



Coffee with Council – Public Outreach Meetings
February 27, 2016 – 9:30 a.m.
Location: Tim Hortons – 365 Agler Road

PRESENT: Stephen Renner, Karen Angelou, Nancy McGregor, Brian Larick, Brian Metzbower

Resident said Founders' Ridge has issues with seeing street signs; too small; discussed with former Mayor; initiated the problem with every street sign; can't read the signs at night; smaller letters in lower case and can't see them; want to see street signs replaced; important to look uniform and legible; show community the character of the City; resident said she'd like to see signs all matching; safety issues if you have to stop and read signs especially the brown signs; residents are saying that they are not legible; need to address unification and safety concerns.

Strategic meeting is March 8; get see all the strategic initiatives; easels and displays for discussion and ideas; Jen Teal, City Administrator will go over goals and results.

Safety issues like machete incident at restaurant; how to decide when to add more police officers; heightened security; asked what's role for police issues; have 55 officers; authorized for 60; funding issues to fund all of them; FBI gives a number per thousands and we are where we should be with staffed officers; like to increase one day; officers we do have do a great job and have high visibility; important to patrol our businesses; residents are definitely priority level; bikes have a great purpose as long as they are patrolled properly; don't ever hesitate to contact someone with a concern; strength in numbers; invited all to come to Chief's Civil meeting the last Thursday of the month.

Online water billing; fee is high; \$7 to call in to pay bill is too much; service department is putting together from a cost stand point best solution for your particular situation; outlined information posted on line so you can see what is the best way for you to pay; this is a convenience and is a fee to the third party; you can send money every month and they will send the balance if that helps.

VFW closed Monday; 4 to 11 Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; Saturday at noon; Fridays always have meals 5:30 to 7:30; Sunday morning breakfast; check website; don't need to be a member to eat; advertised in the Rocky Fork Enterprise; VFW 4719.

Water bill over 7 percent and Columbus is only up 2 or 3%; City runs as a Master Meter Community buying water and sewer from Columbus; agreements for water; no other community can do anything different; have to meet at least what City is being charged and lines that need to be maintained; operations costs, etc.; service compiled a chart that shows real costs that shows how to maintain; multi-million dollar projects need to be maintained in order to capture any future problems; Gahanna is lower end for Master Meter City; Gahanna is known as a premier service provider; don't have meter readers and read electronically; service provides alarms to identify problems and very quick response time; checks to see if there is a leak to help residents; have water sensors roughly every 200' to detect a leak; crews immediately come fix and save a lot of money; a little higher rate but do provide services above other communities; the state provides a list of these types of services; communities are not always apples to apples to compare.

Trees along Stygler have two different diseases; dead in the mid of summer; arborist said they need treated; City needs to figure out what's wrong with them.

Update on income tax case; still in the court process; recent Supreme Court case that may impact this case; still holding money in budget; outcome could be a few years out.

Residents would like to see the elected officials wearing name badges at these meetings until they get to know them.

Looking at traffic situation on Stygler; traffic study to identify the intersections Stygler & Agler; working on Economic Development Strategy to alleviate problems; Economic Development Community Engagement Committee (EDCEC) it was discussed; business leaders and residents for input brought forward by Council to serve on this committee; plan being adopted; next steps have another meeting in May or June; see concepts on what people want to see; open to new ideas; addressing existing zoning laws; resident said need code enforcement; people not cutting yards; parking semis in residential areas; need to get the City cleaned up; keep up on properties; some windows are boarded up; big problem with zoning all over Gahanna; Council discussed it recently; zoning across the City will be addressed; new Mayor looking at branding; understanding what is appropriate without violating property rights; will see actionable items soon; told people to call or send email and copy Council; call and report problems so they can be addressed.

Council thanked everyone for coming out; it will help to get problems solved; asked how people heard about coffee; Clerk Banning's emails are a big help; people forward to others; great turn out this morning; reach out to City with matters you want to be heard; social media works for some people and different matters to announce; still take a minute to call so that we know what's going on; people posted about speeders but nobody called to report; call and there will be a resolution; call non-emergency number; Police Department does appreciate calls; makes their job easier.

