

November 16, 2010

The Gallipolis City Commission met in special session on Tuesday, November 16, 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
 Amber L. Fellure, Assistant City Solicitor
 Michelle L. Tate, Assistant City Auditor/Clerk
 Amber Gillenwater, Gallipolis Daily Tribune
 Ronnie Lynch Tony Gallagher Clint Patterson

Commission received the minutes of the November 2, 2010 meeting prior to this meeting. There being no corrections, objections, or additions, these minutes were approved.

Mr. David Allison requested *Privilege of Floor* to talk about the tragedy at the intersection of Second Avenue and Sycamore Street. He said that something needs to be done by the State to better alert those unfamiliar with the traffic pattern there. He encouraged the Commission to consider what they can do to put pressure on the State to address this issue. The City Manager said he planned to discuss this in his report.

Based on historical figures provided by the Police Chief, Mr. Finney reported that there were five accidents each year from 2008 through 2010 at this intersection. Twelve out of the fifteen were related to the stop sign. Of these twelve, ten involved out-of-town drivers who were unfamiliar with the traffic pattern. Armed with numbers to document that there is indeed a real problem related to insufficient signage, Mr. Finney called the State yesterday to discuss the issue with them. As a result of that phone call, representatives from ODOT came to Gallipolis today to look at the intersection. In the next couple of weeks, they are planning to replace the present signs with larger, more reflective ones. The City plans to paint the word "stop" on the pavement in the north-bound left hand lane on Second Avenue at that intersection. Mr. Finney also talked to the State about putting red flashing signs at each of the streets there and a green turn arrow. They were not in favor of the green turn arrow, but would consider the flashing red signs. Mr. Finney would need to file an application to install the flashing light, which the state could then approve or disapprove.

Mr. Finney said he plans to place a barrier in the left hand lane on First Avenue at Sycamore to prevent left-hand turns onto Sycamore, as well as prevent traffic heading south on SR 7 from proceeding onto First Avenue the wrong way on the one-way segment of this street. He also plans to address problems with traffic at the intersection of Third Avenue and Sycamore by barricading the left lane on the

one-way segment to prevent two-way traffic from continuing onto the one-way portion, as they are now sometimes doing. He said he believes that these changes will improve safety at all of these intersections.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- Spruce Street Project – Two boundary pins still need to be re-set. The final wrap-up meeting should be in the next week or so. Mr. Woodall needs to walk the site with a property owner to see if the work already done has resolved the issues he had. If not, Mr. Finney has asked the property owner to give us a price that we can add to our list, so we can get the contractor to pay him what he needs to take care of the problem.
- Mr. Finney tried last week and again this week to contact a local surveyor to look at the water drainage problem on Eastern Avenue to determine the elevations in the area. If he does not hear back from this surveyor in the next two days, he will contact a surveyor from Jackson to come and do the work. The Commissioners made some suggestions of other surveyors that he could contact.
- Hedgewood Drive – Mr. Finney talked last week to the owner of a company outside Cincinnati that does caissons. Mr. Finney sent him the 2007 Gannett Fleming reports on soil conditions, etc. to assist his designer in putting together some rough cost estimates. The contractor understands that the project would need to be bid out. Mr. Johnson offered to check into another company, located in Winfield, that might be able to do the work.
- The Christmas Party is set for December 3rd at 6 p.m.
- The Thanksgiving luncheon is November 19th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the fire training building.
- The Town Hall meeting went well. Thirty-five people attended, which made conditions in the meeting room very crowded. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 13th, at 6 p.m. at the Gallipolis Municipal Courtroom, in order to better accommodate the crowd.
- Volunteer Energy is looking into possible electrical cost savings that they might offer to residents of Gallipolis, similar to the gas aggregation plan they are currently offering. It would take two to three months to get such a plan in place.
- The City Manager sent out letters to property owners in the Historic District, reminding them of guidelines they must follow if making improvements. Letters are going out this week to property owners in the Streetscape, reminding them of their responsibilities for maintaining their sidewalks. The City is offering an initial correction of deficiencies in areas not repaired by the City over the last several years, after which the owner must take responsibility.
- There has been a citation issued under the newly-enacted ordinance banning the sale of synthetic cannabinoids. The business owner was aware of the ordinance, having discussed the issue with the Police Chief the week before. There was a brief discussion of news coverage of the citation.
- The French Art Colony has asked to meet with the City Manager at their next meeting. He has written back, asking for the topic they wish to discuss with him. He said he assumes it may concern the appearance of the lot and installation of a fence.
- The ordinance for demolition of 444 Second Avenue is on tonight's agenda. Mr. Finney said that he put \$50,000 in for demolition and asbestos abatement, but expects it to come in lower. Since this is an emergency measure to ensure public safety, there is no requirement to formally bid the project, but Mr. Finney plans to obtain quotes from at least three contractors. The cost will go onto the owner's property taxes. There was discussion of exactly what portion of the building is involved and the City's responsibility to protect public safety. The owner, Steve McGhee, had until last Wednesday to respond, but says he has no funds available. Therefore, for the protection of the public, the City must step in.
- A gentleman approached Mr. Finney about the possibility of allowing a one-day, fund-raising event for different organizations in the City. There would be a band and alcohol would be sold at the event. He was asking if the Commission would be in favor of allowing such an event, to be held sometime in May or September. The Chamber of Commerce and other organizations are represented on the committee planning the event. The Police Chief was asked his opinion. He said it would be costly to

