



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, August 3, 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, August 3, 2026, in Council Chambers. President of Council Trenton I. Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Vice President of Council Jamille Jones delivered an Invocation and led members in the Pledge of Allegiance. The agenda was published on July 31, 2026.

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:

1. Proclamation and Resolution Presentation by Mayor Jadwin & Council Honoring GLHS Bowling Team

[2026-0158](#)

Mayoral Proclamation - Gahanna Lincoln Lions Boys Bowling August 2026

Mayor Jadwin presented a proclamation recognizing the Gahanna Lincoln Lions boys bowling team for its exceptional 2025-26 season. She recalled that Council and she previously recognized team captain Kael Clous as the program's first individual state champion while the team prepared to compete at nationals in Columbus, Ohio. She reported that the team competed at nationals and finished second in the nation among 77 teams, setting records along the way. Mayor Jadwin stated that the team's dedication, teamwork, and excellence brought pride to

Gahanna Lincoln High School and the entire Gahanna community. She recognized the team and its coaches for the pride they brought to the community, the way they represented the city on the state and national stages, and their exceptional season. She congratulated the team and returned the meeting to President Weaver.

President Weaver thanked Mayor Jadwin and, on behalf of his Council colleagues, congratulated the team on its incredible season. He expressed his pleasure in welcoming the team back and said he looked forward to its continued success. He invited the team and Councilmembers to gather for a photograph and then invited Coach Yvonne Quiero to speak.

Coach Quiero stated that it was difficult to put into words the pride she felt for the team. She explained that her pride extended beyond the team's accomplishments on the lanes to the way the athletes conducted themselves off the lanes. She said that, as a coach, she looked for opportunities to influence not only the athletes' physical game but also their life choices. She coached the team since before Will and Kael joined and watched them and their teammates mature and grow into responsible young men. Coach Quiero stated that the team accomplished a great deal during the past season and had represented Gahanna athletics exceptionally well. She described the program as having a culture of respect, sportsmanship, inclusion, and perseverance. She also emphasized that the athletes put in the work on their own, practiced with purpose, and possessed a desire to win. Coach Quiero highlighted several accomplishments from the season. She noted that Kael Clous became the boys program's first individual state champion and that the team earned the boys program's first top-four finish at the state level. The team broke two of its own records, including a 289 Baker game, which she explained involved each bowler bowling two frames as part of a team game. The team also broke its previous team-game record of 1,207 with a score of 1,213, which required all five bowlers to score well above 200. Coach Quiero further reported that the team had won the OCC championship and district championship for two consecutive years. During the season, the team won four of six tournaments and reached the semifinals in the other two. She also recognized the junior varsity team, which won the first-ever state tournament for JV programs that year. Coach Quiero stated that six of the team's eight bowlers competed in the national event in June. They

advanced through elimination, earned the top seed during qualifying, and advanced through bracket play to guarantee themselves either first or second place. She described the accomplishment among 77 teams as significant and again noted that the team broke its previous record of 1,207 with a 1,213 team game. Coach Quiero expressed great pride in the team's accomplishments and stated that the athletes would take their place in history as the best and most cohesive team in program history. She said she looked forward to what the team would accomplish during the next season and to the new goals the incoming team would set. She thanked Council for the opportunity to attend, for honoring the athletes she valued so much, and for allowing her to speak on their behalf.

President Weaver thanked Coach Quiero and again congratulated the team. He stated that the athletes should feel incredibly proud because they made their school and community proud. He said he looked forward to their continued success wherever the future took them. He thanked the team for attending and thanked their families for the support they provided.

2. Council Office Internship Presentation - Caris Lantz

[2026-0157](#)

Local Government Internship Program Presentation 2026-08-03 and Gahanna City Hall History Exhibits - Caris Lantz, Council Office Intern

Caris Lantz, Council Office Intern, thanked President Weaver and Council for allowing her to present and for the opportunity to intern with the City of Gahanna. She stated that the internship was a phenomenal experience and provided an overview of her work during the summer. Lantz stated that she would begin her senior year at The Ohio State University and was pursuing dual degrees in Philosophy, Politics and Economics and Public Management, Leadership and Policy. She expected to graduate in May. She said that she interned with the City Council Office and worked with Clerk Jeremy VanMeter, Deputy Clerk Sophia McGuire, and Management Analyst Jessica Hilts, whom she described as a phenomenal team. She stated that she would likely pursue a graduate degree in the future, either through law school or a master's program, and hoped to work in a nonprofit or public role.

Ms. Lantz described an economic development education project as one of her major summer projects. She partnered extensively with Director Gottke and his office to develop materials for new Council members,

including an onboarding guide explaining City Council's role in economic development and the different incentives available. She also created public-facing materials, including newsletter articles, a brochure, and graphics. She stated that the project interested her because economics made up a major part of her degree, and the project allowed her to see how economics applied in the real world. Lantz stated that another major project involved researching City Hall's history as the City prepared to move to 825 Tech Center. She explained that the City did not have a cohesive history of the locations where City Council met over the years. She researched records from the Columbus Metropolitan Library, municipal archives, and the Gahanna Historical Society and compiled a history of Gahanna Council meeting locations from 1881 through the present. Lantz referenced five meeting locations shown in her presentation, including different locations on Mill Street, including one which previously served as a bank. She also explained that the City previously operated two municipal complexes at 200 South Hamilton Road. She identified a black-and-white photograph of the first complex, which the City built in 1969 and opened in 1970. She stated that the building served as Gahanna's municipal complex until 1994, when the current building opened. She noted that the City would next transition to the completed facility at 825 Tech Center Drive. Lantz noted that materials related to the project were on display at the back of Council Chambers. She explained that the display boards she worked on during the summer were not ready for the meeting but would be available soon. She invited attendees to review the artifacts.

