

February 16, 2021

The Gallipolis City Commission met in virtual special session on Tuesday, February 16, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., at the Gallipolis Municipal Building, 333 Third Avenue, having complied with Section 9 of the City Charter and Emergency Ohio Sub House Bill 197.

Commission President Cody Caldwell called the meeting to order.

Upon roll call, the following members were present:

Cody C. Caldwell, President (remote access)  
 Michael Fulks, Vice President (in person)  
 Michael W. Brown, Member (remote access)  
 Albert "Tony" Gallagher, Member (remote access)  
 T. Beau Sang, Member (remote access)

Others attending were:

Theodore R. Lozier, City Manager (in person)  
 Brynn S. Noe, City Solicitor (remote access)  
 Annette M. Landers, City Auditor (remote access)  
 Kayla Hawthorne, Gallipolis Daily Tribune (remote access)  
 Ronnie Lynch (in person)                      Marvin Ours (remote access)  
 Karen McCarty (remote access)              Jeff Boyer (remote access)  
 Scott Foote (in person)

Commission received the minutes of the February 3, 2021 meeting prior to this meeting. Mr. Lozier asked for correction to the grant amounts under bullet point four of his report from \$15,000 to \$40,000 and from \$45,000 to \$50,000. There being no other corrections, objections, or additions, these minutes were approved as corrected.

*Privilege of Floor* was granted to Mr. Scott Foote, owner of Zack & Scotty's on Court Street. He complained that the gas line contractors shut down all of Court Street at least ten times. This costs him about 40% of his business each time. He said that it was unnecessary to completely shut streets down for most of this work. Mr. Fulks agreed that the contractors could work on one lane at a time. It is not necessary when working on the sidewalks. Mr. Lozier said that he had Mr. Grubaugh talk to the contractor about the problems we have been having, including street closures. They are behind schedule. Mr. Fulks commented that the flaggers are still confusing people by not being in the streets where they can be seen. Mr. Foote said that the contractor does not communicate with the property owners ahead of time. They just shut the street down without warning. On another note, Mr. Foote complimented the snow crews for doing a fabulous job. He also talked about their charitable work in the community, raising more than \$60,000 for local charities. Mr. Gallagher and other Commissioners expressed their appreciation, especially for what they have done for veterans.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- Clay Township has cancelled their fire service contract with the City, effective March 7<sup>th</sup>. We have been aware of their intent to do this for a few months and met with Clay Township Trustees late last year. They are contracting with Harrison Township. Ms. Landers went over the amounts that would be lost from this.
- Mr. Lozier verbally presented the proposal for changes in the Mobile Food Vendor policies. He said that the intent was to make it less burdensome on the vendors while, at the same time, considering the needs of the brick & mortar businesses and the City. Currently, for an \$800 annual fee, vendors can come into town through the year. As proposed, they could operate up to three consecutive days for a \$75 fee, with \$10/day for each day past three. Water and electric hookups

would cost an additional \$25/day. Set-ups would be allowed in the 300 block, facing the river. For special events, it would cost \$25/day and require the approval of the event sponsor. Location would be at the approval of the event sponsor and the City. In answer to a question from Mr. Gallagher, it would be at the discretion of the sponsor whether the fee would be paid directly by the vendor or by the sponsor.

- A new police officer, Kyle Oliver from Coal Grove, has been hired to replace Patrolman Justin Schartiger, who is leaving next week to work for the WV State Police. We currently have two officers on office duty and one is subject to call-up with the Ohio National Guard. Everyone agreed with Mr. Lozier that the Police Department is doing a great job.
- Mr. Lozier also complimented the snow removal teams for a great job.
- For the next meeting, we will be sending out the 2021 Budget proposals. This will be followed by a 2020 Year review and a list of items to consider for 2021.

The City Auditor presented the January 2021 Financial Statement for approval. Mr. Sang made a motion to approve the January 2021 Financial Statement, seconded by Mr. Gallagher. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

Ms. Landers presented the following invoices over \$3,000:

- \$4,199.98 from BWC for monthly premium. Inv: 1/29/21. PO: 2/1/21.
- \$19,749.16 from OVB for fire station bond. Inv: 1/5/21. PO: 2/1/21.
- 26,849.97 from Rumpke for January refuse pick-up. Inv: 1/19/21. PO: 2/1/21.
- \$225,181.31 from OWDA for bond pmts. Inv: 11/16/20. PO: 2/10/21.

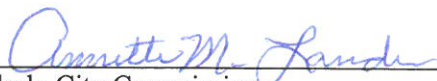
Mr. Gallagher made a motion to approve payment, seconded by Mr. Sang. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

Ms. Landers reminded everyone that Commission candidate petitions are due by Thursday, February 18, 2021.

The City Auditor recommended that we again freeze the rate increase in favor of increasing the sewer rates by an additional amount, as we have done for the past several years. The Water Enterprise Fund continues to do well, but the Sewer Fund is still losing ground. Mr. Fulks made a motion to freeze the April 2021 rate increase in the Water Fund, seconded by Mr. Gallagher. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes. We will bring an emergency ordinance for the additional sewer rate increase to the March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

Mr. Fulks complimented the Streets, Police and Fire departments for their work during the recent inclement weather.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

  
 Clerk, City Commission

  
 President, City Commission