

January 17, 2023

The Gallipolis City Commission met in special session on Tuesday, January 17, 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.

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  
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                      Joy Elliott  
Keith Elliott                      Arthur (Zoom)

The commission received the minutes of January 3, 2023, prior to this meeting. Mr. Jenkins made a motion to accept the January 3<sup>rd</sup> minutes, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- He sent out a follow-up to the Commission on Friday on our energy agreement with Trebel. We are proceeding to a public hearing to be held on January 31, 2023, at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. on the enactment of the operations and governance plan.
- Will be meeting tomorrow at 10 a.m. with Mr. Kevin Wood of IBI to discuss Mr. Wood offering to prepare and file for a water line replacement grant on the City's behalf. Mr. Gallagher asked if there was a cost for his services. Mr. Saunders stated there is no fee or contract and that IBI is just marketing its services. This would help the City to access federal infrastructure monies coming through with 0% interest and principal forgiveness. They will be discussing priority areas that we want to work on and materials. Mr. Brown said it sounded like a win-win situation.
- The Police Department recently hired two new officers to replace ones that resigned and also one new officer under the Violent Crime Reduction grant.
- The Wastewater Plant is in the process of posting an operator position that was previously held by Mr. Burt Wood who passed away.
- We previously passed an ordinance on municipal inspection of bridges and received a report back. The City has two bridges and two culverts considered bridges. We did receive a finding on one located out SR 588 on Burkhart Lane due to corrosion. They want to see an action plan and how we are going to address it. It will need to be cleared out to get a video of the culvert. He also wants to be 100% that the area in question on Burkhart is the City's. Mr. Jenkins thought that the County Engineer was responsible for anything over 3 feet in diameter. He also stated that he is pretty sure that the township owns half and the City owns half of the culvert. Mr. Saunders will reach out to Allen Craig with ODOT.
- Winterfest will be held in the City Park on February 18<sup>th</sup> from noon until 4 p.m. They had a successful event last year.
- Ms. Clonch and himself will be starting internal budget sessions tomorrow with supervisors.
- He is working with Ms. Noe and Burgess & Niple on easements for Oakwood Drive.

- WSAZ will be in the park tomorrow at 2:30 p.m. to recognize and honor Gallipolis in Lights as hometown heroes.

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

- \$28,212.10 from Rumpke for December refuse pickup. Inv: 12/19/22. PO: 1/4/23.
- \$77,030.80 from Jefferson Health Plan for January premium. Inv: 12/22/22. PO: 1/4/23.
- \$3,750.00 from Gallia County Auditor for indigent fees. Inv: 12/30/22. PO: 1/3/23.

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

Ms. Clonch also presented the following donations for approval:

October 2022 - \$8,300.00 to Gallipolis in Lights from various donors.

November 2022 - \$1,950.00 to Gallipolis in Lights from various donors and \$2,764.00 from the Elks for the flag at Mound Hill.

December 2022 - \$9,142.04 to Gallipolis in Lights from various donors.

Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the donations, seconded by Dr. Thomas. Dr. Thomas mentioned that the donation box money for Gallipolis in Lights is wonderful and asked how secure the boxes were in the park. It was discussed that they have purchased new boxes with secure locks and the monies are collected often. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

The December 2022 financial statement was presented for approval. Mr. Jenkins made a motion to approve the December 2022 financial statement, seconded by Dr. Thomas. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

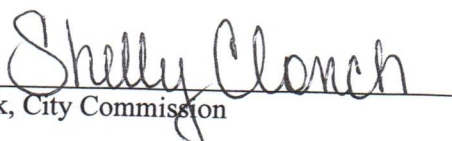
The Auditor mentioned that there will be two terms up for the City Commission as Mr. Brown and Mr. Fulks terms expire on December 31, 2023. She has copies of the statement of candidacy and nominating petitions in her office. Candidates cannot complete these or collect signatures no more than 100 days (January 22<sup>nd</sup>) prior to the primary on May 2, 2023 and forms must be filed with the Board of Elections 75 days (February 16<sup>th</sup>) before the primary. This gives candidates a 25-day window to get the forms completed and submitted.

Mr. Brown asked when are we going to discuss annexation. Mr. Saunders stated that we need to look at having work sessions to discuss several issues including annexation, possibly reconsidering the income tax, and a fire levy renewal or replacement.

Mr. Gallagher said that he previously mentioned that the Hoop Project had spray-painted business names on the street during their event and the paint has never been power washed to remove it. He noticed the paint is still there and suggested that we should contact whoever was in charge of the event to get it done. Mr. Jenkins stated the Hoop Project is non-profit and brings a lot of business here and suggested the City get the paint removed.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a second 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. Jenkins 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 being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

  
Clerk, City Commission

  
President, City Commission