Ms. Lantz also discussed a legislative transparency project in which she digitized historical resolutions and ordinances and made them keyword searchable. She stated that she processed more than 450 documents. She also conducted several research projects, including research related to the e-bike policy that appeared on the meeting agenda. She said it was exciting to see that work come to fruition. Lantz stated that she also worked on an inventory of public notice requirements for the Council Office. She explained that the City updated its zoning code and notice requirements several years earlier, and she worked to compile those requirements into one location. She also created an inventory of community engagement opportunities for Councilmembers, including meeting times, locations, and dates, to provide a cohesive database for reference.

Ms. Lantz described the skills and experiences she gained during her internship. She completed Sunshine Law and Ethics Law training and received training on Legistar and Municode. She also continued developing her skills with PDF Exchange, Canva, and Microsoft Office. Lantz stated that the internship provided several experiences with both Gahanna and MORPC. She sat with Clerk VanMeter during Council meetings and observed the behind-the-scenes work involved in the meetings. She also attended the MORPC Mobility Exchange, where Mayor Jadwin presented. Lantz said Mayor Jadwin did a wonderful job and stated that she learned about mobility in the region and the related plans, strategies, and conversations. She also participated in the Village Forum and the Mid-Ohio Development Exchange, which hosted a mixer for interns. She stated that these opportunities provided valuable experience and exposure. Lantz also highlighted archival research and economic development education as significant parts of her summer. She referenced photographs from several program experiences, including a meeting between the intern cohort and former Gahanna staff member Sharon Montgomery regarding the history of Gahanna City Hall, a photograph of the Gahanna interns, the Mobility Exchange, and other experiences from the summer. Lantz concluded by thanking Council for allowing her to intern during the summer. She stated that the internship was a wonderful experience, that she learned a great deal, and that she appreciated the opportunity.

President Weaver thanked Lantz for her efforts during the summer and for supporting the Council Office and the City as a whole. He stated that having her as an intern was a blessing and expressed gratitude for everything she did. After noting that she would begin her senior year, he asked whether she had any additional plans for the future. Lantz responded that she had no additional plans at that time and intended to finish her degree before deciding what to pursue next. President Weaver acknowledged her response and thanked Lantz. President Weaver then referenced a photograph in the materials from the dedication ceremony for the current building, which he believed took place on September 11, 1994. He stated that he thought he saw former Mayor McGregor in the photograph. He added that, after quickly calculating his own age at the time, he realized that he was entering kindergarten at High Point Elementary School.

D. HEARING OF VISITORS:

Jim McGregor of 180 Academy Court, Gahanna, OH, spoke on the Lustron House.

Jim McGregor, former Mayor of the City of Gahanna, thanked Mayor Jadwin, President Weaver, and members of Council. He stated that efforts to preserve the historic Lustron House involved a long-running process with many pieces. McGregor explained that the first piece involved Hamilton House. He stated that the Franklin County Commissioners faced a shortage of affordable housing for senior citizens and, in 1980, tried a series of group homes. Hamilton House, a single-family home converted to house six residents, served as one of those homes before assisted living facilities became an alternative. McGregor stated that, in 1988, the Franklin County Commissioners asked the communities where the homes were located to take them over, and Gahanna agreed to do so. Hamilton House had a house mother and a board appointed by the City. He noted that Councilmember Nancy McGregor previously served on that board. The Commissioners gave Hamilton House to the City on the condition that the City operate it as a senior living facility for five years. McGregor described the arrangement as a good solution that residents enjoyed. As the economy improved and assisted living opportunities became available, however, the number of residents declined, and Hamilton House closed after five years of operation. McGregor stated that the neighboring historic Lustron House came on the market in 1998. City Council welcomed the opportunity to acquire the property as a piece of Gahanna's history. The acquisition of the Lustron House, together with the Hamilton House lot, provided space for the Lustron House to serve as a museum. McGregor explained that the City then needed an organization to operate the museum because the City did not operate museums. He stated that the Gahanna Historical Society had experience in that area but, at the time, could not take on additional responsibilities. The City then turned the buildings over to the schools for use as alternative classrooms, which worked well for a period of time. McGregor also discussed Jefferson Township School No. 2, a one-room schoolhouse that the community wanted to preserve. He stated that a group formed to preserve the historic schoolhouse and that Tom Gregory and others raised money and provided volunteer labor to move the brick building to the high school. McGregor stated that the schoolhouse was an important part of the community. McGregor stated that the pieces of the project had now come together. The City had the

land and the Lustron House, while the Jefferson School House Group had the expertise and labor, and the Gahanna Historical Society was willing to operate the house as a museum. He stated that the time had finally come to preserve this part of Gahanna's history in a setting directly across from the new Gahanna Jefferson High School. McGregor thanked the Mayor and members of Council and stated that Tom Gregory would share the story of the Lustron House and an idea for the Gahanna Herb Gardens. He also recognized members of the Historical Society who attended the meeting, including President Kari Hawk. McGregor stated that the group expected to discuss the project further in the future and expressed hope that the site would become a wonderful green space and museum site for the City of Gahanna.

Tom Gregory of 123 Southwind Court, Gahanna, OH, spoke on the Lustron House and adjacent lot.

