



Legislation Text

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AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF NOTES IN THE MAXIMUM PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$8,500,000, IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING, CONSTRUCTING, RENOVATING AND IMPROVING MUNICIPAL FACILITIES, INCLUDING CONSTRUCTING, RENOVATING AND IMPROVING ADDITIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITIES FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS; FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING THE SAME; IMPROVING THE SITES THEREOF; ACQUIRING LAND AND INTERESTS IN LAND IN CONNECTION THEREWITH; AND ALL NECESSARY APPURTENANCES THERETO; WAIVING SECOND READING AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ordinance No. ORD-0048-2022 passed September 6, 2022, notes in anticipation of bonds in the principal amount of \$8,500,000, dated November 2, 2022 (the "Outstanding Notes"), were issued for the purpose described in Section 1, to mature on November 2, 2023; and

WHEREAS, this City Council finds and determines that the City should retire the Outstanding Notes with the proceeds of the Notes described in Section 3 and other funds available to the City; and

WHEREAS, this City Council has requested that the Finance Director, as fiscal officer of this City, certify the estimated life or period of usefulness of the Improvement described in Section 1, the estimated maximum maturity of the Bonds described in Section 1 and the maximum maturity of the Notes described in Section 3; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Director has certified to this City Council that the estimated life or period of usefulness of the Improvement described in Section 1 is at least five (5) years, the estimated maximum maturity of the Bonds described in Section 1 is at least thirty (30) years, and the maximum maturity of the Notes described in Section 3, to be issued in anticipation of the Bonds for the purpose described in Section 1, is November 2, 2042;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA, COUNTY OF FRANKLIN, STATE OF OHIO, THAT:

Section 1. Authorized Principal Amount of Anticipated Bonds and Purpose. It is necessary to

issue bonds of this City in the maximum principal amount of \$8,500,000 (the “Bonds”) for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, renovating and improving municipal facilities, including constructing, renovating and improving additional public safety facilities for police department operations; furnishing and equipping the same; improving the sites thereof; acquiring land and interests in land in connection therewith; and all necessary appurtenances thereto (the “Improvement”).

Section 2. Estimated Bond Terms. The Bonds shall be dated approximately October 1, 2024, shall bear interest at the now estimated rate of 6.00% per year, payable semiannually until the principal amount is paid, and are estimated to mature in thirty (30) annual principal installments on December 1 of each year and in such amounts that the total principal and interest payments on the Bonds, in any fiscal year in which principal is payable, shall be substantially equal. The first principal payment of the Bonds is estimated to be December 1, 2025.

Section 3. Authorized Principal Amount of Notes; Dating; Interest Rate. It is necessary to issue and this City Council determines that notes in the maximum principal amount of \$8,500,000 (the “Notes”) shall be issued in anticipation of the issuance of the Bonds for the purpose described in Section 1, to retire, together with other funds available to the City, the Outstanding Notes, and to pay any financing costs. The principal amount of Notes to be issued (not to exceed the stated maximum principal amount) shall be determined by the Finance Director in the certificate awarding the Notes in accordance with Section 6 of this Ordinance (the “Certificate of Award”) as the amount which, along with other available funds of the City, is necessary to provide for the retirement of the Outstanding Notes and to pay any financing costs. The Notes shall be dated the date of issuance and shall mature not more than one year following the date of issuance, provided that the Finance Director shall establish the maturity date in the Certificate of Award. The Notes shall bear interest at a rate or rates not to exceed 7.00% per year (computed on the basis of a 360 day year consisting of twelve 30-day months), payable at maturity and until the principal amount is paid or payment is provided for. The rate or rates of interest on the Notes shall be determined by the Finance Director in the Certificate of Award in accordance with Section 6 of this Ordinance.