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pay for the extra police personnel for such an event. Alcohol is prohibited in the City Park unless recommended by the City Manager and approved by Commission. Following discussion, President Cozza summarized that the Commission supports the event in principle, but would need more information as planning progresses.

- The City Manager and Code Enforcement Officer have resolved to make a greater effort to track code issues and to report their progress to the Commission in the meeting packets.

The Assistant City Auditor reminded the Commission of the public hearing on the 2011 Alternate Tax Budget, scheduled for this Thursday at the Courthouse. The time has been changed to 10:30 a.m.

Ms. Tate presented the October Financial Statement for approval. Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the October Financial Statement, seconded by Mr. Wallis. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

Mr. Wallis inquired whether Mr. Finney had looked into the reassignment of precinct polling locations. Mr. Finney replied that he makes a list of all issues presented during the meetings and tries to address every item that is within the City's jurisdiction to resolve.

Mr. Wallis asked if the Commission could comment on liquor license renewals, especially those that are not being utilized in an active business. Chief Patterson said that he has had no adverse issues with any of the licensed businesses. President Cozza said that the Commission relies on the Chief to inform them of any issues that would require a hearing. Otherwise, the Commission does not request a hearing.

President Cozza said that Infocision will not sign a long-term contract on their current building. The CIC has prepared a brochure to send to other telemarketing companies to see if there is any interest in another company relocating to this facility. They have no statement of intent to vacate from Infocision, but desire to be proactive in preparing for such an eventuality.

Mr. Wallis asked if Mrs. France, a resident of Spruce Street Extension, has had her sewer tap issue resolved. Mr. Finney answered that this customer has been paying a sewer bill for twenty years, but was receiving no actual service. The City is hooking her up now at our cost.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a second reading a Resolution No. R2010-20 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 2011 AS HEREIN DESCRIBED.** Ms Bailey made a motion to adopt this resolution on second reading, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon roll call to adopt this resolution on second reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency a Resolution No. R2010-21 entitled **AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES AND ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR A DESIGN AND ARCHITECT CONSULTANT FOR A NEW MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING.** Mr. Johnson made a motion to adopt this resolution as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Wallis. There was a short discussion of the process to be followed. 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. O2010-69 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO**

