

September 17, 2013

The Gallipolis City Commission met in special session on Tuesday, September 17, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at the Gallipolis Municipal Building, 333 Third Avenue, having complied with Section 9 of the City Charter.

Commission President James Jay Cremeens called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

Upon roll call, the following members were present:

James Jay Cremeens, President
 Steven E. Wallis, Vice-President
 Michael W. Brown, Member
 James A. Cozza, Member
 W. Matthew Johnson, Member

Others attending were:

Randall J. Finney, City Manager
 Adam R. Salisbury, City Solicitor
 Annette M. Landers, City Auditor/Clerk/Treasurer
 Amber Gillenwater, Gallipolis Daily Tribune
 Michelle Miller, Gallia Hometown Herald
 Tony Gallagher Joy Elliott Keith Elliott
 Ronnie Lynch Marvin Vanderberg Clint Patterson

Commission received the minutes of the September 3, 2013 meeting prior to this meeting. There being no corrections, objections, or additions, these minutes were approved.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- Mound Hill Road – Work on the drainage ditch will begin tomorrow.
- Demolition Grant – Supreme Asphalt had the low bid of approximately \$13,000 for the first three houses. After the grant reimburses for these, the City will go to bid for the next four houses.
- Traffic light study – They are installing a traffic detection sensor at GKN and fixing the sensors at the Shake Shoppe and K-Mart. The Walmart light went out this weekend and was fixed.
- Shade Tree Committee – Mike Brown has found a resident, Ms. Patti Davis, who is willing to serve on the Shade Tree Committee. Mr. Cozza made a motion to appoint Ms. Patti Davis to the Shade Tree Committee, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.
- “Yarn Bombing” request for City Park – Ms. Nancy Childs has requested that her group be allowed to decorate items within the park with yarn, known as “yarn bombing.” Mr. Finney showed pictures of statuary decorated with yarn clothing to demonstrate what the group has in mind. They would like to conduct a week-long event in the park next spring as a unique way to bring interest to the park. Following discussion, Commissioners agreed to allow the event as described.
- Speed limit on State Route 588 - Mr. Finney reported receiving a few complaints concerning the speed limit on the section of SR 588 coming into town and extending to the Outreach Center. The speed limit on that stretch begins at 45 mph and goes down to 35 mph near the Outreach Center. He would like to reduce the speed to 25 mph to make it safer for those trying to pull out of Texas Road and Burkhart Lane, as well as more responsive to the road conditions in that area. The City cannot change the speed limit on a state route, but could adopt a resolution to send to ODOT to ask

for the change. ODOT would then conduct a study to determine if the change would be justified. The Commissioners agreed to have the study done.

- Dog Park request – Mr. Finney has received a request to construct a fenced dog park somewhere in the Haskins Park complex. Several cities have dog parks, fenced areas where dogs can be let off their leashes and allowed to romp freely. In discussion, Commissioners asked the City Manager to research the pros and cons by speaking to other mayors about their experiences with their own dog parks. There was concern over liability issues. Mr. Wallis pointed out that the leash law already is not being followed well.
- The grants that the County was administering for clean-up have been extended.
- Traffic change on Court Street – The recent meeting with Court Street merchants went well, with merchants in favor of the changes. Notice has been sent out of a public hearing on the matter, set for October 1, at 6 p.m. in the meeting room of the City Building. This will precede the next Commission meeting.
- Gallia Alliance – Mr. Tom Wiseman is heading up a group to encourage county businesses and their employees to buy locally. There were some concerns expressed over purchasing requirements for public entities. The City could not go contrary to state law, but local vendors could cooperate by participating in the state purchasing program when appropriate. President Cremeens asked Mr. Finney to invite Mr. Wiseman to a meeting to explain the program.
- Mayor's Meeting – The next mayor's meeting will be held in Gallipolis on October 10, 2013. They will tour the Justice Center, followed by a locally-catered lunch at the City Building.
- Gallia Jackson Solid Waste is starting a new recycling program with Rumpke. They will have recycling bins at Walmart and the Silver Bridge Plaza.
- OPWC Grant applications are due next month. The grants require a 50% local match, which eliminates any street paving projects because of budget constraints. However, we could apply for the sewerage of the section of Cruzet Avenue between Eastern Avenue and the river, estimated at around \$300,000. Depending on EPA action, this could become a priority project.
- APEG meeting – Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth meets tomorrow at 10 a.m. in Waverly.
- 150th Emancipation Proclamation Celebration – There will be a ceremony on Thursday morning at the Courthouse to present the County and City proclamations commemorating the event. Everyone is encouraged to attend.
- The Tree City USA Conference is next Thursday. Mr. Finney and Mr. Bostic plan to attend.
- The OVRDC Full Commission meeting is set for September 20th at 11 a.m. in Ironton.
- There will be an OVRDC meeting on grants in Waverly on September 25th, at 5 p.m.

