

May 7, 2013

The Gallipolis City Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, May 7, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at the Gallipolis Municipal Building, 333 Third Avenue, having complied with Section 9 of the City Charter.

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

Upon roll call, the following members were present:

James Jay Cremeens, President
 Steven E. Wallis, Vice-President
 Michael W. Brown, Member
 James A. Cozza, Member
 W. Matthew Johnson, Member

Others attending were:

Randall J. Finney, City Manager
 Amber L. Fellure, Assistant City Solicitor
 Annette M. Landers, City Auditor/Clerk/Treasurer
 Amber Gillenwater, Gallipolis Daily Tribune
 Tony Gallagher Claudia Miller Carol Pierce
 Clint Patterson Keith Elliott Joy Elliott

Commission received the minutes of the April 16, 2013 meeting prior to this meeting. There being no corrections, objections, or additions, these minutes were approved.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- Mound Hill Road Repair – The contractor has been working on beveling posts and putting extensions on. July 28th is their newest completion date, but may be sooner.
- Hedgewood Drive – FEMA has re-evaluated the project because of the request for an 80-foot extension. Now they say that they will not finance any of the project due to pre-existing conditions addressed by earlier work. This is a \$1.2 million project, well beyond our capability to finance on our own. Mr. Finney plans to contact other agencies for help, including OPWC. From their emergency funds, they provided assistance for the First Avenue slip, caused by a break in the water line.
- Camera work and smoke testing of sewer lines – Work was done last week on several streets in Gallipolis. On Henkle Avenue, the lines looked to be in fairly good shape, but the storm drainage lines from many houses were found to be connected to the sanitary sewer system. The sewer line under 33 Henkle passes under the house. It is collapsing and needs a liner to repair because of the difficulty in accessing the line. Chillicothe Road was tested down to the bridge. There is a “belly” in the line under the bridge, but the line is flowing. Crews jet cleaned the line. On the left side of Chillicothe Road, there was a lot of smoke from I & I behind the houses. Some manholes also had smoke and need to be rehabilitated. There is also some cracking of lines. Portsmouth Road showed a lot of smoke from houses on both sides of the road. The house at 8 Portsmouth Road has a break in the lateral line at the driveway, which needs to be repaired. The line further on has moved some but is still intact. On Edgemont Road, most houses had smoke coming out of the eve spouts. We need to do some more testing to determine the cause of some of the I&I., but overall the lines do not look all that bad. Our project coordinator, Ed Swisher, accompanied Mr. Finney to Logan last week to meet with the EPA. They showed the results of the smoke testing and camera work, data from the 2006 Ameresco report and 2007 EMH&T report, and from work done earlier by Ameresco

- and others. We have until November 15th to put together a proposal on how to address issues noted long-term. We will be meeting with EPA and DEFA again in Logan on Thursday to look over plans for the sewer plant upgrades.
- Goodwill Open House – This event will be Thursday at 11 a.m. Mr. Finney asked for a volunteer to attend, since both he and Mr. Swisher are obligated to go to Logan on that day. There were no immediate volunteers.
 - The Fire Department report talked about responding to seventeen calls involving meth labs. Patrol Officer Adam Holcomb is now certified for meth lab neutralization.
 - WPC Facility Improvements – OPWC has agreed to finance \$500,000 through a grant and an additional \$500,000 with a 1% loan. The City has until July of 2014 to get the project going.
 - Demolition Grant – The owners of 128 Fourth Avenue have requested that their property be added to the list for demolition under the Moving Ohio Forward Grant. The grant project has been delayed while we looked for a contractor to do the required asbestos removal. We now have a qualified contractor. The County is receiving a grant as well for which we can use this grant as matching funds. One of the houses already approved for the list, located on Vine Street, was removed from the list at the owner's request because the owner wished to restore the property rather than demolish it. However, the owner has not followed through with any restoration work and the property has suffered further deterioration. Mr. Johnson made a motion to include 128 Fourth Avenue on the approved for demolition list, seconded by Mr. Cozza. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.
 - The Elks have requested to place a flag pole along the sidewalk in front of their building. They have previously used a wall-mounted pole on the front of their building for this purpose, but the flag tends to wrap around the pole. There are no ordinances to prevent such an action. In discussion, Mr. Wallis expressed the opinion that it would be no problem as long as it is done right, meaning not too tall or with a flag that is too big. Mr. Brown was concerned that it might set a precedent that would encourage a spate of flag poles installations all along the sidewalks. The Historic Board should be consulted before approval is given. Mr. Wallis made a motion granting approval contingent upon Historic Board approval, seconded by Mr. Cozza. Upon voice vote on the motion, Mr. Brown voted no. All other votes were yes.
 - Tax Incentive Meeting – There will be a meeting in Columbus on May 20th.
 - Project Coordinator's Report – Mr. Finney highlighted portions of Mr. Swisher's report. The panel upgrade in the City Park has begun. Mr. Swisher has been getting together information about work performed in the Ameresco Project to help in evaluating further work that must be done. He is reviving the commemorative brick project in the City Park. He has been working with an engineer to tie in the work to connect water service for GDC with extension of service to the golf course, new school, and Middleton Estates. He has been working on compliance of grease traps along Eastern Avenue. Also he has been organizing safety documents to set up a comprehensive training program for employees. Everyone agreed that Mr. Swisher's report was quite extensive and indicated that he had hit the ground running. Mr. Finney commented that in spite of the heavy workload here that Mr. Swisher was very happy to be enjoying a lower level of stress in his new job.
 - The Justice Center and Administrative Offices now have new e-mail service. Mr. Finney asked the Commissioners to bring in their laptops to have their new addresses installed.
 - BTS plans to bring a portion of their business back to Gallipolis. Mr. Brian Ratliff will be coming soon to get the office up and running again. They plan to hire a number of workers, including eight engineers. They plan a community picnic to be held on May 18th in the City Park. They will have games and serve free hotdogs and brats.
 - Mr. Finney is planning to be out all of next week for vacation.

