

September 3, 2013

The Gallipolis City Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, September 3, 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
- Adam R. Salisbury, City Solicitor
- Annette M. Landers, City Auditor/Clerk/Treasurer
- Amber Gillenwater, Gallipolis Daily Tribune
- Michelle Miller, Gallia Hometown Herald
- Tony Gallagher Joy Elliott Keith Elliott
- Ronnie Lynch Marvin Vanderberg George Cole
- Karen Smith Brad Painter

Commission received the minutes of the August 20, 2013 meeting prior to this meeting. There being no corrections, objections, or additions, these minutes were approved.

Ms. Karen Smith, representing the Gallipolis in Bloom Committee, was recognized for *Privilege of Floor* to present information on a proposed sign to be donated for the waterfront. She showed a rendition of the proposed design, adding that the sign is designed to withstand high water and would go behind the current retaining wall. The sign would be forty feet long, five feet high, and one foot wide, constructed of concrete with metal letters. The silhouettes will be life-sized and made of steel. It is designed to allow for power washing. They cannot afford to illuminate it now, but plan to install conduit to allow for illumination in the future. The sign would be donated to the City, with the City assuming the maintenance.

Discussion centered on safety/liability, location, and design issues. Mr. Wallis expressed concern that someone might climb on it and fall off. Mr. Painter suggested that they could back-fill behind the sign to mitigate the danger. There will be room on the pad for people to pose for pictures. The hillside behind the sign is quite steep. Mr. Johnson added that common sense should tell someone not to climb on a tall wall. Mr. Salisbury stated that liability issues could be addressed by a sign saying not to climb on the wall. There should be no more liability than from someone climbing a tree in the park.

President Cremeens questioned the location of the sign, asking why it was being placed on the riverfront rather than at the City Park. Ms. Smith said that the goal was to alert river traffic of Gallipolis. This was in response to recommendations of the America in Bloom judges.

Mr. Brown stated that he would like to see a more rounded look to the sign. He also expressed concern about whirlpooling around the sign during floods. Mr. Painter replied that in addition to the

foundation behind the existing wall, there would be anchor rods to keep everything in place. Ms. Smith addressed design concerns, saying that the current design represented many months of honing. Going away from the sturdiness of the straight line would weaken the structure. Mr. Johnson agreed, adding that curves add cost. Mr. Painter suggested that some curve could be added by repeating the fleur de leis pattern on the flower pots or adding some metal detail work. There was concern over adding significant cost to a project that is being financed by a very generous individual. He said that they plan to start the footer as soon as they receive the Commission's approval. They also need to order the stone soon. The sign is estimated to cost between \$25,000 and \$30,000. President Cremeens asked that they return in a couple of weeks with drawings incorporating some of the alterations that were discussed. Mr. Johnson made a motion to allow them to proceed with building the sign down by the river, seconded by Mr. Cozza. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

Mr. George Cole was next to request *Privilege of Floor*. Mr. Cole complained of a major problem with motorcycles on the sidewalk on the 800 block of Second Avenue. He said that they park in the yellow zones along the street, as well as block driveways. He stated that the police are not enforcing the parking laws. He asked to have the pick-up/drop-off area put back in front of his business. He insisted that he is not opposed to motorcyclists, but does need to have laws enforced to allow customers unimpeded access to his business. Following discussion, Mr. Finney stated that he will have the yellow lines put back and direct the police to impartially enforce the parking laws. Mr. Johnson offered to speak to Mr. Wells about the parking difficulties.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- Mound Hill Road – Trees have been trimmed along the road up the hill. The drainage ditch will be installed in two to three weeks.
- Christmas lights in the City Park are coming along. Donations are being solicited.
- Demolition Grant – An additional bid, described as good, for the first houses was received today. The grant has been extended. We plan to bid the next four to five houses out as a lot.
- Traffic light study – They are installing a traffic detection sensor at GKN and fixing the sensors at the Shake Shoppe and K-Mart.
- Shade Tree Committee – still needs a new member to be appointed to the vacated position.
- Water customer problem – One of the water customers reported a dramatic, unexplained increase in his water consumption in May from 2,300 to 30,000 gallons. The meter was replaced, tested, and found to be functioning properly. However, the gentleman insists that he has had no leaks, running toilets, or any other problems to justify such an increase in consumption. He has requested forgiveness of the excess. This has been done occasionally in the past. The Commissioners were in favor of allowing forgiveness this one time for him. Mr. Finney has cautioned him that if the problem repeats with his new meter, he will have to pay for this bill and the new amount.
- Carpet for the Court – Mr. Finney responded to the question about carpet recently purchased for the Court. He explained that it was installed for sound abatement in the uncarpeted areas around the court room. It was paid for with the court's special funds.
- Headworks Project Bid – Doll Layman, LLC had the lowest bid of \$1,170,000. The engineer is reviewing the bids for approval at the next meeting.
- Ohio Municipal League Seminar – Room reservations are due tomorrow. Mr. Brown and Mr. Wallis wish to attend.
- New Fire Truck – Chief Elliott has been looking into purchasing a new truck on state purchasing from E-One. He described the truck for the Commissioners. It will take eight to ten months from order to delivery. He also plans to buy a brush truck, but will time its purchase to be financed at the same time. There was discussion of the age of the fleet and feasibility of refurbishing rather than replacing. Mr. Wallis explained that due to insurance considerations, refurbishing is not feasible.