NEXT COFFEE WITH COUNCIL IS MAY 26, 2016 6:30 P.M. DONATOS – JOHNSTOWN ROAD



Coffee with Council – Public Outreach Meetings

May 26, 2016 – 6:30 p.m.

Location: Donatos – E. Johnstown

PRESENT: Jamie Leeseberg, Karen Angelou, Brian Larick, Brian Metzbower, Michael Schnetzer

Resident asked Council to speak louder in Committee meetings so residents can hear.

Fiber Optic Network

What is it and who pays for it; it is a utility; a fiber optic network we tap into; primary user is businesses or industries in the City; City contracts for the installation; there are two paths running together so if one gets cut, you still have the service; if we did this on our own, it would have cost \$600-700K; this was an agreement discussed to get this at a better rate.

Gahanna Schools – rated “B”

What happened and is City concerned; Facility study underway; new superintendent and the stability will help; we are a large district; hopeful to get that raised; number one reason people move to an area is the schools.

Speaking at meetings & Council contacts

Resident asked about how and who to speak to if they want to get a discussion item on the meeting agenda or discuss an item; Council said they can email or call; are available to answer any questions or help resolve anything.

Roundabout in City Hall

Excited about the innovative way to show residents how to drive a roundabout; safety is a priority; need to understand; sees it versus a piece of paper helps; they help the roads function so much better; the new ones are designed with future growth.

Creekside

Friday's on the Plaza; all shops and restaurants are open; Barrel & Boar is now open; has table service; voter registration drive; asked what they would need; will get back to everyone with an answer; Blues & Jazz Festival – asked about parking for Creekside Blues & Jazz Festival on Shull Road; said believes it was by request; resident said people are blocking their homes; not able to get EMS to their home; Council said will get information from PD or Streets; said you can call the non-emergency number at the PD and request no parking;

State of the City

Done well; the open house and video were welcoming.

AEP leaving

Discussed the impacts and concerns; said they own the building; is an impact.

Bicycles on Roadway

Residents said they do not feel they have to follow the rules of the road; said their rules are exactly the same as the drivers; resident asked about a sign; or a reminder; said a sign probably will not help much; difficult for officers to hear something opposite of what they see; Police Chief Murphy sends out a monthly report; can email him and ask for a copy; get the information on what is going on.

Flintridge Sidewalks

Going fast; almost complete; goal was to make the neighborhood more walkable; smaller, more residential community; connects Big Walnut Trail bike path.

Coaches Patio Music

Loud music; music comes straight into their home; code enforcements; decibel number measurement dictates enforcement; believes it is within 50 feet.

Carpenter and Heil bridges

Approving the design contract; resident asked if it was the same company and if they will look the same; said believes it is case by case; will be minimal, nothing fancy; believes there is a sidewalk on them.

Traffic from New Albany through Gahanna

A lot of traffic during rush hour; we do have a bus service; is a challenge; MORPC information was given to residents; US-62 will be repaved from Mill Street to Morse Road; ODOT project; slated for 2017.



Coffee with Council – Public Outreach Meetings
August 27, 2016 – 9:30 a.m.
Location: Panera Bread, 91 N Hamilton Rd.

PRESENT: Karen Angelou, Brian Metzbower, Stephen Renner, Jamie Leeseberg, Nancy McGregor

Finish roundabout; be done next year; pavement done this season; big dip in the road could cause accidents; on Clark State first two sewer grades don't have orange bags; implantation of roundabouts have made roads safer; roundabouts will eliminate all accidents, but reduce fatalities; helps with speed; appreciate the roundabout in City Hall; it helps them understand the flow of traffic.

Senior Center consider building a new one; limited on what they offer; don't offer much for men; couple hours for poker, but no room to play any games; take a look at Reynoldsburg and what they offer; concerns with size and limited programming; bigger room could allow indoor games; need more male programming.

