



# City of Gahanna

## Meeting Minutes

### City Council

200 South Hamilton Road  
Gahanna, Ohio 43230

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

*April Beggerow, CMC, Clerk of Council*  
*Council may caucus at 6:30 p.m.*

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Monday, July 15, 2019

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, July 15, 2019, in Council Chambers of City Hall, 200 South Hamilton Road, Gahanna, Ohio. President of Council, Brian Metzbower, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Vice President Stephen Renner delivered an Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Agenda for this meeting was published on July 12, 2019.

**Present** 5 - Karen J. Angelou, Jamie Leeseberg, Stephen A. Renner, Brian Metzbower, and Nancy R. McGregor

**Absent** 2 - Michael Schnetzer, and Brian D. Larick

#### **B. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA: None.**

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

Brenda Hoffman, 279 Highmeadow Dr: I'm showing up here this evening because I was out a Council meeting some time ago when all of you approved a schedule of fees for the Building permit department. While that was lovely when I looked over it, recently, in my neighborhood, some neighbors had their steps re-poured. They were told three times by the folks in the Building office that they did not need a permit to pour concrete for front steps to the house but they did need a permit for the approach for the driveway. The lady comes in to get the permit for the driveway and gets a surprise \$250 permit quoted to her for her front steps. Now, this was not an elaborate redo, this was like in kind, exactly 5 steps, and same iron rails being recycled. They decided to change the steps out because it cracked at the bottom right corner near a rail and

they felt that if a neighbor of size, like their neighbor Brenda on wine night hit that rail, there's a possibility it could crack off and fall over. \$250 to replace an ailing set of front steps that like in kind were original to the house, somebody's out of their gourd. So, I talked to Shane about this, I called Mike Frey, I went back and forth, they dropped it down to \$150, but for your information, New Albany, schedule for this, \$30. Westerville, I can have a screened in porch for \$125, an indoor pool for \$125, a basic alteration \$75. Now Gahanna did come down to \$150 from \$250. Where is this coming from? What, is this getting pulled out of? What? Because it is exactly the same inspection as you would have for a sidewalk. Sidewalk permits here \$50. \$150 is still atrocious. This is discouraging people from making improvements on existing structures. The likelihood of me falling, I'm more likely to fall on their sidewalk, I don't go up and down the steps of every single person in the house, but I do use the sidewalks in front of all of the cul-de-sacs around my house. But, in Upper Arlington, I can have solar panels, a garage, a deck, a fire place, an accessory structure for only \$56. Grove City, that sidewalk permit is only \$7.50. A minor home repair is \$25. If it were a major home repair, \$50. Where do we get off charging \$150 permit to replace a set of stairs that are like in kind original to the structure? This is not a new build, this is not a major altercation. And the word is, is oh we adopted this in 2013, we taken the Ohio Schedule of Building Code in 2013, well guess what I have 3 other neighbors that had front steps poured and the City of Gahanna told them nope, no permit necessary and that's within 12 calendar months of this pour. That's disparity again. That's going to cost us. This is still happening. When this got addressed back to Mike Frey in the office he said I'm not responsible for what somebody else said and my neighbor said oh yes you are. You all work together here, you're supposed to be like family, and you're supposed to have each other's backs. This is not right. I would really appreciate if some of you who have the interest and time to do so, get your hands on the permit schedule and go through it and get it articulated, get it broke down into details so people are fully aware and completely appraised of what those permit fees are. This has an impact on who decides to do what. What gets repaired and what doesn't. We deserve that much.

### **-Mayor Kneeland's Presentation of the Lead by Example Award to Jan Little**

Mayor Kneeland presented the Lead By Example award to Mrs. Jan Little in recognition for extraordinary community service. The City of Gahanna appreciates your dedication, you truly make a difference in our community.

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

Vice President Renner introduced the item in Section D.

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

[ORD-0069-2019](#) ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT AN APPLICATION FOR ANNEXATION OF 2.889 +/- ACRES FROM JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF FRANKLIN, STATE OF OHIO, TO THE CITY OF GAHANNA, OHIO (AKA Group, LLC).

This item was introduced.

**E. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Minutes - To Approve:**

[2019-0090](#) July 1, 2019 Council Meeting Minutes For Approval

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

[ORD-0052-2019](#) TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A BARGAINING UNIT AGREEMENT WITH THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE (FOP), CAPITAL CITY LODGE #9, FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2019 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2021; FOR POLICE OFFICERS; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

This ordinance was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

[ORD-0070-2019](#) ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT PINNACLE POINTE INFRASTRUCTURE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

This ordinance was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

**Ordinances on Second Reading:**

[ORD-0065-2019](#) SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION- USW Health Plan Expenses.

This ordinance was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

**Motion Resolutions:**

[MR-0021-2019](#) MOTION RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF PARKS & RECREATION TO SOLICIT FOR BIDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF TWO BASKETBALL COURTS AT SUNPOINT PARK.

This Motion Resolution was approved on the Consent Agenda.

[MR-0022-2019](#) MOTION RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TAX BUDGET OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA, OHIO, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2020.

This Motion Resolution was approved on the Consent Agenda.

