



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, June 1, 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, June 1, 2026, in Council Chambers. President of Council Trenton I. Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Vice President of Council Jamille Jones delivered an Invocation and led members in the Pledge of Allegiance. The agenda was published on Friday, May 29, 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. Joint Resolution/Proclamation Presentation by Council & Mayor Jadwin Honoring Kael Clous, OHSAA State Bowling Champion

President Weaver introduced a presentation recognizing Gahanna Lincoln High School student-athlete Kael Clous for winning the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) State Bowling Championship. President Weaver noted that Council and the Mayor Jadwin prepared a joint proclamation and resolution honoring Clous highlighting several accomplishments from his 2025-2026 season. Weaver stated that Clous became the first individual state bowling champion in Gahanna Lincoln High School history on March 7, 2026. Clous had a three-game series score of 720, including games of 232, 255, and 233. Weaver also recognized Clous's contributions to the boys' bowling team's fourth-place

finish at the state tournament, back-to-back Central Ohio School Bowling Conference (COSBC) overall championships, two consecutive district championships, an undefeated 11-0 COSBC season, and a perfect 5-0 OC divisional record. Weaver noted that Clous finished the season with a 205.7 average and excelled academically while participating in the orchestra for the spring musical. He added that Clous would compete in the U.S. High School Bowling National Championship in June and would continue his education and bowling career at Marian University. President Weaver invited Clous, his mother, his coach, Mayor Jadwin, Councilmembers, and City Attorney Tamlarasan forward for a presentation and commemorative photograph.

Coach Yvonne Quiero thanked Council for recognizing Clous's achievement as the top bowler in Ohio. She stated that Clous participated in the program since his freshman year and served as co-captain for the previous two years. Quiero described him as a calm leader who consistently supported and encouraged his teammates. She said he exemplified the qualities of a student-athlete through his academic performance, work ethic, and willingness to accept coaching. She noted that his teammates elected him captain and that he ranked among the easiest athletes she coached during her nine years with the program. Quiero reviewed Clous's season accomplishments, including a high game of 243, a three-game sectional series of 632 that helped the team advance to district competition, and a state tournament series of 720. She explained the challenges of state competition, including changing lane conditions between games. Quiero also noted that Clous signed with Marian University and expressed confidence in his future success. Clous stated that he planned to major in mechanical engineering at Marian University while continuing his bowling career. He expressed confidence in the future success of the Gahanna Lincoln bowling team and said he was grateful for the opportunity to have been part of the team for four years. He thanked Council for the recognition.

President Weaver congratulated Clous and wished him success in his future academic and athletic endeavors. Clous thanked Council for the recognition and the opportunity to attend the meeting.

2. Franklin County Auditor's Office - P.R. Casey, General Counsel

[2026-0115](#)

Franklin County Auditor's Office Presentation - 2026 Property Value Update

President Weaver welcomed P.R. Casey, General Counsel and Deputy Chief of Staff for Franklin County Auditor Michael Stinziano, to provide an update on the 2026 triennial property value update.

Mr. Casey stated that the Franklin County Auditor's Office presented a similar update during the 2023 reappraisal process and returned to inform residents and local officials about the upcoming 2026 property value update. He explained that Ohio law requires county auditors to conduct a reappraisal every six years and a property value update every three years between reappraisals. He noted that the purpose of the 2026 update was to accurately reflect changes in property values since the 2023 reappraisal. Casey explained that, unlike a reappraisal year, the 2026 update relied on market evaluation rather than physical inspections of every property. He said the Auditor's Office analyzed arm's length sales that occurred between 2023 and 2025 to determine whether adjustments to property values were necessary. He defined an arm's length sale as a transaction between independent parties acting in their own self-interest and stated that transactions such as transfers between family members for nominal amounts did not qualify for consideration in the valuation process.

Mr. Casey reviewed the timeline for the property value update process. He stated that the Auditor's Office collected and analyzed sales data through early 2026, prepared values for submission to the Ohio Department of Taxation in March, and submitted those values in April. He reported that the office expected approval from the Department of Taxation shortly. Following approval, the Auditor's Office would mail tentative value notices to all property owners in Franklin County during June or early July 2026. Casey explained that from July through September 2026, the Auditor's Office would conduct property value review sessions throughout the county, including in Gahanna. During these sessions, residents could meet with appraisers, present documentation, photographs, or other evidence, and discuss concerns regarding their valuations. He stated that appraisers would review the information provided and issue final value determinations to participants later in the year. He noted that property owners who accepted their tentative valuations would not need to take further action. Casey emphasized that the review sessions allowed residents to communicate directly with appraisal staff and provide information that may not have appeared in market data. He acknowledged that the valuation process

relied on sales data rather than physical inspections and stated that additional information from property owners could help ensure accurate valuations.

