

October 20, 2015

The Gallipolis City Commission met in special session on Tuesday, October 20, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. at the Gallipolis Municipal Building, 333 Third Avenue, having complied with Section 9 of the City Charter.

Commission President Steven Wallis called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

Upon roll call, the following members were present:

Steven E. Wallis, President
 Albert "Tony" Gallagher, Vice-President
 Michael W. Brown, Member
 Michael C. Fulks, Member
 Matthew Johnson, Member

Others attending were:

M. Eugene Greene, City Manager
 Adam R. Salisbury, City Solicitor
 Annette M. Landers, City Auditor/Clerk/Treasurer
 Dean Wright, Gallipolis Daily Tribune
 Ronnie Lynch Marvin Vanderberg Keith A. Sheets
 Keith Elliott Randy Finney Lance E. Clifford
 Joy Elliott Shari Rocchi Angela Rocchi

Commission received the minutes of the October 6, 2015 meeting prior to this meeting. There being no corrections, objections, or additions, these minutes were approved.

Mr. Randy Finney, representing Gallipolis in Lights, was granted *Privilege of Floor*. Mr. Finney re-addressed two issues brought to the Commission at the last meeting: insurance for their volunteers and storage space. Mr. Greene responded that our insurance agent, Mr. Scott Saunders, gave a quote of \$42/year to add their decorations to our property/casualty coverage. They also need accident & liability coverage for their volunteers. One possible solution to the storage problem could be to purchase a couple of semi-trailers for storage. This would allow the decorations to be transported to and from the park with a minimum of handling. Mr. Finney expressed concern that the trailers would allow the decorations to get too hot in summer, damaging them. If they could be sheltered away from direct sunlight, this problem might be solved. The City could offer a charitable write-off if a company would want to donate a trailer or two. Cost typically runs between \$1,000 and \$2,000 for used trailers. The Commission is actively seeking solutions for their concerns.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- Leaf pick-up will begin the week of October 26th. This is being announced to the public in the newspaper and on our website.
- Work on the SR 588 Slip is moving along well. The slip has been repaired and they are forming the sidewalks.
- Fire hydrant flushing was finished last week. This has caused some water leaks that the crew has had to repair.
- E.L. Robinson is preparing the contracts for the Spruce Street lift station repair project. They should be here in the next week or so.
- Construction at the Waste Water Treatment Plant is moving along at a steady pace.

- Trick or Treat night is set for 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on October 29th.
- Mr. Greene asked to have executive session to discuss police personnel.

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

Ms. Landers presented July and September donations for acceptance:

- \$1,000 to Gallipolis in Lights from Peoples Bank
- \$10 to Gallipolis in Lights from Nancy Vanco
- \$50 to Gallipolis in Lights from Becky McIntosh
- \$500 to the Police Special Equipment Fund from the Ohio VFW
- \$850 to Gallipolis in Bloom from Bob Evans
- \$150 to the City Brick Project from Cheryl Jenson

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

Ms. Landers informed the Commission that she is working on the Utility Department's annual write-off ordinance for adoption in November. She also went over the ordinances on tonight's agenda dealing with the VSP fee and appropriation changes. Mr. Johnson wanted to know if Zito Media was taking over the Suddenlink's cable franchise. Ms. Landers said that her understanding of the situation is that Zito plans to be a competitor, but is entering the market under new laws that require communities to impose a video service provider (VSP) fee in order to receive any revenues from the company. She said that the City Solicitor sent a letter to Zito in response to a certified letter that we received from them in September. In it, he informed them that the Gallipolis City Commission was enacting legislation to require them to pay a 5% fee on revenues, including advertising revenues. More recently, the Ohio Attorney General supplied each community with a sample ordinance to enact. This ordinance has been altered slightly to fit our format, with wording added to make it retroactive to September 23, 2015, the date of the City Solicitor's letter to Zito Media. Ms. Landers added that she does not expect that the City will gain much in revenues from a new provider, since the pool of potential cable subscribers is probably fairly static. This ordinance just assures that we will not lose revenues by assessing the same fees on the new cable provider that Suddenlink is already paying.

