



Coffee with Council – Public Outreach Meetings

May 30, 2015, 9:00 a.m.

Location: Panera Bread – 91 N. Hamilton Rd.

Topics of Discussion

New Pastor

- Resident said he is a new pastor in the area and wanted to stop by and meet the Council members.
- Wanted to know how to serve the community and how they can partner with people to help out and be responsive to everyone
- Said they will help with GRIN
- Council said being involved in a neighborhood and having public engagement

Minimum Water & Sewer Bill Charges

- Resident asked what the minimum charge for their water and sewer bill is and when legislation changed that there was a minimum fee.
- Another resident said his son was charged when he traveled and would turn off his water but would still incur a fee.

Hamilton Road North of Morse Road Widening

- Near Meijer the road will be widened; projected outlook date is 2018.

Strategic Development Plan Launched

- Will review in the next month or so; review of what work has been done
- Bring some new undated guiding principles for Economic Development for the City to identify areas that can be invested and/or developed
- Bring really good tools to the City's Development Department.

AEP Leaving

- Resident asked when AEP is leaving; Council said looking to fill that building; they moved because they need more room to integrate with other businesses.

Taxes

- Resident said they looked at taxes and the City received \$114 and the school received \$3,000; pointing out Gahanna does not receive the bulk of taxes being paid but you do not realize it unless you see the bill.

TIF's

- Resident asked about TIF's
- TIF's establish property value and are used for infrastructure.
- They are improvements to a property; a portion of the taxes would stay in City and keep money locally.
- Looking at different ways to generate revenue for the City, not a new tax.

Long Term Development

- See the next five to ten years; there will be issues to address; will look to Strategic Economic Development Plan
- Complex answer; too much commercial and too much residential; need to evolve and allow for economics; would like to see new enterprises in the community
- City is looking to plan
- Looking at how to drive activity on west side no matter where something sits or how old it is
- If the property owner is willing to invest there is value; looking at it is effective for community to take on risk so they can see a return; continuing and evolving initiative; looking at ways to address vitality

Open Town Hall

- Explained the process
- Encouraged people to get engaged and participate

Sidewalk issues last year

- Bringing back some issues that need addressed; last year issues were brought up about sidewalks and City resolved it at public outreach meetings (Coffee with Council)

Parks Master Plan

- New director will continue to invest and collectively use our parks and recreation area
- We will have soccer and baseball presence
- Always events for racing and other events

Senior Center Closing

- Closing again in June for one day
- Resident expressed concerns with programs taking over Sr. Center.
- Resident wanted information on why the center was closed for a week in April and not used by the City.

Bond Sale

- Good rate was given
- Allows us to get a good return on street programs
- Currently implementing street and sidewalk programs as they are badly needed
- Streets and curbs are on the 25 year rebuild program and it is called the "Detroit Rebuild"
- The way some streets are built they are draining poorly and causing roads to deteriorate and crumble.
- The program information is available on the website.

Recruiting New Businesses

- Working hard to recruit new businesses and fill those spaces

ODOT

- Pushed back repaving US-62 for an additional year.