

February 5, 2013

The Gallipolis City Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, February 5, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at the Gallia County Convention & Visitors Bureau, 61 Court Street, 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
 Tony Gallagher Ronnie Lynch Keith Elliott
 Claudia Miller Marvin Vanderberg John Westfall
 Cletus Harder Clint Patterson Jake Hanson
 Rachel Babb Chris Hunt Kristy Hanson
 Dan Messerly

Commission received the minutes of the January 29, 2013 meeting prior to this meeting. There being no corrections, objections, or additions, these minutes were approved.

Privilege of Floor was granted to Chris Hunt, Rachel Babb, and Dan Messerly, representing the Ohio EPA. Mr. Hunt told the Commissioners that the Ohio EPA would be working with the City Manager and our engineering consultant to assure the most economical design for our WPC Facility Improvements. He stated that we qualify for a hardship loan, which has a 1% interest rate. The Ohio EPA must approve our facilities plan in order for the project to proceed. Mr. Messerly spoke about the headworks project, which is being funded by OWDA. He said that he has received the permit to proceed on that project. They are checking with Columbus on our discharge permit. Mr. Finney pointed out that the City is partnering with the County to cure their EPA findings in these areas of the county. The loan application must be sent in by March 1st. Mr. Hunt said that the Ohio EPA would be working to assure that our treatment plant remains in compliance in light of change-induced tighter requirements.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- Mound Hill Road Repair – As of today, thirty-six pilings are in place. It will take an estimated two weeks to finish drilling.
- Storm damage – The City has received all of FEMA's reimbursements for the 2012 derecho storm. Reimbursement requests have been submitted to OEMA.
- Administrative Offices – Inside wiring is done. Carpet is down and tile is being installed. They are working to solve some drainage issues.

- Atlas Marketing – There will be a meeting with Atlas tomorrow afternoon from 2 .m. to 4 p.m. in the Ohio Valley Bank Annex.
- Mr. Finney met with representatives from OPWC in Piketon last Wednesday to discuss funding for the WPC Facility Improvements Project. We are ranked first for a \$500,000 loan.
- Mr. Finney asked for Commission approval of the Park Board's recommendation for fees and park hours. They are proposing that park rentals be offered for half days of 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. at a cost of \$35 for half days or \$60 for the whole day. The City Park would be rented out by quadrant at \$35/quadrant or \$100/day for the entire City Park. Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the fees as recommended, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.
- The Park Board also favored trying out some of the black powder-coated picnic tables, similar to those in use on the riverfront, in the City Park. They recommended placing one along each quadrant sidewalk. There are currently benches in place along these four sidewalks, so it was thought that picnic tables would be least intrusive if installed along the same walkways. Each would cost around \$1,200. After some discussion, Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the installation of four picnic tables, seconded by Mr. Cozza. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.
- The plaque for the Justice Center will be ordered tomorrow.
- The Hedgewood Drive bids were opened at noon on February 1st. Four bid packets were received, but two of them arrived after the noon deadline. The low bidder on the 180 foot section that FEMA is participating on was for \$180,000 from Suburban Maintenance & Construction. Foill also submitted a bid, but they bid very high on that section, which was presumed to be an error on their part. The drawings must be reviewed before the bid can be accepted. Mr. Finney plans to have E.L. Robinson handle the construction engineering for the project. He has also expressed concern to FEMA/OEMA about damage during construction to the road leading to the project site. We may be able to get some assistance with funding for those damages.

The City Auditor presented the January Financial Statement for approval. Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the January Financial Statement, seconded by Mr. Cozza. Upon voice vote to approve the January Financial Statement, all votes were yes.

Ms. Landers told the Commissioners that she has been working with Mr. Dennis Schwallie to prepare the papers for the Road Improvements Bond. He has recommended that we issue this bond as a general obligation bond, rather than pledge the revenues from our permissive license tax. He said that this would be more customary and, therefore, more acceptable to our banking partners. Currently the City has a remaining debt capacity in excess of \$1.3 million. Even with this bond issuance, which is \$353,175, we would have in excess of \$900,000 in remaining debt capacity to handle any emergencies that might arise. He also advised that we could finance these bonds for twenty years, regardless of the surface material of the roads. Ms. Landers is asking for two options of fifteen years and twenty years. Proposals will be due on Tuesday, February 19th. She discussed the need to schedule a meeting for Thursday, Friday, or Saturday of that week to adopt legislation related to the bonds. After some discussion, the Commission decided to schedule the second meeting of this month for Thursday evening, February 21st. Closing with the bank will be on the following Wednesday, February 27th.

The City Solicitor publicly commended our Victim's Advocate, Ms. Susan Grady, for her continued exemplary service under a greatly increased load of domestic violence cases. He said that she is handling the work load very well, which makes his job go much more smoothly.

Mr. Salisbury reported that Mr. McGuire was arrested for a parole violation in regard to the resumption of illegal activity along his river front property on Eastern Avenue. He also requested executive session.

Mr. Brown pointed out that several street lights are out on State Street. Mr. Finney said that he had also noted this and that Chief Patterson reported them to AEP last night.

Mr. Wallis led a discussion with the Commissioners on topics they would like to have discussed with our representatives at the Ohio Municipal League Legislative Luncheon tomorrow in Columbus. He asked them to prioritize three items, but in discussions, the list was somewhat longer. Items they wished to see discussed included: water service to GDC and whether increased institutionalization contained in proposed gun control measures might increase GDC's population, grants for replacing utility infrastructure, Farm Road completion and improvements to the exit off of Route 35 into town, park front amphitheatre, and generating revenues for municipalities. Mr. Wallis, Mr. Brown, and President Cremeens will be representing the City at the luncheon.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2013-04 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO AUTHORIZE AND FUND CHANGE ORDER NUMBERS 2 AND 3 WITH HOON, INC. FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW GALLIPOLIS MUNICIPAL BUILDING FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES FOR FIBER OPTIC CABLE WEATHER HEAD AND GAS LINE RELOCATE.** Mr. Johnson made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Wallis. In discussion, the Commissioners learned that both change orders come to a combined total of \$887.15. Upon roll call on the motion, all votes were yes.

Mr. Brown made a motion to enter executive session to discuss pending legal matters and Police Department personnel issues, seconded by Mr. Cozza. Upon roll call to enter executive session, all votes were yes. 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