15 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., with proceeds benefiting Give to Gahanna. She stated that a limited number of tickets remained available and encouraged interested individuals to purchase them before they sold out. She noted that early bird pricing remained available through February 7 and recommended purchasing tickets promptly. She shared that she attended the event for the first time the previous year and highly recommended it as a way to get outside during the winter months, enjoy fresh air, and connect with other community members. Councilmember Padova also announced that organizers had named Selwyn Birchwood as one of the Creekside Blues & Jazz Festival headliners, scheduled to perform on the blue stage on Friday, June 19. She stated that additional headliner announcements would follow in the coming weeks. She reported that Visit Gahanna continued to seek sponsors and accept vendor applications for the festival. She further announced that Herb Day would take place on Saturday, May 2 at Creekside and that organizers had opened vendor applications for that event as well. She encouraged residents to save the date.

4. School Board (SB) - Jones

Vice President Jones thanked School Board Member Dion Manley for attending the earlier presentation and remaining for the meeting. She reminded Council of upcoming February meetings, including a Board workshop meeting on February 5 at 5:30 p.m. at Clark Hall, a Finance and Facilities Committee meeting on February 17 at 6:30 p.m. at Clark Hall, and the regular Board meeting on February 19 at 6:30 p.m., also at Clark Hall.

L. OFFICIAL REPORTS:

1. Mayor

Mayor Jadwin commended the board members of the Gahanna Area

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Chamber of Commerce for the successful launch of the Gahanna Community Impact Fund, a new nonprofit organization. She stated that Kyle Huston, a Chamber board member and Gahanna resident, initiated the effort and played an integral role in establishing the organization. She explained that the nonprofit would generate funds to support a grant program for small businesses in the city, reflecting a strong commitment to the local business community. She reported that, during the kickoff event, organizers raised over $11,000. She stated that the City looked forward to supporting the organization and sharing lessons learned from its own community grant program. She added that the initiative demonstrated the collaboration required among the economic development team and the Chamber to create an environment where businesses could thrive. Mayor Jadwin also recognized and commended the City's snow crews for their efforts during Winter Storm Fern, which she described as the largest snowfall in nearly 20 years, with more than a foot of snow falling in less than 24 hours. She stated that snow ended Sunday night and that by Monday morning she and Communications Manager Dan Pearlman drove the roadways and found them passable and plowed, with residents out shoveling. She reported that crews worked five consecutive days from Saturday through Wednesday in 12-hour shifts, maintaining 24-hour coverage. She stated that staff worked in hazardous conditions, including sub-zero temperatures after the storm passed. She noted that public service staff, parks and recreation employees, code enforcement personnel, maintenance team members, and other CDL-licensed employees operated plows. She also recognized first responders for their efforts during the storm. She reported that crews plowed 5,396.4 miles during that period. She expressed appreciation for the team's dedication, professionalism, teamwork, and commitment to the community. Mayor Jadwin congratulated Mr. Chris Wagner and the GLHS BlackBox Theater troupe for their performances of "12 Angry Jurors," held in Council Chambers. She described the performances as exceptional and noted that students rehearsed for three weeks, including a week in which they missed three days of school due to the storm. She praised the students' talent and stated that the City felt honored to host the performances in a courtroom-like setting. She informed residents that the next edition of *Uniquely Gahanna* had gone to print and would arrive in mailboxes within the next few weeks. She encouraged residents to review the event calendar, which included dates through May, such as Herb Day, the return of the Gahanna Bike Rodeo, a rescheduled shred event in May, and the Walk in Our Boots 5K, which would occur the same day as Herb Day. She announced that pool memberships were currently on sale with early bird pricing available through March 31. She also stated that seasonal summer job recruitment had begun and that residents could find opportunities at gahanna.gov. Finally, Mayor Jadwin reported that the

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latest episode of the “Our Gahanna” podcast had been released prior to the winter storm. She stated that the episode featured a conversation with Brandi Sargent, co-owner of SGT Coffee Co., who recently celebrated a ribbon cutting. She noted that the discussion covered the process of opening the business, excitement about locating in Creekside, challenges faced, and thoughts regarding the proposed development project. She informed residents that the podcast was available on major podcast platforms and through a link at gahanna.gov.

2. City Attorney

City Attorney Tamilarasan reported that, in litigation matters, the Taglia case pending before the Court of Appeals involved a trip-and-fall incident at Academy Park. She stated that the appellant’s brief, filed by the plaintiff, was due on January 20, 2026, and that the plaintiff failed to file the brief. She explained that the court issued a notice the previous week advising that it would dismiss the appeal for failure to prosecute if the plaintiff did not proceed. She stated that the City would pursue dismissal and expressed hope for closure to the litigation soon.