The City Solicitor elaborated on the new VOCA Grant, already mentioned in discussion of the appropriation change ordinance. Word was received of the award on October 7th, which put it past the October 1 beginning of the new award year. This was later than we usually receive word, but the news was very good for the City. We received 100% of the funding that we requested. Other agencies received about 65%. Mr. Salisbury attributed our success to the fact that "we are going to do something that nobody else is doing, which is taking the victims of crime and helping them go from a criminal setting to a civil setting so that they can completely escape the pattern of violence that they are in." The funding includes salary and benefits for a Legal Advocate, who will work in conjunction with the Victim's Advocate, City Solicitor, and Assistant City Solicitor to provide legal services for the victims to obtain civil protection orders, dissolutions, and child custody, distancing them from their abusers physically, relationally, and economically and giving victims other options than to return to an abusive situation. Mr. Salisbury advertised for the new position and received four applications. Mr. Salisbury recommended hiring the local applicant most experienced in family law (divorce, child custody, etc.), Brynn Saunders Noe. Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the hiring of Ms. Brynn Saunders Noe as Legal Advocate under the VOCA Grant Program, seconded by Mr. Fulks. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

Mr. Gallagher, as a fellow resident, again encouraged people to vote against the legalization of marijuana referendum on the ballot two weeks from today. Mr. Brown concurred with Mr. Gallagher.

Mr. Johnson asked if the old sidewalk sweeper was broken down. Mr. Greene answered that he thought that it did not pick up right. Mr. Brown and President Wallis agreed that it was not working right. This led into a discussion of how the merchants used to take great pride in cleaning their sidewalks and storefronts daily. Mr. Greene has asked a couple of the merchants to power wash their sidewalks to remove residue from their construction projects. Mr. Johnson added that he caught a man dumping trash in the merchants' dumpster, but he brazenly continued even after he was asked what he was doing. The police were busy elsewhere and could not respond in time to catch him.

President Wallis said that he was looking particularly at the Housing of Prisoner line in the most recent financial statement. It is running very short of funds. The Commission needs to meet again soon to discuss options for funding this cost going into the coming budget year and beyond. We need to have any related legislation in place before December 12th in order to get it onto the ballot for the primary election.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading a Resolution No. R2015-14 entitled **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF MATERIALS, SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES FOR USE BY THE CITY IN THE CALENDAR YEAR 2016 AS HEREIN DESCRIBED.** Mr. Brown made a motion to place this resolution on first reading, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon voice vote to place this resolution on first reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a second reading an Ordinance No. O2015-43 entitled **AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SECTION 1352 "CIVIL PENALTY FOR PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE VIOLATIONS" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO.** Mr. Gallagher made a motion to adopt this ordinance on second reading, seconded by Mr. Fulks. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance on second reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading an Ordinance No. O2015-45 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE AND SELL BY BID REAL PROPERTY KNOWN AS PARCEL NO. 007-008-020-00 (KNOWN AS THE THOMAS PROPERTY).** Mr. Johnson made a motion to place this ordinance on first reading, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon voice vote to place this ordinance on first reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading an Ordinance No. O2015-46 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO SELL AT A SET PRICE TO A DESIGNATED PURCHASER REAL PROPERTY KNOWN AS PARCELS NO. 006-555-199-00, 006-555-397-00, 006-555-397-01, 008-001-316-00, AND 008-555-285-00 (KNOWN AS THE OLD CITY DUMP).** Mr. Gallagher made a motion to place this ordinance on first reading, seconded by Mr. Fulks. Upon voice vote to place this ordinance on first reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading an Ordinance No. O2015-47 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH HIGHLAND COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR THE HOUSING OF PRISONERS.** Mr. Johnson made a motion to place this ordinance on first reading, seconded by Mr. Gallagher. Upon voice vote to place this ordinance on first reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2015-48 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A VIDEO SERVICE PROVIDER FEE TO BE PAID BY ANY VIDEO SERVICE PROVIDER OFFERING VIDEO SERVICE IN THE CITY; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO GIVE NOTICE TO THE VIDEO SERVICE PROVIDER OF THE VIDEO SERVICE PROVIDER FEE.** Mr. Brown 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. O2015-49 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O2015-16, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2015-24, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2015-29, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2015-36, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2015-41, SETTING APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2015.** Mr. Johnson made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Brown. 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. O2015-50 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O2015-17, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2015-25, AUTHORIZING THE CITY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER OR ADVANCE FUNDS.** Mr. Johnson made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Fulks. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

Mr. Gallagher made a motion to enter executive session for personnel in the police department and purchase and selling of property, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon roll call to enter executive session to discuss these matters, all votes were yes. President Wallis announced that there would be no business to follow executive session. Upon conclusion of executive session, Commission returned to special session.

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


Clerk, City Commission


President, City Commission