

January 3, 2023

The Gallipolis City Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at 5:00 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.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by an invocation given by Mr. Gallagher.

Mr. Gallagher requested a moment of silence in memory of Mr. Fred Wheeler who had served on the Planning Commission for many years.

Commission President Tony Gallagher called the meeting to order.

Upon roll call, the following members were present:

Albert "Tony" Gallagher, President  
William "Bill" Thomas, Vice-President  
Michael W. Brown, Member  
Michael C. Fulks, Member  
R. William "Bill" Jenkins, Member

Others attending were:

Dow W Saunders, City Manager  
Shelly L. Clonch, City Auditor  
Brynn S. Noe, City Solicitor  
Chad Vaughn, River Cities News  
Jeff Boyer                      Ronnie Lynch                      Randy Breech  
Marvin Ours (Zoom)      Keith Elliott (Zoom)      Arthur (Zoom)

The commission received the minutes of December 19, 2022, prior to this meeting. Mr. Brown made a motion to accept the December 19<sup>th</sup> minutes, seconded by Dr. Thomas. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

The privilege of floor was granted to Mr. Randy Breech to discuss an extended offer from the Washington County building department to oversee building plan submissions and review the plans. The State has fallen on hard times going from 18 building plan examiners down to 5. This has become an issue for him in the amount of time it takes to get plans approved. Everything has to be done online and businesses are suffering through this transition. The Governor's office is not doing anything to change the process and it is hurting contractors and suppliers. Mr. Breech plans to also approach the County Commission on the issue also. He presented a sample ordinance that the City would pass if agreed upon. The Washington County building official would come and meet with the Commission and would have the same authority and approval as the State of Ohio. Currently, Pomeroy, Middleport, and Rutland have gone with the Washington County official and Jackson is also considering it. Mr. Jenkins suggested the City meet with the County also to discuss the issue. Mr. Breech said he will let the Commission know the outcome after talking with the County.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- Received a thank you card from Mr. Burt Wood's family for the windchimes the City sent to Mr. Wood's funeral service.
- Reiterated Mr. Gallagher's recognition of Mr. Fred Wheeler for his contributions to the City by serving on the Planning Commission.
- Gave kudos to Ms. Clonch on reaching out to FEMA/EMA for assistance with the Oakwood Drive slip. We are applying for funds from the State that will cover 75% of the City's 10% obligation of OWDA's emergency assistance funding.

- Mr. Westfall, Mr. Woodall, and himself met with Craig Richards of Burgess & Niple. They are getting close to the bidding process and the next step is obtaining easements.
- He has had a positive response to the TODAY show featuring Gallipolis in Lights on their morning segment. This was a huge win for our town.
- We are working with department heads on their 2023 budget and will reach out to the commission on scheduling budgetary sessions.
- On the agenda tonight is an ordinance applying for \$10,000 in grant funds for the purchase of leak detection equipment.
- The Police Department has had another officer resign and will be looking to fill that position.
- BWC was on site to determine if a leaf machine could be fundable as one of their safety grants. The price has risen considerably since we last looked into purchasing one. Mr. Woodall is seeking to possibly purchase a nice used one.

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

- \$14,475.00 from Bobs Market for GIL expenses. Inv: 11/3/22. PO: 12/15/22.
- \$6,234.00 from Great Lakes Community Action for GPS services. Inv: 11/30/22. PO: 12/15/22.
- \$29,124.00 from Public Entities Pool for liability insurance payment. Inv: 10/1/22. PO: 12/15/22.
- \$3,748.10 from Shari Rocchi for GIL expenses. Inv: 12/12/22. PO: 12/15/22.

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

Ms. Clonch is working with departments on getting their budget requests turned in. She also mentioned that the State Auditors are still working on the 2020-2021 audit. It has taken longer due to the State's lack of personnel at this time.

The City Solicitor congratulated Gallipolis in Lights on their TODAY show appearance.

Ms. Noe also stated that she will review the sample ordinance given to her tonight by Mr. Randy Breech concerning the Washington County building examiner services.

Mr. Brown said he was impressed with the TODAY show pronouncing Gallipolis correctly. He also wanted to mention that he has had complaints about the music coming from the bandstand all night and thought maybe they could set it to turn off around 11:00 p.m. Mr. Brown mentioned that he didn't think that we were going to put the stage in the park anymore as it currently is. Mr. Saunders stated that we did not want to put it in the street and take away parking spaces with the many visitors to the park.

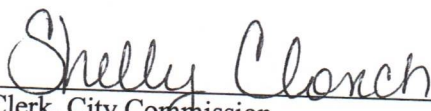
There was presented and read to the Commission for a second reading Ordinance No. O2022-45 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES SECTION OF THE STATE AUDITOR'S OFFICE (GASB-34 LOOK-ALIKE STATEMENTS) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2022.** Dr. Thomas made a motion to adopt the ordinance on the second reading, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon roll call to adopt the ordinance on the second reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a second reading Ordinance No. O2022-46 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH LAZARUS CEMETERY MAPPING INC FOR THE SCANNING, DIGITIZING, AND MAPPING OF LOTS FOR MOUND HILL AND PINE STREET CEMETERIES.** Mr. Brown made a motion to adopt the ordinance on the second reading, seconded by Dr. Thomas. Upon roll call to adopt the ordinance on the second reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency Ordinance No. O2023-01 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 121.01, REGULAR MEETINGS, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO.** Mr. Fulks made a motion to adopt the ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Dr. Thomas. Upon roll call to adopt the ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading Ordinance No. O2023-02 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY GRANT PROGRAM.** Mr. Fulks made a motion to place the ordinance on the first reading, seconded by Dr. Thomas. Upon voice vote to place the ordinance on the first reading, all votes were yes.

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

  
Clerk, City Commission

  
President, City Commission