Tom Gregory stated that Council received research materials through Google Slides that included exterior and interior photographs of the Lustron House and background information about the property. He stated that the Lustron Corporation was a large corporation located in Columbus near Gahanna. Gregory stated that the Lustron Corporation built 2,498 houses nationally and that fewer than 1,500 remained. He explained that approximately 90 percent of the houses were two-bedroom models and that the company built only 111 three-bedroom models nationally, with approximately 70 percent of those still existing. He stated that the Gahanna house included an additional bump-out and measured approximately 1,217 square feet. He estimated that only 20 to 30 Lustron houses of that model and size remained nationally. Gregory stated that the majority of the home's exterior and interior remained intact. He noted that the interior was repainted and that some cabinets and other items were missing but could be located. He stated that, when the National Register of Historic Places evaluated the property, it did not qualify at that time, but restoration and the acquisition of some materials from Whitehall could make the property eligible for the registry. Gregory stated that the Gahanna Historical Society proposed raising money to restore the house and use it for educational purposes, and possibly as an Airbnb or another use that would allow people to enjoy it. He stated that the Historical Society had reviewed the proposal and that 10 or 11 members attended the meeting because they were excited about the

project. Gregory also discussed the adjacent lot and noted that both lots were very deep. He stated that the adjacent property could support an herb garden and suggested that some plants from the existing herb garden could move to the new location because the space was larger. He added that, even if the City kept the existing herb garden, another herb garden could also occupy the proposed site. Gregory stated that William and Rose O'Brien purchased the house in 1948. He noted that their son, Michael O'Brien, had served on City Council and as Council President during the Creekside development. Gregory stated that Eastland-Fairfield architecture high school students could participate in the restoration as a learning experience. He also stated that students in Gahanna's GEAR program, which maintained a garden at Clark Hall and included students focused on career readiness, could participate in the garden portion of the project during the spring and fall while Gahanna remained involved. Gregory acknowledged that the City had many ongoing responsibilities but stated that the City worked well in collaboration and supported historic preservation. He asked the City to consider the project. Gregory added that the Jefferson Foundation had two grants available and that applications were due by the end of September 2026. He stated that the group would need some indication of the City's position before applying for the grants and invited questions.

Patricia Kovacs of 527 Haversham Drive, Gahanna, OH, spoke on the proposed helmet law.

Patricia Kovacs spoke in support of the proposed helmet law for minors in Gahanna. She stated that she initially had concerns but, after reviewing the proposal more closely, concluded that the legislation addressed most of them. She specifically referenced language stating that a child's failure to wear a helmet would not constitute negligence by the child or parent. Kovacs stated that she initially did not understand the religious exemption for individuals who wore head coverings, but City Attorney Tamilarasan explained that the exemption related to First Amendment rights. Kovacs explained that she developed a class for the Amish community and that women who wore bonnets could not find helmets that fit over them. Kovacs stated that, when helmets from the Police Department were distributed, individuals who did not already have helmets received one. She stated that the helmets could be purchased in bulk for approximately \$11 each and noted that a free helmet program

was discussed. She held up a helmet and said she liked this model because they were easy to adjust and fit children well. Kovacs also discussed bicycle, e-bike, and e-scooter regulations in business districts. She stated that bicycles were allowed in business districts and that e-bikes could use sidewalks with the motor disengaged. She suggested that the City's e-scooter law should prohibit children, and anyone else, from riding e-scooters in business districts and stated that the issue might warrant discussion with City Attorney Tamilarasan. Kovacs concluded by stating that she supported the helmet law because of her own experiences with head injuries and because two of her friends recently suffered serious head injuries. She stated that one had worn a helmet and that she was unsure whether the other had. She emphasized the importance of wearing helmets and stated that adults should also wear them.

E. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Pursuant to Council Rules of Procedure 9.01 and 9.02: Before the public hearing begins, the Council President will introduce the item, and City staff may provide a brief presentation. Members of the public who wish to speak must complete a speaker slip, come to the podium when called, and state their name and address for the record. Each speaker will have up to 3 minutes to address the Council. Additional time may be granted at the discretion of the Council President.

[ORD-0024-2026](#) AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR CERTAIN REAL ESTATE WITHIN THE 2025 SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE PROGRAM, TO APPROVE COSTS AND QUANTITIES, AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

[ORD-0025-2026](#) AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR CERTAIN REAL ESTATE WITHIN THE 2025 SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE LOOKBACK PROGRAM, TO APPROVE COSTS AND QUANTITIES, AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

President Weaver introduced the two ordinances under Public Hearing, noted the rules of procedure, and invited the administration to present.

Mayor Jadwin stated that Council might remember that the Public Hearing was originally scheduled approximately one month earlier. She explained that immediately before the original public hearing date, the City identified anomalies or abnormalities in some of the costs. Out of an abundance of caution, the City paused the Public Hearing to reevaluate

the costs and ensure their accuracy. She stated that the City completed that review and issued new letters to residents. She explained that the hearing that evening represented the rescheduled hearing from approximately one month earlier.

President Weaver opened the public hearing at 7:32 p.m.

Lazar Purdef, 609 Deer Run Drive, asked whom residents should pay for the sidewalk work. He also raised concerns about work performed near his property. Purdef stated that one sidewalk parcel to the left of his driveway had no apparent problem other than a gap. He said he repaired the gap, but the City still replaced the sidewalk section. He stated that his original cost was less than \$3,000 and increased to \$3,000. Purdef also stated that a new curb near the location where a drainpipe carried water from his roof gutters cracked. He said he had a photograph of the crack and asked whether the City needed to repair it. Purdef further stated that only one tree stood along the sidewalk at his corner property at Clotts Road and Deer Run Drive and that the tree caused the sidewalk to rise. He asked whether he or the City needed to remove the tree.

President Weaver stated that City staff members were present and might be able to address Purdef's questions. Senior Director Schultz suggested that Purdef meet with staff at the back of the room after the hearing so staff could address all of his concerns. Purdef stated that he also wanted to know where and when to make the payment. President Weaver stated that Senior Director Schultz would connect with Purdef after the public hearing in the back of the room and should be able to address his questions.

