

CHAPTER 161  
Income Tax

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CROSS REFERENCES

Power to levy income tax - see Ohio Const., Art. XVIII, Sec. 3

Payroll deductions - see Ohio R.C. 9.42

Municipal income taxes - see Ohio R.C. Ch. 718

161.01 PURPOSE.

To provide funds for municipal purposes, there shall be and is hereby levied a tax on qualifying wages, commissions and other compensation, and on net profits and other taxable income as hereinafter provided.  
(Ord. 0257-2003. Passed 12-15-03.)

## 161.02 DEFINITIONS.

(a) As used in this chapter, the following words shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except as and if the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

(1) "Adjusted federal taxable income" means a C corporation's federal taxable income before net operating losses and special deductions as determined under the Internal Revenue Code, adjusted as follows:

A. Deduct intangible income to the extent included in federal taxable income. The deduction shall be allowed regardless of whether the intangible income relates to assets used in a trade or business or assets held for the production of income.

B. Add an amount equal to five percent (5%) of intangible income deducted under division (a)(1)A. of this section, but excluding that portion of intangible income directly related to the sale, exchange, or other disposition of property described in section 1221 of the Internal Revenue Code.

C. Add any losses allowed as a deduction in the computation of federal taxable income if the losses directly relate to the sale, exchange, or other disposition of an asset described in section 1221 or 1231 of the Internal Revenue Code;

D. 1. Except as provided in division (a)(1)D.2. of this section, deduct income and gain included in federal taxable income to the extent the income and gain directly relate to the sale, exchange, or other disposition of an asset described in section 1221 or 1231 of the Internal Revenue Code;

2. Division (a)(1)D.1. of this section does not apply to the extent the income or gain is income or gain described in section 1245 or 1250 of the Internal Revenue Code.

E. Add taxes on or measured by net income allowed as a deduction in the computation of federal taxable income.

F. In the case of a real estate investment trust and regulated investment company, add all amounts with respect to dividends to, distributions to, or amounts set aside for or credited to the benefit of investors and allowed as a deduction in the computation of federal taxable income;

G. If the taxpayer is not a C corporation and is not an individual, the taxpayer shall compute adjusted federal taxable income as if the taxpayer were a C corporation, except;

1. Guaranteed payments and other similar amounts paid or accrued to a partner, former partner, member or former member shall not be allowed as a deductible expense; and

2. Amounts paid or accrued to a qualified self-employed retirement plan with respect to an owner or owner-employee of the taxpayer, amounts paid or accrued to or for health insurance for an owner or owner-employee, and amounts paid or accrued to or for life insurance for an owner or owner-employee shall not be allowed as a deduction.

Nothing in division (a)(1) of this section shall be construed as allowing the taxpayer to add or deduct any amount more than once or shall be construed as allowing any taxpayer to deduct any amount paid to or accrued for purposes of federal self-employment tax.

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as limiting or removing the ability of any municipal corporation to administer, audit, and enforce the provisions of its municipal income tax.

(2) "Association" means a partnership, limited partnership, S corporation or any other form of unincorporated enterprise, owned by one or more persons.

(3) "Banking day" means that part of any day on which a bank is open to the public for carrying on substantially all of its banking functions.

(4) "Board of Review" (Board of Appeals, Board of Adjudication, etc) means the Board created by and constituted as provided for in Section 161.14.

(5) "Business" means an enterprise, activity, profession or undertaking of any nature conducted for profit or ordinarily conducted for profit, whether by an individual, partnership, association, corporation or any other entity, including but not limited to the renting or leasing of property, real, personal or mixed.

(6) "Corporation" means a corporation or joint stock association organized under the laws of the United States, the State of Ohio, or any other state, territory, or foreign country or dependency.

(7) "Domicile" means a principal residence that the taxpayer intends to use for an indefinite time and to which whenever he is absent he intends to return.

(8) "Employee" means one who works for wages, salary, commission or other types of compensation in the services of an employer.

(9) "Employer" means an individual, partnership, association, corporation, governmental body, unit or agency, or any other entity, whether or not organized for profits, who or that employs one or more persons on a salary, wage, commission or other compensation basis.

(10) "Fiscal year" means an accounting period of twelve (12) months or less ending on any day other than December 31.

(11) "Form 5754, Statement by Person(s) Receiving Gambling Winnings" means Internal Revenue Service Form 5754 filed by a taxpayer pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code.

(12) "Form 1099-MISC, Miscellaneous Income" means Internal Revenue Service Form 1099-Misc filed by a taxpayer pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code.

(13) "Form W-2, Wage and Tax Statement" means Internal Revenue Service Form W-2 filed by a taxpayer pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code.

(14) "Form W-2G, Certain Gambling Winnings" means Internal Revenue Service Form W-2G filed by a taxpayer pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code.

(15) "Form 2106" means Internal Revenue Service Form 2106 filed by a taxpayer pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code.

(16) "Generic form" means an electronic or paper form designed for reporting estimated municipal income taxes and annual municipal income tax liability or for filing a refund claim that is not prescribed by a particular municipal corporation for the reporting of that municipal corporation's tax on income.

(17) "Gross receipts" means total income of taxpayers from whatever source derived.

(18) "Income from a pass-through entity" means partnership income of partners, membership interests of members of a limited liability company, distributive shares of shareholders of an S corporation, or other distributive or proportionate ownership shares of income from other pass-through entities.

(19) "Intangible income" means income of any of the following types: income yield, interest, capital gains, dividends, or other income arising from the ownership, sale, exchange, or other disposition of intangible property including, but not limited to, investments, deposits, money or credits as those terms are defined in Chapter 5701 of the Ohio Revised Code, and patents, copyrights, trademarks, trade names, investments in real estate investment trusts, investments in regulated investment companies, and appreciation on deferred

compensation. "Intangible income" does not include prizes, awards, or other income associated with any lottery winnings or other similar games of chance.

(20) "Internal Revenue Code" means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C. 1, as amended.

(21) "Internet" means the international computer network of both Federal and nonfederal interoperable packet switched data networks, including the graphical subnetwork known as the World Wide Web.

(22) "Joint Economic Development District" means districts created under the Ohio R.C. 715.70 through 715.83 as amended from time to time.

(23) "Limited liability company" means a limited liability company formed under Chapter 1705 of the Ohio Revised Code or under the laws of another state.

(24) "Municipality" means the City of Gahanna.

(25) "Net profit" for a taxpayer other than an individual means adjusted federal taxable income and "net profit" for a taxpayer who is an individual means the individual's profit, other than amounts described in division (F) of Section 161.03, required to be reported on schedule C, schedule E, or schedule F.

(26) "Nonqualified deferred compensation plan" means a compensation plan described in section 3121(v)(2)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(27) "Nonresident" means an individual domiciled outside the Municipality.

(28) "Nonresident incorporated business entity" means an incorporated business entity not having an office or place of business within the Municipality.

(29) "Nonresident unincorporated business entity" means an unincorporated business entity not having an office or place of business within the Municipality.

(30) "Other payer" means any person, other than an individual's employer or the employer's agent that pays an individual any amount included in the federal gross income of the individual.

(31) "Owner" means a partner of a partnership, a member of a limited liability company, a shareholder of an S corporation, or other person with an ownership interest in a pass-through entity.

(32) "Owner's proportionate share", with respect to each owner of a pass-through entity, means the ratio of (a) the owner's income from the pass-through entity that is subjected to taxation by the municipal corporation, to (b) the total income from that entity of all owners whose income from the entity is subject to taxation by that municipal corporation.

(33) "Pass-through entity" means a partnership, limited liability company, S corporation, or any other class of entity the income or profits from which are given pass-through treatment under the Internal Revenue Code.

