

City of Gahanna

*200 South Hamilton Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230*



Meeting Minutes

Friday, January 2, 2009

5:45 PM

Organizational & Regular Meeting at City Hall

City Council

Thomas C. Evers, President of Council

Thomas R. Kneeland, Vice President of Council

Beryl D. Anderson

Shane Ewald

John R. McAlister

Nancy McGregor

David L. Samuel

Isobel L. Sherwood, MMC, Clerk of Council

A. CALL TO ORDER - Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call:

The Honorable Mayor Rebecca W. Stinchcomb called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. pursuant to Charter and rules of Council and delivered an Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Thomas C. Evers, Thomas R. Kneeland, Nancy R. McGregor, Shane W. Ewald, John McAlister, Beryl D. Anderson and David L. Samuel

B. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT:

A motion was made by Kneeland, seconded by Anderson, to appoint Thomas C. Evers as President of Council for the year 2009. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 President of Council Evers, Kneeland, McGregor, Ewald,
Anderson, McAlister and Samuel

C. ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT:

A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Samuel, to appoint Thomas R. Kneeland Vice President of Council for the year 2009. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 President of Council Evers, Kneeland, McGregor, Ewald,
Anderson, McAlister and Samuel

D. ESTABLISH TIME AND DAY: Regular Council Meetings; Committee Meetings:

A motion was made by Kneeland, seconded by Ewald, that Regular Council Meetings be held on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month, unless Monday falls on a holiday, then on the next Tuesday; Council Committees to be held on the 2nd & 4th Monday of each month, unless Monday falls on a holiday, then on the next Tuesday. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 President of Council Evers, Kneeland, McGregor, Ewald,
Anderson, McAlister and Samuel

ADOPTION OF RULES OF COUNCIL:

A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Ewald, to adopt Rules of Council as amended and dated October 1, 2007. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 President of Council Evers, Kneeland, McGregor, Ewald,
Anderson, McAlister and Samuel

E. APPOINTMENTS:**Board of Zoning and Building Appeals:**

A motion was made by Kneeland, seconded by Samuel, to appoint Don Jensen to the Board of Zoning and Building Appeals for a 3 year term. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 President of Council Evers, Kneeland, McGregor, Ewald,
Anderson, McAlister and Samuel

Civil Service Commission:

A motion was made by Kneeland, seconded by Ewald, to appoint Katherine Essex to the

Civil Service Commission for a 3 year term. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 President of Council Evers, Kneeland, McGregor, Ewald, Anderson, McAlister and Samuel

Landscape Board:

A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Ewald, to appoint Ken Shepherd to the Landscape Board for a 3 year term. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 President of Council Evers, Kneeland, McGregor, Ewald, Anderson, McAlister and Samuel

Parks & Recreation Board:

A motion was made by Samuel, seconded by Anderson, to appoint Eric Miller to the Parks & Recreation Board for a 3 year term. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 President of Council Evers, Kneeland, McGregor, Ewald, Anderson, McAlister and Samuel

Planning Commission:

A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Samuel, to appoint Kristin Rosan to the Planning Commission for a 3 year term. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 President of Council Evers, Kneeland, McGregor, Ewald, Anderson, McAlister and Samuel

Planning Commission:

A motion was made by Samuel, seconded by Kneeland, to appoint Dave Thom to the Planning Commission for a 3 year term. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 President of Council Evers, Kneeland, McGregor, Ewald, Anderson, McAlister and Samuel

Mayoral Appointments:

Mayor Stinchcomb announced the following appointments:

Board of Zoning and Building Appeals, 3 year term - Debra Mecozzi

Civil Service Commission, 3 year term - Paul Leithart

Landscape Board, 3 year term - Jane Allinder

Parks & Recreation Board, 3 year term - Luke Messinger

Planning Commission, 3 year term - Robert Westwood

Community Urban Redevelopment Corp., 3 year term - Mayor stated she hoped to have this appointment by the next meeting.

Mayoral Appointments - To Be Confirmed by Council:

Community Improvement Corporation - Mayor stated she hoped to bring this forward for the next meeting.

