

August 18, 2020

The Gallipolis City Commission met in virtual special session on Tuesday, August 18, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., at the Gallipolis Municipal Building, 333 Third Avenue, having complied with Section 9 of the City Charter and Emergency Ohio Sub House Bill 197.

Commission President Cody Caldwell called the meeting to order.

Upon roll call, the following members were present:

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

Others attending were:

Theodore R. Lozier, City Manager (in person)
 Brynn S. Noe, City Solicitor (remote access)
 Annette M. Landers, City Auditor (in person)
 Al Hawley, Gallipolis Daily Tribune (remote access)
 Ronnie Lynch (in person) Marvin Ours (remote access)
 Robbie Jenkins (in person) Jeff Boyer (remote access)

Commission received the minutes of the August 4, 2020 meeting prior to this meeting. There being no corrections, objections, or additions, these minutes were approved.

Privilege of Floor was granted to Mr. Robbie Jenkins, who voiced concern over a recent high speed chase down Second Avenue. He wanted to know our policy concerning this. Chief Boyer said that the actual chase was not on Second Avenue, but some police vehicles did travel down Second. We had two vehicles involved, but multiple jurisdictions responded. He offered to sit down with Mr. Jenkins privately to discuss his concerns, since it is an on-going case.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- The State lifted the ban on utility shut offs. The Utility Billing Office is offering payment plans for customers behind in their payments. Thirteen customers have signed up for payment plans. Of these, three have already paid theirs off. There are nine customers that have not signed up for payment plans, but could still do so. Just as a reference point, there are normally about ten shut offs per monthly cycle. OJFS has a plan to help with water bills. We have included a notice of this on the bills. Gallia Meigs Community Action may also have some dollars available.
- Columbia Gas has met with about 90% of the downtown business property owners. If they must vent to the front of any of the buildings, they will do so in the least conspicuous manner. They are almost done with Locust Street and hope to have their project completed by the end of September in the area that we plan to do repaving work.
- ODOT called and told us that we were approved for \$1.2 million in emergency federal funding for the extended work on SR588. They plan to fast track the project to try to complete it by mid-November. If they are able to do this, it will receive 100% funding. If not, the funding would be 80/20. Mr. Fulks said that it will be the State's responsibility to do the 20% match on the state highway.
- There was another major water leak today on Portsmouth Road. That makes the third one this week.

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

Invoices over \$3,000 were presented as follows:

- \$4,239.80 from BWC for monthly premium. Inv: 7/31/20. PO: 8/3/20.
- \$19,749.16 from OVB for fire station bond (semi-annual pmt.). Inv: 7/15/20. PO: 8/3/20.
- \$26,193.44 from Rumpke for July trash bill. Inv: 7/31/20. PO: 8/3/20.

Mr. Sang made a motion to approve payment, seconded by Mr. Gallagher. Mr. Sang asked if the Rumpke bill was higher than usual. Ms. Landers said that it had not caught her notice as such, but that she would check. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

Ms. Landers briefly reviewed legislation on tonight's agenda. R2020-05 is an emergency 2-yr extension (1/1/20 to 12/31/21) on the current fire contracts to get us past the COVID-19 shutdowns. It is impossible to have a meeting with all of the township trustees together until restrictions are lifted. O2020-26 is the second reading on the ordinance for term life and AD&D insurance. O2020-27 is a first reading on the 2021 indigent defense contract with the County. They are increasing the cost for the first time since 2012, going from \$15,000/year to \$18,000/year. Ms. Landers said that this does not seem unreasonable given the increases in caseloads and costs over the years.

The City Solicitor reported that she has had lots of traffic cases recently.

Mr. Brown talked about very noisy motorcycle traffic along Second Avenue in the wee hours of the morning. This has been an on-going problem. Mr. Sang agreed, saying that it happens almost every night.

Mr. Sang questioned whether the SR588 project can reasonably be completed by mid-November. Mr. Lozier explained that with emergency funding, you get 180 days from the date of the event to complete the project. In this case, the event was in mid-April, which puts the completion date in mid-November. There are some options available for additional funding for the 20% match if the completion date cannot be met. Mr. Gallagher asked if there are legal ramifications to having a third party involved in federal funding. The City Solicitor answered that this would be included in the contract.

Mr. Lozier told Commissioners that we are working with Columbia Gas on utility easements for 2-1/2 Alley. Columbia Gas must get all of the neighboring property easements in place before proceeding with the project.

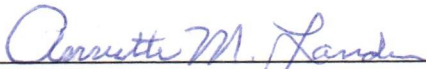
There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency a Resolution No. R2020-05 entitled **AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR FIRE PROTECTION AND SAFETY WITHIN THE TOWNSHIPS OF ADDISON, CLAY, GREEN, AND GALLIPOLIS OF GALLIA COUNTY, OHIO.** Mr. Brown made a motion to adopt this resolution as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Gallagher. 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. O2020-26 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO CONTINUE TERM LIFE INSURANCE AND AD&D COVERAGE FOR EMPLOYEES AND ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS.** Mr. Fulks made a motion to adopt this ordinance on second reading, seconded by Mr. Gallagher. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance on second reading, all votes were yes.

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There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading an Ordinance No. O2020-27 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE GALLIA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR PAYMENT OF LEGAL SERVICES TO THE CITY'S INDIGENT CITIZENS.** Mr. Brown made a motion to place this ordinance on first reading, seconded by Mr. Sang. 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.



Clerk, City Commission



President, City Commission