

October 16, 2018

The Gallipolis City Commission met in special session on Tuesday, October 16, 2018, at 6 p.m., at the Gallipolis Municipal Building, 333 Third Avenue, having complied with Section 9 of the City Charter.

Commission President Michael Fulks called the meeting to order. There was a moment of silent meditation in memory of former Gallipolis City employee, Melvin B. Greene, father of City Manager, Gene Greene. Mr. Wallis followed with the invocation.

Upon roll call, the following members were present:

Michael C. Fulks, President
 Steven E. Wallis, Vice-President
 Cody C. Caldwell, Member
 Albert "Tony" Gallagher, Member
 Beau Sang, Member

Others attending were:

M. Eugene Greene, City Manager
 Ronnie Lynch, Acting City Manager
 Adam R. Salisbury, City Solicitor
 Annette M. Landers, Auditor/Clerk/Treasurer
 Dean Wright, Gallipolis Daily Tribune
 Brynn Noe Dottie Chestnut Michael W. Brown
 Larry Taylor Randy Breech Marvin Vanderberg

Commission received the minutes of the October 2, 2018 meeting prior to this meeting. There being no corrections, objections, or additions, these minutes were approved.

Privilege of Floor was granted to Mr. Larry Taylor, representing Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. (VESI), the City's retail natural gas services aggregator. Mr. Taylor informed Commissioners that Mr. Fred Holmes, our VESI representative since inception of our aggregation program, has now retired and is volunteering with the Red Cross. Mr. Taylor said he is determined to continue the good relationship that Mr. Holmes established with the City.

Mr. Taylor stated that one of the most rewarding aspects of the program for himself and the owner is the community reinvestment contribution that the company pays back to its participating communities. This year's check for \$3,946.81 was presented to the City Auditor. Everyone joined in thanking Mr. Taylor and Volunteer Energy for the generous contribution. Mr. Taylor explained that the check was larger this year due in part to the colder winter last year. Mr. Greene added that VESI's owner, at the urging of Mr. Taylor, decided to wipe the slate clean and stop deducting for an overpayment that VESI had made to the City a few years ago. They did not want to continue to penalize the City for a mistake that the company made. Ms. Landers listed a few of the projects and activities that the community reinvestment contributions have funded over the years. These included sponsorships of the Hoops Project and Chautauqua programs, matching funds for the City Park Electrical Improvements, interest payments on the construction loan for the Riverfront Improvements Project, gravel and sidewalks for the new parking lot on Third Avenue, and landscaping of the City's buildings and parks.

The gas aggregation renewal contract for the next two-year period is on tonight's agenda for approval. In the City's current contract, residents receive a guaranteed rate 7% off of Columbia Gas Standard Choice Offer (SCO). Gas prices have fallen over the past two years to the point that VESI was losing money at this rate. The

new rate offered is 5% off SCO, with a guaranteed minimum of \$0.03 below SCO Adder rate. The community reinvestment contribution rate will remain unchanged.

The Acting City Manager reported on the following:

- The Bandstand Project is almost 75% completed. The contractor is doing a great job.
- The GDC Water Line Project is about 90% complete. Testing was completed today.
- The City's OPWC Grant application scored second out of seven in the county. This virtually assures funding of the \$233,000 paving project.
- Ordinance No. O2018-38, on tonight's agenda, is to eliminate all of the extra crew leader positions and consolidate most of the rest of the positions into one maintenance worker classification. This will allow the supervisor to assign workers wherever needed.
- There was a complaint about 2-1/2 Alley being blocked for construction of the new bank facility on the State Street end. After looking into the matter, Mr. Greene decided that opening the alley during construction would create a public safety concern. The alley will remain closed until there is no longer a public safety issue. The same goes for sidewalks that are currently fenced off for construction.

Mr. Greene said that Airport Road will be closed, beginning tomorrow morning, for the Airport Road Paving & Culvert Replacement Project. Ms. Landers added that we were able to find the additional \$7,500 needed for clearing out the additional section of the drainage ditch in the 561 fund. This work will help prevent inflow through the manholes into the sewage treatment system during high water.

