

April 6, 2010

The Gallipolis City Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, April 6, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the 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
 Judge Margaret Evans, Gallipolis Municipal Court
 Michelle Miller, Gallipolis Daily Tribune
 Tony Gallagher Marvin Vanderberg Ronnie Lynch
 Eileen Willis Jon Lynch Carol Snowden
 Tammi Brabham Dottie Chestnut Claudia Miller
 Judy Payne

Commission received the minutes of the March 16, 2010 meeting prior to this meeting. There being no corrections, objections, or additions, these minutes were approved.

Privilege of Floor was granted to Mr. Tony Gallagher of the Gallipolis Neighborhood Watch Committee. He invited the Commission and the general public to come to a special Town Hall Meeting to discuss the topic of drugs and alcohol in our community, set for Monday, April 26th, at 6 p.m. at the Gallia County Senior Center. There will be a number of speakers, including the mother of a young man who died from "huffing" and a recovering addict. The event is sponsored by various local social service and law enforcement agencies.

Ms. Tammy Brabham was granted *Privilege of Floor*. She said that she has submitted her request for hook-up to the Industrial Park sewer line. Mr. Finney said that he and Mr. Woodall have reviewed her plans and that he is recommending that the Commission approve hook-up. Mr. Cremeens made a motion to approve hook-up, seconded by Ms. Bailey. All costs related to the hook-up will be borne by the owner. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- Set up for the Spruce Street Project will begin on April 15th. The project should take two to three months to complete. Letters have been sent to the property owners. Three have responded so far with annexation acceptance letters.
- The County has finished the work on the Spruce Street flood escape road.

- The County needed to make some changes to the wording of the Green Township sewer contract in order to preserve our ability to apply for funding on the project. President Cozza asked to discuss the contract in executive session.
 - The Expo in Charleston was very worthwhile, affording the opportunity to talk with many vendors.
 - The Farmers Market will be setting up in downtown Gallipolis on State Street between First and Second Avenues. Plans are to open on June 16th, with hours on Thursdays and Saturdays. All property owners along that portion of State Street have alternate access to their properties so that they should not be overly inconvenienced during market hours. Mr. Finney said he intends to discuss plans with the residents to assure that that any concerns they may have are addressed.
 - Aaron's Rents has begun site preparation. Construction should be complete in three to four months. There was discussion of the number of employees they might have when they open, but Mr. Finney guessed it might be around eight people, based on other stores he had seen.
 - Ms. Henrietta Evans has agreed to serve another term on the Gallia Metropolitan Housing Board. Her appointment letter was included in the packets. The City Manager appoints to this board.
 - Mr. Finney recommended pool fees for this season. He said that he increased some of the fees slightly to allow the City enough added revenue to provide the lifeguards with swimsuits, t-shirts, and whistles. In the past, the lifeguards have paid for all of these items themselves, which creates a financial hardship for them. Mr. Wallis made a motion to approve the rate increases and to pay for swimsuits, t-shirts, and whistles for the lifeguards, seconded by Mr. Cremeens. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.
 - Mr. Finney needs to attend the Public Information Officer Training on April 27 - 29 in Columbus.
 - A new roof is being installed on the WTP Plant at a cost of \$6,200.
 - The new tractor and brush hog in the budget for the Maintenance Department has been ordered.
 - The Ariel Theatre has requested free water for their third floor meeting rooms. Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve extending free service to the third floor portion of the Ariel, seconded by Mr. Cremeens. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.
 - Easter in the Park was a great success, with 2,500 candy-filled eggs quickly collected by eager little tots in about two minutes. Mr. Finney suggested that the City try to have at least 10,000 eggs for next year to better satisfy the demand. The Women's Club and Gallipolis Elks Lodge help sponsor the annual event.
 - 109 letters went out on sidewalk repairs. The City has received numerous telephone calls concerning these. Residents on Kineon Street have a problem with people parking on their sidewalks, which Mr. Finney is working to resolve.
 - Temporary quarters should soon be complete for the Municipal Court at 49 Olive Street.
 - City workers have been cleaning and painting in the park areas in preparation for summer activities.
 - Due to a mix up in the announcement in the paper, the Davis Hall deadline for bids has been delayed to April 26th.
 - Mr. Finney will be out of the office for vacation April 15 and 16. Mr. Woodall will be covering for him.
 - Mr. Finney has been working with Mr. McGuire to resolve some issues before going forward with the Eastern Avenue repairs.
- The City Auditor presented a stock transfer for Halfhill's Tavern from 50% Doug Halfhill/50% Ms. Bryder. 100% Doug Halfhill. Mr. Johnson made a motion not to request a hearing, seconded by voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

Ms. Landers reported on revenues received in the First Half 2010 Property Tax Settlement from the County. She distributed a breakdown of revenues, as well as an itemization of special assessments remaining unpaid. Receipts were comparable to last year.