Is there ordinance on mailboxes and upkeep on maintenance; more curb appeal; rusted and rotting; couple are cracked and leaning; thinks post office or home owner's association (HOA) manages this; gets worse Village of Gahanna of Cherry Bottom.

Problems with driveways; a lot of them crumbling down to the base; can city enforce paving; anyone with gravel is grandfathered in; some have weeds and grass; this affects the value; mailboxes are cheap to fix.

New development; building that was started 8 years ago and the basement has been sitting there; end of Beecher Crossing North at the end of cul-de-sac; been taken to court; no action taken to date.

Shorter fences along front of house need to be permitted; unless replacing with existing fence; a lot of fences in city that aren't permitted.

Against free range backyard chickens in the city; don't want them in city; code isn't clear if they are pinned; issues with them running free; sections aren't clear; problem with the square feet; you can have up to 5 depending on acreage; Planning Commission will review code changes and make recommendation back to Council; so many questions; things aren't clear and aren't tight; people have chickens in the city now; don't follow rules now; it could get worse to police chickens; too much for the city to enforce; will City require vaccination; who makes sure they follow rules; board of health could assist with monitoring permits; wants to see due diligence on chicken code.

Swale in backyard at end is catch basin connected to the sewer can't do anything to fill in swale; water lays there; not area being cleaned; it's eroding; 933 Bryn Mar Drive; been going on last 2 years; installed a french drain but his can only handle so much; Clotts between Johnstown southbound is completely eroding away.

What is happening at 62 and Stygler roundabout; nothing is planned; just a concept; contacting someone to design a plan; budgeted money for that; it is a possibility; those areas are being looked at; traffic backs up on Johnstown Road; that idea was in strategic plan; addressing concerns in that part of town; it's a priority.

Council member attended Insight2050; looks at concept; showed 500K people coming into the region; that is reality is half that amount; 115K so far this year in central Ohio; figure out where we are going to put all these people; people coming to Ohio; good businesses and restaurants; Columbus is growing rapidly; 495 square miles will be needed to handle these people; change the way we think; concerns about density; it's coming; making things more walkable and acceptable; change in demographics; shift in what we need; important part for residents remaining that have viable businesses; even slimming width of cars; adding lanes for walkers; public transportation needs to be looked at; buses will be used more; creating a place with all services; shared uses; Gabe Cline author; great book on this matter; called Start Up City; Smart City will help with this progression; different mindset; find where you want to live and you work there; attract more people here; need to have jobs for people; we need to sell ourselves; Pittsburgh has cars that will drive by themselves this weekend; asked if they discussed energy at Insight2050; residents don't trust experts; community wants to be involved; anything we can do to have a better atmosphere; be a part of sustainability; new urban designs will promote walkable environment; more multi use paths; planned unit developing is coming; increase in population; address mobility; building city centers as population grows; need to maintain city where people want to move; different perspective than people are used to; shift in type of houses; more condos; less yard work and upkeep; checking the trends; ebbs and flows; people want to come here and live downtown Columbus; use transit system; can work and do all chores and travel by bus.



Coffee with Council – Public Outreach Meetings

November 19, 2016 – 9:30 a.m.

Location: 1370 N. Hamilton Rd.

PRESENT: Nancy McGregor, Karen Angelou, Jaime Leeseberg, Brian Metzbower.

A representative from the public library was present to discuss volunteer opportunities. Asked if it was possible to add to website indicating that the library needs volunteers.

Resident asked about the roundabout construction; what is the timeline. Lights are going up and asphalt can't go down in freezing weather. A lot of last minute things to do and clean up needed. Maintenance of roads is key to keep water out of streets. Portion of US-62 construction was covered partly by state funding; negotiated having this complete in tandem with City project. Projection is spring/summer 2017.

