

January 19, 2021

The Gallipolis City Commission met in virtual special session on Tuesday, January 19, 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 C. Fulks, Vice-president (in person)
 Michael W. Brown, Member (in person)
 Albert "Tony" Gallagher, Member (remote access)
 T. Beau Sang, Member (remote access)

Others attending were:

Theodore R. Lozier, City Manager (remote access)
 Ronnie Lynch, Acting City Manager (in person)
 Brynn S. Noe, City Solicitor (remote access)
 Annette M. Landers, City Auditor (in person)
 Karen McCarty (remote access) Jeff Boyer (remote access)
 Marvin Ours (remote access)

The City Manager informed Commissioners that he met with RCAP (Ohio Rural Community Assistance Program) to discuss infrastructure concerns. They have a program to help digitalize storm, water, and sanitary sewer information into a GIS system. Grants are available and the project could begin as early as this spring.

Over the next two weeks, Mr. Lozier would like to collect information from Commissioners on their short to long term goals. As an example, Mr. Sang sent information on a grant opportunity for up to \$75,000 for a launch area in the Public Use Area. Mr. Lozier would like to begin discussions of Commissioners' goals at the next meeting.

The City Auditor presented the December 2020 Financial Statement for approval. Mr. Fulks made a motion to approve the December 2020 Financial Statement, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

One invoice for \$80,733.21 from Jefferson Health Plan for the January insurance premium was presented for approval of payment. The invoice was dated 12/17/20; purchase order was dated 1/4/21. Mr. Brown made a motion to approve payment, seconded by Mr. Fulks. Mr. Sang asked if this could be paid in installments. Ms. Landers explained that this is our health insurance monthly premium, not an annual premium. It only shows up on our invoices over \$3,000 once per year for the January premium payment. For all other months, the purchase order is processed before the monthly invoice is received. The purchase order for the January premium is delayed to the new year, not encumbered in the prior year. However, the invoice always comes in the month prior to the due date. She thanked Mr. Sang for the good question. Upon voice vote on the motion to approve payment, all votes were yes.

Ms. Landers reminded Commissioners that three seats on the City Commission are up for election this year. Terms expire on 12/31/21 for Mr. Caldwell, Mr. Gallagher, and Mr. Sang. If more than six candidates file to run for these seats, we will need to have a primary run-off. This year, the primary election is May 4th. Petitions cannot be circulated more than 100 days before the primary. This year, that is January 24th. They must be turned in to the Gallia County Board of Elections, with a copy to the City Auditor, no

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later than 75 days before the primary, or February 18, 2021. Ms. Landers has prepared a letter for candidates for the City Solicitor to review and sign. It has been revised to include warnings about some of the mistakes that have caused Board of Elections rejections in the past. While we continue on COVID lock-down, candidate packets will be available at the drive-thru window of the City Building and on the City's website. Ms. Landers will also scan and send packets to current Commissioners to either use themselves or pass on to interested residents.

The City Solicitor said that she will review and sign the letter to Commission candidates.

President Caldwell said that a business owner on Vine Street had approached him about the poor condition of the road. Mr. Caldwell explained to him how Columbia Gas is remediating the roads affected by their project. Even after remediation, there will be many large patches that will remain until the roads are repaved. Mr. Fulks pointed out that the portion of Vine Street in question is the responsibility of the State. Mr. Lozier added that State Rt. 7 is on ODOT's schedule for repaving in the 2023 to 2025 timeframe. Mr. Lozier has asked ODOT if they could do portions before then. There is a chance of other funding sources coming through, such as CDBG or OPWC. Mr. Fulks stated that Shelly Company is swamped with paving projects for this year. Mr. Brown said that he has received complaints, too.

Mr. Brown said that the people removing lights from the City Park made tracks and a muddy mess of the place. They should have waited until the ground was frozen. Mr. Gallagher echoed his concerns, saying that there are deep ruts right next to some of the sidewalks. President Caldwell asked if they were finished removing lights. Mr. Lozier responded that he will talk to them about their plans for restoration of the grounds.

Mr. Brown objected to the City bearing the cost of electricity for the lights. Ms. Landers told him of the Commission's decision to use the SOPEC, our electric aggregator, grant to cover the excess cost of the electric recharging stations as well as the electricity for the lights in the Park. This was approved by motion at a recent meeting. Mr. Brown may have been absent at that meeting.

Mr. Gallagher said that the Gallia County Health Department is making list for COVID-19 vaccine appointments. People need to call the Health Department to add their names to the list.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2021-01 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND REJECTING BIDS FOR ASPHALT, LIMESTONE AND BEDDING SAND**. Mr. Gallagher made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Sang. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

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


 Clerk, City Commission


 President, City Commission