If determined to be in the best interests of the City by the Finance Director, the Notes shall be subject to optional redemption by and at the sole option of the City, in whole or in part, on the dates and at the redemption prices (expressed as a percentage of the principal amount to be redeemed), plus accrued interest to the redemption date, to be determined by the Finance Director in the Certificate of Award. Notice of redemption, identifying the Notes or portions thereof, to be called, shall be delivered to the registered holder thereof not less than five (5) days (or such other period as set forth in the Certificate of Award) prior to the date of redemption. Notice having been delivered in the manner provided in the preceding sentence hereof, the Notes and portions thereof called for redemption shall become due and payable on the redemption date, and upon presentation and surrender thereof at the office of the Paying Agent, shall be paid at the redemption price, plus accrued interest to the redemption date. If moneys for the redemption of all of the Notes or portions thereof to be redeemed, together with accrued interest thereon to the redemption date, are held by the Paying Agent (as defined below) on the redemption date, so as to be available therefor on that

date and, if notice of redemption has been delivered as aforesaid, then from and after the redemption date those Notes or portions thereof called for redemption shall cease to bear interest and no longer shall be considered to be outstanding. If those moneys shall not be so available on the redemption date, or that notice shall not have been delivered as aforesaid, those Notes or portions thereof shall continue to bear interest, until they are paid, at the same rate as they would have borne had they not been called for redemption.

Section 4. Payment of Debt Charges; Paying Agent. The debt charges on the Notes shall be payable in lawful money of the United States of America or in Federal Reserve funds of the United States of America as determined by the Finance Director in the Certificate of Award, and shall be payable, without deduction for services of the City's paying agent, at the office of a bank or trust company designated by the Finance Director in the Certificate of Award after determining that the payment at that bank or trust company will not endanger the funds or securities of the City and that proper procedures and safeguards are available for that purpose or at the office of the Finance Director if agreed to by the Finance Director and the original purchaser (the "Paying Agent"). The Finance Director is authorized, to the extent necessary or appropriate, to enter into an agreement with the Paying Agent in connection with the services to be provided by the Paying Agent after determining that the signing thereof will not endanger the funds or securities of the City.

Section 5. Execution of Notes. The Notes shall be signed by the Mayor and the Finance Director, in the name of the City and in their official capacities; provided that one or both of those signatures may be a facsimile. The Notes shall be issued in minimum denominations of \$100,000 (and may be issued in denominations in such amounts in excess thereof as requested by the original purchaser and approved by the Finance Director) and with numbers as requested by the original purchaser and approved by the Finance Director. The entire principal amount may be represented by a single note and may be issued as fully registered securities (for which the Finance Director will serve as note registrar) and in book entry or other uncertificated form in accordance with Section 9.96 and Chapter 133 of the Ohio Revised Code if it is determined by the Finance Director that issuance of fully registered securities in that form will facilitate the sale and delivery of the Notes. The Notes shall not have coupons attached, shall be numbered as determined by the Finance Director and shall express upon their faces the purpose, in summary terms, for which they are issued and that they are issued pursuant to this Ordinance. As used in this Section and this Ordinance:

"Book entry form" or "book entry system" means a form or system under which (a) the ownership of beneficial interests in the Notes and the principal of and interest on the Notes may be transferred only through a book entry, and (b) a single physical Note certificate in fully registered form is issued by the City and payable only to a Depository or its nominee as registered owner, with the certificate deposited with and "immobilized" in the custody of the Depository or its designated agent for that purpose. The book entry maintained by others than the City is the record that identifies the owners of beneficial interests in the Notes and that principal and interest.

“Depository” means any securities depository that is a clearing agency registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, operating and maintaining, with its Participants or otherwise, a book entry system to record ownership of beneficial interests in the Notes or the principal of and interest on the Notes, and to effect transfers of the Notes, in book entry form, and includes and means initially The Depository Trust Company (a limited purpose trust company), New York, New York.

“Participant” means any participant contracting with a Depository under a book entry system and includes securities brokers and dealers, banks and trust companies and clearing corporations.

