



**Coffee with Council- Public Outreach Meeting  
February 25, 2017- 9:30 a.m.  
Location: Tim Horton's 365 Agler Road**

**NO ACTION ITEMS**

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

Council Member explained why we have Coffee with Council, explained how it works. Resident asked about a date for decision of options for Agler Rd. Council Member said no date set just yet; several options; no option decided upon yet; huge initiative. Said during open house there were 8 options to go through. Final analysis may not be any of those options; right now it's important to get input for recommendations.

Resident said one option would be roundabout, would that require state approval? Council Member said yes because 62 is limited access state route; ODOT buy-in required. Council Member said no funding exists for that project; would require grant work.

Resident said would like to cast a vote against any more roundabouts. Council Member said by engineering standards they work. Resident said construction is made for large trucks to go over the center. Council Member said feels tight, but must go slow; are proving effective. Another Resident said he loves roundabouts.

Resident asked about repainting lines in this area, and getting a sign that says "stay in lane" what would it take to do that? Resident also asked about the trees since they appear diseased; also asked Council Members to speak louder in Committee Meetings.

Resident said he works with city gas aggregation programs and is aware of some bad experiences from 2010 where there was a fixed price for gas; is aware there was a bad taste left in their mouth; but has been successful; works out of Pickerington. Would appreciate a sit down for 15-20 minutes to explain differences now versus what they were years ago; has a program for guaranteed savings; would be willing to do a community reinvestment opportunity. Council Member said Service Director is a good point of contact. Resident said he did that in Reynoldsburg and after 20 mins was convinced that this is a win/win. Council Member said he has contact info and will communicate; explained that the agreement was for a fixed price, then the market dropped so it cost municipalities more.

Resident asked about the 3 pools in Gahanna; asked if Fox would stay privately owned. Council Member said yes. Council Member said city does not have a plan to buy it out. Council Member said as a service to the city we are not in business to make profit; said private market would take it over; said it is very expensive to run a pool.

Resident asked for a summary of what happened before he arrived late; Council Member provided summary. Resident said has been living in Gahanna for 17 months; said concerned about development

subsidies and taking money away from the school; wants school Board Members present at the table when discussing development. Council Member said the relationship between City and schools and Development is quite unique; said Mayor is working hand in hand with schools when meeting these developers; said school must approve items.

Resident asked about new Parks Director; Council Member said new director was appointed by Mayor and came from within city; resident asked how long he was there; Council Member said about 1 and half years.

Resident mentioned VFW property, asked where it was located. Council Member described the location; said another item that Parks will be working on is bridge in Walnut trails; said applied for forestry grant too for trees.

Resident asked about completion of Hamilton road construction; Council Member said way ahead of schedule, and should be complete by April (weather permitting).

Resident said didn't want to overpay for land like they did with Clark Hall; Council Member said they would negotiate to come to a fair price. Resident asked about eminent domain and schools; Council Member said schools don't have eminent domain for land.

Resident asked about status for Stygler/Agler Rd. Council Member explained again the Open House for West Side process; said again, City Engineer is optimistic that we would get grant funding. Resident asked the cost and Council Member said \$10-12 million dollars; grant could be 5-20 percent.

Council Member said wants to have another Open House or engagement and is working with engineering to pin down a location and date. Member said economic strategy that was brought forward had residents concerned; there was a misunderstanding that the report was final; said they have been working on something for a very long time and now have some ideas.

Council Member said grant funding is rarely given for part of a project because you have to have funding for full phasing of project; won't take on a project unless it can be completed; if we can narrow down smaller projects for completion then will try for smaller grants; a lot of coordination for maintenance of traffic.

Council Member said will be creating a list of projects for the area that are shovel ready to get funding from places like MORPC. Resident asked about some other projects being considered; Council Member said visit MORPC website for more information. Resident asked about Gahanna specific projects. Member said Service Department goes around the City every year to assess needs and create priority list; there's an ongoing pavement and bridge list; playing catchup because nothing done for infrastructure in 2010-2012. Council Member said plan translates to a bridge every other year; want to eliminate hazards. Resident asked how many bridges there are; Council Member said there are 20 bridges in Gahanna which we are responsible for, and more that belong to other government entities. Council Member said projects must be coordinated based on needs and paving; try to be most efficient.

Resident said he worked in 1989 for group that provided funding; Council Member said Mayor is looking for people interested in Area Commission. Resident said he was around when those area commissions started in the 1970s, in Columbus; said familiar with process.

Council Member said it is a breath of fresh air to have a Mayor this engaged; nice to have community feedback; major thing is economic development. Resident said that's why he moved here; said he was following GoForward Gahanna. Resident said there's an issue with Gahanna schools and Columbus schools; one side of Stelzer Rd. is Gahanna schools and that's where a majority of the empty property is.

Council Members thanked everyone for coming.