Scott Pardo, 351 Chilton Place, stated that he received three letters regarding the sidewalk work. He said the work at his property included replacing one sidewalk block and grinding down five areas. He stated that, based on his letter, the City intended to charge him nearly \$3,000 for the work. Pardo stated that the fair market value for a sidewalk block of concrete was approximately \$400. By his calculation, approximately \$2,500 of the total cost therefore related to grinding down five sidewalk areas. He expressed concern that the City appeared to be paying a significant amount of money for a limited amount of work and stated that he believed his portion of the cost exceeded what the work should have

cost. Pardo acknowledged that special circumstances involving trees could affect costs but stated that none of those circumstances applied to his property. He requested greater transparency regarding how the City calculated the cost of the individual work and how it developed the final amounts. He stated that he could discuss the matter in the back of the room if necessary.

President Weaver thanked Pardo and noted that several members of City staff were present. Mayor Jadwin stated that staff did not intend to avoid the conversation. She explained that staff needed to review the details of Pardo's account and property and that those details were better addressed outside the Public Hearing portion of the meeting. She stated that this was the reason for directing the discussion to the back of the room. Pardo stated that he understood and agreed that the discussion could occur there. President Weaver thanked Pardo and called the next speaker

Chris Ferrante, 1061 Woodtown Drive, stated that he wanted to discuss the sidewalks. He explained that he attended the originally scheduled meeting but had not received the letters stating that the hearing was canceled. He said he spoke with Mayor Jadwin that day, and she asked him to send his concerns to her and the City Engineer. Ferrante stated that the City Engineer called him earlier that day and attempted to explain some of the issues, but Ferrante still wanted his concerns heard publicly. Ferrante stated that his concern did not primarily involve the money but rather the process the City used. He explained that he lived on a corner lot and that every utility, including sewer, sanitation, and water, ran through his property for his home and neighboring properties. He stated that every sidewalk section repaired at his property had a utility running underneath it. Ferrante stated that he did not install or own the utilities and that, although he owned his home, easements covered much of his property and gave the City rights to install utilities. He said he had no control over how the utilities were installed beneath the sidewalks or whether workers conducted proper compaction testing. He stated that he did not believe it was fair for him to pay for sidewalk repairs when he had no control over the conditions that might have caused the damage or how the City repaired the sidewalk. Ferrante stated that the City Engineer told him that the City did not examine why the sidewalk had sustained damage, only that the damage existed.

Ferrante also expressed concern that the City had not repaired the worst sidewalk conditions first. He referenced a sidewalk section two properties away from his property that had an approximately two-inch lift. He described it as an accident waiting to happen and stated that someone had tripped on that location a few years earlier while returning home from his house and broke a wrist. Ferrante stated that he had additional concerns but emphasized that residents already paid taxes for many things. He questioned whether the City used the money appropriately when it then required residents to pay again for sidewalk repairs. He compared the situation to paying for insurance, paying again when using the insurance, and then facing an increase in the insurance price. Ferrante stated that residents had no control over what happened to the sidewalks. He questioned whether sidewalks had a defined lifespan and asked whether, if the lifespan were 40 years and the entire sidewalk eventually required replacement, he would also bear responsibility for that cost.

There being no other members of the public wishing to speak at that time, President Weaver thanked the administration for connecting with the residents and closed the public hearing at 7:42 p.m.

F. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Minutes - To Approve:

[2026-0150](#)

Council Special Minutes 2026-07-20

The minutes were approved on the Consent Agenda.

[2026-0151](#)

Council Regular Minutes 2026-07-20

The minutes were approved on the Consent Agenda.

[2026-0152](#)

Committee of the Whole Minutes 2026-07-20

The minutes were approved on the Consent Agenda.

2. Ordinances for Second Reading and Adoption:

[ORD-0027-2026](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF GAHANNA CODIFIED ORDINANCES SECTION 133.08 REGARDING COPY CHARGES TO AUTHORIZE FEES FOR THE PRODUCTION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT VIDEO RECORDS CONSISTENT WITH OHIO

REVISED CODE SECTION 149.43

Council Intern Caris Lantz read the Ordinance by title. The Ordinance was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

End of Consent Agenda

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

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

G. RESOLUTIONS:

[RES-0040-2026](#) A RESOLUTION HONORING AND RECOGNIZING THE GAHANNA LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BOWLING TEAM FOR THEIR HISTORIC SECOND PLACE FINISH AT THE 2026 U.S. HIGH SCHOOL BOWLING NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP AND OUTSTANDING ATHLETIC AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Council Intern Caris Lantz read the Resolution by title.

President Weaver once again extended Council's congratulations to the team on its historic season.

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

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

H. ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION / FIRST READING:

[ORD-0029-2026](#) AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING ORD-0063-2000 TO REAFFIRM THE CITY'S TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL, ESTABLISH ITS MEMBERSHIP PURSUANT TO SECTION 5709.85 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

President Weaver introduced the Ordinance, and Council Intern Caris Lantz read the Ordinance by title.

[ORD-0030-2026](#) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPROVE SURETY BONDS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE 1311.311

President Weaver introduced the Ordinance, and Council Intern Caris Lantz read the Ordinance by title.

I. ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION, WAIVER & EMERGENCY ADOPTION:

[ORD-0026-2026](#) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GLAUS, PYLE, SCHOMER, BURNS & DEHAVEN (GPD GROUP) FOR DESIGN AND ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR

THE HAMILTON ROAD URBAN PAVING PROJECT (TR-26-02);
WAIVING SECOND READING; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

President Weaver introduced the Ordinance, and Council Intern Caris Lantz read the Ordinance by title.

A motion was made by Schnetzer, 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 McGregor asked which section of Hamilton Road the legislation referred to because she could not remember the location.

