



# City of Gahanna

## Meeting Minutes

### City Council

200 South Hamilton Road  
Gahanna, Ohio 43230

*Brian D. Larick, President*  
*Jamie Leeseberg, Vice President*  
*Karen J. Angelou*  
*Nancy R. McGregor*  
*Brian Metzbower*  
*Stephen A. Renner*  
*Michael Schnetzer*

*Kimberly Banning, Clerk of Council*  
*Council may caucus at 6:30 p.m.*

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Monday, November 19, 2018

7:00 PM

City Hall, Council Chambers

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

Gahanna City Council met in Regular Session on Monday, November 19, 2018, in Council Chambers of City Hall, 200 South Hamilton Road, Gahanna, Ohio. President of Council, Brian D. Larick, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Vice President of Council, Jamie Leeseberg, delivered an Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Agenda for this meeting was published on November 16, 2018.

**Present** 7 - Karen J. Angelou, Jamie Leeseberg, Stephen A. Renner, Michael Schnetzer, Brian D. Larick, Brian Metzbower, and Nancy R. McGregor

#### **B. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA -**

None.

#### **C. HEARING OF VISITORS -**

Councilmember Schnetzer said back in July, a resident approached him a couple of years ago after seeing a young boy in a wheelchair having trouble accessing the playground at Woodside Green Park; that led Council and Administration down a path to explore playground elements; this type of equipment is much more costly than standard equipment; the challenge is with the City's limited resources; support from private sector is now more critical than ever; tonight's meeting is the last meeting before the Thanksgiving holiday; he believes there is truth in the saying "it is in giving that we receive"; in spirit of Thanksgiving he'd like to make a donation to the Parks & Recreation Foundation; his two sons were there to help him pass along the donation to Lee Tucker, the Parks & Recreation Foundation Chair; Mr. Tucker said if you donate this time of

year, the Columbus Foundation will donate an additional \$20; thanked everyone who has donated; Hops & Vines was sold out again; had the best turnout ever; the money will go right back into the community; \$43K for that event alone.

Councilmember Schnetzer said he'd be remiss if he didn't mention another great charity called Gahanna Neighborhood Bridges headed by Gahanna resident, Ron Smith; charity identifies acute needs; resident in need of chair lift; or someone that can't use a ladder; the idea is to bridge the gap if someone has a need that they can't do themselves do to a hardship; neighbor helping neighbor; were trying to raise money at Creepside and fell short of their goal; if anyone wants to get involved go to [neighborhoodbridges.org](http://neighborhoodbridges.org); two worthy causes that directly impact Gahanna.

Marissa Bowers, 363 Higley Court, Gahanna, Ohio, stated the following:

My comments are on our collective need Renew Trust with Government Transparency and what That Means.

Transparency is certainly undergoing a renewed emphasis in the last 10 years, as has been seen in both the right with the rise of libertarians and the Tea Party, and the left, with the rise of the progressive movement. Regardless of political affiliation, the value of TRANSPARENCY is shared by a majority of civic activists and an increasing number of those in government who understand how crucial it is to good governance.

According to the Open Government Partnership, The transparency movement embodies the hope that a combination of new technologies, publicly accessible data, and fresh activism can more effectively assist people to hold their representatives to account, which will lead to a re-building of trust in democratic institutions.

The CATO Institute also lauds transparent government

practices and indicates that Americans widely approve of government transparency

Though warns: Transparency can be uncomfortable: it decentralizes power from government agencies to the public and places a higher expectation on communication on government agencies and elected officials.

The CATO Institute does offer similar guidance as to what TRANSPARENCY MEANS:

Improvements in FOi laws are welcome, but modern transparent government is the EXTENSION of consistent data publication practices AND Government Deliberations, management, and results (GOOD OR BAD).

Open Government Partnership sets

Four Metrics to help gauge government transparency: Fiscal Transparency, Access to Information, Asset Disclosure, Citizen Engagement

Open G,overnment requires openness to citizen participation and engagement in policymaking and governance. This means access to and understanding decision-making, not just the black and white numbers.