(34) "Person" includes individuals, firms, companies, business trusts, estates, trusts, partnerships, limited liability companies, associations, corporations, governmental entities, and any other entity. Whenever used in any clause prescribing and imposing a penalty, the term "person" as applied to any unincorporated entity shall mean the parties or members thereof, and as applied to corporations, the officers thereof.

(35) "Place of business" means any bona fide office, other than a mere statutory office, factory, warehouse, or other space, which is occupied and used by the taxpayer in carrying on any business activity, individually or through one or more of his regular employees regularly in attendance.

(36) "Principal place of business" means in the case of an employer having headquarters' activities at a place of business within a taxing municipality, the place of business at which the headquarters is situated. In the case of any employer not having its headquarters' activities at a place of business within a taxing municipality, the term means the largest place of business located in a taxing municipality.

(37) "Qualified plan" means a retirement plan satisfying the requirements under section 401 of the Internal Revenue Code as amended.

(38) "Qualifying wages" means wages, as defined in section 3121(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, without regard to any wage limitations, adjusted in accordance with section 718.03 (A)(2) of the Ohio Revised Code.

(39) "Resident" means an individual domiciled in the Municipality.

(40) "Resident incorporated business entity" means an incorporated business entity whose office, place of operations or business situs is within the Municipality.

(41) "Resident unincorporated business entity" means an unincorporated business entity having an office or place of business within the Municipality.

(42) "Return preparer" means any person other than a taxpayer that is authorized by a taxpayer to complete or file an income tax return, report, or other document for or on behalf of the taxpayer.

(43) "Rules and Regulations" means the Rules and Regulations as set forth in this Chapter.

(44) "Schedule C" means Internal Revenue Service schedule C filed by a taxpayer pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code.

(45) "Schedule E" means Internal Revenue Service schedule E filed by a taxpayer pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code.

(46) "Schedule F" means Internal Revenue Service schedule F filed by a taxpayer pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code.

(47) "S corporation" means a corporation that has made an election under subchapter S of Chapter 1 of Subtitle A of the Internal Revenue Code for its taxable year.

(48) "Tax Administrator" means the person appointed to administer the Municipality's Income Tax Ordinance and to direct the operation of the Municipal Income Tax Department or the person executing the duties of the Tax Administrator.

(49) "Taxable income" means qualifying wages paid by an employer or employers, compensation for personal services, other income defined by statute as taxable, and/or adjusted federal taxable income from the operation of a business, profession, or other enterprise or activity adjusted in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter.

(50) "Taxable year" means the corresponding tax reporting period as prescribed for the taxpayer under the Internal Revenue Code. In the case of a return for a fractional part of a year, the period for which such return is required to be made.

(51) "Taxing municipality" means a municipality levying a tax on income earned by nonresidents working within such municipality or on income earned by its residents.

(52) "Taxpayer" means a person subject to a tax on income levied by a municipal corporation. "Taxpayer" does not include any person that is a disregarded entity or a qualifying subchapter S subsidiary for federal income tax purposes, but "taxpayer" includes any other person who owns the disregarded entity or qualifying subchapter S subsidiary.

(b) The singular shall include the plural, the masculine shall include the feminine and the neuter, and all periods set forth shall be inclusive of the first and last mentioned dates.

(Ord. 0160-2006. Passed 8-7-06.)

#### 161.03 IMPOSITION OF TAX.

(a) Basis of Imposition. Subject to provisions of Section 161.01, an annual tax shall be, and is hereby levied on and after January 1, 1977, at the rate of one and one-half percent (1- 1/2%) per annum upon the following:

(1) On all qualifying wages, salaries, commissions, other compensation, including sick, vacation, severance and any pay as part of an employee buyout or wage continuation plan, lottery winnings, prize moneys, tips and gratuities, and other taxable income earned or received, accrued or any way set apart unto residents of the Municipality;

(2) On all qualifying wages, salaries, commissions, other compensation, including sick, vacation, severance and any pay as part of an employee buyout or wage continuation plan, lottery winnings, prize moneys, tips and gratuities, and other taxable income earned or received, accrued or any way set apart unto nonresidents for work done, or services performed or rendered, in the Municipality;

(3) On the portion attributable to the Municipality of the net profits earned by all resident unincorporated businesses, pass-through entities, professions or other activities, derived from work done or services performed or rendered, and businesses or other activities conducted in the Municipality. On the portion of the distributive share of the net profits earned by a resident owner of a resident unincorporated business entity or pass-through entity not attributable to the Municipality and not levied against such unincorporated business entity or pass-through entity.

(4) On the portion attributable to the Municipality on the net profits by all nonresident unincorporated businesses, pass-through entities, professions or other activities, derived from work done or services performed or rendered and business or other activities conducted in the Municipality, whether or not such unincorporated business entity has an office or place of business in the Municipality. On the portion of the distributive share of the net profits earned by a resident owner of a nonresident unincorporated business entity or pass-through entity not attributable to the Municipality and not levied against such unincorporated business entity or pass-through entity.

(5) On the portion attributable to the Municipality of the net profits earned by all corporations, estates and trusts that are not pass-through entities from work done or services performed or rendered and business or other activities conducted in the Municipality, whether or not such corporations have an office or place of business in the Municipality.

(6) On all income received as gambling winnings as reported on IRS Form W-2G, Form 5754 and/or any other Form required by the Internal Revenue Service that reports winnings from gambling, prizes and lottery winnings. Gambling losses are not allowed as a deduction from income unless the taxpayer is listed as a professional gambler.

(b) **Businesses Both In and Outside the Municipal Boundaries.** This section does not apply to taxpayers that are subject to and required to file reports under Chapter 5745 of the Ohio Revised Code. Except as otherwise provided in division (D) of this section, net profit from a business or profession conducted both within and without the boundaries of a municipal corporation shall be considered as having a taxable situs in such municipal corporation for purposes of municipal income taxation in the same proportion as the average ratio of the following:

(1) Multiply the entire net profits of the business by a business apportionment percentage to be determined by:

A. The average original cost of the real and tangible personal property owned or used by the taxpayer in the business or profession in such municipal corporation during the taxable period to the average original cost of all of the real and tangible personal property owned or used by the taxpayer in the business or profession during the same period, wherever situated.

As used in the preceding paragraph, real property shall include property rented or leased by the taxpayer and the value of such property shall be determined by multiplying the annual rental thereon by eight.

B. Wages, salaries, and other compensation paid during the taxable period to persons employed in the business or profession for services performed in such municipal corporation to wages, salaries, and other compensation paid during the same period to persons employed in the business or profession, wherever their services are performed, excluding compensation that is not taxable by the municipal corporation under section 718.011 of the Ohio Revised Code.

C. Gross receipts of the business or profession from sales made and services performed during the taxable period in such municipal corporation to gross receipts of the business or profession during the same period from sales and services, wherever made or performed.

D. Adding together the percentages determined in accordance with subsections (b)(1) A,B, and C hereof, or such of the aforesaid percentages as are applicable to the particular taxpayer and dividing the total so obtained by the number of percentages used in deriving such total.

1. A factor is applicable even though it may be apportioned entirely in or outside the Municipality.

2. Provided however, that in the event a just and equitable result cannot be obtained under the formula provided for herein, the Tax Administrator, upon application of the taxpayer, shall have the authority to substitute other factors or methods calculated to effect a fair and proper apportionment.

(c) As used in division (b) of this section, "sales made in a municipal corporation" mean:

(1) All sales of tangible personal property delivered within such municipal corporation regardless of where title passes if shipped or delivered from a stock of goods within such municipal corporation.

(2) All sales of tangible personal property delivered within such municipal corporation regardless of where title passes even though transported from a point outside such municipal corporation if the taxpayer is regularly engaged through its own employees in the solicitation or promotion of sales within such municipal corporation and the sales result from such solicitation or promotion.

(d) Net Operating Loss (NOL).