Holiday lights event is tomorrow from 2-6pm. Still needs volunteers to help out even if for an hour. No longer a parade because of the amount of fundraising involved (\$40,000). A lot of floats are rented, must pay bands versus 4th of July, where people pay to be involved. Gahanna Historical Society buildings will be open; miniature village was moved to that corner. The horse drawn carriage will run down to the Gahanna Historical Society property for a stop.

Resident asked about the progress on the west side. Casto, OHM, and Ice Miller are coming up with a plan and taking recommendations. This is part of GoForward Gahanna. Trying to fix intersection of Stygler/Agler Rd. National Church Residences are looking into multimillion dollar investment for their buildings. Resident asked if houses will still be demolished in that area. What the finished product will look like could be different from the original idea/renderings. Must be a partnership between City and homeowners. Must have investment in the area. Casto does shopping centers, mixed retail and they are looking at types of uses. There will be a lot of conversation before anything is decided. Resident voiced concerns about putting money into their homes if they will be destroyed. Needs to know if they should put up a for-sale sign now or later. There's no money for it right now, studies are being done. Resident asked about timeline, if it could be within 5 years. No specific timeline for now, but probably by 2020. Reiterated that this is long term. Said that prior to this study, there was a misconception that Gahanna is landlocked and there's no land left. This study disproves that. The workforce needs to expand besides service industries.

Resident asked if this study is for public viewing. The study provides a context for zoning to ensure the best use of the land that we have. Resident said she was just here to learn, and wants to know how to get information. On Josh Mandel's website www.ohiocheckbook.com, can view any check written by City. There's not a lot of information in the newspaper, and not everyone is even getting the newspaper. A lot of information is on the website (www.gahanna.gov).

City employees leave Gahanna to move up and make more money in other cities. We are a really good place to start out training/learning/get experience. We lose good people. Having good connections with those folks that leave, allows Gahanna to collaborate with surrounding cities. Not leaving because they aren't happy. Resident asked if vacant Parks & Recreation Director position is being filled immediately. Mayor intends to do a nationwide search for applicants.

Resident asked about status of zoning for US-62 and Clotts Rd. It passed. City Engineer and Development Director are working on cleanup, no permits will be issued until this happens. Will be 6 doubles with 1 bedroom. Still trying to preserve the tree line during development.

Resident asked about Morse Rd. behind Donato's, if it is assisted living. There's independent next door, but a different developer. Three Creeks is going up right now. There's still one parcel that they would like to do more with. Trying to make a brand with this development. If there are any ideas, please voice them. What do you think of when you think of Gahanna? Raising a family was ranked at 96%. Maybe a brand having something to do with that.

Resident asked about the benefit of a brand. The branding gets name out there, wants recognition. Columbus has logo that displays their inclusiveness "us." Resident said this is about experience, who we are.

Resident said speaking of marketing, the Kidney Care on Beecher said "South New Albany." Complained to Development. That sign has already been changed to Gahanna/South New Albany. Donato's at roundabout says New Albany. There's some cross over because of the New Albany postal code.

Resident wanted to discuss survey. This was done by a national survey company. Can compare to other cities in the Nation, see rankings. Also is narrowed down to regional. Want to do this every two years to see if we are improving. There were some specific questions at the end of the survey, specific to Gahanna, maybe data not included in the comparisons for other cities.

Resident said she is pro-chickens, asked what Council members thought about that. Said this is in Planning Commission now. Resident asked if those members are appointed or elected. They create language, then recommendation goes to Council. Council at that time asks questions about structure and there's a back and forth. If Planning Commission comes back and says it is a terrible idea, it would probably die there. Could come back with language that says keep as is. Must ensure that language fits in with rest of code.

Resident said interesting that all Charter issues passed, but percentage of yes versus no was different so people clearly read them.

Resident asked if proposed budget is available for viewing. It is posted on the City's website.