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

Ms. Landers went over the list of changes contained in the Appropriations Change Ordinance O2013-54 on tonight's agenda.

The City Solicitor reported on a case dealing with a squatter who refused to leave a residence where she was staying after a couple of weeks, even after the legal tenant and the owner told her to leave. She was attempting to create a residency where none existed, which is criminal trespass. The owner told her that she was not to be on any of his properties. The woman left the first residence and went next door where she unsuccessfully attempted the same thing at another rental unit owned by the same person. These type of cases are on the rise in some communities, although they often involve hotels and not private residences.

Mr. Johnson noted that he met with Mr. Swisher in the City Park prior to tonight's meeting. They were discussing the placement of decorative lighting for the Gallipolis in Lights project. Donations have been coming in from many businesses, organizations, and residents. On Friday, September 27th, Bob Evans Farms in Rio Grande will be having a fund raiser from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. The next scheduled meeting for the group is on September 24th. There will be an official lighting ceremony on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. Ryan Smith will be there.

Mr. Johnson also reminded folks to attend Chili fest, set for October 5th in the City Park.

Mr. Cozza expressed concern over the exposure of mounds of dirt where a building is being demolished.

Mr. Wallis asked if asked if the Fire Levy was on the ballot for November. Ms. Landers answered that it had been turned in to the Board of Elections quite some time back. Chief Elliott said that he plans to do a press release soon to ask the public for their support.

Mr. Brown suggested that the City look into getting some crosswalks installed across Eastern Avenue at Smithers Street. He is concerned for pedestrians trying to cross there without crosswalks or sidewalks on the Walmart side of the street. Mr. Finney offered to speak to ODOT about crosswalks, but they might not be willing to do this without sidewalks on one side of the street.

President Cremeens e-mailed his offer to serve as liaison to help get some kind of activity for the City Park, which could be called "The Party in the Old City Park." He was inspired by recent events in neighboring communities.

Mr. Finney reported that geese are creating a nuisance at the City Pool now that it is closed for the season. They leave the water in the pool to keep the walls stable. This encourages the geese to set up housekeeping. If harassed enough, they would go away, but it is difficult to keep such a program going consistently and long enough to discourage the geese. Mr. Brown suggested checking to see what other communities do with similar situations. The strip installed along the river bank is not doing the job of keeping the geese out of the park as well as the original wire did. Mr. Finney pointed out the wire had the advantage of being virtually invisible until the geese ran into it. That was enough to scare them back into the river. They can see the strip in time to just step over it.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2013-51 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND REJECTING BIDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE GALLIPOLIS PWPCF HEADWORKS FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.** Mr. Johnson 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.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2013-52 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH CT CONSULTANTS FOR AMENDMENT NO. 2 FOR THE GALLIPOLIS HEADWORKS FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS.** Mr. Johnson made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Cozza. 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. O2013-53 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 2014 INTERNATIONAL CAB AND CHASSIS TOP MOUNT PUMPER FIREFIGHTING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT THROUGH THE**

STATE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM. Mr. Brown made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

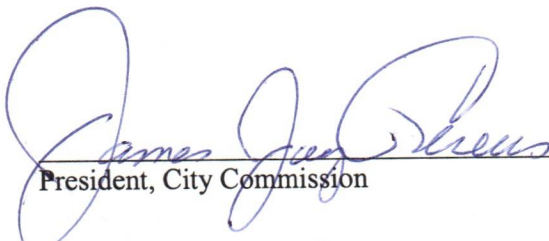
There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2013-54 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O2013-16, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2013-23, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2013-30, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2013-45, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2013-49, SETTING APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2013.** Mr. Cozza made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Johnson. 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. O2013-55 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O2013-17, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2013-31, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2013-47, AUTHORIZING THE CITY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER OR ADVANCE FUNDS.** Mr. Wallis made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading an Ordinance No. O2013-56 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 945.02, GARBAGE AND REFUSE, UNLAWFUL DEPOSITS, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO.** Mr. Wallis made a motion to place this ordinance on first reading, seconded by Mr. Brown. The City Manager explained that some people are bringing trash from outside of the City into the City to dispose of it in residents' trash. This has been excessive in some cases, resulting in upwards of sixty bags at one location. Also, when renters leave, huge amounts of trash are being set out in some locations. This ordinance limits the number of bags to six, setting the price for excess bags at \$30 or up at the City Manager's or Code Enforcement's discretion. Upon voice vote to place this ordinance on first reading, all votes were yes.

Mr. Brown made a motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel-retirement per ORC 121.22(G)(1), seconded by Mr. Wallis. Upon completion of executive session, Commission returned to special session. There being no further business to come before the City Commission, the meeting was adjourned.


Clerk, City Commission


President, City Commission