Addressing the relationship between property values and taxes, Casey stated that an increase in property value did not automatically result in an equivalent increase in taxes. He explained that Ohio law calculates taxes using 35 percent of the auditor's appraised value multiplied by the local taxing district rate, which voters establish through approved levies. He noted that property values and tax rates represented separate components of the tax calculation. Casey discussed Franklin County's strong real estate market and noted that property values continued to rise. He contrasted the 2026 update with the 2023 reappraisal, which produced historic increases in property values. He reported that overall property values increased approximately 35 percent countywide in 2023, while residential values increased approximately 41 percent. For the 2026 update, he stated that the Gahanna-Jefferson City School District area showed an estimated increase of 8 percent for all property types and 9 percent for residential properties, which aligned with the countywide average increase of approximately 8 percent. Casey provided contact information for the Auditor's Office and explained that participation in a property value review session would not affect a property owner's right to file a formal complaint with the Franklin County Board of Revision. He stated that the Board of Revision consisted of the Auditor, Treasurer, and a representative of the Board of Commissioners and served as the formal body responsible for addressing valuation disputes.

Mr. Casey concluded by noting that the Auditor's Office would launch the "Know Your Home Value" website on June 9, 2026. He stated that the website would provide information about the valuation process, allow residents to schedule property value review appointments, and include a tax estimator tool that would help property owners estimate potential tax impacts based on updated valuations.

President Weaver thanked Casey for the presentation and invited questions from Council.

Councilmember Schnetzer thanked Mr. Casey for attending and stated that increasing public awareness of the property value update process

would benefit residents. He recalled the significant increases in property values during the previous cycle and noted that many residents expressed concerns about those changes. He described the presentation as a valuable public service. Councilmember Schnetzer asked what percentage of a property tax bill was attributable to voter-approved levies and therefore under the control of residents through the ballot process. He noted that while homeowners generally welcomed increases in home values, most residents ultimately focused on the impact on their tax bills. Mr. Casey responded that he could explain the statutory formula used to calculate property taxes but did not have a specific percentage available. He reiterated that property taxes are calculated by applying the local taxing district's voted levy rate to 35 percent of the auditor's appraised value. He referenced 2023 as an example, noting that several school levies appeared on ballots during a period of significant property value increases, which resulted in corresponding tax increases. Casey offered to provide more specific information through a follow-up conversation or email correspondence.

Councilmember Schnetzer stated that property taxes were a significant issue at the state level and noted that gubernatorial candidates discussed the topic. He said residents already possessed tools to influence tax rates through the ballot process and reiterated that understanding what portion of a tax bill remained under voter control would be helpful. Mr. Casey stated that the Auditor's Office offered a tax estimator tool that accounted for both proposed levies and projected property value increases to provide residents with a reasonably accurate estimate of potential tax changes. He emphasized the office's commitment to transparency and to ensuring that residents understood both the valuation process and the numbers involved. He acknowledged that residents did not always welcome the information, particularly during the 2023 reappraisal cycle, but stated that the office remained committed to providing clear information and assistance. Councilmember Schnetzer thanked Casey for attending and for providing the information.

President Weaver asked whether any additional Councilmembers had questions. Hearing none, he thanked Casey for his presentation and attendance.

D. HEARING OF VISITORS:

None.

E. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Minutes - To Approve:

[2026-0112](#) Council Special Minutes 2026-05-18
The minutes were approved on the Consent Agenda.

[2026-0113](#) Council Regular Minutes 2026-05-18
The minutes were approved on the Consent Agenda.

End of Consent Agenda

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

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

F. RESOLUTIONS:

[RES-0018-2026](#) A JOINT RESOLUTION AND PROCLAMATION HONORING AND RECOGNIZING Kael Clous for his historic OHSAA State Bowling Championship and outstanding athletic and academic achievements

A motion was made by Renner, 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-0019-2026](#) A JOINT RESOLUTION AND PROCLAMATION HONORING Juneteenth & Gahanna's Second Annual Juneteenth Celebration

President Weaver noted he requested Clerk VanMeter to update the Resolution adopted last year.

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

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

[RES-0020-2026](#) A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JUNE 2026 AS LGBTQ PRIDE MONTH IN THE CITY OF GAHANNA

President Weaver noted he asked Clerk VanMeter to update the Resolution in line with what Council adopted previously.

