

July 7, 2015

The Gallipolis City Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, July 7, 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
 Michael W. Brown, Member
 Albert "Tony" Gallagher, Member
 W. 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 Mary Lee Marchi Clinton Patterson
 Keith A. Sheets Keith Elliott Joy Elliott
 Janet Johnson B. G. Johnson Brett Bostic

Commission received the minutes of the June 23, 2015 meeting prior to this meeting. There being no corrections, objections, or additions, these minutes were approved.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- EL Robinson was here today for a meeting to discuss the Parkfront Project, Spruce Street Lift Station and sewer plans. The amphitheater portion of the Parkfront Project received no bidders as a stand-alone project, so ODNR granted permission for the two phases to be bid together to make it more attractive (\$1,100,000 vs. \$100,000) to bidders.
- The Planning Commission and Historic Preservation Review Board met this evening.
- Plans for Speedway are available this evening for inspection. Following the local comment period, they will be submitted to the state. The project should begin shortly thereafter.
- The City Solicitor had suggested that Code Enforcement, the City Manager, and Solicitor meet regularly in an effort to get some of the problem areas in town cleaned up. They have been meeting bi-weekly. As a result, there are two resolutions on the agenda this evening for acquisition through eminent domain.
- The trash contract is coming up for renewal for the contract period beginning October 1, 2015. Shelly Clonch (Purchasing) is coordinating with the City Manager and Auditor to prepare the bid specifications to send to contractors.
- The July 4th festivities went very well, with City workers (including police) commended for doing a great job. The electrical improvements in the City Park helped tremendously, as well city crews who stayed on-site all weekend.
- The City has been looking into the flooding problem at Airport Road and is working on a plan to correct the problem.
- Toyota purchased approximately 380,000 gallons of bulk water during the recent water main break in Putnam County, WV.
- Several people have expressed concern over trimming vegetative growth around guardrails and other places in the City. The water/sewer right-of-ways and areas of construction need attention, as well. There was discussion during the budgetary sessions of the need to purchase equipment to allow City workers to do the work rather than hiring the County garage. Mr. Greene has been

exploring options and recommended the purchase of a brush hog that would fit on our new excavator. This would bring the cost down to around \$6,000, which could come out of the water and sewer budgets due to the heavy usage required for the construction projects planned for them over the next five years. The Commissioners readily approved and asked that he complete the purchase as quickly as possible.

- Mr. Johnson will be reporting on plans to raise money to fund restoration of the Kerr Monument and the Bandstand.

The City Auditor presented the June 2015 Financial Statement for approval. Mr. Gallagher made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

The following invoices over \$5,000 were presented for approval of payment:

- \$11,688.61 to CT Consultants for WWTP engineering. Inv. 4/28/15; PO: 6/23/15.
- \$25,826.97 to CT Consultants for WWTP engineering. Inv. 5/22/15; PO: 6/23/15.
- \$11,000 to Rod Clary for new parking lot work & materials. Inv. 5/27/15; PO: 6/5/15.
- \$5,164.50 to TriStateRacer.Com for shirts & services (GIL). Inv. 5/14/15; PO: 6/5/15.
- \$19,497.60 to Waste Management for May refuse pick-up. Inv. 6/1/15; PO: 6/4/15.

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

The City Solicitor reported that he, the City Manager, and the Code Enforcement Officer had another meeting yesterday to discuss refining the eminent domain process. They discussed how to identify which properties to pursue, based upon such things as whether the property can be rehabilitated and what the ownership situation is. Each property under consideration must be evaluated on the individual merits each presents. Mr. Salisbury told the Commissioners that the McGuire property (along the river on Eastern Avenue) has sold. Mr. Gallagher asked if the City assumes liability during our period of ownership under eminent domain. Mr. Salisbury affirmed that we would, but only for the short time (two years or less) before auction.

Mr. Johnson elaborated on last Thursday's kick-off of the Restore Project, a local effort to raise funds to restore the Kerr Monument and the Bandstand. Donations may be made at the Ohio Valley Bank or on the GoFundMe website. The goal is to raise around \$75,000. He went on to say that the July 4th events went well except for parking problems in the boat launch area, indicating a need for more patrolling in that area to assure that boaters have unimpeded access to the launch ramp, as well as to the longer parking spaces for their vehicles and trailers. The Parkfront Project should help by providing more parking in Phase 2 of the project.

The Hoops Project will have their opening ceremony and court dedications on July 17th at 6:30 p.m. Memorial Courts will be set up to honor Jack Hall and Lorie Neal. Marianne Campbell will be presiding over the games. Games begin on Saturday and continue on Sunday. This year, they will have paid professional referees. Teams are coming from all over the region from as far away as Lexington and Lancaster. The event should provide plenty of bed tax revenue for the City.

Mr. Gallagher noted that the Chamber of Commerce's sign dedication, held during the July 4th celebration, was a very moving remembrance of Lorie Neal, who served as their Executive Director from 2000 to her untimely death in 2013.

President Wallis reported on the Historic Preservation Review Board and Gallipolis Planning Commission meeting. He announced the State's most recent budget left in the Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program (a program to offer property owners income tax credits for restoration of eligible historic buildings). The boards discussed the property at 724 Fourth Avenue and 75 Cedar Street that the City is attempting to acquire through eminent domain. The members formally endorsed passage of the resolutions on tonight's agenda.

President Wallis informed the Commission members that the VOCA Grant renewal application was passed by the Gallia County Commission. He also suggested that the Commission have a work session to list and prioritize possible projects, a 3-5 year plan, in case funding sources should become available.

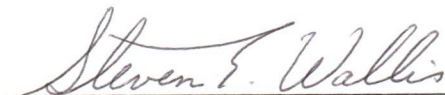
Prior to reading the resolutions on tonight's agenda, the City Solicitor noted that passage of these resolutions is just the first step in the process. After passage, we must enter the properties and have them appraised. We must also publish our declaration of intent for three consecutive weeks. Mr. Salisbury instructed that these resolutions do not legally require a second reading nor a unanimous vote. Statute allows one reading for passage.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a reading a Resolution No. R2015-06 entitled **A RESOLUTION DECLARING INTENT TO APPROPRIATE REAL PROPERTY KNOWN AS 754 4TH AVENUE PURSUANT TO O.R.C. 719.04.** Mr. Gallagher made a motion to adopt on its reading, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon roll call on the motion, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a reading a Resolution No. R2015-07 entitled **A RESOLUTION DECLARING INTENT TO APPROPRIATE REAL PROPERTY KNOWN AS 75 CEDAR STREET PURSUANT TO O.R.C. 719.04.** Mr. Johnson made a motion to adopt on its reading, seconded by Mr. Gallagher. Upon roll call 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