The Notes may be issued to a Depository for use in a book entry system and, if and as long as a book entry system is utilized, (a) the Notes may be issued in the form of a single Note made payable to the Depository or its nominee and immobilized in the custody of the Depository or its agent for that purpose; (b) the beneficial owners in book entry form shall have no right to receive the Notes in the form of physical securities or certificates; (c) ownership of beneficial interests in book entry form shall be shown by book entry on the system maintained and operated by the Depository and its Participants, and transfers of the ownership of beneficial interests shall be made only by book entry by the Depository and its Participants; and (d) the Notes as such shall not be transferable or exchangeable, except for transfer to another Depository or to another nominee of a Depository, without further action by the City.

If any Depository determines not to continue to act as a Depository for the Notes for use in a book entry system, the Finance Director may attempt to establish a securities depository/book entry relationship with another qualified Depository. If the Finance Director does not or is unable to do so, the Finance Director, after making provision for notification of the beneficial owners by the then Depository and any other arrangements deemed necessary, shall permit withdrawal of the Notes from the Depository, and shall cause the Notes in bearer or payable form to be signed by the officers authorized to sign the Notes and delivered to the assigns of the Depository or its nominee, all at the cost and expense (including any costs of printing), if the event is not the result of City action or inaction, of those persons requesting such issuance.

The Finance Director is also hereby authorized and directed, to the extent necessary or required, to enter into any agreements determined necessary in connection with the book entry system for the Notes, after determining that the signing thereof will not endanger the funds or securities of the City.

Section 6. Award and Sale of Notes. The Notes shall be sold at not less than par plus accrued interest (if any) at private sale by the Finance Director in accordance with law and the provisions of this Ordinance, the Certificate of Award and the Note Purchase Agreement. The Finance Director shall sign the Certificate of Award referred to in Section 3 fixing the interest rate or rates which the Notes shall bear and evidencing that sale to the original purchaser, cause the Notes to be prepared,

and have the Notes signed and delivered, together with a true transcript of proceedings with reference to the issuance of the Notes if requested by the original purchaser, to the original purchaser upon payment of the purchase price.

The Note Purchase Agreement between the City and the original purchaser and now on file with the Clerk is approved, and the Mayor and the Finance Director are authorized to sign and deliver, on behalf of the City, the Note Purchase Agreement with such changes that are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance, are not materially adverse to the interests of the City and are approved by the Mayor and the Finance Director. Any such changes to the Note Purchase Agreement are not materially adverse to the interests of the City and are approved by the Mayor and the Finance Director shall be evidenced conclusively by the signing of the Note Purchase Agreement by the Mayor and the Finance Director.

The Mayor, the Finance Director, the City Attorney, the Clerk of Council and other City officials, as appropriate, and any person serving in an interim or acting capacity for any such official, are each authorized and directed to sign any transcript certificates, financial statements and other documents and instruments and to take such actions as are necessary or appropriate to consummate the transactions contemplated by this Ordinance. Any actions heretofore taken by the Mayor, the Finance Director, the City Attorney, the Clerk of Council or other City official, as appropriate, in doing any and all acts necessary in connection with the issuance and sale of the Notes are hereby ratified and confirmed. The Finance Director is authorized, if it is determined to be in the best interest of the City, to combine the issue of Notes with one or more other note issues of the City into a consolidated note issue pursuant to Section 133.30(B) of the Ohio Revised Code.