(1) The Municipality does not allow a net operating loss carryback or carryforward.

(2) Nothing in Ohio R.C. 718.01 requires a municipal corporation to allow a net operating loss carryforward.

(3) The net operating loss of any association, pass-through entity or unincorporated business activity may not be used to offset salaries, wages, commissions, other compensation or other miscellaneous non-business taxable income.

(4) If a taxpayer is engaged in two or more taxable associations, pass-through entities or unincorporated business activities to be included in the same return, the net loss of one association or unincorporated business activity (except any portion of a loss separately reportable for municipal tax purposes to another taxing entity) may be used to offset the profits of another for purposes of arriving at overall net profits.

(e) Consolidated Returns.

(1) A consolidated return may be filed by a group of corporations who are affiliated through stock ownership if that affiliated group filed for the same tax period a consolidated return for Federal income tax purposes pursuant to section 1501 of the Internal Revenue Code. A consolidated return must include all companies that are so affiliated.

(2) Once a consolidated return has been filed for any taxable year, consolidated returns shall continue to be filed in subsequent years unless the applicable requirements of the Rules and Regulations for discontinuing the filing of consolidated returns have been met.

(f) Exclusions. The provisions of this Chapter shall not be construed as levying a tax upon the following:

(1) Proceeds from welfare benefits, unemployment insurance benefits, social security benefits, and qualified retirement plans as defined by the Internal Revenue Service.

(2) Proceeds of insurance, annuities, Workers' Compensation insurance, permanent disability benefits, compensation for damages for personal injury and like reimbursements, not including damages for loss of profits and wages.

(3) Dues, contributions and similar payments received by charitable, religious, educational organizations, or labor unions, trade or professional associations, lodges and similar organizations.

(4) Gains from involuntary conversion, cancellation of indebtedness, interest on Federal obligations and income of a decedent's estate during the period of administration (except such income from the operation of a business).

(5) Alimony paid or received.

(6) Compensation for damage to property by way of insurance or otherwise.

(7) Interest and dividends from intangible property.

(8) Military pay or allowances of members of the Armed Forces of the United States and of members of their reserve components, including the Ohio National Guard (ORC 718.01).

(9) Income of any charitable, educational, fraternal or other type of nonprofit association or organization enumerated in Ohio R.C. 718.01 to the extent that such income is derived from tax-exempt real estate, tax-exempt tangible or intangible property, or tax-exempt activities.

(10) Any association or organization falling in the category listed in the preceding paragraph receiving income from non-exempt real estate, tangible or intangible personal property, or business activities of a type ordinarily conducted for profit by taxpayers operating for profit shall not be excluded hereunder.

(11) In the event any association or organization receives taxable income as provided in the preceding paragraph from real or personal property ownership or income producing business located both within and without the corporate limits of the Municipality, it shall calculate its income apportioned to the Municipality under the method or methods provided above.

(12) If exempt for federal income tax purposes, fellowship and scholarship grants are excluded from Municipal income tax.

(13) The rental value of a home furnished to a minister of the gospel as part of his compensation, or the rental allowance paid to a minister of the gospel as part of his compensation, to the extent used by him to rent or provide a home pursuant to section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code.

(14) Compensation paid under section 3501.28 or 3501.36 of the Ohio Revised Code to a person serving as a precinct official, to the extent that such compensation does not exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) annually. Such compensation in excess of one thousand dollars may be subject to taxation. The payer of such compensation is not required to withhold Municipal tax from that compensation.

(15) Compensation paid to an employee of a transit authority, regional transit authority, or a regional transit commission created under Chapter 306 of the Ohio Revised Code for operating a transit bus or other motor vehicle for the authority or commission in or through the Municipality, unless the bus or vehicle is operated on a regularly scheduled route, the operator is subject to such tax by reason of residence or domicile in the Municipality, or the headquarters of the authority or commission is located within the Municipality.

(16) Personal earnings of any natural person under eighteen years of age.

(17) Mentally retarded and developmentally disabled employees earning less than the minimum hours wage while employed at government sponsored sheltered workshops shall be exempt from the levy of the tax provided herein with approval of the Tax Administrator.

(18) The Municipality shall not tax the compensation paid to a nonresident individual for personal services performed by the individual in the Municipality on twelve (12) or fewer days in a calendar year unless one of the following applies:

A. The individual is an employee of another person, the principal place of business of the individual's employer is located in another municipality in Ohio that imposes a tax applying to compensation paid to the individual for services paid on those days; and the individual is not liable to that other municipality for tax on the compensation paid for such services.

B. The individual is a professional entertainer or professional athlete, the promoter of a professional entertainment or sports event, or an employee of such promoter, all as may be reasonably defined by the Municipality.

(19) The income of a public utility, when that public utility is subject to the tax levied under section 5727.24 or 5727.30 of the Ohio Revised Code, except a municipal corporation may tax the following, subject to Chapter 5745 of the Ohio Revised Code:

A. The income of an electric company or combined company;

B. The income of a telephone company.

As used in division (f)(19) of this section, "combined company", "electric company", and "telephone company" have the same meanings as in section 5727.01 of the Ohio Revised Code.

(20) An S corporation shareholder's distributive share of net profits of the S corporation, other than any part of the distributive share of net profits that represents wages as defined in section 3121(a) of the Internal Revenue Code or net earnings from self-employment as defined in section 1402(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, to the extent such distributive share would not be allocated or apportioned to this State under division (B)(1) and (2) of section 5733.05 of the Ohio Revised Code if the S corporation were a corporation subject to the taxes imposed under Chapter 5733 of the Ohio Revised Code.

(21) Generally, the above noted items in this section are the only forms of income not subject to the tax. Any other income, benefits, or other forms of compensation shall be taxable.

(g) Rentals from Real Property.

(1) Rentals received by the taxpayer are to be included only if and to the extent that the rental, ownership, management or operation of the real estate from which such rentals are derived, whether so rented, managed or operated by the taxpayer individually or through agents or other representatives, constitutes a business activity of the taxpayer in whole or in part.

(2) Where the gross monthly rental of any real properties, regardless of number and value, aggregates in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per month, it shall be prima facie evidence that the rental, ownership, management or operation of such properties is a business activity of such taxpayer, and the net income of such rental properties shall be subject to tax; provided that in case of commercial property, the owner shall be considered engaged in a business activity when the rental is based on a fixed or fluctuating percentage of gross or net sales, receipts or profits of the lessee, whether or not such rental exceeds one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per month; provided further that in the case of farm property, the owner shall be considered engaged in a business activity when he shares in the crops or when the rental is based on a percentage of the gross or net receipts derived from the farm, whether or not the gross income exceeds one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per month; and provided further that the person who operates a rooming house of two or more rooms rented shall be considered in business whether or not the gross income exceeds one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per month.

(3) In determining the amount of gross monthly rental of any real property, periods during which, by reason of vacancy or any other cause, rentals are not received shall not be taken into consideration by the taxpayer.

(4) Rentals received by a taxpayer engaged in the business of buying and selling real estate shall be considered as part of business income.

(5) Real property, as the term is used in this regulation, shall include commercial property, residential property, farm property and any and all other types of real estate.

(6) In determining the taxable income from rentals, the deductible expenses shall be of the same nature, extent and amount as are allowed by the Internal Revenue Service for Federal income tax purposes.

(7) Nonresidents of Gahanna are subject to such taxation only if the real property is situated within the City. Nonresidents, in determining whether gross monthly rentals exceed one hundred dollars (\$100.00) shall take into consideration only real estate situated within Gahanna.

(8) Residents of Gahanna are subject to taxation upon the net income from rentals, to the extent above specified, regardless of the location of the real property owned.

(9) Corporations owning or managing real estate are taxable only on that portion of income derived from property located in Gahanna.  
(Ord. 0160-2006. Passed 8-7-06.)

