



Coffee with Council – Public Outreach Meetings

January 31, 2015, 9:00 a.m.

Location: T i m Horton's – Stylger/Agler Rd.

Topics of Discussion

Governance Commission

- Resident asked what Council will do regarding different form of government/governance commission.
 - Depends on recommendation; commission is set up to review forms of government; a change will require charter amendment; will be put on ballot and public will have chance for input.
- Resident asked about city manager style government.
 - City manager will serve under contract; report to council and mayor is a member of Council.
- Resident asked about petition that was brought forward to get this idea on the ballot.
 - That was one of the reasons this commission was initiated; have to be sure; could cost more in the long-run

Safe Routes to School

- Resident spoke about Safe Routes to School
 - Pleased with what came out of the meeting about a year ago; will do both north and south end; it will run up to 62; roundabout is big deal; happy Gahanna listened and resident happy with result.

Widening 62

- Resident asked about widening 62.
 - Columbus said it's on the radar; not in city's control.
- Resident asked about grant approval; Hamilton Road needs it.

Landscape Review Board

- Resident asked about changes; a lot of the plan was removed; any contractor can cut down any tree; think it needs to be researched; worried about developers taking care of trees; it's coming back and Council will be looking at updating tree ordinance; talking about trees by Rocky Fork South; want to stop clear cut; litigation right now on a few projects; would like to see that expedited.

Walnut Creek Expansion

- Resident asked about Walnut Creek expansion.

- Next phase is upcoming; the largest one is far off.
- Resident asked when golf course will be connected.
 - Not sure of time frame; they are working on that phase; that part has been funded; still working out issue with property owner south of the cemetery; that's the only thing holding it up.

Shopped at Rocky Fork Traffic

- Resident asked about traffic generated by new shopping center across from Kroger
 - Working on pedestrian safety; looking at putting a sidewalk in; walkability is needed for community and could be part of the bike path being extended south; goes across to the pools; also looked at the traffic and ways to maximize safety.

Sidewalk Notice

- Resident asked about sidewalk assessment; received notice to fix sidewalk; how does City determine who gets notice to fix or get assessed.

Apartment

- Resident asked about apartments; seems like a lot are being built; how to stop so many being built.
 - Property rights are a unique situation; those types could be part of a development plan; the Development Department supports projects that are designed in the plan; look at Planning Commission on the website; applications are on website; applicant would submit to Development and Planning Commission; need to meet criteria; a lot of those come to Council; all zoning changes come to Council; be involved with Planning Commission; go through Public Hearings and your voice is heard all the way.
- Resident expressed concern that Council passes so many variances; Creekside has a lot variances; parking issues; handicap have to go through apartments; if Council keeps approving the same variances why isn't it changed in the code.
 - Code is changed on a regular basis and those matters are taken into consideration.

Objection to Cell Tower

- Code is conservative on fall zone; need to tighten up on cell tower code to protect residents; residents need to be protected from these businesses encroaching on residential property; Verizon said they would come back until they get their tower in Gahanna; Planning Commission can postpone to a date in the future; this project is too big to let go; Towers by the bowling alley; went to every meeting; Verizon was unstoppable; citizens protested and gave options; Planning Commission passed it; asked if there was demonstrated need that have come from residents; not determined by City; resident said that she always loved Gahanna but will move if that tower goes in; wanted to know how Council would proceed with objection.
 - Response started with Planning Commission; Council will look at this code.
- Residents afraid that they will accept this fall zone; Giant Eagle gave them an option to use their store for their tower; residents suffering repercussions from the project that everyone has a decision on but the residents; brought up reason; making emergency calls is the reason that

Verizon said they want the tower; resident experience with usage and data and Verizon wasn't being truthful; Planning Commission needs to be educated on this.

- Council encouraged residents to come to Planning Commission.

Pools

- Resident thanked City for keeping pools open.

Communications

- Corvette club having meeting again; that money raised goes to Children Hospital
 - Saturday, August 1
- Parks & Recreation meeting on Pools, Trails and Programs 7-8 p.m. at Clark Hall
 - Wednesday, February 11
- Bicycle & Trail Advisory Committee regarding Safety for walking, biking and transit meetings held at City Hall 5-7 p.m.:
 - Monday, February 9
 - Monday, February 23
 - Monday, March 2
- Watch City website and Rocky Fork Enterprise for upcoming meetings.