They will be milling and paving Mill Creek Road, Ohio Avenue, and part of Fourth Avenue from Cedar St. to Vine St. on October 29th to 31st.

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

Ms. Landers presented one invoice over \$3,000 for approval of payment:

- \$39,457.78 from Pullins Excavating for the GDC Water Line Project. Invoice: 9/25/18. PO: 10/2/18.

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

The public hearing for the 2019 Alternate Tax Budget is Tuesday, November 20th at 10:30 a.m. in the second floor meeting room of the Gallia County Courthouse.

Shirley Beaver will be retiring on October 31st. She plans to return part-time in January. Her retirement lunch will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the 31st. Pulled pork and pulled chicken will be on the menu. Commissioners are invited to attend.

The City Solicitor requested executive session for pending legal matters.

Mr. Gallagher questioned President Fulks' authority to tell Ms. Landers that any Commissioners who want her to send out an e-mail to all of the Commissioners should run it by him first. He cited Section 8, powers of the President of the City Commission, which include presiding over meetings and serving as the official head of the City during times of emergency. Mr. Gallagher said that Commissioners serve in every other respect as co-equals. President Fulks responded that his intention was to avoid confusion and this is not the forum for this discussion.

Mr. Sang said that his family wanted to thank Mr. Greene and the City's Water Department for resolving an issue of low water pressure in their neighborhood.

Mr. Wallis thanked the Greene family for their father's service to the City. Mr. Greene thanked everyone for all of the kind expressions of sympathy extended to his family.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading an Ordinance No. O2018-36 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH GALLIA COUNTY TO FURNISH EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SERVICES**. Mr. Wallis made a motion to place this ordinance on first reading, seconded by Mr. Sang. Mr. Wallis pointed out that the letter says the contract is for a two year period, but the dates listed indicate a three year period. Ms. Landers will look into the matter. Upon voice vote to place this ordinance on first reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2018-37 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE PLAN OF OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE FOR THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS NATURAL GAS AGGREGATION PROGRAM**. Mr. Caldwell made a motion to adopt this Ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Wallis. 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 O2018-38 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O2017-44, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2018-01, SETTING COMPENSATION FOR MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS, AND REPEALING PREVIOUS ORDINANCES SETTING SAID COMPENSATION**. Mr. Gallagher made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Caldwell. Mr. Greene expanded on the discussion from earlier, emphasizing the greater flexibility for assigning employees as needed without any push-back based on job titles. Mr. Sang asked if the changes would mean increases for any of the employees. Mr. Greene answered that those with CDL licenses would be receiving an additional five cents on the hour, going from the present five cents to ten cents. Ms. Landers added that some would receive an increase due to the elimination of some of the lower ranges and re-classification to the more mid-ranged "maintenance worker" job title. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

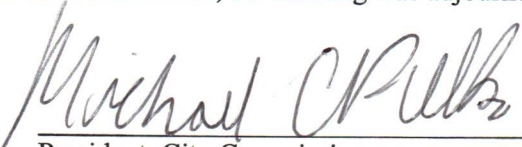
There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No O2018-39 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND REJECTING BIDS FOR HIGHWAY DE-ICING SALT, CALCIUM CHLORIDE, AND COLD MIX**. Mr. Wallis made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Gallagher. Mr. Wallis asked if the City would be getting any salt through the County Engineer's Office. Mr. Greene answered that we would be getting some through them. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

Mr. Wallis made a motion to enter executive session to discuss pending legal matters, seconded by Mr. Sang. Upon roll call on the motion, all votes were yes. President Fulks announced that there will likely be business following executive session. Upon completion of executive session, Commission returned to special session. Members of the public remaining returned to the meeting room.

Mr. Caldwell made a motion to have the City Law Director notify certain property owners in the Spring Valley area of Gallia County that the City of Gallipolis may, at some point in the future, accept a petition for annexation into the City. Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

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


 Clerk, City Commission


 President, City Commission