To the extent that the Finance Director determines that it would be in the best interest of the City and elects to utilize the Ohio Market Access Program (the "Ohio Market Access Program") which is administered by the Treasurer of the State of Ohio (the "Treasurer"), the Mayor and the Finance Director are authorized to sign and deliver, in the name and on behalf of the City, the Standby Note Purchase Agreement (the "Standby Note Purchase Agreement") in substantially the form as presented to this City Council with such changes as are not materially adverse to the City and as may be approved by the officers of the City executing the Standby Note Purchase Agreement. The City acknowledges the agreement of the Treasurer in the Standby Note Purchase Agreement that, in the event the City is unable to repay the principal amount and accrued and unpaid interest of the Notes at their maturity, whether through its own funds or through the issuance of other obligations of the City, the Treasurer agrees to (a) purchase the Notes from the holders or beneficial owners thereof upon their presentation to the Treasurer for such purchase at a price of par plus accrued interest to maturity or (b) purchase renewal notes of the City in a principal amount not greater than the principal amount of the Notes plus interest due at maturity, with such renewal notes bearing interest at the Renewal Note Rate (as defined in the Standby Note Purchase Agreement), maturing not more than one year after the date of their issuance, and being prepayable at any time with 30 days' notice, provided that in connection with the Treasurer's purchase of such renewal notes the City shall deliver to the Treasurer an unqualified opinion of nationally recognized bond counsel that (i) such renewal

notes are the legal, valid and binding general obligations of the City, and the principal of and interest on such renewal notes, unless paid from other sources, are to be paid from the proceeds of the levy of ad valorem taxes, within the ten-mill limitation imposed by law, on all property subject to ad valorem taxes levied by the City and (ii) interest on the renewal notes is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, to the same extent that interest on the Notes is so excluded.

The officers signing the Notes are authorized to take all actions that may in their judgment reasonably be necessary to provide for the Standby Note Purchase Agreement, including but not limited to the inclusion of a notation on the form of the Notes providing notice to the holders or beneficial owners of the existence of the Standby Note Purchase Agreement and providing instructions to such holders or beneficial owners regarding the presentation of the Note for purchase by the Treasurer at stated maturity.

Section 7. Application of Proceeds. The proceeds from the sale of the Notes received by the City (or withheld by the original purchaser or deposited with the Paying Agent, in each case on behalf of the City) shall be paid into the proper fund or funds, and those proceeds are appropriated and shall be used for the purpose for which the Notes are being issued. The Certificate of Award and the Note Purchase Agreement may authorize the original purchaser to (a) withhold certain proceeds from the sale of the Notes or (b) remit certain proceeds from the sale of the Notes to the Paying Agent, in each case to provide for the payment of certain financing costs on behalf of the City. If proceeds are remitted to the Paying Agent in accordance with this Section 7, the Paying Agent shall be authorized to create a fund in accordance with the Certificate of Award for that purpose. Any portion of those proceeds received by the City (after payment of those financing costs) representing premium or accrued interest shall be paid into the Bond Retirement Fund.

Section 8. Application and Pledge of Bond or Renewal Note Proceeds or Excess Funds. The par value to be received from the sale of the Bonds or of any renewal notes and any excess funds resulting from the issuance of the Notes shall, to the extent necessary, be used to pay the debt charges on the Notes at maturity and are pledged for that purpose.

Section 9. Provision for Tax Levy. During the year or years in which the Notes are outstanding, there shall be levied on all the taxable property in the City, in addition to all other taxes, the same tax that would have been levied if the Bonds had been issued without the prior issuance of the Notes. The tax shall be within the ten-mill limitation imposed by law, shall be and is ordered computed, certified, levied and extended upon the tax duplicate and collected by the same officers, in the same manner, and at the same time that taxes for general purposes for each of those years are certified, levied, extended and collected, and shall be placed before and in preference to all other items and for the full amount thereof. The proceeds of the tax levy shall be placed in the Bond Retirement Fund, which is irrevocably pledged for the payment of the debt charges on the Notes or the Bonds when

and as the same fall due.

In each year to the extent receipts from the municipal income tax are available for the payment of the debt charges on the Notes or the Bonds and are appropriated for that purpose, the amount of the tax shall be reduced by the amount of such receipts so available and appropriated in compliance with the following covenant. To the extent necessary, the debt charges on the Notes or the Bonds shall be paid from municipal income taxes lawfully available therefor under the Constitution and laws of the State of Ohio and the Charter of the City; and the City hereby covenants, subject and pursuant to such authority, including particularly Section 133.05(B)(7) of the Ohio Revised Code, to appropriate annually from such municipal income taxes such amount as is necessary to meet such annual debt charges.