- Batting Cages for Haskins Park – O.O. McIntyre Park Board would like to place three to five coin-operated batting cages in the flat area close to the Skate park or where one of the old tennis courts presently sits. There would be lighting available at the old tennis courts. The Commissioners were interested. Mr. Salisbury advised that we would need a lease agreement to limit our liability.
- The 150th Anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation Celebration will be celebrated this year on September 20th – 22nd (Friday – Sunday). There will be a dinner on Friday evening at the Ariel Theatre. Events on Saturday and Sunday will be at Bob Evans Farm in Rio Grande.
- First Friday, set for this Friday at the OVB Annex, will feature a presentation by the Digital River Project, with a recognition reception for Silver Bridge Coffee at Gallipolis Foodland after the meeting.
- The OVRDC Full Commission meeting is set for September 20th at 11 a.m.

The City Auditor presented the following invoices over \$3,000 for approval of payment:

- \$8,027.50 from the Gallia Co. Sheriff for March `13 Housing of prisoners. Inv. 3/1/13/P.O. 7/1/13
- \$4,192.50 from the Gallia Co. Sheriff for April `13 Housing of prisoners. Inv. 4/1/13/P.O. 7/1/13
- \$7,475.00 from the Gallia Co. Sheriff for May `13 Housing of prisoners. Inv. 5/1/13/P.O. 7/1/13
- \$4,235.00 from Hughes Supply for Radio Installation. Inv. 6/11/13/P.O. 8/7/13
- \$168,037.07 from Foill for Mound Hill Road. Inv. 7/14/13/P.O. 8/8/13

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

Ms. Landers presented a revised list of delinquent water/sewer accounts for certification to the County Auditor. She added one account where the customer had agreed to sign a payment agreement, but failed to come in and do so. She took off two accounts that have paid. Mr. Wallis made a motion to approve the amended list, seconded by Mr. Cozza. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

The City Solicitor reported that many code violations were filed in court last month.

Mr. Cozza asked if there was a pot of money anywhere in the budget that could be used to light the new sign on the riverfront. Mr. Finney suggested the VESI Fund. Ms. Landers agreed. The Commissioners would need to formalize their desire to use the funds for this public purpose. Mr. Cozza noted that this could help deter vandalism.

Mr. Wallis mentioned that the Kerr Monument needs cleaning. He also asked if the grant was extended for clean-up of waterways. Mr. Finney answered that it had been extended. Mr. Wallis also asked if we could still brush hog over the bank on Eastern Avenue. Mr. Finney replied that we would need permission from the property owners prior to any work.

Mr. Brown spoke of the work session that he had recently with Mr. Wallis, Mr. Finney, and Ms. Landers on improvements at Mound Hill. Following a tour of several sites in the cemetery, Mr. Brown provided a working luncheon to discuss ideas from a list that he and Mr. Wallis had created. Any improvements in the near term would require grant funding or low cost, in-kind projects, such as brush clean-up. Mr. Brown emphasized that there would be no clear-cutting of timber on his watch as Commissioner. Mr. Wallis said that he has recently run into around six life-long residents who have never been up on Mound Hill to see the view. He suggested the erection of scenic view signs.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency a Resolution No. R2013-06 entitled **AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW SPECIAL REVENUE FUND (GALLIPOLIS IN LIGHTS)**. Mr. Brown made a motion to adopt this resolution as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Mr. Johnson explained that the committee working

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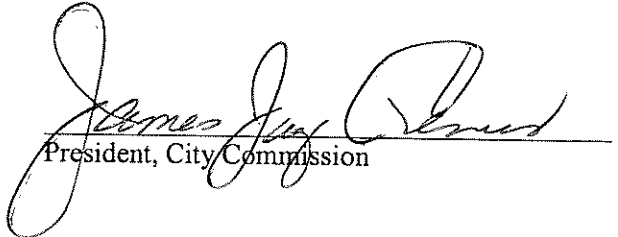
on lights for the city park needs an umbrella organization to collect donations and disburse funds. There are 113 trees in the park that could potentially be decorated, but that is not feasible at the present time. In discussion, Commissioners decided against concentrating lights in one area of the park, but to scatter them throughout. They are seeking donations. The committee meets again next Tuesday at 5 p.m. Upon roll call to adopt this resolution as an emergency, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency a Resolution No. R2013-07 entitled **AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT AN EASEMENT FOR PURPOSES OF INGRESS AND EGRESS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT VEHICLES FROM MARY LOUISE MORRISON AND JAMES E. MORRISON.** Mr. Wallis made a motion to adopt this resolution as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon roll call to adopt this resolution as an emergency, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2013-50 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO REVISE THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO, BY ADOPTING CURRENT REPLACEMENT PAGES PURSUANT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH THE WALTER DRANE COMPANY.** Mr. Johnson made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Wallis. 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