- o Civil Society Organizations - such as social media groups, community publications, and other types of groups CANNOT be dissuaded or repressed by legal harassment, soft social manipulation, or overt shut-downs
- o This might win a battle or two - but the long term affect on citizen participation, trust in institutions,

and confidence in our system is NOT worth those minor victories.

- o In NONTRANSPARENT societies, Government Organized Movements are formed to crowd out citizen-led organizations in societies where open government is compromised and It will lead to destabilization and continued distrust in organizations. While there may be a place for government- organized movements and civic engagement, the independence and integrity of these entities must remain apart from the agency itself.

A warning comes with the pursuit of transparency - if governments fail to demonstrate transparency with INTEGRITY and VULNER ABILITY, constituents are astute to being manipulated with data.

Remember how gangsters in crime movies ta lk when they know that their rooms are bugged? They speak clearly and offer banalities, while at the same time exchanging secret notes under the table. Without integrity, genuine engagement, personal relationships and support of diverse input, constituents will know that this is what is happening behind the scenes.

I ask council to continue to serve your constituents with vulnerable, and honest transparency - not only in the accessibility of data - but ALSO in your deliberations, your victories, and your errors. Trust will only be restored with transparent data coupled with meaningful citizen engagement.

#### **D. INTRODUCTIONS AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE:**

##### **Ordinances - To Be Introduced and Assigned to Committee:**

[ORD-0091-2018](#) TO ESTABLISH THE SALARIES FOR PERSONNEL OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2019 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2019; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

**This Ordinance was introduced.**

[ORD-0092-2018](#) TO ESTABLISH THE BENEFITS FOR PERSONNEL OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2019; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

**This Ordinance was introduced.**

[ORD-0093-2018](#) TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN AND ADOPT THE PAY PLAN ADMINISTRATION POLICY, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2019; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

**This Ordinance was introduced.**

[ORD-0094-2018](#) TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO ADDENDUM TO EXTEND SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR A THREE YEAR PERIOD WITH SEDGWICK CMS, AS THE PROVIDER FOR THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATION SERVICES FOR THE SELF INSURED WORKERS COMPENSATION PROGRAM AND STATE FUND CLAIMS; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

**This Ordinance was introduced.**

[ORD-0095-2018](#) TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH MEACHAM & APEL ARCHITECTS, INC., FEINKNOFF MACIOCE SCHAPPA ARCHITECTS, INC., TOOLE & ASSOCIATES, FOR PLAN REVIEW SERVICES FOR PLAN REVIEW, BACK-UP PERSONNEL, AND INSPECTIONS.

**This Ordinance was introduced.**

[ORD-0096-2018](#) TO AMEND VARIOUS CODE SECTIONS AND THE BUILDING AND ZONING FEE SCHEDULE.

**This Ordinance was introduced.**

[ORD-0097-2018](#) TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH FRANKLIN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH FOR 2019 CITY OF GAHANNA PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES.

**This Ordinance was introduced.**

**E. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Minutes - To Approve:**

[2018-0212](#) 11-13-2018 Special & Committee Minutes

This Minutes was Approved and Filed on the Consent Agenda.

**Ordinance: Introduce, Waive Second Reading, Adopt:**

[ORD-0098-2018](#) TO AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO AWARD AND THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH JESS HOWARD ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR STREET LIGHT MAINTENANCE

This Ordinance was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

**Ordinance: Introduce, Waive Second Reading, Adopt as Emergency:**

[ORD-0089-2018](#) TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN AN EXTENSION AGREEMENT FOR THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE, OHIO LABOR COUNCIL, INC (FOP-OLC) FOR THE POLICE RADIO DISPATCHERS; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

This Ordinance was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

[ORD-0090-2018](#) TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN AN EXTENSION AGREEMENT FOR THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UNIT, CAPITAL CITY LODGE NO. 9 CONTRACT; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

This Ordinance was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

**Ordinances on Second Reading:**

[ORD-0086-2018](#) SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION - Fleet Program Auction Proceeds.

This Ordinance was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

[ORD-0087-2018](#) SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION- Insurance Claim Proceeds.

This Ordinance was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

[ORD-0088-2018](#) SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION - Water Meter Proceeds.

This Ordinance was Adopted on the Consent Agenda.