#### 161.04 EFFECTIVE PERIOD.

Said tax shall be levied, collected and paid with respect to the salaries, wages, commissions and other compensation earned or received and shall be levied with respect to the net profits of the businesses, professional or other activities earned from and after the effective date of this Tax Code, January 1, 1977.

(Ord. 0257-2003. Passed 12-15-03.)

#### 161.05 RETURN AND PAYMENT OF TAX.

(a) On or before April 15 of each year, or if the federal income tax filing date is later, use the later federal date, every resident subject to the provisions of Section 161.03, paragraph (a) through (g) inclusive, shall, except hereinafter provided, make and file with the Tax Administrator a Municipal tax return on a form prescribed by and acceptable to the Tax Administrator, whether or not a tax is due. When the return is made for a fiscal year or other period different from the calendar year, the return shall be filed on or before the fifteenth (15th) day of the fourth (4th) month following the end of such fiscal year or period. The Tax Administrator is hereby authorized to provide by regulation that the return of an employer or employers, showing the amount of Municipal tax deducted by said employer or employers from the qualifying wages, commissions, other compensation, and other taxable income of a nonresident employee, and paid by him or them to the Tax Administrator may be accepted as the return required of a nonresident employee whose sole income, subject to tax under this Tax Code, is such qualifying wages, commissions, other compensation and other taxable income. Any return not so filed shall be subject to a penalty of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) and shall be subject to penalties and interest as provided for in Section 161.11.

(b) A husband and wife may file either separate returns or a joint return for municipal purposes, even though one of the spouses has neither taxable income nor deductions included on the municipal return regardless of whether their federal and state returns were filed separately or jointly. If a joint City return is made, the tax shall be computed on the aggregate taxable income and the liability with respect to the tax shall be joint and several.

(c) The return shall be filed with the Tax Administrator on a form or forms furnished by or obtainable upon request from the Tax Administrator, or on a generic form, if the generic form, when completed and filed, contains all of the information required to be submitted with the Municipality's prescribed return and, if the taxpayer or return preparer filing the generic form otherwise complies with the Tax Code governing the filing of returns. Returns preparers may use facsimile signatures when completing returns.

(d) The return shall set forth:

(1) The aggregate amounts of qualifying wages, commissions, other compensation received, allocated, apportioned or set aside, other income defined by statute as taxable, and gross income from any business, profession or other activity, less allowable expenses incurred in the acquisition of such gross income earned during the preceding year and subject to said tax; and

(2) The amount of the tax imposed by this Tax Code on such earnings and profits; and

(3) Such other pertinent statements, information returns, copies of federal or state tax returns and/or schedules, or other information as the Tax Administrator may require, including a statement that the figures used in the return are the figures used for federal income tax adjusted to set forth only such income as is taxable under the provisions of this chapter.

(4) Tax return may provide authorization for return preparers to communicate directly with municipal tax administrators.

(e) (1) Any taxpayer that has requested an extension for filing a federal income tax return may request an extension for the filing of a Municipal Income Tax Return by filing a copy of the taxpayer's federal extension request with the Municipal Tax Division. Any taxpayer not required to file a federal income tax return may request an extension for filing a Municipal Income Tax Return in writing. The request for extension must be filed on or before the original due date for the annual return. If the request is granted, the extended due date of the municipal income tax return shall be the last day of the month following the month to which the due date of the federal income tax return has been extended.

(2) The Tax Administrator may deny a taxpayer's request for extension if the taxpayer:

- A. Fails to timely file the request; or
- B. Fails to file a copy of the federal extension request, (if applicable); or
- C. Owes the Municipality any delinquent income tax, penalty, interest or other charge for the late payment or nonpayment of income tax; or
- D. Has failed to file any required income tax return, report, or other related document for a prior tax period.

(3) The granting of an extension for filing a Municipal tax return does not extend the due date as provided in this section for payment of the tax; hence, penalty and interest may apply to any unpaid tax during the period of extension at the rate set out by Section 161.03. No penalty shall be assessed in those cases in which the return is filed and the final tax paid within the extension period provided all other filing and payment requirements of the Tax Code have been met. Any extension by the Tax Administrator shall be granted upon the condition that declaration filing and payment requirements have been fulfilled; however, if, upon further examination it then becomes evident that declaration filing and payment requirements have not been fulfilled, penalty and interest may be assessed in full and in the same manner as though no extension had been granted.

(f) Payments With Returns.

(1) The taxpayer making a return shall, at the time of the filing thereof, pay to the Tax Administrator the amount of taxes shown as due. However, credit shall be allowed for:

- A. Any portion of the tax so due which shall have been deducted at the source pursuant to the provisions of Section 161.06; and
- B. Any portion of said tax which shall have been paid by the taxpayer pursuant to the provisions of Section 161.07; and
- C. Credit to the extent allowed by Section 161.18 for tax paid to another municipality.

(2) Subject to the limitations contained in Section 161.18 of this Tax Code, any taxpayer who has overpaid the amount of tax to which the Municipality is entitled under the provisions of this Tax Code may have such overpayment applied against any subsequent liability hereunder or, at his election indicated on the return, such overpayment (or part thereof) shall be refunded, provided that no additional taxes or refunds of less than one dollar and one cent (\$1.01) shall be collected or refunded.

(g) Amended Returns.

(1) Where necessary, an amended return shall be filed in order to report additional income and pay any additional tax due, or claim a refund of tax overpaid, subject to the requirements and/or limitations contained in Section 161.05. The Tax Administrator shall provide by regulation the format in which such amended return shall be filed. A taxpayer may not change the method of accounting or apportionment of net profits after the due date for filing the original return.

(2) Within three (3) months from the final determination of any federal tax liability affecting the taxpayer's Municipal tax liability, such taxpayer shall make and file an amended Municipal return showing income subject to the Municipal tax based upon such final determination of federal tax liability and pay any additional tax shown due thereon or make claim for refund of any overpayment.

(3) Within one (1) month when a taxpayer receives a refund from another municipality of taxes which were previously claimed as a credit or used in reducing the tax imposed by Section 161.03.

(h) Information returns, schedules and statements required to support tax returns which are incomplete without such information shall be filed within the time limits set forth for the filing of the tax returns and the failure to file such information returns, schedules and statements shall be a violation of this Tax Code. Provided, however, that the taxpayer shall have ten (10) days after notification by the Tax Administrator or his authorized representative, to file the items required by this paragraph.

(Ord. 0284-2007. Passed 12-17-07.)

161.06 COLLECTION AT SOURCE.

(a) Withholding by Employer. Each employer within, or doing business within, the Municipality who employs one or more persons on a salary, wage, commission or other compensation basis shall deduct, when such salary, wage, commission or other compensation is paid, allocated, apportioned or set aside, the tax at the rate provided in Section 161.03 hereof on the qualifying wages due by such employer to each such employee and shall, on or before the fifteenth

(15th) day of the month following such withholding, make a return and pay to the Tax Administrator the amount of taxes so deducted. The return shall be on a form or forms prescribed by or acceptable to the Tax Administrator and shall be subject to the Rules and Regulations prescribed by the Tax Administrator. Such employer shall be liable for the payment of the tax required to be deducted and withheld, whether or not such taxes have in fact been withheld. Nothing in this section prohibits an employer from withholding tax on a basis greater than qualifying wages.

(b) An employer is not required to make any withholding with respect to an individual's disqualifying disposition of an incentive stock option if, at the time of the disqualifying disposition, the individual is not an employee of the corporation with respect to whose stock the option has been issued.

(c) (1) An employee is not relieved from liability for a tax by the failure of the employer to withhold the tax as required by a municipal corporation or by the employer's exemption from the requirement to withhold the tax.

(2) The failure of an employer to remit to the municipal corporation the tax withheld relieves the employee from liability for that tax unless the employee colluded with the employer in connection with the failure to remit the tax withheld.