A motion was made by Padova, 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

G. ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING / ADOPTION:

[ORD-0019-2026](#) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A PRE-ANNEXATION AGREEMENT WITH K C REAL PROPERTY INVESTMENTS, LLC AND TRIVIUM DEVELOPMENT LLC FOR PARCEL 170-000488-00 LOCATED AT 4710 EAST JOHNSTOWN ROAD

Clerk VanMeter read the Ordinance by title.

President Weaver thanked the applicant for attending the meeting and participating in the process. He noted that the matter represented one step in the process for both the potential annexation of the individual parcel and the overall project. He recalled that Council previously considered an annexation package that included a pre-annexation agreement and multiple steps before the parcels were ultimately annexed. President Weaver also acknowledged comments made during a presentation several weeks earlier indicating that the parcel was intended to provide additional buffering between the project and surrounding properties.

During the roll call, Councilmember Bowers abstained from voting. She stated that, as previously noted, her employment created a conflict of interest with the applicant's law firm. She explained that, based on guidance from the Ohio Ethics Commission and the City Attorney, she would abstain from the matter. Councilmember Bowers also abstained from discussion on the topic.

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

Yes: 6 - Jones, McGregor, Padova, Renner, Schnetzer and Weaver

Abstain, COI: 1 - Bowers

H. CORRESPONDENCE AND ACTIONS:

1. Clerk - None.
2. Council - None.

I. REPRESENTATIVES:**1. Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) - Renner, Padova**

None.

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

None.

3. Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) - Padova

Councilmember Padova reminded residents that the Creekside Blues & Jazz Festival would begin on June 19, 2026. She stated that tickets remained available for purchase through the festival website and encouraged residents to visit CreeksideBluesAndJazz.Com for ticket information. She noted that volunteer opportunities remained available, explaining that volunteers received free admission to the festival. Additionally, she stated that festival volunteers would be invited to a volunteer picnic in July 2026. Councilmember Padova announced a new addition to this year's festival: a silent disco that would take place on Friday and Saturday from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. near the lagoon. She described the silent disco as a fun addition to the festival and encouraged residents to learn more through the festival website.

4. School Board (SB) - Jones

Vice President Jones provided an update on upcoming Board of Education meetings. She announced that the board workshop meeting would take place on June 4, 2026, followed by the Finance and Facilities Committee meeting on June 16, 2026, and the Regular Board meeting on June 18, 2026. She stated that all meetings would begin at 6:30 p.m. and would take place in Clark Hall, Room 323. Vice President Jones also reported that the school district's central office would operate on summer hours through July 31, 2026. She stated that the office, which remained located on Morrison Road, would be open from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 7:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Fridays. She advised residents that registration inquiries and other communications with district staff would need to occur during those hours.

J. OFFICIAL REPORTS:**1. Mayor**

Mayor Jadwin announced that the city's new Gahanna shuttle service, "Go-hanna" launched that day. She explained that the free, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-accessible service was designed to help residents age 65 and older and residents with disabilities remain connected to services and destinations throughout the community. Mayor Jadwin shared that the shuttle's first rider traveled to the Gahanna Senior Center for an early morning class. She also described a second rider who used the service to attend a medical appointment because her husband was hospitalized and unable to drive her. Mayor Jadwin stated that these experiences demonstrated the importance of the service in helping residents maintain their independence, access essential services, and remain engaged in community life. She encouraged residents to visit Gahanna.Gov for information regarding eligibility requirements, service areas, and scheduling procedures.

Mayor Jadwin also addressed the increasing use of e-bikes and scooters within the community. She stated that residents, Councilmembers, and the Division of Police raised concerns regarding their operation, including speed, permitted locations, and safety. She emphasized that community safety remained a top priority and noted concerns for riders, pedestrians, and motorists. Mayor Jadwin referenced a recent fatal collision involving a vehicle and an e-bike outside Ohio, stating that the city engaged in education and outreach efforts while continuing to face enforcement challenges. She noted that central Ohio communities regularly discussed these issues and encouraged residents, particularly parents of young riders, to review information about e-bike classifications and operating requirements in the city's "Uniquely Gahanna" publication and on Gahanna.Gov. Mayor Jadwin then invited Chief Spence to provide additional information regarding e-bike and scooter usage within the community.

