

September 7, 2021

The Gallipolis City Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, September 7, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., at the Gallipolis Municipal Building, 333 Third Avenue, having complied with Section 9 of the City Charter and Section 121.03 of the City Codified Ordinances.

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)
T. Beau Sang, Member (remote access)

Others attending were:

Ronnie Lynch, Acting City Manager (in person)
Brynn S. Noe, City Solicitor (in person)
Annette M. Landers, City Auditor (in person)
Brittany Hively, Gallipolis Daily Tribune (in person)
Kirk Frazee (in person) Randy Breech (in person)
Jeff Halley (in person) Dottie Chestnut (in person)
Shelly Clonch (in person) Claudia Miller (in person)
Hunter Terry (remote access) Marvin Ours (remote access)
Whitney Vilfer (remote access) Jc (remote access)

Commission received the minutes of August 17, 2021 and August 25, 2021 prior to this meeting. Mr. Fulks made a motion to accept the August 17th minutes, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes. Mr. Fulks made a motion to accept the August 25th minutes, seconded by Mr. Sang. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

Because one of the Commissioners had to be absent, all of the emergency legislation on tonight's agenda had to go on first reading.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading a Resolution No. R2021-04 entitled **A(N EMERGENCY) RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE AUDITOR/CLERK/ TREASURER FOR THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO.** Mr. Fulks made a motion to place this resolution on first reading, seconded by Mr. Brown. Ms. Lewis withdrew her application by e-mail on Monday. This resolution names Ms. Clonch as the new Auditor/Clerk/Treasurer. Upon voice vote to place this resolution on first reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading a Resolution No, R2021-05 entitled **A(N EMERGENCY) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACTING CITY MANAGER, RONNIE LYNCH, TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND/OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM(S) AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED.** Mr. Brown made a motion to place this resolution on first reading, seconded by Mr. Fulks. Upon voice vote to place this resolution on first reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading a Resolution No. R2021-06 entitled **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACTING CITY MANAGER TO GRANT AN EASEMENT TO AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER (AEP) FOR ELECTRIC SERVICE FOR THE SANDERS HILL WATER TOWER FACILITY, 0 ADELAIDE DRIVE, GALLIPOLIS, OHIO.** Mr.

Brown made a motion to place this resolution on first reading, seconded by Mr. Fulks. Ms. Landers and Mr. Lynch explained that this was an easement to allow AEP access to raise a power pole and other work for the Sanders Hill Water Tower. AEP is working on the actual easement, which will be reviewed by our City Solicitor and included in the packet for the second reading. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a second 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. Fulks made a motion to adopt this 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 for a first reading an Ordinance No. O2021-28 entitled **AN (EMERGENCY) ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH GALLIA COUNTY TO FURNISH EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SERVICES.** Mr. Fulks 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 was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading an Ordinance No. O2021-29 entitled **AN (EMERGENCY) ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O2021-04, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2021-07, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2021-11, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2021-16, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2021-23 SETTING APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021.** Mr. Brown made a motion to place this ordinance on first reading, seconded by Mr. Sang. Ms. Landers briefly went over the changes. Upon voice vote to place this ordinance on first reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading an Ordinance No. O2021-30 entitled **AN (EMERGENCY) ORDINANCE TO DONATE ANY INTEREST THE CITY MAY HAVE IN 300 STATE STREET, GALLIPOLIS, OHIO TO THE STATE OF OHIO.** Ms. Noe explained that his was to follow up on an earlier easement. Mr. Fulks made a motion to table this ordinance, seconded by Mr. Sang. Upon voice vote to table the ordinance, all votes were yes.

Mr. Lynch reported on the following:

- He and Mr. Bostic have been working with the County Engineer's Office on a paving grant for next year. This will include the same roads (the lower ends of 2nd & 3rd Avenues, 4th Ave from Pine to Spruce, and Sycamore from 2nd to 4th) as applied for last year, with the addition of Chillicothe Road. No paving projects could be done this year due to lack of availability of paving contractors. They were swamped with other projects.
- We will be installing the new roof at the pool this fall and the sand filters next spring.
- The City Maintenance crew continues to work on water leaks and pothole repairs.
- We have also been working with the County Engineer on grants for wastewater infrastructure and water meters.

The City Auditor presented the August financial statement for approval. Mr. Fulks made a motion to approve the August financial statement, seconded by Mr. Sang. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

Four invoices over \$3,000 were presented for approval of payment:

- \$4,902.56 from AEP for August street lights. Inv: 7/29/21. PO: 8/20/21.
- \$26,500 from Citgo Water for meters. Inv: 7/28/21. PO: 8/13/21.
- \$3,900 from Henschen for annual back-up agreement. Inv: 8/19/21. PO: 8/23/21.
- \$46,682.11 from TASC for peer recovery support. Inv: 7/22/21. PO: 8/19/21.

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

Donations received for Gallipolis in Lights included \$100 from Gerald and Anne Roach and \$100 from The Wiseman Agency. Mr. Fulks made a motion to accept these donations, seconded by Mr. Sang. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

Ms. Landers has been working with the Water Department and Smart Bill to print and send out the letter to voters on the Charter change on the November ballot. They can print and mail it out with the October billing, which goes out around the first of October. It will cost an estimated \$275 or less. There is no additional cost for postage since it will be going to all water customers.

We received the 2nd half property tax distribution from the County. General Fund received \$58,331.24. Fire Levy received \$46,572.40. Water/Sewer special assessments received \$1,028.95, plus penalties and interest. BOCA clean-up received \$750, plus penalties and interest.

We also received the 1st payment (\$186,247.39) of ARP funding. We will receive the second payment sometime next spring. We have about three years to spend the money. Ms. Landers suggested forming a committee to formalize a plan for spending the money under one or more of the categories (projects) allowable under the ARP grant provisions. We should have Commission oversight and approval of projects to assure that we stay within the guidelines and achieve the maximum benefit for our residents.

Ms. Landers said that she has looked into the topic of how much we should pay our contracted Acting City Manager for his services. Mr. Lynch receives a monthly amount as our contracted Tax Administrator that translates to \$18.77/hr., plus SS, Medicare, and a small amount for insurance buy-out. Mr. Lozier made \$25/hr. This is a difference of \$6.23/hr. With Social Security and Medicare added, it translates to about \$270/week. Mr. Brown made a motion to pay Mr. Lynch \$270/week, retroactive to Mr. Lozier's resignation. Motion was seconded by Mr. Fulks. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

City Solicitor Brynn Noe spoke briefly on the letter that she prepared for the voters, already mentioned in the City Auditor's report.

President Caldwell stated that he wants to move forward on City Manager candidates. He asked for suggestions of how to proceed. Mr. Sang suggested having a special meeting to select the top three candidates. Mr. Fulks suggested having each Commissioner write down his top three candidates from the resumes already submitted. Commissioners can discuss from these lists at the next meeting. Everyone seemed in favor of Mr. Fulks' plan. Mr. Sang will remove the on-line job posting.

Mr. Brown stated that cars are still not stopping for pedestrians in the crosswalks. Ms. Noe stated that the law has been posted on the City's Facebook page. Mr. Brown would like to see mention of it in the newspaper.

Mr. Fulks made a motion to make the sale of property require majority approval, not unanimous, seconded by Mr. Sang. Mr. Brown vehemently disagreed and threatened to vote no on everything from

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now on if this goes through. Upon voice vote on the motion, Mr. Brown voted no. Mr. Fulks, Mr. Sang, and Mr. Caldwell voted yes. The City Solicitor will prepare legislation for the next meeting.

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


Clerk, City Commission


President, City Commission