(d) The employer shall pay to the Municipality all income taxes withheld or required to be deducted and withheld on either a semi-monthly, monthly or quarterly basis depending on the amount of taxes involved according to the following payment schedule:

(1) Semi-monthly payments of the taxes deducted are to be made by an employer if:

A. The total taxes deducted in the prior calendar year were twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) or more, or

B. The amount of taxes deducted for any month in the preceding quarter exceeds one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

Such payment shall be paid to the Municipality within three banking days after the fifteenth and the last day of each month.

(2) Monthly payment of taxes withheld shall be made by an employer if the taxes withheld in the prior calendar year were less than twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) but more than one thousand one hundred ninety-nine dollars (\$1,199) or if the taxes withheld during any month for the preceding quarter exceeded one hundred dollars (\$100.00). Such payment shall be made to the Municipality within fifteen days after the close of each calendar month.

(3) All employers not required to make semimonthly or monthly payment of taxes withheld under divisions (1) and (2) above shall make quarterly payment no later than the last day of the month following the end of each quarter.

(e) Employer Considered as Trustee. Each employer in collecting such tax shall be deemed to hold the same, until payment is made by such employer to the Municipality, as a trustee for the benefit of the Municipality, and any such tax collected by such employer from his employees shall, until the same is paid to the Municipality, be deemed a trust fund in the hands of such employer. Each employer shall be liable for the payment of the tax required to be deducted and withheld, whether or not such tax, in fact, has been withheld.

(f) Any person who is required to withhold tax from qualifying wages shall pay all such tax to the Municipality in accordance with the provisions of this section. In the event taxes withheld from the qualifying wages of employees are not paid to the Municipality in accordance with the provisions of this section, all officers, members, managers, employees, and trustees having control or supervision of or charged with the responsibility of filing the return and making payment are jointly and severally personally liable for the tax not returned or paid to the Municipality as well as any related interest and penalties, and are also liable under the provisions of Section 161.12 hereof. The dissolution, termination, or bankruptcy of a corporation, limited liability company, or business trust does not discharge an officer's, member's, manager's, employee's, or trustee's liability for a failure of the corporation, limited liability company, or business trust to file returns or pay said taxes.

(g) Withholding Return; List of Employees. Each employer shall file a withholding tax reconciliation showing the sum total of all compensation paid all employees, the portion of which, (if any) was not subject to withholding along with an explanation for same, and the portion of which was subject to withholding together with the amount of such withholdings remitted. Such return shall include information concerning each employee from whom the Municipal tax was withheld, showing the name, address, zip code and social security number of each such employee, the total amount of compensation paid during the year and the amount of Municipal tax withheld. If the total tax withheld from any employee included tax withheld and remitted to another municipality, the amount of same shall be separately shown on the return of information to the Municipality concerning each employee. The withholding tax reconciliation shall be filed by each employer on or before January 31 following the end of such calendar year, unless written request for thirty days extension is made to and granted by the Tax Administrator. Any return not so filed shall be subject to a penalty of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per month up to a maximum of one hundred dollars (\$100.00). Any person, including corporations, partnerships, employers, estates and trusts, who files 250 or more information returns of form W-2 for any calendar year, must file these returns using magnetic media or such other process as determined acceptable to the Tax Administrator. All requirements

apply separately to both original and corrected forms. Employers filing fewer than 250 W-2's are encouraged but are not required to remit W-2 electronically.

(h) In addition to the wage reporting requirements of this section, any person required by the Internal Revenue Service to report on Form 1099-Misc. payments to individuals not treated as employees for services performed shall also report such payments to the Municipality when the services were performed in the Municipality. The information may be submitted on a listing, and shall include the name, address and social security number (or federal identification number), and the amount of the payments made. Federal form(s) 1099 may be submitted in lieu of such listing. The information shall be filed annually on or before February 28 following the end of such calendar year, unless written request for thirty days extension is made to and granted by the Tax Administrator. Any return not so filed shall be subject to a penalty of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per month up to a maximum of one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

(i) Domestic Servants. No person shall be required to withhold the tax on the qualifying wages, commissions, other compensation, and other taxable income paid domestic servants employed exclusively in or about such person's residence. However, such domestic servants shall be responsible for filing and paying their own returns and taxes.

(j) Subcontractors. In addition to the reporting requirements, any person or organization that facilitates the ability of individuals or entities to earn income within the Municipality, shall report the required information concerning these individuals or entities for services within the Municipality.  
(Ord. 0160-2006. Passed 8-7-06.)

#### 161.07 DECLARATIONS.

(a) Requirement for Filing. Every person who anticipates any taxable income which is not subject to Section 161.06 or who engages in any business, profession, enterprise or activity subject to the tax imposed by Section 161.05, and who expects to make a payment with declarations of two hundred dollars and one cent (\$200.01) or more for all declarations shall file a declaration setting forth such estimated income or the estimated profit or loss from such business activity together with the estimated tax due thereon, if any (not to be less than two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per year). However, if a person's income is wholly from qualifying wages, salaries, commissions or other compensation from which the tax will be withheld and remitted to this Municipality in accordance with Sections 161.06, and 161.18, such person need not file a declaration.

(b) Dates for Filing. Such declarations shall be filed according to one of the following three alternatives. On April 15 of each year the taxpayer must elect one of the alternatives and remain with that alternative for a minimum of one year. Such declaration shall be filed on or before April 15 of each year during the life of this chapter, or on or before the fifteenth (15th) day of the fourth (4th) month following the date the taxpayer becomes subject to tax for the first time. Those taxpayers having a fiscal year or period differing from the calendar year shall file a declaration on or before the fifteenth (15th) day of the fourth (4th) month following the start of each fiscal year or period.

(1) Alternative 1: The taxpayer shall file a declaration and payment for the first six months on April 15 of that year and for the second six months on October 31 of that year. Fiscal taxpayers shall file declaration on the fifteenth day of the fourth and tenth month of their fiscal year accordingly.

(2) Alternative 2: The taxpayer shall file a declaration and payment quarterly in accordance with the federal income tax on April 15, July 31, October 31 and January 31 of the succeeding year for a quarter of a year. Fiscal taxpayers shall pay on the fourth, sixth, ninth and the first month of the following year accordingly.

(3) Alternative 3: One declaration shall be filed, with payment on April 15 for the entire year. Fiscal taxpayers shall pay on the fifteenth of the fourth month according to their fiscal year.

(c) Forms; Credit for Tax Withheld or Paid Another Community.

(1) Such declaration shall be filed upon a form furnished by or obtainable from the Tax Administrator or an acceptable generic form, and credit shall be taken for the municipal tax to be withheld from any portion of such income. In accordance with the provisions of Section 161.18, credit may be taken for tax to be withheld and remitted to another taxing municipality.

(2) The original declaration (or any subsequent amendment thereof) may be increased or decreased on or before any subsequent payment date as provided for herein.

(3) For taxpayers that are not individuals, such declaration of estimated tax to be paid the Municipality shall be accompanied by a payment of at least twenty-two and one-half percent of the estimated annual tax and at least a similar amount shall be paid on or before the fifteenth (15th) day of the sixth, ninth and twelfth months after the beginning of the taxable year.

(4) The mere submission of a declaration estimating a tax liability shall not constitute filing unless accompanied by the required payment.

(d) Amended Declaration.

(1) A declaration may be amended at any time.

(2) In the event that an amended declaration has been filed, the unpaid balance shown due thereon shall be paid in equal installments on or before the remaining payment dates.

(e) Annual Return Required. On or before the 15th day of the fourth month of the calendar or fiscal year, an annual return shall be filed and any balance which may be due the Municipality shall be paid therewith in accordance with the provisions of Section 161.05.