Chief Spence explained that Ohio law recognizes three classifications of e-bicycles and noted that determining whether riders are operating under pedal power can present enforcement challenges. He stated that officers also encounter difficulty distinguishing between the various classes of

e-bicycles. He reported that law enforcement agencies were seeing an increase in electric motorcycles and electric dirt bikes, which he described as off-road vehicles that cannot operate on public roadways or sidewalks. He noted that some of these vehicles can reach speeds of up to 50 miles per hour and were more common as prices decreased. Chief Spence stated that police departments throughout central Ohio received a growing number of complaints regarding these devices and that the issue was recently discussed during a meeting of area police chiefs. He reported that Gahanna had not experienced any serious injuries or significant crash history involving e-bikes or similar devices but anticipated increased concerns as their popularity continued to grow during the summer months.

Chief Spence explained that existing city code generally addressed these devices but noted that enforcement remained challenging as technology continued to evolve. He stated that officers encountered riders as young as eight and nine years old and emphasized that issuing citations to children would not necessarily resolve safety concerns. He also discussed questions regarding parental responsibility and explained that Ohio law provides limited avenues for holding parents legally responsible outside of certain criminal matters. Chief Spence stated that the Division of Police continued to focus on education and public awareness. He reported that the division was developing informational videos and a reference chart outlining where various devices may legally operate and summarizing applicable ordinances. He noted that such resources would help improve public understanding. Chief Spence added that the division recently received numerous complaints and inquiries regarding e-bike activity, including reports involving riders in the Harrison Pond area. Chief Spence concluded his remarks and invited questions.

Councilmember Schnetzer asked whether these devices or vehicles could operate on Big Walnut Trail or other multi-use trails, including trail offshoots near McCorkle Park. Chief Spence stated that e-motorcycles could not operate on those trails because they constituted limited off-road vehicles. He explained that e-bikes were not prohibited on trails when operated in pedal form, although certain speed limits and restrictions applied to class three bikes. He noted that mere presence on a trail did not necessarily constitute a violation. City Attorney Tamilarasan clarified that limited off-road e-motorcycles were prohibited on trails and

that only e-bikes in pedal form could operate there. Chief Spence confirmed that clarification and stated that electric dirt-bike-style motorcycles were off-road vehicles only and generally could operate only on private property.

Councilmember Bowers asked how e-scooters fit within the City's regulations because they did not operate in pedal form. Chief Spence stated that e-scooters presented another challenge and could fall under toy vehicle or mobility device classifications. He said the current code made those devices difficult to categorize. Councilmember Bowers asked whether she could tell her son that e-scooters were not clearly legal in Gahanna. Chief Spence stated that manufacturers may have intended the devices to encourage adults to ride, but the devices were more hazardous when used by unlicensed and untrained operators.

Councilmember Padova asked whether discussions occurred at the state level regarding additional enforcement, particularly for children and age limits. Chief Spence stated that discussions occurred and that technology evolved beyond current codes. He said officials continued to discuss how to address the devices through code as the technology evolved and as younger riders used the devices. Councilmember Padova also asked about helmet use and noted that she saw children riding on neighborhood streets without helmets. Chief Spence stated that the Division of Police had taken an educational approach to helmets and worked with Nationwide Children's Hospital on an annual helmet campaign. He added that officers could take enforcement action regarding helmets, but the current approach focused more on education.

Mayor Jadwin stated that the city was developing a series of videos for community outreach regarding e-motorcycles and safety. She noted that the city already provided information through Uniquely Gahanna, the city newsletter, and a segment with NBC4. She explained that the videos would focus on e-motorcycles and safety education, emphasizing the importance of parents understanding the capabilities of these devices when providing them to their children. She stated that parents should ensure riders understand traffic laws, wear helmets, and follow safety practices. Mayor Jadwin said that officers and other communities found positive reinforcement and incentives for safe behavior were more effective than punitive measures. She explained that the city would

continue to focus on communication and education and emphasized the importance of keeping children safe while using these devices.

Chief Spence added that the Division of Police developed a strong partnership with Bicycle One, a local retailer of e-devices. He stated that the retailer actively discussed safety and applicable laws with customers and served as a valuable partner in the city's educational efforts.

Councilmember Padova asked whether the city planned additional educational efforts when the school year resumed, particularly through programs such as Safety Town. Chief Spence responded that Safety Town was currently underway and included education related to these devices. He stated that the division's Junior Academy would also include related instruction and that the city planned to distribute the educational videos through the school system. He noted that the city would maintain an active educational campaign throughout the summer. Mayor Jadwin emphasized that the city's efforts would involve ongoing engagement rather than a one-time initiative. Chief Spence stated that he did not expect the issue to diminish because the devices continued to evolve, their prices continued to decline, and their availability continued to increase. He noted that the community experienced an exponential increase in their use. Councilmember Padova thanked Mayor Jadwin and Chief Spence for discussing the issue and answering the City Council's questions. She stated that concerns regarding e-bikes and similar devices remained on her mind and that she appreciated the city's educational efforts and the opportunity to gain additional clarity on the issue. She added that she hoped to prevent a serious incident from occurring within the community.

