

February 21, 2012

The Gallipolis City Commission met in special session on Tuesday, February 21, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the Gallipolis Municipal Courtroom on Olive Street, having complied with Section 9 of the City Charter.

Commission President 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

Others attending were:

Randall J. Finney, City Manager		
Adam R. Salisbury, City Solicitor		
Annette M. Landers, City Auditor/Clerk/Treasurer		
Stephanie Filson, Gallipolis Daily Tribune		
Michelle Miller, Gallia Hometown Herald		
Tony Gallagher	Marvin Vanderberg	Ronnie Lynch
Bette Null Horan	Mike Smith	Kevin Plantz
Jim Johnson	Jeremy O'Dell	Nathan Frazee
Greg Farrell	John Elliott	Kim Elliott
Dean Mays	Morgan Saunders	Ron Saunders
Dwain Beaver	Lori Saxon	Brea Martin
Jonathan Elliott	Joy Elliott	Jonathan VanMeter
Josh Staley	Brad Harris	Jim Doss
Fred R. Holmes	Dottie Chestnut	Keith Elliott
Jim Eutsler	Marvin Ours	Kenny Cremeens
Jacob Nolan	C. Mike Null	Bob Hood

Commission received the minutes of the February 7th and 11th, 2012 meetings prior to this meeting. There being no corrections, objections, or additions, these minutes were approved.

Mr. Jim Doss, representing the Ohio Bass Federation, was recognized for *Privilege of Floor*. Mr. Doss talked about the positive economic impact of past tournaments, including amounts spent by participants. He presented a plaque to the City for our support and participation in the event. President Cremeens thanked Mr. Doss and acknowledged the benefit that Gallipolis receives from these events.

President Cremeens opened the second Public Hearing on an Electric Aggregation Plan. He invited Mr. Fred Holmes of Volunteer Energy Services to speak. Mr. Holmes stated that he had brought a price for electricity as promised at the first hearing. He said that Dayton Light & Power has offered a two-year contract for electricity at \$0.054/kwh. AEP's current price is around \$0.07/kwh. He said that he expected the program to be ready for a June roll-out. He will send an ordinance, accepting the price, for a first reading at the next regular meeting on March 6<sup>th</sup>. The second reading would be on March 20<sup>th</sup>, with 30 days to be in effect. This would be followed by letters to all residents, explaining the program and giving them 21 days to opt-out. Following that, it will take a couple of weeks to sign everyone up and get the program rolling. He did caution that any businesses that opt out would likely have to wait a couple of

years before they could opt back in because of state-imposed quotas that are already maxed-out. He said that residential customers would not be likely to face that problem. Several people asked questions about how the program would work for commercial or residential customers and what their likely savings would be. Mr. Holmes answered their questions and offered to look into specific savings for individuals by evaluating recent bills.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- FEMA disaster team – We expected an answer last week, but are still waiting.
- Justice Center – They are working on the wiring. The walls will go up soon.
- There was a letter on Ms. Gwen Craft's Facebook page, praising the Gallipolis Fire Department for their response to a fire at her house. Mr. Finney and the Commissioners joined in thanking the volunteers for their dedicated service.
- Demolition of houses – The houses on Second and Third Avenue are now demolished.
- BTS is having their Grand Opening on March 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:59 p.m.
- Mr. Finney will be attending the first day of The Ohio City/County Management Association's conference in Columbus tomorrow.
- ODOT State Rt. 160 project – ODOT has sent an announcement concerning their project on SR 160. Projections call for a 3-month project, with blasting along the hillside and removal of trees. The blasts are supposed to be small and occur around once per day. There will be warnings before and an all-clear signal when complete. In case of emergency vehicle traffic, the blast will be delayed to expedite safe passage.
- Mr. Finney has been asked to serve as chairman of the Gallia County Caucus, which meets once per month. Mr. Cremeens also serves on the Caucus. Therefore, Mr. Finney will need to alternate meetings.
- GDC Water tie-in – The Floyd Browne Group has submitted its proposal for design work on the project at \$8,500.
- Fire Chief – Mr. Finney told the Commission that he has completed the interview process, interviewing four very good candidates for the position of Fire Chief. He recommended the appointment of Keith Elliott for the position of Gallipolis Fire Chief. Mr. Cozza made a motion to approve the appointment of Keith Elliott as Fire Chief. The motion died for lack of a second. Mr. Finney stated that he needed to fill this position and asked for direction from the Commission as to how to proceed. President Cremeens instructed him to continue his report. Mr. Finney said that this concluded his report.

The City Solicitor informed the Commissioners that the deadline for a response to the Pierce lawsuit is Monday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. He said that he plans to respond by Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. He added that Pierce is seeking to have the City compelled to exercise eminent domain to acquire his property, rather than filing a more traditional type of lawsuit.

Mr. Cozza expressed the sympathy of the City to the family of Joe Giles, former Commissioner, on his recent passing.

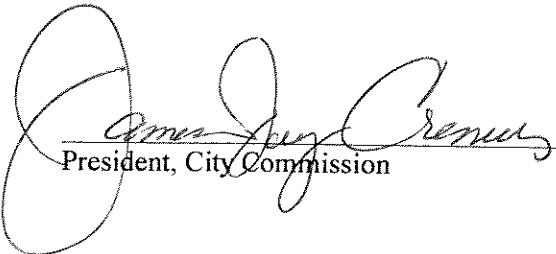
There was presented and read to the Commission for a second reading an Ordinance No. O2012-03 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN A CERTAIN AMENDMENT TO THE GOVERNMENT AGGREGATION PROGRAM AGREEMENT (GAPA), DATED JANUARY 10, 2008**. Mr. Cozza made a motion to adopt this ordinance on second reading, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance on second reading, Mr. Wallis abstained. All other votes were yes. Ordinance O2012-03 was adopted on second reading.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading an Ordinance No. 2012-06 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 139.05, FIRE DEPARTMENT, STATION FIREFIGHTER (F), OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO.** Mr. Cozza made a motion to place this ordinance on first reading, seconded by Mr. Wallis. Mr. Wallis made a motion to table this ordinance, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon voice vote to table this ordinance, Mr. Cozza voted no. All other votes were yes. Ordinance No. O2012-06 was tabled.

Mr. Finney stated that, because the Commission did not appoint a new fire chief, he must revisit the appointment of an acting fire chief. President Cremeens asked if the Commission should go into executive session to discuss this appointment. The City Solicitor advised that this reason was not included in the agenda for executive session.

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

  
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Clerk, City Commission

  
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President, City Commission