Mayor Jadwin stated that, if she recalled correctly, the section extended from the bridge to Hamilton and Granville Roads, although she cautioned that she was not certain. Councilmember McGregor stated that the location was in that vicinity and thanked Mayor Jadwin for the clarification. Mayor Jadwin explained that the City had tried to align the timing of the project with completion of the bridge. She added that the City then wanted to wait until completion of the high school project so that heavy construction trucks would not drive over a newly improved road.

Councilmember Padova stated that she believed the emergency language related to grant funding and that the City needed the proposal attached to the grant process. She asked for clarification. Mayor Jadwin stated that Councilmember Padova was correct. She explained that, based on her recollection from two weeks earlier, the City needed the emergency language and waivers for timing purposes so it could move forward and apply for the funding. She further stated that she believed the governing body, which was Council, also needed to pass a resolution or ordinance so the City could access the application process.

A motion was made by Schnetzer, seconded by Renner, that the Ordinance be Adopted as an Emergency. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

J. ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING / EMERGENCY ADOPTION:

Amendment Recommended: Substitute EXHIBIT A

[ORD-0024-2026](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR CERTAIN REAL ESTATE WITHIN THE 2025 SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE PROGRAM, TO APPROVE COSTS AND QUANTITIES, AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

Council Intern Caris Lantz read the Ordinance by title.

A motion was made by Schnetzer, seconded by Renner, that the Ordinance be Amended by Substitution of EXHIBIT A. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Councilmember Bowers asked how the owner defect aggregate cost in the substitute exhibit was calculated. Mayor Jadwin stated that Senior Director Schultz and Director of Engineering Hossein Naraghi stepped out to speak with residents. She said they could provide the specific information when they returned. Councilmember Bowers stated that she did not want to pull staff away from speaking with residents and suggested following up after the meeting. She referenced a resident's statement that the City did not consider the reason for the sidewalk damage and noted that the term "owner defect cost" appeared to relate to the cause of the defect. She requested clarification on that point but agreed that the discussion could occur after the meeting. Mayor Jadwin stated that she was not entirely sure what Councilmember Bowers was asking. She said Director Naraghi spoke with the resident earlier that day to explain the sidewalk matter. Mayor Jadwin stated that state law required property owners to maintain sidewalks and that the City implemented the sidewalk program to help residents alleviate and incentivize the cost of repairs. She stated that she did not know the details of the resident's particular situation or the specific repairs involved and that Director Naraghi could address those circumstances in greater detail because he reviewed them. She added that the sidewalk repairs ultimately had to occur. She stated that a situation such as a ruptured water line causing sidewalk damage would differ, but she did not believe that circumstance applied in this case.

President Weaver noted that the substitute exhibit divided costs into three columns: the total cost of all work performed, the owner defect aggregate cost, and the owner cost, which represented 50 percent of the owner defect aggregate cost. He asked whether the total cost of all work performed included work related to underlying utility issues rather than only the sidewalk panels. Mayor Jadwin stated that President Weaver's question involved specific details regarding engineering work and that the Director of Engineering would be the best person to answer it. President Weaver acknowledged the response and returned the discussion to Councilmember Bowers.

Councilmember Bowers stated that she thought the Director of

Engineering was returning to the room. President Weaver suggested waiting a moment. Councilmember Bowers agreed and stated that either Senior Director Schultz or the Director of Engineering could address the question. President Weaver asked Clerk VanMeter whether Council could return to the items under Section J later and continue with the meeting or whether Council needed to take formal action.

Council delayed action until later in the meeting to allow for additional deliberation after Senior Director Schultz and Director of Engineering Hossein Naraghi returned.

(Note: The following discussion occurred at the end of meeting)

President Weaver returned to the ordinances under Section J and invited Councilmember Bowers to restate her earlier question now that Senior Director Schultz returned.

Councilmember Bowers asked for clarification regarding the difference between the column labeled "total cost of all work performed" and the column labeled "owner defect aggregate cost," particularly considering comments made earlier that evening.

Senior Director Schultz explained that, in some instances, the City paid the full cost of a particular repair. He gave the example of a corner lot where the City covered the full cost of an ADA ramp replacement and normally the two sidewalk panels on either side of the corner. He stated that this could result in a higher amount in the total cost of all work performed than in the owner defect aggregate cost. He explained that the City used the owner defect aggregate cost as the basis for calculating the 50 percent cost share. Senior Director Schultz then addressed the property at 351 Chilton Place. He stated that the resident's total invoice was \$498.25. He acknowledged that a portion of the resident's letter stated that the City performed \$3,000 worth of work, which the resident referenced during the public hearing. Schultz stated that the spreadsheet showed approximately \$1,000 worth of work rather than \$3,000. Senior Director Schultz stated that the City intended the letter to provide extensive transparency regarding all work performed on a property, but he acknowledged that the way the letter outlined the costs could create confusion. He explained that the letter included several figures related to

total aggregate costs, work performed on the property, the property owner's portion, and the final amount owed. He stated that the letter needed additional work to make its intended transparency clearer. He added that presenting a large amount of data in a concise format could sometimes create confusion rather than clarify the information.

Senior Director Schultz reported that he and Director of Engineering Hossein Naraghi met with approximately six residents in the adjoining room. He stated that they reviewed the history of the program, including matters related to Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), a lawsuit involving the City and sidewalk maintenance, the development of the program, and the 50 percent cost share that Council approved in the City Code. Senior Director Schultz stated that, after the City identified the anomalies Mayor Jadwin previously discussed, staff physically revisited all parcels in both the maintenance program and the look-back program. He stated that staff field-verified quantities on more than 300 properties across both programs, updated the spreadsheet, and sent another letter. He added that staff still needed to verify whether the latest letter contained an incorrect number. He stated that he suspected one number in the letter remained incorrect and contributed to the confusion raised that evening. Councilmember Bowers acknowledged his explanation. Senior Director Schultz stated that staff told the six residents they would revisit their properties again during the week, verify the quantities again, and provide another communication that included a map explaining the work. He noted that the residents took the time to address Council and meet with staff. He stated that one of the best questions raised during the discussion concerned how he and Director Naraghi could prevent similar issues for residents in the future. He said several residents focused on that future-oriented question.