M. COUNCIL COMMENT:

Councilmember Renner thanked Vice President Jones for the resolution and Mr. Gregory for the presentation on Cora Thurman. He stated that, although he arrived late, he found what he heard very interesting. He said that Cora Thurman’s 41 years as an educator helped expand opportunity and cultivate belonging for countless students, and that her life’s work demonstrated how one person’s perseverance could shape a community. He expressed gratitude for the resolution and for adding a positive moment to Gahanna’s history. Councilmember Renner stated that Winter Storm Fern generated significant discussion and that Gahanna weathered a once-in-a-generation snowstorm with grit, coordination, and community support. He said he observed on Facebook that neighbors, especially on the west side, asked how they could help shovel sidewalks and driveways. He stated that, as Mayor Jadwin noted, the community should applaud the snow crews. He reported that the Emergency Management Agency recognized Gahanna as the number one city in the region to complete its streets ahead of others, which he described as remarkable. He added that, while no single storm could be attributed solely to climate change, the severity of the storm aligned with evidence that climate change intensified weather extremes, including heavy snowfall events. He noted that this ranked as the third largest snow event in the region and that the other two occurred in March and April during periods of higher temperatures and precipitation. He stated that warming greenhouse gases contributed to destabilization in the Arctic region and noted that another polar vortex would arrive soon.

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Councilmember McGregor thanked Mr. Gregory for his presentation and stated that he had previously presented to the Historical Society, where he gave an excellent presentation. She announced that at the February 10 meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the library, Marshall Siegel would present on the Constitution. She stated that February marked the only time he would be in town, as he typically traveled to Washington, D.C. to give presentations. She said the presentation aligned well with the America 250 celebration. She also reported that she attended the SGT Coffee ribbon cutting and expressed surprise at the size of the space, describing multiple rooms with several tables that created a comfortable and cozy atmosphere. She encouraged residents to visit for coffee and fellowship. She concluded by welcoming home her son-in-law, who returned to the United States after nearly a year in Kuwait, and stated that her family felt thankful for his safe return.

Councilmember Padova thanked Mr. March for his comments and stated that nearly 300 people gathered in Gahanna for the Intentional Chain of Empathy, a peaceful demonstration rooted in love, solidarity, and community. She explained that organizers planned the event before the record snowfall, but the Level 3 snow emergency and the loss of Alex Pretti gave the gathering deeper meaning. She stated that the community needed an opportunity to gather, connect, and support one another. She said that, despite 20-degree temperatures, neighbors lined Granville Street holding signs and standing in support of the immigrant community. She thanked those who attended and those who drove by honking and waving. She stated that the event demonstrated that no human is illegal and that Gahanna shows up for one another. She also thanked the Gahanna Police Department for maintaining a presence and ensuring safety throughout the event, which she said made her proud of the community.

Councilmember Bowers announced that the Columbus Metropolitan Club (CMC) would host a forum on cybersecurity in the age of artificial intelligence Wednesday, February 4, 2206, and noted that residents could attend in person or view the livestream on YouTube. She stated that the CMC would host its annual economic forecast in February, featuring Bill Lafayette, and that residents could view it on YouTube. She also announced that MORPC's Data Day would take place the following Tuesday, February 10, 2026, and encouraged attendance, noting that a Gahanna-based executive would deliver the keynote and regional leaders would participate. She added that Heartland Bank would host an economic forecast luncheon on February 11, 2026, at the Grand Event Center and that interested individuals should RSVP by February 4. She thanked Mr. March for his positive comments and affirmed that the

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weekend event provided an opportunity for community members to exercise their First Amendment rights and build community. She thanked Councilwoman Padova for her leadership and commended her remarks at the SGT Coffee ribbon cutting. She concluded with a quote from Toni Morrison: “The function of freedom is to free someone else.”

Vice President Jones thanked Councilmember Bowers for the quote and expressed appreciation for those who made the Black History Month presentation possible. She encouraged continued learning and highlighting ordinary people who accomplish extraordinary things in Gahanna. She noted that Mayor Jadwin and President Weaver made cameo appearances in a recent production of “12 Angry Jurors” and suggested a future City of Gahanna talent show. She shared a story about a Gahanna Lincoln High School student who responded within an hour to shovel a driveway for an elderly resident when she could not complete the task herself, and she described that act as an example of neighbors supporting one another. She commended Councilwoman Padova for organizing the Chain of Empathy and stated that the event made her proud to live in Gahanna.

President Weaver stated that the previous weeks had been busy and congratulated the Gahanna Chamber of Commerce on launching the Community Impact Fund. He reported that he briefly attended the event before participating in his cameo appearance. He congratulated SGT Coffee on its opening and described the event as well attended, noting that he obtained a cup of coffee and praised its quality. He stated that the business’s story and storefront opening created a powerful and moving moment. He thanked Councilwoman Padova for organizing the Chain of Empathy and thanked Vice President Jones for leading the resolution honoring Cora May Jones Thurman. He also commended the City’s snow crews for their work, noting that residents and visitors complimented their efforts and that crews logged 5,396.4 miles clearing streets. He stated that neighbors helping neighbors during the storm demonstrated the best of the community and concluded that, although he welcomed the snow to melt, he appreciated the good it brought out in the community.

N. ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business before the Council, President Weaver adjourned the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

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Jeremy A. VanMeter
Clerk of Council

APPROVED by the City Council, this
day of 2026.

Trenton I. Weaver

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