PAVE ROBERTS LANE AND BOB EVANS LANE. Mr. Wallis made a motion to adopt this ordinance on second reading, seconded by Mr. Johnson. The City Manager recommended voting down this ordinance because the asphalt plants are closing for the season. Before undertaking the project in the spring, Mr. Finney plans to hire a surveyor to assist in apportioning the cost among the property owners. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance on second reading, all votes were no.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a second reading an Ordinance No. O2010-70 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING O2003-57 A SPECIAL PURPOSE FLOOD DAMAGE REDUCTION ORDINANCE, PROVIDING STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES FOR REDUCING FLOOD DAMAGE CONSISTENT WITH REGULATIONS OF THE FEMA FOR THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO, UPDATING SECTIONS 1.6, GENERAL PROVISION, BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AND UPDATING SECTION 2.0 DEFINITIONS, NEW CONSTRUCTION, TO ADOPT THE NEW FLOOD PLAIN MAP EFFECTIVE JANUARY 19, 2011.** Mr. Johnson made a motion to adopt this ordinance on second reading, seconded by Ms. Bailey. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance on second reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a second reading an Ordinance No. O2010-71 entitled **AN ORDINANCE SETTING TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2011.** Mr. Johnson made a motion to adopt this ordinance on second reading, seconded by Ms. Bailey. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance on second reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a second reading an Ordinance No. O2010-73 entitled **AN 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 on second reading, seconded by Ms. Bailey. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance on second reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a second 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 adopt this ordinance on second reading, seconded by Mr. Wallis. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance on second reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2010-77 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE SETTING COMPENSATION FOR MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS, AND REPEALING PREVIOUS ORDINANCES SETTING SAID COMPENSATION.** Ms. Bailey made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon roll call to adopt the ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2010-78 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF A BONUS TO ALL PERMANENT FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES AND ALL APPOINTED OFFICIALS AND GVFD FIREFIGHTERS AND GPD RESERVE POLICE OFFICERS.** Mr. Johnson made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Ms. Bailey. During discussion, Mr. Cremeens endorsed giving a bonus to volunteer firemen and reserve officers. Following discussion, Mr. Johnson made a motion to amend the ordinance to include \$100 bonuses to volunteer firemen and reserve officers,

seconded by Mr. Wallis. Upon voice vote to amend the ordinance, all votes were yes. Upon roll call to adopt the amended ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2010-79 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O2010-09, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2010-24, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2010-34, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2010-41, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2010-51, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2010-57, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2010-65, SETTING APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2010.** Mr. Wallis made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon roll call to adopt the ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2010-80 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O2010-10, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2010-25, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2010-42, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2010-52, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2010-66, AUTHORIZING THE CITY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER OR ADVANCE FUNDS.** Mr. Wallis made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Ms. Bailey. Upon roll call to adopt the ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2010-81 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PAYMENTS TO VARIOUS ENTITIES FOR COMMUNITY INVESTMENT CONTRIBUTION.** Mr. Johnson made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Cremeens. During discussion, the Commissioners discussed requesting a copy of each organization's financial statements prior to authorizing payments next year. There was a desire for more accountability regarding the financial condition of each organization. Mr. Wallis suggested adding the Visitors Center and Gallipolis in Bloom. Gallipolis in Bloom is funded by the City. The Visitors Center receives its own bed tax. Upon roll call to adopt the ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2010-82 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION AND TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT, IF AWARDED, FOR 2010 JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) SPECIAL SOLICITATION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT FUNDING.** Ms. Bailey made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Wallis. Chief Patterson said that this grant is 100% funded. Gallipolis applied for a four wheel drive vehicle. Upon roll call to adopt the ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2010-83 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO DEMOLISH A PORTION OF THE STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 444 SECOND AVENUE AND TO INSTALL A TEMPORARY WALL FOR SAID STRUCTURE, PURSUANT TO SECTION 1343, PUBLIC NUISANCES, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO.** Mr. Johnson made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Wallis. There was a discussion on inspection of buildings. Mr. Finney said that the owners of two buildings on the corner of Second and State have been told they need to fix problems. Commissioners seemed in favor of adopting a more proactive position. Mr. Wallis said that the fire code allows for some inspection of properties. Upon roll call to adopt the ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

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Mr. Tony Gallagher asked to address the Commission. He told the Commissioners that ten Neighborhood Watch signs, provided by funding from the City, have been installed in various locations in town. He thanked the Commissioners for their support. This was followed by discussion of the young girl who would like to participate in Neighborhood Watch. She is too young to volunteer now, but could in a few years.

President Cozza mentioned that the Outreach Center continues to have problems, last year needing money to replace the roof and this year needing funding for food for the needy. He asked if the Commission wished to consider giving an additional amount this year earmarked for food only. Ms. Bailey made a motion to have an ordinance presented at the next meeting to donate \$6,000 to the Outreach Center for food for the needy for Christmas, seconded by Mr. Cremeens. During discussion, it was suggested that the County be challenged to match this donation with one to any county organization that helps the needy. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

Mr. Finney said that last year we gave to the Children's Center of Ohio. The youth there help with many of the City's activities. Mr. Cremeens made a motion to donate \$500 to the Children's Center of Ohio, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

Mr. Finney suggested that they consider a donation to United Way. Mr. Wallis made a motion to donate \$5,000 to United Way, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon voice vote on the motion, 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