**End of the Consent Agenda**

**Pass Consent Agenda**

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

**Yes:** 5 - Angelou, Leeseberg, Renner, Metzbowler and McGregor

**Absent:** 2 - Schnetzer and Larick

**F. PUBLIC HEARINGS: None**

**G. COMMITTEE UPDATES: None**

**H. CORRESPONDENCE AND ACTIONS: None.**

**Clerk: None**

**Council: None**

**I. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES**

[ORD-0063-2019](#) TO AMEND PART ELEVEN, PLANNING AND ZONING CODE, CHAPTER 1193- STORMWATER MANAGEMENT POLICY, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA. (held from 7/1/2019).

**A motion was made by Renner, seconded by Leeseberg, that the Ordinance be Amended by Substitution and Adopted.. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Angelou, Leeseberg, Renner, Metzbower and McGregor

**Absent:** 2 - Schnetzer and Larick

**J. REPRESENTATIVES:**

**Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) - Larick: No Report.**

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

Mrs. Angelou stated that MORPC didn't meet in July, but that she did attend the Columbus Metropolitan Club on the Rickenbacker Report and stated that it was a wonderful report. This coming August will be the 50th anniversary of MORPC at the Tansky level at Huntington Park. Eric Janis will be throwing out the first pitch.

**Government Liaison - Metzbower**

President Metzbower stated that he did travel to Jefferson township last Wednesday to keep open channels of communication with them. He said it was important to not let little things stand in our way and that communication was important within government entities.

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

A report was supplied by Laurie Jadwin of Visit Gahanna:

**CVB Initiatives**

- Have distributed **16,844** Visitor Guides throughout Ohio and the US thus far in 2019
- Finalized and distributed press release announcing launch of "Herbal Cocktail Trail 3.0" (officially launches this Wednesday, July 17) at 6 signature Gahanna establishments
- Currently working with 13 brides for weddings in 2019, assisting in room reservations/welcome bags, etc. (and working with 4 already scheduled for 2020)

- Created new posters for kiosk on Creekside Plaza to promote upcoming events in the Creekside District

**Weekly initiatives:**

- Developed and published weekly e-newsletter, sharing information about upcoming promotions and events with more than 250 area businesses and residents (This week's edition of Visit Gahanna's "Weekly Happenings" is attached.)
- Developed pre-scheduled postings on Visit Gahanna's multiple social media platforms to market local businesses, events, attractions and promotions

**Herb Center Initiatives**

- Finalized programming and class schedule for July and August, incorporating expanded classes with guest instructors. Next class: This Saturday, July 20, "Summer Skin Care," featuring guest instructor Deborah Zerkle. (For class schedule, see ohioherbcenter.org)
- Held "Meet the Maker" workshop as part of the Second Saturdays collaborative event on July 13
- Planned for second installment of "Old Fashioned Summers" at the Ohio Herb Center, scheduled for Thursday, July 11; postponed due to inclement weather forecast. Next date is Thursday, July 25 from 6 to 8 p.m. - featuring an old-fashioned ice cream social, live music, herbal iced tea samples, yard games, cartoons and popcorn, craft and fun. Event is FREE. For more info, go to ohioherbcenter.org.

**Event Initiatives**

- **The Creekside Blues & Jazz Festival was named the "Best Suburban Festival" in the "Best of the 'Bus" contest recently conducted by CityScene magazine.** The Visit Gahanna staff will accept the award at a special event to be held at The Estate at New Albany on Thursday, July 18.
- Visit Gahanna will host its annual CBJF Volunteer Appreciation Picnic tomorrow evening, Tuesday, July 16, at Hannah Park. The event honors and recognizes the hundreds of people who generously share their time and talents in volunteering and supporting Gahanna's largest signature event. (If you volunteered and would like to attend the picnic, contact the Visit Gahanna team at [info@visitgahanna.com](mailto:info@visitgahanna.com) <<mailto:info@visitgahanna.com>>.)
- Launched registration for The Santa Race 5k, scheduled for Saturday, December 14. More than 45 people registered in first few days. (For registration and information, go to [thesantarace.com](http://thesantarace.com))
- Beginning planning for the 2nd Annual Pies in the Park event, to be held at Friendship Park on Sunday, October 6
- Working with new presenters of "Paws in the Plaza" (second event scheduled for this Thursday, July 18, from 6 - 9 p.m.) to coordinate logistics and promotion.
- Developed new webpage for Second Saturdays event

**K. OFFICIAL REPORTS:**

**Mayor: None**

**City Attorney: None**

**L. COUNCIL COMMENT**

Mrs. Angelou reported that she did attend the tax settlement lawsuit and that she is happy that it is finished. She said she has also been enjoying the functions at Creekside and that 4th of July was terrific.

President Metzbower said he would like to mirror what Mrs. Angelou said about Creekside and said the balloon animals were fun, creative and out of the box thinking and that he enjoys seeing the spirit and is looking forward to more second Saturday events.

**M. EXECUTIVE SESSION: None**

**N. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion to adjourn by Vice President Renner at 7:19 p.m.**

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**April Beggerow  
Clerk of Council**

*APPROVED by the City Council, this  
day of 2019.*

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**Brian Metzbower**