

March 3, 2020

The Gallipolis City Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, March 3, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., at the Gallipolis Municipal Building, 333 Third Avenue, having complied with Section 9 of the City Charter.

Commission President Cody Caldwell called the meeting to order.

Upon roll call, the following members were present:

Cody C. Caldwell, President
 Michael C. Fulks, Vice-President
 Michael W. Brown, Member
 Albert "Tony" Gallagher, Member
 T. Beau Sang, Member

Others attending were:

Theodore R. Lozier, City Manager
 Brynn S. Noe, City Solicitor
 Annette M. Landers, City Auditor
 Harold Montgomery, President, Gallia County Commission
 Brent Saunders, Member, Gallia County Commission
 Steve McGhee, Gallia County Treasurer
 Karen Sprague, Gallia County Administrator
 Lori D. Church, Gallia County Dept. Jobs & Family Services
 Dean Wright, Gallipolis Daily Tribune

Ronnie Lynch	Jeff Halley	Marvin Ours
Roger Brandeberry	Claudia Miller	Dottie Chestnut
Joy Elliott	Keith Elliott	Lori Saxon
Jennifer Osborne	Jim Osborne	Randy Breech
Jeff Boyer		

Commission received the minutes of the February 18 and February 25, 2020 meetings prior to this meeting. Mr. Sang wished to correct the minutes of February 25th to show that there was not "consensus," as the minutes stated, to move the invocation from during the meeting to before the meeting. Mr. Brown and Mr. Gallagher stated that they were also against moving the invocation to before the meetings. President Caldwell stated that this was the advice of the Solicitor. There being no other corrections, objections, or additions, these minutes were approved as amended.

President Caldwell informed those present that one of the topics discussed at the February 25th work session was *Privilege of Floor*. Commissioners are asking that speakers limit themselves to five to ten minutes and use the podium.

Mr. Harold Montgomery, President of the Gallia County Commission, was recognized for *Privilege of Floor*. Mr. Montgomery said that he wanted to stress the importance of every Gallia County resident's participation in the 2020 Census. This count is important in many ways, such as determining eligibility for grants and our representation in Congress. He introduced Ms. Lori Church of DJFS. She is serving as lead liaison for the census in Gallia County. Ms. Church offered to come to speak to any interested groups. She informed those present that postcards will be sent out later this month, which will allow residents to complete the census on-line or over the telephone. All information gathered is held confidential for 72 years. Census enumerators will go door-to-door for those not responding to the postcards.

Ms. Karen Sprague, Gallia County Administrator and Gallia County Fair Housing Coordinator, was next recognized for *Privilege of Floor*. She stated that because the City is receiving CDBG funding for our Court Street Paving Project, we are required to have a Fair Housing meeting. She passed around an attendance sheet for everyone to sign and distributed packets containing brochures on equal opportunity housing rights under federal and state statutes. She listed protected groups under the law and reviewed some of the programs available to them under the CHIP and HOME programs, which can be applied for through Gallia-Meigs Community Action. She went into some detail about grant dollars that the City and our residents have received since 1989 from various CDBG Grant programs, which is in excess of \$1.5 million.

Mr. Jeff Halley, a Republican candidate for State Representative for the 93rd District, was extended *Privilege of Floor*. He gave his work history and what he hopes to accomplish if elected, specifically the extension of broadband coverage and restoration of local government funds.

President Caldwell read and presented proclamations to former Gallipolis Fire Chiefs Harold Ray Bush and James Eutsler for twenty-nine and thirty-six years respectively of service to the Gallipolis Fire Department. Chief Elliott accepted the proclamations on their behalf. He next read and presented a proclamation to Ms. Jennifer Osborne upon her retirement after fifty years of service to the Ohio Valley Bank. Ms. Osborne was present with family and friends to receive her award.

President Caldwell opened the Public Hearing on the 2020 Budget, turning the presentation over to City Manager Ted Lozier. Handouts were provided to each attendee with summary pages of revenues, expenditures, capital items, transfers & advances, and detailed salary and benefits data for employees by department. Mr. Lozier described the budgetary process, beginning in late fall with submission of desired budget requests from all department heads which were compiled and reviewed to compare estimated receipts to requested expenditures. General Fund initial requests, as is typical, exceeded available funds. Mr. Lozier met with department heads to trim their initial requests to the final version presented tonight.

Next, Mr. Lozier went over some of the major items planned for this year. These include paving of Vine Street, Court Street, Locust Street, and a portion of Third Avenue, upgrade of the Blue Fountain Lift Station, repairs at the pool, hiring a Project Engineer to begin a more focused asset management program for our water, sewer, and storm sewer systems, and purchase of large capital items such as a sewer jetter, sludge truck, and a generator for the fire station.

Ms. Chestnut asked about pool donations that were received a couple of years ago. Ms. Landers told her that those donations were used to purchase new lifeguard chairs. Repairs to the pool this year will come from funds remaining from an ODNR grant and from donations. Expenditures from the grant will be tracked in the grant fund. This year's donations are going into our Capital Improvement Reserve Fund #331 in order to keep donations separate from pool operating funds. This fund has been used in the past for special projects, but has sat unused for several years. Mr. Fulks appealed for donations to keep the pool open for our children. Mr. Lozier spoke about timing for repairs, perhaps delaying some repairs to later this year after the pool closes. He also said that the sludge truck and jetter come from the sewer enterprise fund. Mr. Sang asked about the jetter. Mr. Lozier said that it is used enough to justify purchase.