Ms. Landers said that she got some good information about the Ohio retirement funds at the Hot Topic Seminar that she recently attended. She said that the City Manager looked into the Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds and found that they would not be suitable for our purposes in funding a new municipal building. However, we could still look into the plain Build America Bonds.

The City Solicitor reported that the lease for 49 Olive Street is ready for the City Manager to sign. The changes in the Green Township Sewer Agreement make the old agreement, which was attached to the first reading of O2010-14, now obsolete. Mr. Salisbury suggested deleting O2010-14 from tonight's agenda. This would allow further discussion of the new wording before proceeding with a second reading.

President Cozza asked Mr. Finney to attend the CIC meeting on Thursday morning. Mr. Cozza cannot negotiate the stairs with his foot still in a cast. He also requested executive session for several legal issues.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency a Resolution No. R2010-15 entitled **AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO WAIVE THE PAYMENT OF EXCESS CAPACITY AND INSTALLMENT AND PERMIT FEES FOR THE SPRUCE STREET WATER LINE AND SEWER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.** Mr. Cremeens made a motion to adopt this resolution as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Mr. Cozza emphasized that the fees were waived only for those annexing and/or connecting during the construction period. This was an effort to be fair to those residents who were promised service before some of these fees were in existence. Upon roll call to adopt this resolution as an emergency, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a second reading an Ordinance No. O2010-13 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT FOR HOUSING REVOLVING LOAN FUND ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENT.** Mr. Cremeens made a motion to adopt this ordinance on second reading, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance on second reading, all votes were yes.

(Ordinance No. O2010-14 was deleted from the agenda, as requested by the City Solicitor).

There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading an Ordinance No. O2010-17 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 505.12(b), SALE OF CERTAIN ANIMALS, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO.** Mr. Cremeens made a motion to place this ordinance on first reading, seconded by Mr. Wallis. President Cozza asked the City Solicitor if he knew why the old ordinance allowed the sale of these animals only for food. He said he did not know the history. Upon voice vote to place this ordinance on first reading, Mr. Cozza voted no. All other votes were yes. O2010-17 was placed on first reading.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2010-18 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR AN ODNR BOATING AND FISHING ACCESS GRANT THROUGH THE COOPERATIVE BOATING FACILITY GRANT FOR GALLIPOLIS PUBLIC USE AREA IMPROVEMENTS, AND ADMINISTER THE GRANT IF AWARDED.** Mr. Wallis made a motion

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to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading an Ordinance No. O2010-19 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH THE GALLIA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET BOARD.** Mr. Johnson made a motion to suspend the rules and adopt this ordinance on first reading, seconded by Mr. Cremeens. Upon roll call to suspend the rules and adopt this ordinance on first reading, all votes were yes.

President Cozza called for any other business to come before the Commission. Mrs. Judy Payne was allowed to speak. Ms. Payne complained that she received a letter for sidewalk repairs for a portion of sidewalk that belongs to someone else. She went on to say that she was injured on a sidewalk downtown seven years ago and received no compensation for her injuries. President Cozza expressed his sympathy over her injuries, adding that this was why the City was trying to enforce sidewalk repairs. The City Manager will look into the issue of ownership of the sidewalk in question.

At the urging of the City Solicitor to present appropriately public content in open session, Mr. Randy Breech presented to the Commission his upgraded drawings for a one-story and a two-story building, along with estimated costs. The Commissioners all expressed their pleasure with the improvements in the appearance of the proposed buildings. They plan to schedule a public hearing to allow residents input in the design.

Ms. Bailey made a motion to enter executive session to discuss legal matters as set forth in ORC Section 121.22, seconded by Mr. Wallis. President Cozza announced that there would be no business to follow executive session. Upon roll call on the motion to enter executive session, all votes were yes. 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