MR-0001-2009

Motion Resolution to confirm the Mayor's appointments of Karna Anthony and Sadicka White as resident members of the Tax Incentive Review Council to fill 3 year terms ending December 31, 2011.

A motion was made by Kneeland, seconded by Anderson, that this matter be Approved.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 President of Council Evers, Kneeland, McGregor, Ewald,
Anderson, McAlister and Samuel

MR-0002-2009

Motion Resolution to confirm the Mayor's appointment of Dewitt Harrell to fill a 3 year term on the Income Tax Board of Review; said term expiring December 31, 2011.

**A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Kneeland, that this matter be Approved.
The motion carried by the following vote:**

Yes 7 President of Council Evers, Kneeland, McGregor, Ewald,
Anderson, McAlister and Samuel

City Attorney Appointment - C.U.R.C. Board:

Weber announced his reappointment of Alvin J. McKenna to a 3 year term.

F. COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES:

Evers announced the following appointments:

*Community Improvement Corporation - Evers and Kneeland.
Mid Ohio Regional Planning Commission - Anderson and McGregor
Office and Industrial Incentive Program - Kneeland and Samuel*

Gahanna Jefferson Board of Education: Rotating - as follows:

*January 8 - Samuel
February 12 - McGregor
March 12 - Samuel
April 9 - Anderson
May 14 - Evers
June 11 - Ewald
July 9 - Kneeland
August 13 - McAlister
September 10 - McGregor
October 8 - Samuel
November 12 - Anderson
December 10 - Evers*

G. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

Evers stated committees would be the same as last year and the following assignments are made:

*Public Service & Safety Committee - McGregor, Temporary Chair, Samuel, Ewald
Development & Parks Committee - McAlister, Temporary Chair, Anderson, Kneeland
Committee of the Whole - all members of Council with Kneeland as Chair.
Finance Committee - all members of Council with Ewald as Temporary Chair*

H. SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Evers stated there are no special committees at this time.

I. ADJOURNMENT OF ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING: 5:58 p.m. - Motion by Anderson**J. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER: 5:59 p.m.**

K. HEARING OF VISITORS.

Charlie Wise, Gahanna Jefferson Board of Education, wished everyone a Happy New Year; presented a year in review; the old Kroger site purchase was the biggest thing on our plate; selected Bird Houk Architects to work on that with us; full enrollment at every school; teaching Mandarin Chinese in some elementary schools; new Assistant Superintendent was hired; we have new administrators at Middle School West, Middle School East, and the High School; established an oversight committee as well as a green committee; will look at opportunities to reduce carbon footprint as we move forward; received an effective report card rating on state report card; challenges we are looking at will be the land lease negotiations with Stonehenge; program development for new facility; demolition of that old building should take place very soon; we are dealing with same issues as you on state budget cuts; cuts are coming to education portion we're sure; look forward to continue working with City; thank you for your service and time.

L. INTRODUCTIONS AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE:**Ordinances - To Be Introduced and Assigned to Committee:**

Ordinances introduced, by title, by Kneeland.

ORD-0002-2009

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH FRANKLIN SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT FOR EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION CONTROL AND INSPECTION FOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS FOR 2009; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Introduced

ORD-0003-2009

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH FRANKLIN SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT FOR GAHANNA WORKING AGREEMENT WITH REGARD TO EPA STORMWATER REQUIREMENTS OF OUR NPDES PERMIT.

Introduced

ORD-0004-2009

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH STANTEC CONSULTING SERVICES, INC., FOR DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE US 62 AND STYGLER ROAD IMPROVEMENTS; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

Introduced

ORD-0011-2009

TO ACCEPT THE ANNEXATION OF 6.3+/- ACRES FROM JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP TO THE CITY OF GAHANNA, OHIO, LOCATED AT 3891 CLOTTS ROAD; REQUESTED BY CITY ATTORNEY THOMAS L. WEBER, AGENT FOR LAND OWNER BILLY G. & VANIETA DECKER

Introduced, to Development & Parks

M. CONSENT AGENDA:**Minutes - To Approve:**

2009-0001

1) January 2, 2009 Organizational & Regular Meeting Minutes

This Matter was Approved, on the Consent Agenda.