Nothing in the preceding paragraph in any way diminishes the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit and general property taxing power of the City to the prompt payment of the debt charges on the Notes or the Bonds.

Section 10. Tax Covenants. The City covenants that it will use, and will restrict the use and investment of, the proceeds of the Notes in such manner and to such extent as may be necessary so that (a) the Notes will not (i) constitute private activity bonds or arbitrage bonds under Sections 141 or 148 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") or (ii) be treated other than as bonds the interest on which is excluded from gross income under Section 103 of the Code, and (b) the interest on the Notes will not be an item of tax preference under Section 57 of the Code.

The City further covenants that (a) it will take or cause to be taken such actions that may be required of it for the interest on the Notes to be and remain excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes, (b) it will not take or authorize to be taken any actions that would adversely affect that exclusion, and (c) it, or persons acting for it, will, among other acts of compliance, (i) apply the proceeds of the Notes to the governmental purpose of the borrowing, (ii) restrict the yield on investment property, (iii) make timely and adequate payments to the federal government, (iv) maintain books and records and make calculations and reports and (v) refrain from certain uses of those proceeds, and, as applicable, of property financed with such proceeds, all in such manner and to the extent necessary to assure such exclusion of that interest under the Code.

The Finance Director or any other officer of the City having responsibility for issuance of the Notes is hereby authorized (a) to make or effect any election, selection, designation, choice, consent, approval, or waiver on behalf of the City with respect to the Notes as the City is permitted to or required to make or give under the federal income tax laws, including, without limitation thereto, any of the elections available under Section 148 of the Code, for the purpose of assuring, enhancing or protecting favorable tax treatment or status of the Notes or interest thereon or assisting compliance with requirements for that purpose, reducing the burden or expense of such compliance, reducing the

rebate amount or payments or penalties with respect to the Notes, or making payments of special amounts in lieu of making computations to determine, or paying, excess earnings as rebate, or obviating those amounts or payments with respect to the Notes, which action shall be in writing and signed by the officer, (b) to take any and all other actions, make or obtain calculations, make payments, and make or give reports, covenants and certifications of and on behalf of the City, as may be appropriate to assure the exclusion of interest from gross income and the intended tax status of the Notes, and (c) to give one or more appropriate certificates of the City, for inclusion in the transcript of proceedings for the Notes, setting forth the reasonable expectations of the City regarding the amount and use of all the proceeds of the Notes, the facts, circumstances and estimates on which they are based, and other facts and circumstances relevant to the tax treatment of the interest on and the tax status of the Notes. The Finance Director or any other officer of the City having responsibility for issuance of the Notes is specifically authorized to designate the Notes as “qualified tax-exempt obligations” if such designation is applicable and desirable, and to make any related necessary representations and covenants.

Each covenant made in this Section with respect to the Notes is also made with respect to all issues any portion of the debt service on which is paid from proceeds of the Notes (and, if different, the original issue and any refunding issues in a series of refundings), to the extent such compliance is necessary to assure exclusion of interest on the Notes from gross income for federal income tax purposes, and the officers identified above are authorized to take actions with respect to those issues as they are authorized in this Section to take with respect to the Notes.

Section 11. Certification and Delivery of Ordinance and Certificate of Award. The Finance Director is directed to promptly deliver or cause to be delivered a certified copy of this Ordinance to the County Auditor of Franklin County, Ohio.