(f) A declaration of estimated tax which is less than ninety percent (90%) of the tax due as shown on the annual return shall not be considered filed in good faith. The difference shall be subject to penalties and interest as provided for in Section 161.11.

(Ord. 0160-2006. Passed 8-7-06.)

#### 161.08 APPOINTMENT AND DUTIES OF TAX ADMINISTRATOR.

(a) (1) It shall be the duty of the Tax Administrator to collect and receive the tax imposed by this Chapter in the manner prescribed therein, to keep an accurate record thereof, and to report all monies so received.

(2) It shall be the duty of the Tax Administrator to enforce payment of all income taxes owing the Municipality, to keep accurate records for a minimum of six (6) years, showing the amount due from each taxpayer required to file a declaration or make any return, including a return of taxes withheld, and to show the dates and amounts of payments thereof.

(b) The Tax Administrator is hereby charged with the enforcement of the provisions of this Chapter, including the interpretation and enforcement of the Administrative Rules and Regulations, and is hereby empowered, subject to the approval of the Board of Review, to adopt and promulgate and to enforce rules and regulations relating to any matter or thing pertaining to the collection of taxes and the administration and enforcement of the provisions of this Chapter, including provisions for the re-examination and correction of returns.

(c) In any case where a taxpayer has failed to file a return or has filed a return which does not show the proper amount of tax due, the Tax Administrator may determine the amount of tax appearing to be due the Municipality from the

taxpayer and may send to such taxpayer a written statement showing the amount of tax so determined, together with interest and penalties thereon, if any.

(d) Subject to the consent of a majority of the Board of Review/Adjudication, the Tax Administrator shall have the power to compromise any liability imposed by this Tax Code.

(e) Upon the demonstration and documentation of good cause, the Tax Administrator shall have the power to compromise penalty and interest liabilities imposed by this Chapter, consistent with this Chapter and the Rules and Regulations.

(f) The Tax Administrator is hereby authorized to collect any and all non-sufficient checks issued as payment to the City of Gahanna. Should the originating party of the check or draft fail to make restitution within ten (10) days after receiving notice of dishonor, the Tax Administrator is hereby authorized to file charges thru the Gahanna's Mayors Court.  
(Ord. 0177-2007. Passed 9-4-07.)

#### 161.09 INVESTIGATIVE POWERS OF TAX ADMINISTRATOR; PENALTY FOR DIVULGING CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.

(a) The Tax Administrator, or any of his authorized agents, is hereby authorized to examine the books, papers, records and federal income tax returns of any employer, taxpayer, or any person subject to, or whom the Tax Administrator believes is subject to, the provisions of this Chapter for the purpose of verifying the accuracy of any return made, or, if no return was made, to ascertain the tax or withholdings due under this Chapter. Every such employer, supposed employer, taxpayer or supposed taxpayer is hereby directed and required to furnish, upon written request of the Tax Administrator, or his duly authorized agent or employee, the means, facilities and opportunities for making such examinations and investigations as are hereby authorized.

(b) The Tax Administrator is hereby authorized to order any person, presumed to have knowledge of the facts to appear at the office of the Tax Administrator and to examine such person, under oath, concerning any income which was or should have been reported for taxation, or withheld, or any transaction tending to affect such income, and for this purpose may compel the production of books, papers, records, and federal income tax returns, and the attendance of all persons before him, whether as parties or witnesses, whenever he believes such persons have knowledge of such income or information pertinent to such inquiry.

(c) The refusal to produce books, papers, records or federal income tax returns, or the refusal to submit to such examination by any employer or person subject, or presumed to be subject, to the tax or by any officer, agent or employee of a person subject to the tax or required to withhold tax, or the failure of any person to comply with the provisions of this section or with an order or subpoena of the Tax Administrator authorized hereby, shall be deemed a violation of this Chapter punishable as provided in Section 161.13.

(d) Every taxpayer shall retain all records necessary to compute his tax liability for a period of six (6) years from the date his return is filed or the taxes required to be withheld are paid.

(e) Any information gained as a result of returns, investigations, hearings, or verifications required or authorized by this Chapter shall be confidential and no person shall disclose such information except in accordance with a proper judicial order or in connection with the performance of that person's official duties or the official business of the municipal corporation as authorized by this Chapter. The Tax Administrator of the municipal corporation may furnish copies of returns filed under this Chapter to the Internal Revenue Service.

(f) Any person divulging such information shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a maximum fine of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both.

(g) In addition to the above penalty, any employee of the Municipality who violates the provisions of this section relative to the disclosure of confidential information shall be guilty of an offense punishable by immediate dismissal. (Ord. 0257-2003. Passed 12-15-03.)

#### 161.10 ASSESSMENT.

(a) If the Tax Administrator finds that any taxpayer, or any employer subject to the provisions of Section 161.07 has failed to pay the full amount of the tax due or funds withheld, he shall issue a proposed assessment showing the amount of tax or funds due and unpaid together with any interest and penalty that may have accrued thereon.

(b) Such proposed assessment shall be served upon the taxpayer or employer, as the case may be, in person or by mailing to the last known address of such taxpayer or employer. Proof of mailing such proposed assessment shall be presumptive proof of receipt thereof by the addressee.

(c) A taxpayer or employer shall have twenty days after receipt of a proposed assessment within which to file a written protest with the Tax Administrator. The Tax Administrator then shall give the protestant an opportunity to be heard. After the hearing the Tax Administrator shall issue a final assessment setting forth the total amount found due in the proposed assessment, and any adjustment he may have made as a result of the protest. Such final assessment shall be served in the same manner as a proposed assessment.

(d) In the event a protest is not filed in response to a proposed assessment, it shall become final the twenty-first day after receipt thereof by a taxpayer or employer, and notice thereof shall be served in the same manner as in the case of a proposed assessment.  
(Ord. 0257-2003. Passed 12-15-03.)

#### 161.11 INTEREST AND PENALTIES.

(a) All taxes imposed and monies withheld or required to be withheld by employers under the provisions of this Tax Code and remaining unpaid after they become due shall bear interest, in addition to the amount of the unpaid tax or withholding, at the rate of one and one-half percent (1-1/2%) per month or fraction thereof.

(b) In addition to interest as provided in paragraph (a) hereof, penalties are hereby imposed as follows based on the tax remaining unpaid after it becomes due:

(1) For failure to pay taxes due, other than taxes withheld, five percent (5%) per month or fraction thereof, or twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), whichever is greater, up to a maximum of one hundred percent (100%) of original tax due.

(2) For failure to remit taxes withheld or required to be withheld from employees; ten percent (10%) per month or fraction thereof, or twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), whichever is greater, up to a maximum of one hundred percent (100%) of original tax due.

(3) Where the individual taxpayer has failed to file a return by the due date or by the date resulting from extension, twenty-five dollars (\$25.00).

(4) Where the taxpayer has failed to file a declaration on which he has estimated and paid a tax equal to or greater than the tax paid for the previous year, or where he has filed a previous return and has failed to file a declaration on which he has estimated and paid a tax equal to or greater than ninety percent (90%) of the actual tax for the year, or has failed to file a return and paid the total tax on or before the end of the month following the end of the taxable year; ten

percent (10%) of the difference between ninety percent (90%) of the actual tax for the year and the amount paid through withholding and declaration.

(5) There is no maximum limit to the penalties imposed in this subsection in the case of a taxpayer who willfully neglects to pay any tax due or who intentionally disregards any provision of this chapter.

(6) Any annual withholding reconciliation including employee W-2 information returns, not submitted on or before February 28 of each year, shall be subject to a penalty of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) effective March 1 and increased by twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) the first day of each month thereafter that such employer remains in violation, to a maximum of one hundred dollars (\$100.00). Upon written request to the Tax Administrator, a thirty (30) day extension may be granted.

