

January 4, 2011

The Gallipolis City Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, January 4, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the old Gallipolis Municipal Building, having complied with Section 9 of the City Charter.

Commission President James Cozza called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

Upon roll call, the following members were present:

James A. Cozza, President
 James Jay Cremeens, Vice-President
 Lori F. Bailey, Member
 W. Matthew Johnson, Member
 Steven E. Wallis, Member

Others attending were:

Randall J. Finney, City Manager
 Adam R. Salisbury, City Solicitor
 Annette M. Landers, City Auditor/Clerk/Treasurer
 Amber Gillenwater, Gallipolis Daily Tribune
 Clint Patterson Tony Gallagher Ronnie Lynch
 Marvin Vanderberg Claudia Miller

Commission received the minutes of the December 14, 2010 meeting prior to this meeting. There being no corrections, objections, or additions, these minutes were approved.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- Spruce Street Project – still awaiting annexation papers.
- Hedgewood Drive – Mr. Finney sent more information out to the man who is going to do the drilling. We should be receiving a quote on the cost soon. Mr. Johnson said that he had talked to the County Engineer and thought there might be another person who could do the work. Mr. Finney asked Mr. Johnson to get him a name to contact.
- Ms. Jessica Hollis from OVRDC wishes to attend the next Commission meeting to obtain feedback from the Commissioners about a community assessment that they would like to perform in Gallipolis. They would like to provide technical assistance for entrepreneurial development.
- Eastern Avenue water problem - A surveyor looked at the area this morning. He will provide some measurements this week to see what needs to be done to divert the water away from the residences. The surveyor was also asked to look at Bob Evans Lane to help determine who owns the property along it, so the City can proceed with acquiring ownership of the lane.
- Town Hall Meetings are set for January 11, February 21, and March 22. They will be held in the Municipal Courtroom on Olive Street to allow more space.
- Signs for Second Avenue at Sycamore – Mr. Finney has been in weekly contact with ODOT to ask why the new signage promised for this intersection has not been installed yet. He called the District Deputy Director last week to let him know that he was not happy with the lack of responsiveness. The Deputy Director told Mr. Finney that they were delayed by the holidays, but Mr. Finney said they had promised them in two to three weeks and it has now been seven. He promised to try to expedite the process. The signs are being made, but they have not said when they will be installed.

- Steve McGhee's building (next to the post office) – A private contractor is doing the demolition of the back side of the building. The City is keeping an eye on the project to ensure public safety. They are reinforcing the walls on the inside of the building.
- Meeting with French Art Colony – Mr. Finney met with the FAC the week before last. They wanted an update on plans for the property around them, which Mr. Finney provided. They did not express any problems with the City's plans. They asked about the fence again. Mr. Finney told them that the City was unlikely able to do anything with that.
- Tree Inventory – Jim Davis has been working on an inventory of trees in the City's right of ways, parks, cemeteries, etc. This was recommended by the America in Bloom judges, but would also be helpful in documenting damage in a FEMA related disaster.
- Ethics & Harassment Training – Mr. Finney plans to conduct training for employees over the next couple of weeks. In this training, they will be told they can bring their complaints to the Commission. He will provide training on their role in the process for the Commissioners at their next meeting.
- Bomb threat - There was a bomb threat at the municipal court building a couple of weeks ago. No bomb was found.
- Old City Building asbestos abatement – A report received yesterday shows that there is asbestos present in floor tile under the tile on the first floor and in the courtroom. There is also some asbestos in the roof. Most of the roof has not been tested because testing requires the drilling of holes which would cause leaks in the roof. Mr. Finney plans to go out for bid on asbestos abatement soon.
- Chamber Dinner – Commissioners planning to attend the Chamber dinner on January 27th need to let the City Manager know of their plans. It is set for 6 p.m. at the University of Rio Grande. If spouses plan to attend, they will need to pay for their ticket. The City is receiving a beautification award.
- The County Commission asked the City Manager to come to their meeting this Thursday at 9:15 a.m. to update the new Commissioner on our projects. He invited any interested Commissioners to attend.
- New Court Facility – Mr. Breech has the drawings ready, but needs to know the Commission's desires concerning an architect. Golden Giant can produce drawings at no charge. Drawings would be needed for public hearings. In discussion, the Commissioners would like to see drawings from two or three architects as well, such as Panich & Noel. It will be necessary to pay for these drawings, but the cost should not be prohibitive.
- Code Enforcement Report – Mr. Finney asked if there were any questions after reading Mr. Bostic's report. Mr. Wallis said he appreciated the report, but would like a little more information on where things are headed. This was not clearly stated in some instances. Mr. Cremeens asked about the dumpster in the 100 block of Second Avenue, which has been posing a safety issue. The property owner has not followed through on his promise to remove it. Mr. Finney said he is very frustrated over the situation and plans to begin fining the property owner for each day he is in violation. Mr. Doss has been promising to move it each month for the last six months.
- Mr. Finney requested executive session to discuss personnel issues concerning promotions in the police department.
- Budget meetings – The City Auditor requested delaying the budget hearings until after the second meeting this month to allow time to enter the end of the year figures to the proposed budget and also to allow a couple of extra weeks for recovery for her. Mr. Wallis would like to use laptops for Commission meetings to eliminate so much wasted paper. It would also allow for ease in distributing and accessing large files of back-up information. After a brief discussion, the Commissioners decided to order laptops for everyone, which would be dedicated solely to Commission business and passed on to new Commissioners as they come into office.

Gallipolis City Commission

January 4, 2011

Page 3

The City Auditor presented a liquor license transfer from Midland Food Services LLC, dba Pizza Hut, to Pizza Hut of America, dba Pizza Hut. The Police Chief has no problem with this transfer. Mr. Johnson made a motion not to request a hearing, seconded by Mr. Cremeens. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

Ms. Landers presented two invoices over \$3,000 for approval of payment: \$4,026.06 from AEP for street lights and \$18,032.97 from Waste Management for November refuse pickup. Mr. Cremeens made a motion to approve payment, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon voice vote on the motion, Mr. Wallis abstained. All other votes were yes.

Ms. Landers encouraged the Commissioners to consider attending the RCAP training that is being offered this spring. President Cozza agreed that the training was very useful in gaining an understanding of the economics involved in running a water or sewer system.

The City Solicitor requested executive session for pending legal action.

Mr. Cozza asked when the clean-up on Olive Street would be completed. A resident complained of gravel in the street and piles of dirt. Mr. Wallis said he thought the dirt pile was likely where the soil was mounded above the lines to allow for settling. Mr. Finney said he would check it out.

Mr. Cozza suggested that Code Enforcement check conditions of the residence near the train station, which is in bad shape. Mr. Finney added that the train station, which the City owns, needs rehabilitation. Earlier estimates of the cost were around \$500,000. The roof is in bad shape. Mr. Johnson was in favor of using it as a Farmers Market. There is plenty of parking available for that usage. It should be possible to fix it for that usage for much less.

Mr. Johnson asked that the City not bother removing his stump grindings. He has a place to use them.

Following a brief discussion of the legality, Mr. Johnson made a motion to enter executive session to discuss purchase and sale of property as set forth in ORC Section 121.22(G)(2), pending legal action as set forth in ORC Section 121.22, and personnel: promotions in the Police Department as set forth in ORC Section 121.22(G)(1). The motion was seconded by Mr. Cremeens. Upon roll call on the motion, all votes were yes. President Cozza announced that there would be no action following executive session. Upon completion of executive session, Commission returned to regular session.

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


Clerk, City Commission


President, City Commission