

August 17, 2021

The Gallipolis City Commission met in special session on Tuesday, August 17, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., at the Gallipolis Municipal Building, 333 Third Avenue, having complied with Section 9 of the City Charter.

Commission President Cody Caldwell called the meeting to order.

Upon roll call, the following members were present:

Cody C. Caldwell, President (in person)  
Michael C. Fulks, Vice President (in person)  
Michael W. Brown, Member (in person)  
Albert "Tony" Gallagher, Member (in person)

Others attending were:

Ronnie Lynch, Acting City Manager (in person)  
Brynn S. Noe, City Solicitor (in person)  
Shelly Clonch, Asst. City Auditor (in person)  
Kayla Hawthorne, Gallipolis Daily Tribune (remote access)  
Bill Thomas (in person) Randy Breech (in person)  
Bill Jenkins (in person) Dottie Chestnut (in person)  
Harry Nehus (in person) Claudia Miller (in person)  
William K. Frazee (in person) Marvin Ours (remote access)  
Whitney Vilfer (remote access) Keith Elliott (remote access)

Commission received the minutes of August 3, 2021 and August 12, 2021 prior to this meeting. Mr. Fulks made a motion to accept the August 3<sup>rd</sup> minutes, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes. Mr. Brown made a motion to accept the August 12<sup>th</sup> minutes, seconded by Mr. Fulks. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

Mr. Harry Nehus, a resident of 26 Holcomb Hill, was granted *Privilege of Floor*. Mr. Nehus addressed the commission at the August 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of an on-going problem of water in his basement. He stated that no one has gotten back with him. He has tested the water every day and his basement gets hits with every heavy rain. Acting City Manager Mr. Lynch was under the impression that the maintenance garage was handling the situation. Mr. Lynch assured Mr. Nehus that he will get with the garage to get a crew out there.

Mr. Lynch reported on the following:

- Met with Ben Mohebi on the new server conversion. Mr. Mohebi recommended that we have two processors. This will increase the price of the conversion but will be more efficient.
- Columbia Gas will be working on the sidewalks only on Fourth and Second Avenue. Third Avenue is complete and they will be cutting parallel to the curb on First Avenue due to tree issues. They will fill the dug trenches with concrete.
- There has been progress on getting water leaks fixed. Mr. Lynch stated that the last four nights we have gained water.
- The car show at the City Park over the weekend had a good turnout and had over 240 cars.
- The yard sale in the park will take place this Saturday. There are currently fifty-five to sixty registrations, which is a little down from last year. Mr. Gallagher asked if there would be a rain date and there will not be.

The Assistant City Auditor presented the July financial statement for approval. Mr. Gallagher made a motion to approve the July financial statement, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

The City Auditor presented three invoices over \$3,000 for approval of payment:

- \$26,905.56 from Rumpke for July refuse pickup. Inv: 7/20/21. PO: 8/2/21.
- \$19,749.16 from OVB for fire station bond payment. Inv: 7/8/21. PO: 8/2/21.
- \$4,199.98 from Ohio BWC for monthly premium. Inv: 7/30/21. PO: 8/2/21.

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

City Solicitor Brynn Noe reported that after the last meeting she got the opioid settlement resolution sent in and got confirmation that they did receive it. Ms. Noe hasn't heard back yet if they received enough numbers across Ohio for the settlement to go through, but we should be hearing something soon.

Ms. Noe reported that when we had the 588 slip repair, the County had done a quit claim deed to us for right of way for maintenance purposes. ODOT has requested a permanent easement for work on the property. Ms. Noe doesn't feel comfortable with a permanent easement due to the limited interest that we have. ODOT will accept a quit claim deed for any interest that we may have and she would feel more comfortable with this. The Commissioners agreed this would be the best way to proceed.

Mr. Gallagher mentioned that we lost two wonderful gentlemen from our area this past week who passed away, Chief Boyer's father, Larry Boyer, and Clyde Evans. The commission took a moment of silence in their memory.

President Caldwell made a recommendation to set up a special meeting to interview and hire for the City Auditor's replacement. Mr. Brown made a motion to go ahead and appoint Ms. Shelly Clonch to the position since she is the Assistant Auditor. The motion died for lack of second. Mr. Fulks mentioned that they also need to discuss advertisement for the City Manager position at the special meeting. The commission will decide what day and time to hold the meeting.

Mr. Brown has had more complaints of vehicles speeding on the lower end of Second Avenue. He also has had complaints about motorists not stopping for crosswalks downtown. It was mentioned possibly putting a flashing light when pedestrians are crossing the streets, but that would be something that ODOT would have to approve. The Acting City Manager recommended using social media to get the word out and will see about getting it on the City's Facebook page.

Mr. Fulks asked if the vote on certain issues, such as selling property, could be changed from a unanimous vote to a majority vote. Ms. Noe stated that it would have to be changed by ordinance. Mr. Brown stated that he still thinks it should stay a unanimous vote. President Caldwell agreed with Mr. Fulks and Mr. Gallagher wanted to give it more thought. The commission agreed that it would be something they could discuss at the next special meeting.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading a tabled Ordinance No. O2021-25 entitled **AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SECTION 514 "PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO.** Mr. Gallagher made a motion to take this ordinance off of the table, seconded by Mr. Fulks. Mr. Gallagher questioned if this changed what the federal government law is. The Solicitor explained that this is broader than the current federal or state law. After discussion, the ordinance died for lack of motion.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading a tabled Ordinance No. O2021-26 entitled **AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SECTION 515.02 "FAIR HOUSING DEFINITIONS" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO.** Mr. Gallagher made a motion to take this ordinance off of the table, seconded by Mr. Fulks. Ms. Noe explained that this is what we already have on our books and it is just adding more groups. Mr. Fulks stated that he would rather wait on what comes down from the state. After discussion, the ordinance died for lack of motion.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading an Ordinance No. O2021-27 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH USI INSURANCE SERVICES (PEP) FOR GENERAL LIABILITY AND PROPERTY INSURANCE.** Mr. Brown made a motion to place this ordinance on first reading, seconded by Mr. Gallagher. Upon voice vote to place this ordinance on first reading, all votes were yes.

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

  
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Clerk, City Commission

  
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President, City Commission