

September 1, 2020

The Gallipolis City Commission met in virtual regular session on Tuesday, September 1, 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 W. Brown, Member (in person)
 Albert "Tony" Gallagher, Member (remote access)
 T. Beau Sang, Member (remote access)

Michael C. Fulks, Vice President, attended by phone, beginning with reading of the legislation.

Others attending were:

Theodore R. Lozier, City Manager (in person)
 Brynn S. Noe, City Solicitor (remote access)
 Annette M. Landers, City Auditor (in person)
 Sharla Moody, Gallipolis Daily Tribune (remote access)
 Ronnie Lynch (in person) Marvin Ours (remote access)
 Scott Williamson (in person) Jeff Boyer (remote access)

Commission received the minutes of the August 18, 2020 meeting prior to this meeting. There being no corrections, objections, or additions, these minutes were approved.

Privilege of Floor was granted to Mr. Scott Williamson, running for Gallia County Commissioner in November. Mr. Williamson introduced himself, stating that he is attending various meetings in Gallia County to get his name and face before as many of the electorate as possible. He said that his main goal is to see broadband internet available throughout the County. Having served for several years on the County School Board, he is keenly aware of the need for this to help the schools, aid in job creation, and improve our economy. This was followed by some discussion on how this goal might be achieved through a major national project involving Elon Musk's company placing a network of satellites forty miles up in Earth orbit. Commissioners thanked him for attending and wished him well.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- We received a \$40,000 grant from BWC for safety equipment. It will be applied toward the purchase of a valve exerciser and a vac-unit for storm and sanitary sewer lines.
- We have received a portion of the CARES Act money from the State. Guidelines provided by the Ohio Office of Budget and Management state that public safety personnel are presumed for administrative convenience to be substantially dedicated to mitigating and responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency unless the chief executive officer, in our case the City Manager, indicates otherwise. Mr. Lozier declared that he does not declare otherwise and will be using OBM's benchmark of substantial dedication of 50% or more of time. Commissioners, led by Mr. Gallagher, expressed support for our police and fire departments.
- We expect additional CARES Act funds from the State & County. BWC may also refund additional prior year premiums, as they did earlier this year. We will report more on this as information becomes available.
- Columbia Gas is continuing work on their project. As they complete sections of town, we can go forward with repaving in those areas. We will be bidding Third Avenue from Vine to Pine soon.

With the additional TID money that we are receiving, we may have enough money left over from that project to pave more of Third.

- ODJFS and Gallia Meigs Community Action both have money available to help with utility bills. Mr. Gallagher added that Community Action will be moving temporarily into the old Gallipolis Career College building in the Spring Valley Plaza until their new permanent location is renovated.
- The City Solicitor and City Manager have been working hard with ODOT to get easements and all paperwork in place for the SR588 slip projects. These consist of two separate projects. The first is a \$580,000 project near Chillicothe Road on SR588. We appropriated the \$8,508.80 match last year for this project (but it was not spent last year and lapsed at the end of the year). The check has been sent very recently and the contract signed. The second project is the \$1.2 million emergency project that we recently were awarded. They want to start work on that on Monday, September 7th. This evening's agenda includes legislation for acquiring interest in land for part of this project. Any work on the second project that is completed after November 14th will require a 20% match.
- A recent flyer concerning the importance of an accurate count for the 2020 Census stated that for every person missed, it would cost between \$1,400 to \$1,800 in potential funding over the next ten years.

The City Auditor presented the following invoices over \$3,000:

- \$3,622 from Allcom for phone system renewal. Inv: 7/30/20. PO: 8/11/20.
- \$5,266.51 from AEP for August street lights. Inv: 7/28/20. PO: 8/3/20.
- \$8,508.80 from Treasurer of State for local share of SR588 Project. Inv: 8/7/20. PO: 8/27/20.

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

Ms. Landers briefly reviewed legislation on tonight's agenda. R2020-06 is an emergency to grant easement in 2-1/2 Alley for the Columbia Gas Project. O2020-27 is the second reading on the 2021 indigent defense contract with the County. O2020-28 is an emergency ordinance for a two-year renewal of our vision insurance contract with VSP at no rate increase. O2020-29 is the emergency ordinance to obtain interest in land from the County on the SR588 Slip Project. O2020-30 (emergency) is the final agreement with ODOT on the \$580,000 SR588 Slip Repair.

The City Solicitor requested executive session for pending legal matters (lawsuits).

Mr. Gallagher reported that the presentation of our Emancipation Celebration Proclamation with the County went very well. He thanked Commissioners for sending him as their representative.

Mr. Fulks joined the meeting at this point by speaker phone. There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency a Resolution No. R2020-06 entitled **AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO GRANT AN EASEMENT TO COLUMBIA GAS FOR INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF GAS UTILITY LINES AT 2- ½ ALLEY, GALLIPOLIS, OHIO**. Mr. Brown made a motion to adopt this resolution as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Sang. Mr. Sang asked when this project would begin. Mr. Lozier told him that Columbia Gas is still acquiring easements and should begin work in mid-September in 2- ½ Alley. All businesses in the downtown have been contacted and issues resolved. 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. O2020-27 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. Gallagher made a motion to adopt this

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ordinance on second reading, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance on second reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2020-28 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT FOR VISION INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES AND ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO.** Mr. Sang made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Gallagher. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2020-29 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACQUIRE INTEREST IN REAL PROPERTY NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE STATE ROUTE 588 SLIP REPAIR.** Mr. Brown made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Gallagher. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2020-28 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A FINAL AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF OHIO FOR THE STATE ROUTE 588 SLIP REPAIR.** Mr. Sang made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

Mr. Brown asked to add police personnel to the request for executive session. Mr. Brown made a motion to enter executive session for pending legal matters and police personnel, seconded by Mr. Gallagher. Upon roll call on the motion, all votes were yes. President Caldwell announced that there would be no business following executive session. Upon completion of executive session, Commission returned to regular session.

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



Clerk, City Commission



President, City Commission