Councilmember Bowers expressed appreciation for the discussion and stated that hearing from Senior Director Schultz and understanding the conversation with the residents made the meeting more meaningful. She said the discussion helped Council understand and place into context the frustration residents had expressed and better understand the exhibit. She noted that many of the resident-share amounts in the far-right column amounted to only a few hundred dollars at most and stated that residents could pay those amounts over five years without interest if they chose. Senior Director Schultz confirmed that statement. Councilmember Bowers thanked Senior Director Schultz and Director Naraghi for their

time with residents that evening.

Councilmember Padova stated that she received an email before the meeting and connected with Director Naraghi. She said that conversation made her feel much better about the future of the program and about the notes he took regarding communication and how staff could handle matters differently in the future to help avoid similar issues. She also noted that Director Naraghi responded to the email immediately, before she saw it. She expressed appreciation for his quick response and dedication to residents and to making the information clear. She stated that she felt comfortable moving forward, knowing that he came into the process near the end, took note of what occurred, and had already begun considering how to improve it.

Vice President Jones stated that she had no questions but echoed Councilmember Bowers' appreciation for Senior Director Schultz and Director Naraghi. She said they likely had not expected to conduct small focus-group conversations with residents that evening, but she viewed that interaction as a unique aspect of the community. She stated that residents might have arrived believing they would speak into a void and expressed hope that they instead left with solutions. She thanked both directors for stepping in to address the concerns and provide Council with additional clarity. She also noted that she hoped she pronounced Director Naraghi's name correctly and stated that they had not yet met.

Mayor Jadwin stated that the moment provided an opportunity to introduce Director of Engineering Dr. Hossein Naraghi, who had not previously had the occasion to attend a meeting. She noted that Council would hear from him at a Committee of the Whole meeting. Mayor Jadwin stated that he joined the City in May 2025, and served for just over three months. Mayor Jadwin stated that summer represented one of the Engineering Department's busiest seasons, although the department remained busy throughout the year. She referenced multiple ongoing construction and infrastructure projects, including the sidewalk program, and several significant street rebuilds, including work across from City Hall on Rocky Fork. She stated that Director Naraghi stepped into the role and worked to understand the various programs. She praised his performance, described him as a great leader for the team, and stated that the City was thrilled to have him. Mayor Jadwin also thanked Senior Director Schultz and acknowledged that he was pulled in multiple

directions that evening by asking him to answer specific questions about the exhibit while also addressing residents' individual concerns. She stated that staff never knew what might arise during a meeting but remained willing to speak with residents and provide information and details. Mayor Jadwin stated that the anomalies identified in the sidewalk program, along with the issuance of an initial letter followed by a second letter, reflected an effort to overcommunicate, which could sometimes create additional confusion. She stated that staff would revisit its communication methods to make the information as clear as possible and avoid similar issues in the future. She added that, although staff intended to provide extensive information, engineers could communicate in technical terms and needed to refocus that information into language that residents could understand. She thanked everyone for their patience and stated that staff would continue working on the issue.

President Weaver thanked Mayor Jadwin and Senior Director Schultz for meeting with the residents and following up with Council. Senior Director Schultz stated that the residents appreciated that he did not leave the room to return to Council and answer other questions. President Weaver stated that Council continued with its business, and Councilmember Bowers added that Council did not want to pull Senior Director Schultz away from the residents. Senior Director Schultz thanked Council.

President Weaver asked a follow-up question regarding Councilmember Bowers's earlier inquiry about the total cost of all work performed. He asked whether the total included potential work involving utility lines running beneath the sidewalk that could cause issues. Senior Director Schultz stated that, without knowing the specific circumstances or location of the utility lines referenced by the resident, he could not address that particular situation. He explained that utilities in those areas often ran very deep. He stated that natural gas lines could potentially contribute to damage, but that damage more commonly resulted when utility companies performed work on those assets rather than from the utility lines themselves. He added that street trees also caused some sidewalk damage. Senior Director Schultz stated that the reported costs included tree-related work, including root pruning and the cost of removing a tree when removal became necessary on the property. He stated that, generally speaking, the costs did not include utility work.

President Weaver thanked Senior Director Schultz and asked a final

question regarding the process. He noted that Council substituted Exhibit A and voted to amend the ordinance, and he asked whether Council would need to take further action because staff planned to send personnel back out to reassess the properties. Senior Director Schultz stated that staff remained confident that the data was correct and planned to send personnel back out to increase confidence in the information. He recommended that Council proceed with approval that evening.

A motion was made by Schnetzer, seconded by Renner, that the Ordinance be Adopted as Amended, as an Emergency. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Amendment Recommended: Substitute EXHIBIT A

[ORD-0025-2026](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR CERTAIN REAL ESTATE WITHIN THE 2025 SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE LOOKBACK PROGRAM, TO APPROVE COSTS AND QUANTITIES, AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

Council Intern Caris Lantz read the Ordinance by title.

A motion was made by Schnetzer, seconded by Renner, that the Ordinance be Amended by Substitution of EXHIBIT A. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

A motion was made by Schnetzer, seconded by Renner, that the Ordinance be Adopted, as Amended, as an Emergency. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

K. ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING & ADOPTION:

Amendment Recommended: Substitute EXHIBIT A

[ORD-0028-2026](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PART 3, TRAFFIC CODE; TITLE 9, PEDESTRIANS, BICYCLES AND MOTORCYCLES; CHAPTER 373, BICYCLES AND MOTORCYCLES, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA BY ADDING SECTION 373.11, "RIDING BICYCLES; HELMETS"

Council Intern Caris Lantz read the Ordinance by title.

