



Coffee with Council
October 9, 2021
Lew Griffin Gallery
77 Mill St.
9:00-10:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Council President and Ward 3 Representative Brian Larick, Vice President of Council Nancy McGregor, At-Large Member Karen Angelou, Ward 1 Representative Stephen Renner, Ward 2 Representative Michael Schnetzer

ADDITIONAL GUESTS: Mayor Laurie Jadwin, State Representative Mary Lightbody, Clerk of Council, Four Residents attended

DISCUSSION ITEMS: Residents in attendance discussed having seen the marijuana moratorium item on the Committee of the Whole agenda and wanted to ensure there would be public input; was last brought up in 2018 and research could have been done in the meantime; worried about transparency. Council members explained the process of how at Committee of the Whole meetings, reports and presentations are provided to Council from the Administration, there is a discussion but no action taken; residents may speak about anything they choose during the "Hearing of Visitors" portion of the agenda during Regular Council meetings; this item has not yet been presented or discussed. Mayor stated that there were several recent inquires into these types of businesses, and with the recent changes in State law, felt it was time to research the topic, but in the meantime, Administration needs time to review all options and possible effects.

Residents asked if an ADA group will one be established. Mayor stated that they are reviewing options.

Residents asked about uploading building permits to the County Auditor's site; asked if it's done once per month; unsure how long it takes them to upload; asks because the city gets revenue from those; was told by County staff that the Auditor wants all permits, not just ones that the city thinks should be added; wants more description on alterations etc. Mayor stated that she recently had a conversation with City staff and was informed that all permits are being uploaded; there has been some staff turnover at the County, so perhaps that has caused delays.

Residents asked Rep. Lightbody about having a homeowners' exemption, for federal workers who are taxed on annuity. Rep. Lightbody stated that she will reach out and see what's going on at the state level.

Residents brought up fence code; have asked for changes; is told it's a property rights issue by City Attorney response; had an issue with a neighbor removing stakes from yard after a land survey was done, has issues with trespassing.

Residents asked about the right of way area on their property; are they able to place a groundcover plant or must it be grass. Council stated that the project must follow code. Residents asked if they are able to dig in the area. Council stated that they will have the clerk review and get back with resident. Residents asked if oak trees are good for Gahanna, if those are good options when planting new trees. Council provided a list of good options for new tree plantings.