2016 COFFEE WITH COUNCIL - ACTION REGISTER

Item #	Date	Topic	Comments	Status
1	2/27/2016	Street Signs	Look into getting legible, uniform, safe street signs	<i>All street signs will be uniform; Service Dept. will provide schedule when complete; GIS is working on map.</i>
2	2/27/2016	Safety Issues	Self Defense Courses; CCW Classes; active shooter training	<i>Sherriff's Department offers classes</i>
3	2/27/2016	Community Policing	Resident wants to see bike patrol and more community policing	<i>Recommendation: attend Chief's Civil meeting the last Thursday of the month.</i>
4	2/27/2016	Online Water Billing	Fee is too high	<i>Minutes and Service Report are available by clicking here.</i>
5	2/27/2016	Trees along Stygler	Dead in mid-summer; possibly need treated	<i>The trees will be treated on May 23, 2016.</i>
6	2/27/2016	Income Tax case	Court case is pending	<i>Pending in trial court.</i>
7	2/27/2016	Economic Development - Stygler/Agler	Resident asked status.	<i>Recommendations Adopted by Council March 7, 2016.</i>
8	5/26/2016	Creekside - Blues & Jazz Festival Parking	Resident concerned with parking in front of their home, prevents EMS service, asked who to contact	<i>Contact Ethan Moffitt with the PD or Laurie Jadwin with CVB</i>
9	5/26/2016	Voter Registration Drive	Resident asked about one at Creekside	<i>Yes - do not obstruct roadway or sidewalk</i>
10	8/27/2016	Large Dip in the Rd Intersection of Clark State	Will this be fixed when roundabout is complete.	<i>Yes - the structure of the road will be modified when complete.</i>

11	8/27/2016	Clark State Rd Sewer Grades are missing orange bags	Resident wanted City to be aware of issue.	<i>Service has been notified. Service said: There are orange dandy bags that have been removed at the intersection of Hamilton Road and Clark State. This is due to heavy rains that caused flooding in the intersection. Due to the majority of the area being stabilized, the bags have been removed, and alternative measures will continue to be utilized for erosion control for the areas that are not yet established/stabilized.</i>
12	8/27/2016	Eroding Swale on Bryn Mar	Resident has concerns about catch basin for swale; standing water & erosion issues.	<i>Service has been notified. Service said: We have searched our CR database and have no records of reported drainage issues at 933 Bryn Mawr Dr., will try and reach out.</i>
13	8/27/2016	Maintenance on Mailboxes	Resident would like code enforcement on the upkeep of mailboxes that are in serious need of repair.	<i>The post office enforces this matter.</i>
14	8/27/2016	Driveways eroding; weeds growing; eye sore	Resident would like code enforcement on the upkeep on driveways that are in need of repair.	<i>City has code enforcement on commercial driveways or residential gravel (not grandfathered-in), but can't enforce property owner to pave.</i>
15	8/27/2016	Eroding Swale on Bryn Mar	Resident has concerns about catch basin for swale; standing water & erosion issues.	<i>Service has been notified.</i>
16	8/27/2016	Building not complete end of Beecher Crossing North	Resident has concerns about standing water in the basement; been sitting for a very long time.	<i>Property owner is currently working with a medical group; obtained Final Development Plan in January 2016 that expires January 2017.</i>

17	8/27/2016	Senior Center Programming	Resident would like to see a bigger center built and more programming geared toward males.	<i>The programs are not gender specific.</i>
18	8/27/2016	Agler & 62 Roundabout	Resident wanted to know status due to amount of traffic issues.	<i>Strategic Plan addressed the problem; infancy stages of company reviewing how to solve issues in that area of the City.</i>
19	8/27/2016	Chickens in the City Limits	Resident expressed concerns on having chickens; the code isn't clear on limitations/guidelines for raising them.	<i>Planning Commission will be reviewing the code to clear up any confusion; this is a very preliminary phase and still needs to be passed by Council.</i>
20	8/27/2016	Fences	Resident wanted to know if all fences needed a permit from the City.	<i>Yes - unless replacing existing fence that is identical (including materials, size, shape, etc.)</i>