A motion was made by Bowers, seconded by Schnetzer, that the Ordinance be Amended by Substitution of EXHIBIT A. The motion carried by the following

vote:

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

Councilmember Padova thanked Ms. Kovacs for attending the meeting and for providing her input and expertise on the subject. She acknowledged the importance of the matter to Ms. Kovacs, expressed appreciation for her involvement, and thanked the administration for bringing the matter forward.

President Weaver thanked Councilmember Padova and stated that he shared her sentiments.

A motion was made by Padova, seconded by Schnetzer, that the Ordinance be Adopted as Amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

L. CORRESPONDENCE AND ACTIONS:

1. Clerk

Charter Amendments submitted to Franklin County Board of Elections

Clerk VanMeter reported on one item that was not on the agenda. He reported that he submitted all 10 resolutions concerning proposed Charter amendments for voter consideration and that the Board of Elections received them pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code. He stated that the next step involved advertising legal notices in a newspaper of general circulation.

[2026-0153](#)

Ohio Division of Liquor Control Notice to Legislative Authority Permit TRFO 10018736-1 from JMJ FM LLC to S&E HOSPITALITY GROUP LLC 154 N HAMILTON ROAD

Clerk VanMeter then reported on an Ohio Division of Liquor Control notice regarding a transfer from JMJ FM LLC to S&E Hospitality Group LLC at 154 North Hamilton Road, identified as La Navona. He stated that he confirmed with the Division of Police that there were no objections. He added that, if Council had no objections, he would return the notice indicating that Council did not request a hearing. There were no objections.

2. Council - None.

M. REPRESENTATIVES:

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

Councilmember Renner reported that he and Councilmember Padova attended a special meeting of the CIC on Friday, July 31, 2026. He stated that the meeting focused on evaluating opportunities to acquire property in pursuit of the goals identified in the Gahanna Strategic Plan and Creekside Redevelopment Strategy.

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

[2026-0156](#)

Councilmember Weaver's MORPC Report to City Council 2026-08-03

President Weaver reported on MORPC and thanked the Council Office for its assistance in preparing the report. He encouraged everyone to review it and stated that the next commission meeting was scheduled for August 13, 2026. President Weaver stated that MORPC staff, including the executive director and government affairs director, recently met with Mayor Jadwin and him in Gahanna for the annual member visit. President Weaver reported that the 2027-2028 Public Policy Agenda Working Group began its work and met on July 28, 2026. He stated that he was pleased to serve on the working group and that Whitehall Mayor Bivens chaired the group. President Weaver stated that he included a link to the current 2025-2026 Public Policy Agenda in the report and also had hard copies available for review. He added that the report included a link to MORPC's monthly legislative report and encouraged everyone to review it.

3. Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) - Padova

Councilmember Padova reported that Visit Gahanna partnered with Make Gahanna Yours to host the Pelotonia Spirit Station on Saturday, where they welcomed and cheered on nearly 8,000 riders traveling through Gahanna. She stated that the Ohio Herb Center and Visit Gahanna hosted another group tour the previous month for visitors who arrived by motor coach from Michigan. The guests participated in an herbal workshop, a make-and-take activity, and a tour of the herb garden. They also had lunch at 101 Craft Kitchen in Gahanna. Councilmember Padova added that another motor coach tour was scheduled for later that month. Councilmember Padova reported that Gahanna served as the focus of an Experience Columbus Insider class the previous month.

Executive Director Lori Kappes gave a presentation to 25 ambassadors about reasons to visit Gahanna. She also stated that Visit Gahanna was assisting with marketing for the Gahanna Area Arts Council's upcoming ProMusica Live at Headley Park event, scheduled for Saturday, August 15. She noted that tickets remained available and could be purchased at GahannaArts.org.

4. School Board (SB) - Jones

Vice President Jones provided an update on upcoming meetings. She stated that the Board Workshop Meeting was scheduled for August 6, 2026, the Finance and Facilities Meeting for August 18, 2026, and the Regular Board Meeting for August 20, 2026. She stated that all meetings would begin at 6:30 p.m. at Clark Hall. Vice President Jones also reported that the district's central office opened that day in its new location at Clark Hall and no longer operated from the temporary location off Tech Center Drive.

N. OFFICIAL REPORTS:

1. Mayor

Mayor Jadwin reported that the move of municipal operations to the City's new home at 825 Tech Center Drive was underway. She stated that staff began moving records and documents the previous week and that various departments would begin moving incrementally during the current week. She said that, as of the following Monday, every employee in the current building would be located at 825 Tech Center Drive. Mayor Jadwin stated that Friday, August 7, would be the final day that City Hall services would operate from 200 South Hamilton Road. She noted that residents who wanted to pay their water bills in person at that location would need to do so by Friday, August 7, 2026. She stated that all departments would be located at 825 Tech Center Drive by the following Monday. Mayor Jadwin explained that City Hall would close on Monday, August 10, 2026, and Tuesday, August 11, 2026, while staff acclimated to the new building, unpacked, prepared workspaces, set up monitors, and addressed evacuation processes and other necessary preparations. She stated that phone lines would open on Wednesday, August 12, 2026, and that the building would open to the public on Thursday, August 13, 2026, for what she described as a soft opening. Mayor Jadwin stated

that Mayor's Court would not occur that Thursday or the following Thursday, because of the move, and would resume on August 20, 2026. Mayor Jadwin reported that the Division of Police would move its various subdivisions at different times. She stated that Field Services would continue operating from 480 Rocky Fork Road through the morning of Monday, August 17, 2026. She noted that police services operated 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and that the City was coordinating the move with shift changes. She stated that at 6:00 a.m. on Monday, August 17, 2026, after third shift ended and first shift began, police services would begin operating from 825 Tech Center Drive. Mayor Jadwin stated that the City would provide banners and signs with information during the transition. She encouraged residents to check Gahanna.gov and follow the City's social media posts for dates and operational updates. She recommended calling ahead to confirm where departments and staff were located during the transition. Mayor Jadwin invited the community to attend the official dedication ceremony on Tuesday, August 25, at 825 Tech Center Drive, where the City would dedicate the building to the community. She stated that additional details were available on Gahanna.gov.