President Weaver asked whether the city's current code adequately addressed emerging e-bike and e-motorcycle technology. He noted that the technology evolved significantly and asked whether the City Council should consider any policy changes as part of its legislative role. Chief Spence responded that the existing code generally addressed e-motorcycles and similar devices, particularly given their speed and increasing use. He stated that education remained the first priority but anticipated that enforcement would also play a role. He explained that officers would likely issue warnings for initial violations and pursue enforcement action if individuals continued to operate the vehicles improperly after receiving documented warnings. Chief Spence stated

that the Division of Police reviewed the city's code with the City Attorney and developed informational materials for officers. He suggested evaluating whether any gaps existed in the code after additional educational efforts and further review.

City Attorney Tamilarasan explained that the city annually reviews and updates its traffic code to remain consistent with changes in state law. She stated that the next traffic code update would occur following the completion of the Charter Review Commission's work. She noted that the city completed a comprehensive update in 2024 that added categories for newer vehicle types. She explained that the city continued to evaluate how emerging devices fit within existing classifications and whether definitions remained flexible enough to accommodate technological changes. She stated that the code categorized devices based on factors such as speed capability and whether they relied on human power or motorized power. Each category carried different requirements related to age restrictions, permits, helmets, safety equipment, and reflectors. City Attorney Tamilarasan agreed that the current code functioned effectively and stated that she would not recommend additional local legislation at that time, until the city could evaluate future state law changes and the effectiveness of ongoing educational efforts.

President Weaver asked whether the city's code included a registration requirement for these devices. City Attorney Tamilarasan responded that the city did not require bicycle registration and generally followed state requirements administered through the Bureau of Motor Vehicles when registration applied to a particular device category. President Weaver referenced recent media coverage regarding a proposed Upper Arlington program that would require registration, training, and parental acknowledgment for certain devices not subject to state registration requirements. He asked whether similar measures might warrant future consideration as the city's code evolved. Chief Spence stated that he was familiar with the Upper Arlington proposal and understood that officials paused implementation after recognizing the substantial administrative burden associated with such a registration program.

Mayor Jadwin stated that conversations she participated in suggested that registration requirements did not necessarily solve enforcement challenges. She explained that she invited Chief Spence to participate in the discussion because residents frequently contacted her office

regarding e-bikes and similar devices. Mayor Jadwin shared that even a resident using the new shuttle service that morning raised concerns about e-bikes during the ride. She stated that the issue remained a priority for residents and that the city continued to work with neighboring communities and law enforcement agencies to identify effective approaches. Mayor Jadwin emphasized that the discussion represented an ongoing effort rather than a one-time conversation and thanked Chief Spence for his participation.

2. City Attorney

City Attorney Tamilarasan reminded the City Council that the tobacco preemption litigation remained pending before the Ohio Supreme Court. She reported that oral arguments were scheduled for June 9, 2026, noting that the case was second on the court's docket. She explained that proceedings would begin at 9:00 a.m. and that the court would call each case in order. City Attorney Tamilarasan informed the City Council that the oral arguments would be livestreamed through the Ohio Supreme Court's website and noted that viewers could access the livestream through a link on the court's homepage. She also offered to send an email reminder to the City Council the day before the arguments.

K. COUNCIL COMMENT:

Councilmember Bowers thanked Gahanna Parks and Recreation and the Veterans Memorial Committee for organizing the Memorial Day ceremony. She stated that the event was well attended and noted the participation of Councilmember McGregor, President Weaver, and Mayor Jadwin. She also recognized the presentation by the Executive Director of Honor Flight Columbus and described it as moving. Councilmember Bowers concluded her remarks by wishing everyone a happy Pride Month.

President Weaver echoed Councilmember Bowers's comments and expressed his appreciation to Director Ferrell for serving as the Master of Ceremonies for the Memorial Day event. He commended Director Ferrell's performance and described the ceremony as moving.

[2026-0119](#)

Councilmember Jamille Jones' Constituent Report - March-April 2026

L. ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business before the Council, President Weaver adjourned the meeting at 8:06 p.m.

Jeremy A. VanMeter
Clerk of Council

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

Jamille Jones