



# City of Gahanna

200 South Hamilton Road  
Gahanna, Ohio 43230

## Meeting Minutes Code Review Special Committee

*Jamie Leeseberg, Chair  
Karen Angelou, Stephen Renner*

*Shane Ewald, City Attorney  
Kimberly Banning, Clerk of Council*

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Monday, March 27, 2017

5:30 PM

City Hall

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### A. Call to Order

Leeseberg called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Present** 5 - Jamie Leeseberg, Karen J. Angelou, Stephen A. Renner, Shane W. Ewald,  
and Kimberly Banning

### B. Discussion on Code Review Sections - Bed & Breakfast, Extended Stay Hotels, Parks Concealed Carry & Drones and Annexations

#### CONCEALED CARRY IN PARKS:

Ewald said case in Ohio brought forward in the court; can't prevent open carry in the park; it prohibited open carry; Chief thought it could impact hunting; boy scouts for archery events; looked at permitting process; permit for deer hunting, archery and air pistol or air rifle; language was submitted for proposal; Leeseberg started with firearms; no discharging within the city limits; most code sections don't have city parks outside city limits; but this states aren't allowed to disarm firearm; it covers concealed carry and definition of firearm; building language that incorporates ORC; be compliant with law; build in flexibility; Leeseberg asked what penalty would be; Ewald said it's a misdemeanor; you get a ticket if you defend yourself if you have a gun; Larick said we could try to build in defense; not discharging in city limits; Ewald said under current code allows you to carry in the park; doesn't allow you to openly carry; Westerville said you can't discharge, but can carry; he will send copy of code he amended and add penalties; Leeseberg said other dangerous weapons are defined; Ewald said you can't encompass every deadly weapon; Angelou asked how you get other approved ones in the City; Ewald said it would need to be a permit; Leeseberg said would like to see stand your ground defense in Gahanna; Angelou said there might be animals and you may need your gun, but you can't discharge by current law; Ewald said they have had complaints on deer; dogs being attacked; Angelou wanted to make sure 2nd amendment right is written in the code; Leeseberg said yes it is included to be compliant with state law; Ewald asked everyone to take a look at the permitting process; Angelou

said where you go for which permit can be confusing; Leeseberg said to hunt deer is a special permit; Larick knows the Police Department is informed and expect to have defined air gun and archery areas in the City; Angelou believes all permits for this type of permission should go through the Police Department; Larick said have communication plan, but Police Department needs to be the one to approve permits.

#### DRONES:

If you are within 5 miles of the airport you can't fly commercial or anything above ground; Ewald said never allowed to go above 400 feet for airplanes; Renner asked if it will still be in the park; Ewald said yes but will have to be confirmed with airline towers first; they will coordinate times; Leeseberg said nobody is going to know; part of the permit process is you call tower; Renner said hobby shops may not even know the laws behind; Angelou said Cleveland said no fly zone period; said Bedford said must have any required FAA certified documentation; Ewald said those are good guidelines, but not practical; Leeseberg said if the towers have laws they can be sent there to get requirements; Leeseberg said his company uses drones for aerial pictures; Angelou said Aurora excludes several different areas; there are a lot of intricacies for these facilities; Larick said there is a UVS rating that can be written into the code; Ewald said the question is does Council want drones; Larick said there could be exclusion for hobbies; Renner said we need to regulate if we want drones; Leeseberg said it will be tough to enforce; Leeseberg said they should follow FAA rules then we have our permitting to include areas and hours of operation; Renner asked does port Columbus have website that talks about drones; Ewald said they have FAA people on staff; Ewald said it's in their regulations; encourage good behavior; if you want more than that they will need to follow federal regulations; Ewald thinks it's important people are put on notice; Leeseberg said send them to the FAA; word will get out; Angelou said it could distract drivers; Ewald said they could hit a house or cause other issues; Leeseberg said should regulate: Ewald said FAA should put in more regulations when you purchase; Larick said he just sent hobby and commercial regulates with FAA [see link Larick sent]; states you only need to inform them of when you are flying; Ewald said he will confirm with tower but he believes you need to actually coordinate time when flying; special rule for model ones; Ewald will put together another draft; Ewald said commercial spends a lot of money and probably knows rules.

#### HOTEL/MOTEL:

Ewald said We currently do not have a hotel code; extended stay could be restricted from certain zoning areas; he has a draft; will send to group;

the last time he worked on it was not practical at the time for enforcement of the hotel code due to limited staff; Angelou said she takes exception; Larick said it is very frustrating; Angelou said it should still be included in the code whether we can enforce or not; Leeseberg said that is the goal; Ewald said Dublin has a very thorough code on this matter; Ewald said we need better definitions; Larick asked if we could retro-active fee implemented; Ewald said no; you could enforce other areas of compliance with inspections; Angelou said back to 2014 not enough staff; who made that decision; Ewald said Mayor's office; Larick asked how much is usually charged for fees; Ewald said usually \$250; Ewald said the CU will stop most of the compliance problems; will not address current ones; if we enact inspections need to treat all the same; review code sent to everyone for discussion at the next meeting; Angelou asked about school getting involved; Ewald said it's hard to track who lives there; Angelou said price point makes a huge difference; Angelou said will take this draft to the Mayor; get his thoughts; tell him it was done in 2014 and we got nowhere.

#### BED & BREAKFAST:

Larick said this is unregulated; need to figure out something for enforcement; Angelou said they have internet, you can get rooms as B&B; Ewald want B&B to fall under hotel/motel; whether it goes through Planning Commission process; based on code now it was approved through building; all other commercial goes to Planning Commission; ultimately who is the final decision maker; Leeseberg said would need to add other permitted uses; Leeseberg said it is commercial in his mind; Ewald said you could define where located; Larick asked does B&B fall under hotel/motel tax; if not, can we invoke fee; Ewald said he'd check; Larick said at very least add regulations, safety inspection, effective use structure, etc.; Leeseberg said a lot of places you can't rent out due to homeowner's association; Angelou said Murfield tournament gets a lot of money; Larick said did research of AirBNB; rental space; we have no regulations on short term rental; Ewald said need definitions in place; meet restrictive definitions; owner occupied single residence; Larick said specific requirements are a challenge; more restrictions on number of rooms; we could attract nice short term stays; like to see more research; Leeseberg said we need to get this done or we will have no control; Angelou considered if this ideology is more for tourist areas like Florida, North Carolina; Angelou doesn't see this being a big issue in Gahanna; Larick said he found one listed as Airbnb; Brookhill south of Morse Rd; last time he checked there were none; now there is one room for rent; Clerk to research other codes; Bexley, Columbus, Grandview, Granville for next meeting.

[DOC-0038-2017](#) Code from other Municipalities

**C. Set Upcoming Meetings**

To be determined after the City Attorney meets with departments and sends requested code.

**D. Adjournment**

6:55 p.m.

**Meeting Minutes for Reference -**

[2017-0065](#) 3-7-2017 Code Review Special Committee Minutes