Mayor Jadwin thanked Ms. Lantz for her presentation and stated that it was a pleasure to have her as part of the City's team during the summer. She also recognized four other MORPC interns who worked in Parks and Recreation, Engineering, Economic Development, and Marketing and Communications. She stated that each intern brought enthusiasm, curiosity, and a willingness to take on assigned projects, including both smaller tasks such as stuffing candy for Fourth of July bags and significant projects that greatly assisted the City of Gahanna. Mayor Jadwin thanked the interns for their time, talents, and professionalism. She noted that the summer passed by quickly and that the current week and following week would mark the end of their internships. She wished them well in their future endeavors, asked them to keep the City informed about what they pursued next, and encouraged them to remember that local government offered a great place to serve.

Mayor Jadwin then highlighted several upcoming events. She stated that National Night Out would take place the following evening at Headley Park from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. She described the annual event as an opportunity for the community to gather with law enforcement officers in a fun environment and interact with them. Mayor Jadwin stated that the

Gahanna Market would take place on Wednesday from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Creekside Plaza. She also reported that Vets, Rods, and Classics would return to Gahanna on Saturday in a new location on Tech Center Drive at the AEP Ohio property and 825 Tech Center Drive. She stated that she believed the event would run from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mayor Jadwin also announced Creekside Hops and Vines, scheduled for Saturday, August 29, 2026. She stated that the event provided an opportunity to support the Gahanna Parks and Recreation Foundation, which received the event proceeds, and described it as the Foundation's largest fundraiser. She added that ticket information was available on Gahanna.gov.

2. City Attorney - None.

O. COUNCIL COMMENT:

Councilmember Padova stated that she toured 825 Tech Center Drive with Councilmember McGregor and was very impressed with the facility. She expressed excitement for the grand opening and celebration scheduled for August 25, 2026. Councilmember Padova also announced that the Collective Market Block Party Market would take place on Sunday, August 9, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at 166 Granville Street. She stated that the event would feature food, vendors, home goods, vintage items, and music. She encouraged residents to attend, shop, and mingle with their neighbors.

Councilmember Bowers highlighted World Breastfeeding Week, which she stated was an annual global campaign held from August 1 through August 7 and supported by the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action. She stated that the campaign sought to raise awareness about the health, nutritional, and economic benefits of breastfeeding. Councilmember Bowers stated that she wanted to recognize World Breastfeeding Week especially that year because she also toured the new facility at 825 Tech Center Drive. She expressed particular appreciation for the lactation rooms available throughout the building and described them as an important part of the infrastructure needed to support working mothers who chose to breastfeed their children. She recalled her own experience as a young working mother and stated that having to pump in inappropriate locations was difficult. She expressed appreciation that the new building included

dedicated rooms for mothers. Councilmember Bowers also thanked Ms. Lantz, noting that they were both Stark County natives. She wished Ms. Lantz well in her future endeavors and stated that she hoped Ms. Lantz would choose to attend law school. Councilmember Bowers then congratulated the Studer family. She recalled that Council recognized London Studer during Women's History Month and stated that London grew up in Gahanna and participated in Gahanna baseball. She reported that London became a first-round draft pick in the Women's Professional Baseball League, which held its opening games the previous weekend. She stated that London played for the New York Heights, a team named after Dorothy Height, and that the Heights played against the LA Queens, which she stated was named after one of the first women baseball players. She stated that the Heights lost to the Queens but anticipated an exciting season. She added that the league included four teams, all playing in Springfield, Illinois, and wished London and her traveling family well.

Vice President Jones congratulated Ms. Lantz and thanked her for her work and contributions to the City. She wished Ms. Lantz a successful senior year and graduation. Vice President Jones also expressed excitement about 825 Tech Center Drive. She stated that she looked forward to the community having access to the facility but emphasized her excitement for City staff to have more space to continue their work. She wished staff well with the move and stated that she looked forward to celebrating the City. Vice President Jones referenced Councilmember Padova's comments about Collective Home Supply and its block party and recalled a children's market held a few weeks earlier. She praised the activities that Collective Home Supply provided for the community and described it as more than a retail store, calling it a community hub. She stated that it was enjoyable to see the young participants with their cash registers and the items they sold. She added that the upcoming weekend provided another opportunity for residents to gather and described Collective Home Supply as one of Gahanna's notable community locations. She thanked Councilmember Padova for highlighting it.

President Weaver thanked Vice President Jones and echoed her comments by extending best wishes to City staff as they prepared for the move and transition. He stated that he would not revisit the full process of locating a parcel for the new facilities or the journey required to reach that

point, but he described the approaching move as an exciting opportunity. He expressed hope that staff and the community would thrive at the new facility and that 825 Tech Center Drive would meet the needs of the community and City staff in the 21st century.

P. ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business before the Council, President Weaver adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

Jeremy A. VanMeter
Clerk of Council

*APPROVED by the City Council, this
day of 2026.*

Trenton I. Weaver