President Cremeens asked Mr. Brown if he had any news to report on his work on the old Railroad Depot. He said that he was still working on it.

The City Auditor presented the April Financial Statement for approval. Mr. Wallis made a motion to approve the April Financial Statement, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

Ms. Landers explained that Ordinance No. O2013-27 on the agenda is to allow reimbursement from a later bond issuance for the \$32,000 that the Court Capital Improvement Fund advanced for General Fund's half of the cost of 44 Locust Street. We may need to go out for additional funding for the road projects in this later bond. Right now, it looks like we have enough from our borrowing for Hedgewood Drive, which is not a viable project without FEMA participation, to pay our portion on the additional needed for Mound Hill Road. Mr. Wallis made a motion to authorize that the \$30,375 borrowed for our share of Hedgewood Drive be applied toward our share of Mound Hill Road instead, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes. There was a brief discussion of the need to engage in re-forestation of some sections of the Cemetery after the road work is completed.

Mr. Johnson stated that neighbors are having problems again with state of the Amsbary property on Fourth Avenue. Mr. Finney agreed, adding that Code Enforcement and the City Solicitor have been working to prepare papers to take the property owner back to court. Letters have also been going out to violators of the mowing ordinance.

Mr. Brown commended the respect shown by the police escort for the Robert Thomas funeral. He said that several people commented on the respect that they displayed toward the entourage.

Mr. Brown also reported receiving several complaints about excessive noise from motor cycles in town, especially near Hogg Haven. There were also reports of motorcycles circling right in the middle of streets and riding on the sidewalk. Mr. Johnson agreed that traffic violations are cause for concern, but cautioned that the City not over-react to make motorcyclists unwelcome as a group. He pointed out that businesses in town benefit from touring groups of motorcyclists who spend a lot of money in town. The discussion drifted to golf carts, with Chief Patterson reporting that there are only eight registered golf carts in town since the golf cart ordinance was adopted last year.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2013-25 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ALLOW THE GALLIA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET BOARD TO SET UP A FARMERS MARKET ADJACENT TO THE GALLIPOLIS CITY PARK**. Mr. Wallis made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Brown. Mr. Finney remarked that the market will be setting up on Jackson Pike on Thursdays and at the City Park on Saturdays this year. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2013-26 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND REJECTING BIDS FOR WATER/SEWER MAINTENANCE SUPPLIES, HYDRANTS AND METERS**. Mr. Wallis made a motion 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 as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2013-27 entitled **AN ORDINANCE DECLARING OFFICIAL INTENT WITH RESPECT TO REIMBURSEMENT OF TEMPORARY ADVANCES MADE FOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURES FOR THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO, TO BE MADE FROM SUBSEQUENT**

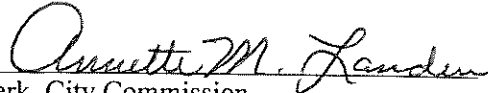
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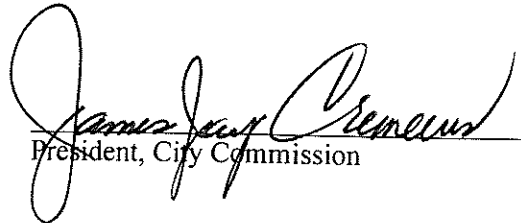
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BORROWINGS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Cozza made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

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


Clerk, City Commission


President, City Commission