Ordinance: Introduce, Waive Second Reading, and Adopt:

ORD-0001-2009

TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA, OHIO DURING THE FISCAL YEAR 2009.

This Matter was Introduced, Second Reading Waived, and Adopted on the Consent Agenda

Ordinance: Introduce, Waive Second Reading, Adopt as Emergency:**ORD-0005-2009**

TO CREATE THE FULL-TIME UNCLASSIFIED POSITION OF COORDINATOR - POLICE DEPARTMENT; TO ESTABLISH DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

This Matter was Introduced, Second Reading Waived, and Adopted as an Emergency on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0006-2009

TO ESTABLISH THE RATES OF PAY AND BENEFITS FOR UNCLASSIFIED PERSONNEL OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2009 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2009; TO REPEAL ORD-0294-2007; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

This Matter was Introduced, Second Reading Waived, and Adopted as an Emergency on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0008-2009

TO ESTABLISH THE RATES OF PAY AND BENEFITS FOR SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2009 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2009; TO REPEAL ORD-0287-2007; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

This Matter was Introduced, Second Reading Waived, and Adopted as an Emergency on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0010-2009

TO ESTABLISH THE RATES OF PAY AND BENEFITS FOR COMMAND STAFF PERSONNEL OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2009 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2009; TO REPEAL ORD-0288-2007; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

This Matter was Introduced, Second Reading Waived, and Adopted as an Emergency on the Consent Agenda.

ORD-0012-2009

TO ESTABLISH THE RATES OF PAY FOR PART-TIME PERSONNEL OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2009 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2009; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

This Matter was Introduced, Second Reading Waived, and Adopted as an Emergency on the Consent Agenda.

Passed The Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Kneeland, seconded by McAlister, including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 President of Council Evers, Kneeland, McGregor, Ewald, Anderson, McAlister and Samuel

End of the Consent Agenda**N. CORRESPONDENCE AND ACTIONS:**

Clerk - Legal: None.

Council: None.

O. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:

ORD-0007-2009

TO CREATE THE FULL-TIME UNCLASSIFIED POSITION OF ASSISTANT CITY ADMINISTRATOR; TO ESTABLISH DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Introduced, by title, by Kneeland.

Introduced

A motion was made by Kneeland, seconded by Anderson, that this matter be Waive Second Reading. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 President of Council Evers, Kneeland, McGregor, Ewald, Anderson, McAlister and Samuel

A motion was made by Kneeland, seconded by Anderson, that this matter be Introduced, Second Reading Waived, and Adopted as an Emergency. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 6 President of Council Evers, Kneeland, Ewald, Anderson, McAlister and Samuel

No 1 McGregor

ORD-0009-2009

TO CREATE THE FULL-TIME UNCLASSIFIED POSITION OF PUBLIC INFORMATION MANAGER; TO ESTABLISH DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Introduced, by title, by Kneeland

Introduced

Samuel stated we need to recognize success of democracy and the need for a voice and planning for the future; this important position will do that; transparency has been mentioned in the past; this position will help that; lot of positive things going on in Gahanna; think we can all agree that this is something we need; we need to help reach all age groups; need to have a professional person doing this work for us; this position will be providing a clearing house or a two way bridge for communications; citizens want it; they want to trust in government; from all I have seen in business management, communications is one of the most important in making information available to the public; ask you to adopt this ordinance.

McAlister stated he voiced favor of this in committee; comment wanted to make is that this person is charged with reporting honestly and effectively not only the good but everything we need to communicate; want the warts and pimples also; need to guard against a spinmaster instead of an honest communicator.

Ewald stated that because of economy did not support at first; did change my mind; information note Samuel's comment about business management; this position will allow us to reach residents in ways that we haven't before; key factor that newspapers are going out of business left and right; people are not reading papers; circulation is down; need more effective way to reach our residents; need to adapt and this position will allow us to effectively communicate; will support.