Section 12. Application for Rating. The Finance Director is authorized to request a rating for the Notes from Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. or S&P Global Ratings, or both, as the Finance Director determines is in the best interest of the City. The expenditure of the amounts necessary to secure any such ratings as well as to pay the other financing costs (as defined in Section 133.01 of the Ohio Revised Code) in connection with the Notes is hereby authorized and approved and the amounts necessary to pay those costs are hereby appropriated from the proceeds of the Notes, if available, and otherwise from available moneys in the General Fund.

Section 13. Bond Counsel. The legal services of the law firm of Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP are hereby retained. Those legal services shall be in the nature of legal advice and recommendations as to the documents and the proceedings in connection with the authorization, sale and issuance of the Notes and securities issued in renewal of the Notes and rendering at delivery related legal opinions, all as set forth in the form of engagement letter from that firm which is now on file in the office of the Clerk of Council. In providing those legal services, as an independent contractor and in an attorney-client relationship, that firm shall not exercise any administrative discretion on behalf of this City in

the formulation of public policy, expenditure of public funds, enforcement of laws, rules and regulations of the State of Ohio, any county or municipal corporation or of this City, or the execution of public trusts. For those legal services, that firm shall be paid just and reasonable compensation and shall be reimbursed for actual out-of-pocket expenses incurred in providing those legal services. To the extent they are not paid or reimbursed pursuant to the Note Purchase Agreement and/or the Certificate of Award, the Finance Director is authorized and directed to make appropriate certification as to the availability of funds for those fees and any reimbursement and to issue an appropriate order for their timely payment as written statements are submitted by that firm. The amounts necessary to pay those fees and any reimbursement are hereby appropriated from the proceeds of the Notes, if available, and otherwise from available moneys in the General Fund.

Section 14. Municipal Advisor. The services of Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors, LLC, as municipal advisor, are hereby retained. The municipal advisory services shall be in the nature of financial advice and recommendations in connection with the issuance and sale of the Notes. In rendering those municipal advisory services, as an independent contractor, that firm shall not exercise any administrative discretion on behalf of the City in the formulation of public policy, expenditure of public funds, enforcement of laws, rules and regulations of the State of Ohio, the City or any other political subdivision, or the execution of public trusts. That firm shall be paid just and reasonable compensation for those municipal advisory services and shall be reimbursed for the actual out-of-pocket expenses it incurs in rendering those municipal advisory services. To the extent they are not paid or reimbursed pursuant to the Note Purchase Agreement and/or the Certificate of Award, the Finance Director is authorized and directed to make appropriate certification as to the availability of funds for those fees and any reimbursement and to issue an appropriate order for their timely payment as written statements are submitted by that firm. The amounts necessary to pay those fees and any reimbursement are hereby appropriated from the proceeds of the Notes, if available, and otherwise from available moneys in the General Fund.

Section 15. Satisfaction of Conditions for Note Issuance. This City Council determines that all acts and conditions necessary to be done or performed by the City or to have been met precedent to and in the issuing of the Notes in order to make them legal, valid and binding general obligations of the City have been performed and have been met, or will at the time of delivery of the Notes have been performed and have been met, in regular and due form as required by law; that the full faith and credit and general property taxing power (as described in Section 9) of the City are pledged for the timely payment of the debt charges on the Notes; and that no statutory or constitutional limitation of indebtedness or taxation will have been exceeded in the issuance of the Notes.

Section 16. Compliance with Open Meeting Requirements. This City Council finds and determines that all formal actions of this City Council and any of its committees concerning and relating to the passage of this Ordinance were taken in an open meeting of this City Council or any of its committees, and that all deliberations of this City Council and of any of its committees that resulted in those formal actions were in meetings open to the public, all in compliance with the law,

including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 17. Effective Date. The second reading is hereby waived and this Ordinance is declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, property, health, safety, or welfare of the City, and for the further reason that this Ordinance is required to be immediately effective in order to issue and sell the Notes, which is necessary to enable the City to timely retire the Outstanding Notes and thereby preserve its credit; wherefore, this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon passage by this City Council and on the date of signature of approval by the Mayor.