(c) Exceptions. A penalty shall not be assessed on an additional tax assessment made by the Tax Administrator when a return has been filed in good faith and the tax paid thereon within the time prescribed by the Tax Administrator; and provided further that, in the absence of fraud, neither penalty nor interest shall be assessed on any additional tax assessment resulting from a federal audit, providing an amended return is filed and the additional tax is paid within three (3) months after the final determination of the federal tax liability.

(d) Upon recommendation of the Tax Administrator, the Board of Review may abate penalty or interest, or both, or upon an appeal from the refusal of the Tax Administrator to recommend abatement of penalty and interest concerning an item of income or expense, the Board may nevertheless abate penalty or interest, or both.

(Ord. 0160-2006. Passed 8-7-06.)

#### 161.12 COLLECTION OF UNPAID TAXES AND REFUNDS OF OVERPAYMENTS.

(a) All taxes imposed by this chapter shall be collectible by the City of Gahanna Tax Department or its authorized agent, together with any interest and penalties and reasonable administrative costs thereon, by suit or by other means as other debts of like amount are recoverable. No additional assessment shall be made after three (3) years from the time the tax was due or the return was filed, whichever is later; provided however, there shall be no period of limitation on an additional assessment in a case of a return that omits gross income in excess of twenty-five per cent (25%) of that required to be reported or in the case of filing a false or fraudulent return with intent to evade the tax, or in the case of failure to file a return.

(b) “Reasonable administrative costs” associated with the delinquent tax collection includes, but is not limited to, fees no less than twenty-five percent (25%) of the total delinquent amount, including the tax amount, interest and penalty of any post judgment account assigned to a collection agency, and no greater than thirty-five percent (35%) of the total delinquent amount, including tax amount, interest and penalties of any prejudgment account assigned to a collection agency.

(c) In those cases in which the Commissioner of Internal Revenue and the taxpayer have executed a waiver of the federal statute of limitations, the period within which an additional assessment may be made by the Tax Administrator shall be extended one (1) year from the time of the final determination of the federal tax liability.

(d) Taxes erroneously paid shall not be refunded unless a claim for refund is made within three (3) years from the date on which such payment was made or the return was due, or within three (3) months after final determination of the federal tax liability, whichever is later.

(e) After the time period allowed for a refund of the tax or withholding paid to another municipality, a nonrefundable credit shall be allowed against tax or withholding erroneously paid or withheld to another municipality equal to the tax or withholding paid with respect to such income or wages.

(1) If the tax rate is less than the tax rate paid or withheld on such income or wages, the credit described in subsection (c) hereof shall be calculated using the tax rate in effect.

(2) Nothing in this section permits any credit carryforward.

(f) Interest shall be allowed and paid on any overpayment by a taxpayer of any municipal income tax obligation from the date of the overpayment, with the following exception: No interest shall be allowed on any overpayment that is refunded within ninety (90) days after the final filing date of the annual return or ninety (90) days after the complete return is filed, whichever is later. For purposes of computing the payment of interest on overpayments, no amount of tax for any taxable year shall be treated as having been paid before the date on which the tax return for that year was due without regard to any extension of time for filing that return. The interest shall be paid at the rate of interest prescribed by Ohio R.C. 5703.47.

(g) Amounts of less than one dollar (\$1.00) shall not be collected or refunded.

(Ord. 0229-2006. Passed 12-4-06.)

### 161.13 VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES.

(a) Any person who shall:

(1) Fail, neglect or refuse to make any return or declaration required by this chapter; or

(2) Knowingly make an incomplete, false or fraudulent return; or

(3) Willfully fail, neglect or refuse to pay the tax, penalties or interest imposed by this chapter; or

(4) Fail, neglect or refuse to withhold the tax from his employees and remit such withholding tax to the Tax Administrator; or

(5) Refuse to permit the Tax Administrator or any duly authorized agent or employee to examine his or his employer's books, records, papers, or federal income tax returns; or

(6) Fail to appear before the Tax Administrator and to produce his or his employer's books, records, papers or federal income tax returns upon order or subpoena of the Tax Administrator; or

(7) Refuse to disclose to the Tax Administrator any information with respect to such person's or such person's employer's income or net profits; or

(8) Willfully give to an employer by an employee false information as to his true name, correct social security number and residence address, or the failure of such employee to promptly notify an employer of any change in residence address and date thereof; or

(9) Failure on the part of any employer to maintain proper records of employees' residence addresses, total wages paid and Municipal tax withheld, or to knowingly give the Tax Administrator false information; or

(10) Fail to comply with the provisions of this Chapter or any order or subpoena of the Tax Administrator; or

(11) Willfully fail or willfully refuse to make any payment on the estimated tax for any year or part of any tax year as required by Section 161.07; or

(12) Fail to cause the tax withheld from the qualifying wages of the employees pursuant to this chapter to be paid to the Municipality in accordance with the provision of Section 161.06; or

(13) Attempt to do anything whatever to avoid the payment of the whole or any part of the tax, penalties or interest imposed by this chapter; for which violation no penalty is otherwise provided, is guilty of a minor misdemeanor on a first offense and shall be fined not more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00); on a second offense within two years after the first offense, such person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree and shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or imprisoned not more than sixty (60) days, or both, for each offense; on each subsequent tax code violation within two years after the first offense such person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree, and punished as provided for herein.

(b) In addition to any other penalty imposed by this section or Section 161.11, the following penalties shall apply:

(1) If a taxpayer, qualifying entity, or employer files what purports to be a return required by this chapter that does not contain information upon which the substantial correctness of the return may be judged or contains information that on its face indicates that the return is substantially incorrect, and the filing of the return in that manner is due to a position that is frivolous or a desire that is apparent from the return to delay or impede the administration of the tax levied by Section 161.03, such filer is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(2) If a taxpayer or qualifying entity makes a fraudulent attempt to evade the reporting or payment of the tax required to be shown on any return required under this chapter, such filer is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(3) Any penalty imposed under this section shall be in addition to all other penalties imposed under this section. All or part of any penalty imposed under this section may be abated by the Tax Administrator with approval by the Tax Review Board. All or part of any penalty imposed under this section may be abated by the Tax Administrator if the taxpayer, qualifying entity, or employer shows that the failure to comply with the provisions of this chapter is due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect.

(c) All prosecutions under this section must be commenced within the time specified in Ohio R.C. 718.12.

(d) The failure of any employer or taxpayer or person to receive or procure a return, declaration or other required form shall not excuse him from making any information return, return or declaration, from filing such form or from paying the tax.

(e) Statute of Limitations.

(1) Civil actions to recover Municipal income taxes and penalties and interest on Municipal income taxes shall be brought within three (3) years after the tax was due or the return was filed, whichever is later.

(2) Prosecutions for an offense made punishable under this chapter shall be commenced within three (3) years after the commission of the offense, provided that in the case of fraud, failure to file a return, or the omission of twenty-five percent (25%) or more of income required to be reported, prosecutions may be commenced within six (6) years after the commission of the offense. (ORC 718.12).

(f) The failure of any employer, taxpayer or person to receive or procure a return, declaration or other required form shall not excuse him from making any information return, return or declaration, from filing such form, or from paying the tax.

(g) The term "person" as used in this section shall, in addition to the meaning prescribed in Section 161.02, include in the case of an association or corporation not having any partner, member or officer within the Municipality, any employee or agent of such association or corporation who can be found within the corporate limits of the Municipality.  
(Ord. 0256-2005. Passed 12-19-05.)

161.14 BOARD OF REVIEW.

(a) A Board of Review, consisting of three (3) members, residents of the Municipality, all to be appointed by the Mayor and approved by Council, is hereby created and shall be maintained to hear appeals. The members of the Board of Review shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years; however, in January 2005 the members of the Board of Review shall be appointed for one, two and three years respectively. A majority of the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum. The Board shall adopt its own procedural rules and shall keep a record of its transactions. Any hearing by the Board shall be conducted privately and the provisions of Section 161.09 with reference to the confidential character of information required to be disclosed by the Chapter shall apply to such matters as may be heard before the Board on appeals.