Anderson stated she echoed the sentiments previously stated; this position will allow us to communicate timely; opportunities that need to be disseminated and be able to get information in timely fashion; oftentimes they don't know where to get information; this

will provide for multiple vehicles that people can get information; that is key; have supported all along; having served on Communications Committee, also hope that we will get a person with background in communications as well as having the contacts; live in a global village; more information out there the better; reference the Cincinnati Enquirer article that Karen Eylon sent us; note that outreach throughout the state is key as well as global; this person will need to have background and knowledge as well as relationships.

Kneeland stated he agreed with everything said; served on Communications Committee; was a time I was wavering due to economy; important thing for me was when Mayor's staff said they were willing to forgo funding for other projects because they feel this is more important; knew that if the Chief of Police could say that, it was huge for me; thank staff for bearing with us as we deliberated.

McGregor stated she feels that at some point the position will be necessary but with economy the way it is and the removal of equipment out of the budget and a cut in the street program, not sure that time is now; we all get multiple communications from PIO in Columbus which we automatically delete; with the economy so unsure can't support adding this position at this time; also if you think warts and pimples will be shown, I sincerely doubt that; believe that is an unrealistic expectation.

A motion was made by Kneeland, seconded by Anderson, that this matter be Waive Second Reading. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes	7	President of Council Evers, Kneeland, McGregor, Ewald, Anderson, McAlister and Samuel
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A motion was made by Kneeland, seconded by Anderson, that this matter be Introduced, Second Reading Waived, and Adopted as an Emergency. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes	6	President of Council Evers, Kneeland, Ewald, Anderson, McAlister and Samuel
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No	1	McGregor
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P. OFFICIAL REPORTS:

Mayor:

Stinchcomb stated that on consent agenda was the 2009 appropriations; yes, it was a tight budget but it was balanced; we have been a conservative city and we watch our dollars closely; will continue to do that; appreciate Council's support ; on behalf of staff thank Council for various salary ordinances; we are primarily a service agency; here to serve our citizens and need to continue to invest in the wonderful employees we have working for us; thank you for your support; look forward to meeting with Evers and Kneeland in the next few weeks; Happy New Year; see you at committee meetings.

City Attorney:

Weber wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Q. COUNCIL COMMENT

Ewald stated he wished to thank staff for all their hard work last year; many consistently stay after hours; is amazing how much work that our staff in the City does; also appreciate our clerk's staff; makes our job easier; thanks to all our staff in the Council office; ran very smooth last year in tough economic times; this year coming up

we will see how we fare; Happy New Year.

Samuel wished everyone a Happy New Year; express my appreciation for help from Mayor, City Attorney and fellow Council members in my first year; also to the clerk and Service people for answering questions I might have; has been a great experience; really enthusiastic in looking forward to 2009.

Anderson stated she would add to that list of gratitude the citizenry that we have; can't believe a year has gone by so quickly; appreciate all the support and look forward to this next year; ask that you support the high school with their Winter Concert on January 11; I will be joining them in narrating Lincoln's portrait in honor of Lincoln's 200th birthday; really excited about this.

Kneeland thanked colleagues for allowing me to be Vice President this year; last year was a good year and we got a lot accomplished; looking forward to this year as a very positive project oriented year.

Evers wished everyone a Happy New Year; thank you for coming; thank colleagues for electing me President; looking forward to a fruitful and prosperous 2009; looking forward to working with Mayor; talked to Clerk today and asked that we not have assigned seats as we have for the past couple of years; asked her to rotate our seats; provide some opportunity so we don't get in a rut; Clerk will randomly put names out for an element of surprise; see that Tara Stubbs-Figurski is in audience; she is leaving us and moving off to Bexley; thank you for all you have done; has been a pleasure to work with you and you will be missed.

R. ADJOURNMENT: 6:17 p.m. - Motion by Anderson.

Donna L. Jernigan, CMC
Senior Deputy Clerk of Council

APPROVED by the City Council, this
day of 2009.

Nancy R. McGregor