

November 2, 2010

The Gallipolis City Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, November 2, 2010, 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		
Ronnie Lynch	Tony Gallagher	Jon Lynch
Bob Marchi	Bette Null Horan	Randy Breech
Claudia Miller	Barb Epling	Dottie Chestnut
Polly Wetherholt	Caroll Snowden	Joe Foster
Bill Gene Johnson		

Commission received the minutes of the October 20, 2010 meeting prior to this meeting. The clerk was advised of a couple of typographical errors, which she will correct. There being no other corrections, objections, or additions, these minutes were approved.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- Spruce Street Project – The work is complete, with two driveways fixed and seeding done. Annexation is on-going
- Davis Hall demolition and cleanup is finished.
- Mr. Finney is still working on the Eastern Avenue water drainage problem.
- Hedgewood Drive – U.S. Bridge has estimated that piling would cost around \$350,000.
- The Employee Personnel Policy Manual has been undergoing legal review. The Commission will also need to review it before it is enacted.
- The EPA issue at Fourth Avenue and Olive Street – City workers are checking to assure that there are no more problems since repair of the line.
- The Park Board and Shade Tree Committee met last week and made recommendations for policies and procedures. The meetings were very productive.
- The first Town Hall meeting is set for next Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. in the meeting room of the old Gallipolis Municipal Building.
- Gallia County has requested a sewer tap for its spec. building in the Industrial Park. They have only restroom facilities on their 4' sewer tap. Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve this sewer tap request, seconded by Mr. Wallis. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

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- Volunteer Energy Services (VESI) sent their annual community reinvestment donation check to the City. This year's donation was \$2,797. The company would like to do an electric aggregation program for City residents.
- The hole was patched in the City parking lot near the Masonic Hall.
- The City Manager and City Auditor are working on the first draft of the 2011 budget for presentation to the Commission by December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Mr. Finney and Ms. Landers are proposing 2% salary/wage increases for employees, with a \$300 Christmas bonus this year. The increase would begin in December for the final two pay periods of the year. Commissioners were provided spreadsheets showing the impact of the pay increases and the bonuses. Ordinances must be prepared prior to approval. Mr. Cremeens voiced concern over salary increases while facing large costs for the new municipal and court buildings. Mr. Finney explained that the cost of the increases would be offset by projected savings from the electric contract that the City is negotiating.
- The old hotel building next to the post office is in very poor condition. The wall next to the post office is in danger of falling and requires immediate attention. The property owner has been sent a letter demanding action. This fulfills any legal obligation the City has in regard to possible lawsuits if the wall should fall in the meantime. If the property owner fails to act, the City may need to step in and demolish at least the back portion of the building. It is possible that the front portion might be saved, but that would require a new rear wall. Numerous lien holders must be notified, but the City's claim against the property would assume first priority ahead of other lien holders. Cost of demolition is estimated at \$40,000 to \$60,000. Mr. Finney will bring more information to the next meeting.

The City Auditor informed the Commissioners that the Gallia County Budget Commission will be holding a public hearing on the Gallipolis City Alternate Tax Budget on Thursday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. in the second floor meeting room of the Gallia County Courthouse. Ms. Landers will be on medical leave. Mr. Finney and Ms. Tate will be representing the City.

The City Solicitor introduced the topic of the ban of synthetic cannabinoids, which is on the agenda tonight. He invited Sgt. Matt Champlin to speak to the Commissioners about the increase in usage of this "herbal incense." Following his presentation, Mr. Wallis expressed the Commission's appreciation to officers involved in drug enforcement and prevention efforts.

Mr. Johnson reported that a woman, taking her handicapped daughter trick or treating, caught her foot between the asphalt and curb at the handicapped spot on the 300 block of Second Avenue. This caused her to fall, creating a danger to herself and her wheelchair-bound daughter. Mr. Finney said he would check the spot for repair.

Mr. Wallis expressed concern over foot access to the poling place on Mill Creek in Precinct 5. There are no sidewalks available. The Board of Elections designated that poling location following a complaint about handicapped accessibility at the prior poling location at the Nazarene Church. The Board of Elections would be the one to re-assign the poling place to a more accessible location.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2010-73 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH BREECH ENGINEERING TO PERFORM PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES RELATED TO THE DESIGN OF A NEW MUNICIPAL COURT FACILITY FOR THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO.** Mr. Wallis made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Ms. Bailey. During discussion, Mr. Johnson questioned the cost, which Mr. Breech explained was two-thirds of the cost for both buildings

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because the estimated cost of the municipal court facility is also two-thirds the cost of the entire project. Mr. Cremeens asked if parking spaces for the new building would comply with our own code requirements. Mr. Breech said they could, depending on decisions made concerning other properties nearby. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, Mr. Cremeens voted no. All other votes were yes. Ordinance No. O2010-73 was placed on first reading.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2010-74 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CHAPTER 521.11, BANNING SALE OF AND OFFERING FOR SALE OF SYNTHETIC CANNABINOIDS, OF PART 5, GENERAL OFFENSES, CHAPTER 521, HEALTH, SAFETY AND SANITATION, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO.** Ms. Bailey 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 for a first reading an Ordinance No. O2010-75 entitled **AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND REJECTING BIDS FOR ASPHALT, LIMESTONE AND BEDDING SAND.** Mr. Johnson made a motion to suspend the rules and adopt this ordinance on first reading, seconded by Ms. Bailey. Upon roll call to suspend the rules and adopt this ordinance on first reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading an Ordinance No. O2010-76 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH GALLIA COUNTY FOR EQUIPMENT AND LABOR.** Mr. Johnson made a motion to place this ordinance on first reading, seconded by Mr. Wallis. Upon voice vote to place this ordinance on first reading, all votes were yes.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to enter executive session to discuss legal issues concerning the purchase or sale of property as set forth in ORC Section 121.22(G)(2), seconded by Ms. Bailey. Upon roll call on the motion, all votes were yes. Prior to entering executive session, President Cozza informed those present that there would be no other business to follow 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