**Motion Resolutions:**

[MR-0044-2018](#) THIS COUNCIL HAS NO OBJECTION TO THE LIQUIOR PERMIT TRANSFER FOR ASIAN GOURMET GAHANNA INC DBA ASIAN GOURMET, 1325 STONERIDGE DRIVE, GAHANNA, OHIO

This Motion Resolution was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

[MR-0045-2018](#) TRANSFER APPROPRIATIONS - SEE ATTACHED

This Motion Resolution was Approved on the Consent Agenda.

### **Approval of the Consent Agenda**

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

Yes: 7 - Angelou, Leeseberg, Renner, Schnetzer, Larick, Metzbower and McGregor

### **End of the Consent Agenda**

## **F. PUBLIC HEARING:**

### **2019 BUDGET DISCUSSION**

Public Hearing - opened at 7:15 p.m.; closed at 7:33 p.m.

Diana Redman, 598 Codrington Circle, Gahanna, Ohio, wanted to speak about importance of the failure of the levy; believes very strongly that the vision and mission statement does guide most of the activities in Gahanna; think about the community involvement; development activities to reach out to citizens; the two charities mentioned earlier are very importance as well as GRIN; citizens care deeply for their community; would not want to be in Council's shoes to make decisions to cut things; worked at State and has to make similar decisions; many times it resulted in reduced services; open building for 4 days; look at ways to reduce employee hours to make cut backs; doing what needed to be done; she doesn't envy these decisions; cuts could be pay to play; activities cut, etc.; cut back to bare bones; call it zero base budgeting; thanked Council for their time and said good luck.

Robert Poe, 499 Doventry Lane, Gahanna, Ohio, moved to Gahanna and bought is very first house; loves the parks & rec department loves very dearly; loves the ; came in expecting some concerns but after hearing Michael Schnetzer he put his mind at ease; do not neglect the abudnant beauty that attracts people to the City; take that into consideration while making budget decisions; parks are huge appeal.

Joe Cordiano, 111 Nob Hill North, Dr., Gahanna, Ohio, he submitted 92 pictures to Council of curb and street damage; the City has flawed policy on curbs and streets; there are two style street in Gahanna; one is Detroit Style Streets; he isn't sure of the other one, but why have one size fits all for both types of streets; problem is the streets never get fixed; he's lived here 14 years and his street has not been fixed; he sees the money is being spent; deplorable situation; pot hole in front of his fixed but nothing else; he asked what Council plans to do to get the streets fixed; when will they change their policy; Angelou said the levy would address the street concerns; she saw the pictures of damage; that's part of reason she decided to support the levy; system picks what are best practices; her road has never been taken care of; administration will take a long look at your road to see what needs done; wanted to be able to do the succession plan and how we are going to address on the decision and the roads; he said Flintridge has been done; there is plenty of streets that have been fixed; he said there is never a dime for Cliffside; Angelou said he is happy he is here tonight; Mayor Kneeland came up with the curb program that was part of issue 29; she said she'd visit him at his house.

[2018-0073](#)

2019 Budget Discussion Documents

**G. COMMITTEE UPDATES**

**H. CORRESPONDENCE AND ACTIONS:**

Clerk

Council

**I. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES: None.**

**J. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES: None.**

**K. RESOLUTIONS/MOTION RESOLUTIONS: None.**

**L. REPRESENTATIVES:**

**Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) - Leeseberg**



**Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) - Angelou**

**Gahanna-Jefferson Board of Education - Metzbower**

**Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) - Renner**

**M. OFFICIAL REPORTS:**

**Mayor**

**City Attorney**

**N. COUNCIL COMMENT**

**O. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Leeseberg, seconded by Schnetzer, to go into Executive Session under authority of Section 5.40(c) of the Council Rules of Procedure to confer with the City Attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action. The motion carried.

President Larick requested Mayor Kneeland, outside legal counsel and City Attorney Ewald attend the Executive Session. Executive Session was held in the Council Conference Room.

Council rose to Executive Session at 8:10 p.m.

Council rose to report from Executive Session at 9:07 p.m. with no action taken.

Yes: 7 - Angelou, Leeseberg, Renner, Schnetzer, Larick, Metzbower and McGregor

**P. ADJOURNMENT**

by Larick 9:07 p.m.