There being no further questions, the 2020 Budget Hearing was closed.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- He has mainly been working on the budget.
- The work session on February 25th was productive. Commissioners Fulks and Sang expressed their agreement with this assessment.
- Pool donations are coming in. We have received \$7,800 of pooled individual donations collected by the French City Society and a \$1,000 donation from AEP River Transportation.

- We are working on grants for BWC Safety, road paving, and the generator for the fire station.
- Mr. Lozier requested executive session for personnel: filling an open position.

President Caldwell asked if we have saved on overtime and salt during this mild winter. Mr. Lozier answered that we have.

The City Auditor presented three invoices over \$3,000 for approval of payment:

- \$51,440.28 for unspent JRI Grant. Inv: 2/7/20. PO: 2/13/20.
- \$26,013.54 from Rumpke for January refuse. Inv: 1/31/20. PO: 2/3/20.
- \$5,833.71 from AEP for January street lights. Inv: 1/30/20. PO: 2/3/30.

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

Ms. Landers went over the legislation on tonight's agenda, briefly describing each. O2020-04 & 05 are the jail contact with Washington County and amendment to the temporary appropriations placed on first reading on February 18th. These need to be adopted as emergencies. We also have the first readings on the budget (O2020-06), transfers and advances (O2020-07), and salary ordinance to add the Project Engineer and increase the Water Plant Supervisor's salary by \$3,000/yr. (O2020-08). O2020-10 is the annual contract for chemicals and quicklime. She left details of O2020-09, changes to Chapter 1315.03, Building Permit Fees, for Ms. Noe to describe more fully.

Mr. Gallagher announced that he has only a cell phone now, but provided the number (740-709-0028) for citizens to reach him.

Mr. Gallagher made a motion to make Veterans Day an additional holiday for City employees, seconded by Mr. Brown. In discussion, Mr. Gallagher said that Commissioners had learned that it would cost around \$2,400 to \$2,900 additional for overtime. He reiterated his desire to honor our veterans by observing the holiday by closing our operations as other governmental units and many businesses do. President Caldwell asked if the employees had been asked their thoughts on the matter. Mr. Lozier said that he could check with staff to see if employees want to swap a holiday or add this one. Mr. Sang said that in his opposition, he means no disrespect for veterans. Mr. Fulks agreed with Mr. Sang, adding that he has family members who are veterans. His objection is based on loss of productivity when the budget is very tight. He pointed out that employees are allowed to attend the parade without taking time off the clock. Mr. Gallagher emphasized that he never meant to imply that other Commissioners were not respectful of the veterans. Mr. Fulks made a motion to table this motion, seconded by Mr. Sang. Upon roll call to table the motion, Mr. Fulks, Mr. Sang, and Mr. Caldwell voted yes. Mr. Gallagher and Mr. Brown voted no.

Mr. Fulks made a motion to change the "golf cart" ordinance to allow side-by-sides and to impose the penalty of loss of permit for not operating responsibly, seconded by Mr. Sang. This was discussed in *Privilege of Floor* at a prior meeting and again at the February 25th work session. Upon roll call on the motion, all votes were yes.

Mr. Lozier brought up the need for two Commissioners to serve on the Volunteer Firefighters Dependents' Fund, which only meets when there is a service-related loss of life. Mr. Sang and Mr. Fulks agreed to serve.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2020-04 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR THE HOUSING OF PRISONERS.** Mr. Fulks made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Brown. The contract specifies \$68/day. 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. O2020-05 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O2019-37, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2020-03 SETTING TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2020.** Mr. Brown made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Sang. 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. O2020-06 entitled **AN ORDINANCE TO SET APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020.** 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.

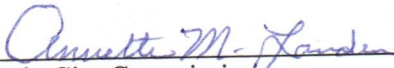
There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading an Ordinance No. O2020-07 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER OR ADVANCE FUNDS.** Mr. Brown made a motion to place this ordinance on first reading, seconded by Mr. Fulks. Upon voice vote to place this ordinance on first reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading an ordinance No. O2020-08 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O2017-44, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2018-01, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2018-38, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2019-01, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2019-20, SETTING COMPENSATION FOR MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS (PROJECT ENGINEER AND WATER TREATMENT PLANT SUPERINTENDENT) AND REPEALING PREVIOUS ORDINANCES SETTING SAID COMPENSATION.** Mr. Brown made a motion to place this ordinance on first reading, seconded by Mr. Fulks. 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. O2020-09 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1315.03, BUILDING PERMIT FEES; EXEMPTION, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO.** Mr. Fulks made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Brown. Ms. Noe read and explained the changes to this section. In discussion, Mr. Lozier told Commissioners that the numbers for fees came from benchmarking with other communities. They are putting specs together to hand out to contractors. 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. O2020-10 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND REJECTING BIDS FOR CHEMICALS AND QUICKLIME.** Mr. Gallagher made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Sang. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

Mr. Fulks made a motion to enter executive session for personnel: filling an open position, seconded by Mr. Brown. President Caldwell announced that there would be no business afterward. Upon roll call on the motion, all votes were yes. 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