(b) All rules and regulations and amendments or changes thereto which are adopted by the Tax Administrator under the authority conferred by this Chapter, must be approved by the Board of Review before the same becomes effective. After such approval, such rules, regulations, amendments and changes shall be filed with the Clerk of Council and shall be open to public inspection. The Board shall hear and pass on appeals from any ruling or decision of the Tax Administrator, and, at the request of the taxpayer or Tax Administrator, is empowered to substitute alternate methods of apportionment.

(c) Whenever the Tax Administrator issues a decision regarding an income tax obligation that is subject to appeal as provided in this section, or in an ordinance or regulation of the Municipality, the Tax Administrator shall notify the taxpayer in writing at the same time of the taxpayer's right to appeal the decision and of the manner in which the taxpayer may appeal the decision.

(d) Any person who is aggrieved by a decision by the Tax Administrator and who has filed with the Municipality the required returns or other documents pertaining to the municipal income tax obligation at issue in the decision may appeal the decision to the Board of Review by filing a request with the Board. The request shall be in writing, shall state with particularity why the decision should be deemed incorrect or unlawful, and shall be filed within thirty (30) days after the Tax Administrator has issued the decision.

(e) The imposition of penalty and interest as prescribed in the Codified Ordinances of the Municipality is not a sole basis for an appeal.

(f) The Board of Review shall schedule a hearing within forty-five (45) days after receiving the request, unless the taxpayer waives a hearing. If the taxpayer does not waive the hearing, the taxpayer may appear before the Board and may be represented by an attorney at law, certified public accountant or other representative.

(g) The Board may affirm, reverse, or modify the Tax Administrator's decision or any part of that decision. The Board shall issue a decision on the appeal within ninety (90) days after the Board's final hearing on the appeal, and send notice of its final decision by ordinary mail to all of the parties to the appeal within fifteen (15) days after issuing the decision. The taxpayer or the Tax Administrator may appeal the Board's decision as provided in section 5717.011 of the Ohio Revised Code.

(h) Each Board of Review created pursuant to this section shall adopt rules governing its procedures and shall keep a record of its transactions. Such records are not public records available for inspection under section 149.43 of the Ohio Revised Code. Hearings requested by a taxpayer before a Board of Review created pursuant to this section are not meetings of a public body subject to section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.  
(Ord. 0276-2004. Passed 12-20-04.)

#### 161.15 INFORMATION BY LANDLORDS.

(a) All owners or management companies of rental property who rent to tenants of apartments, rooms and other rental accommodations, shall file with the Tax Administrator on a quarterly basis a report showing the name, address and telephone number, if available, of each such tenant who occupies an apartment, room or other rental property within the Municipality in the reporting period.

(b) On the quarterly reporting from subsection (a) above, the owner or management company of vacated rental property shall file with the Tax Administrator a report showing the date of vacation from the rental property and a forwarding address of any tenant that has vacated an apartment, room or other rental property located within the Municipality in the reporting period.

(c) The reporting period will be on a calendar quarter with the reporting being due in the Tax Administrator's office 30 days after the end of the quarter. (Reports are due as follows: 1st quarter - April 30th, 2nd quarter - July 31, 3rd quarter - October 31, and 4th quarter - January 31).

(d) Any person who violates this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine of five dollars (\$5.00) per day for each and every day they remain in violation or subject to a maximum penalty of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00).  
(Ord. 0276-2004. Passed 12-20-04.)

#### 161.18 CREDIT FOR TAX PAID TO ANOTHER MUNICIPALITY.

(a) Every individual taxpayer who resides in the City, but who received net profits, salaries, wages, commissions, distributions from associations, or other compensation for work done or services performed or rendered outside the City, if it is made to appear that he has paid a municipal income tax or excise tax based on income, or such net profits, salaries, wages, commissions, distributions from associations, or other compensation in another municipality, shall be allowed a credit of eighty-three and one-third percent (83-1/3%) of the amount so paid by him or in his behalf in such other municipality to the extent of the tax assessed by this chapter, by reason of such net profits, salaries, wages, commissions or other compensation earned in such other municipality where

such tax is paid. In no instance shall the allowable credit for tax paid another municipality exceed the amount of tax imposed by this chapter. Prior to any alteration of this section, Council shall, at least sixty days prior to any revision, conduct a minimum of three public hearings on any proposed amendment.

(b) Commencing with the 1983 fiscal year for the City, and continuing thereafter until otherwise determined by Council, the tax proceeds collected under the provisions of subsection (a) hereof, as those proceeds are certified by the Finance Director, shall be exclusively reserved or expended for and upon capital improvement or maintenance projects within the City as specifically approved and authorized by Council and which directly benefit the general public. Council shall budget and appropriate each fiscal year from the tax proceeds collected herein a minimum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for street repair and maintenance, fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for police capital equipment and twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) for stormwater system improvement and maintenance provided that the Finance Director can reasonably and fairly estimate tax proceeds to be collected during the fiscal year at no less than two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000).

(c) Commencing with the 1984 fiscal year for the City, and continuing thereafter until otherwise determined by Council, the tax proceeds collected under the provisions of subsection (a) hereof, as those proceeds are certified by the Finance Director, shall be exclusively reserved or expended for capital improvements and equipment in the following categories:

- (1) Safety;
- (2) Streets; and
- (3) Stormwater Maintenance.

(Ord. 0257-2003. Passed 12-15-03.)

#### 161.19 CONTRACT PROVISIONS.

No contract on behalf of the City for works or improvements of the City shall be binding or valid unless such contract contains the following provisions:

"Said hereby further agrees to withhold all City income tax due or payable under the provisions of Chapter 161, Income Tax, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Gahanna, Ohio, for wages, salaries, and commissions paid to its employees and further agrees that any of its contractors shall be required to agree to withhold any such City income taxes due under said Chapter for services performed under this contract."

(Ord. 0257-2003. Passed 12-15-03.)

#### 161.20 ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.

The funds collected under the provisions of this chapter except as defined in Section 161.18, shall be deposited to the General Fund and be applied for the following purposes, and in the following order to wit:

(a) Such part thereof as shall be necessary to defray all costs of collecting the taxes levied by this chapter and the cost of maintaining the Division of Taxation and administering and enforcing the provisions thereof.

(b) Such part thereof as Council may appropriate for the purpose of paying the cost of general municipal operations.

(c) Such part thereof as Council may appropriate for the purpose of paying the cost for repairs and maintenance of streets.

(d) Such part thereof as Council may appropriate for the purpose of purchasing new equipment, maintenance, and capital improvements.

(e) Such part thereof as Council may appropriate for the payment of principal and interest on certain bond issues for capital improvements.  
(Ord. 0257-2003. Passed 12-15-03.)

#### 161.21 SAVING CLAUSE.

If any sentence, clause, section or part of this chapter, or any tax against any individual or any of the several groups specified herein, is found to be unconstitutional, illegal or invalid, such unconstitutionality, illegality or invalidity shall affect only such clause, sentence, section or part of this chapter and shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions, sentences, clauses, sections or other parts of this chapter. It is hereby declared to be the intention of Council that this chapter would have been adopted had such unconstitutional, illegal or invalid sentence, clause, section or part thereof not been included herein.  
(Ord. 0257-2003. Passed 12-15-03.)

#### 161.99 PENALTY.

Whoever violates any of the provisions of this chapter for which no penalty is otherwise provided shall be guilty of a minor misdemeanor on a first offense, and a third degree misdemeanor for a second and subsequent offense.  
(Ord. 0257-2003. Passed 12-15-03.)