

September 19, 2023

The Gallipolis City Commission met in special session on Tuesday, September 19, 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
(Michael C. Fulks, Member, arrived during the City Manager's report.)

Others attending were:

Dow W Saunders, City Manager
Shelly L. Clonch, City Auditor
Andrew Noe, City Solicitor
Chad Vaughn, River Cities News
Ronnie Lynch Jeff Boyer Scott Saunders
John Saunders Marvin Ours (zoom)

The commission received the minutes of September 5, 2023, prior to this meeting. Mr. Jenkins made a motion to approve the September 5th minutes, seconded by Dr. Thomas. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

The privilege of the floor was granted to Mr. John Saunders and Mr. Scott Saunders with Saunders Insurance Agency. They presented a written proposal to the commission for the property/liability insurance renewal with PEP which renews October 1st. The renewal came in at \$98,195 with a member loyalty credit of \$2,423 which brings the renewal cost to \$95,772. This is a 9% increase which is in line with the insurance industry overall right now. Mr. Scott Saunders briefly went over our coverage and limits. Dr. Thomas asked what percentage of the general fund contributes to the premium and Ms. Clonch said that she would get him a breakdown.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- He sent out a majority of his report last week to the commission and is pleased to let them know that the police officer who was injured is waiting for clearance from his doctor to bring him back on light duty.
- IBI was here last week to continue initial survey work on the water line design. The Maintenance Department worked with them and they opened manholes in the area we will be working in. IBI also has completed an ariel view of the area. The EPA sent us a map with a request for pictures that we got today and will send in. We also need to follow up with IBI on the Blue Fountain Lift Station and Belmont Drive projects.
- We are continuing to work with a representative of Citco Water on the purchase of water meters and are focusing on commercial users.
- There should start to be a better flow of traffic on Eastern Avenue after the new sensors were installed at Bridgeport and Aldi's traffic lights.
- Pump work will begin at a majority of our lift stations. We have had some challenges at the Walmart lift station this summer.

- Working on the application for the new round of OPWC funds for paving and hoping to raise our share for better odds of approval. It depends on the amount of funds we receive back that were spent on the Oakwood Drive project.
- He attended the Mayors Partnership meeting last week in Somerset and also attended the MIA-POW ceremony in the park.

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

- \$11,000.00 from The Shelly Company for paving on Farm Road. Inv: 6/21/23. PO: 9/6/23.
- \$8,371.00 from Big River Electric for motor repair at the WTP. Inv: 8/22/23. PO: 8/25/23.
- \$27,759.92 from Rumpke for August refuse pickup. Inv: 8/17/23. PO: 9/5/23.

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

Ms. Clonch presented the August 2023 financial statement for approval. Dr. Thomas made a motion to approve the August financial statement, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

The City Auditor stated that a copy of the 2024 Alternate Tax Budget was included in their packets. The budget hearing with the County will be held on September 29, 2023, and she is still waiting to be informed of the time. This is the start of the budget process and these are approximate calculations. Some notable changes from last year include an increase in general fund interest, an increase in water collection revenue, and grants that are new or have ended. Ms. Clonch asked for approval from the Commission to submit the proposed budget to the County. Mr. Fulks made a motion to approve the alternate tax budget, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

The City Manager informed the commission that we received the loaner boxes to read water meters as we are still waiting on getting the original boxes back. We did get to read a majority of the meters but there are some meters that we were not able to read and will be estimated again on the next billing.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading Resolution No. R2023-18 entitled **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, DIVISION OF REAL ESTATE AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING (REPL) CEMETERY GRANT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023.** Mr. Fulks made a motion to place the resolution on the first reading, seconded by Dr. Thomas. Dr. Thomas asked if the resolution was worded incorrectly in saying "Duly enacted by council". It was agreed that it should be changed to read "Duly enacted by commission". Mr. Fulks made a motion to amend the resolution and place it on the first reading, seconded by Dr. Thomas. Upon voice vote to place the amended resolution of the first reading, all votes were yes. The City Manager asked for a motion to sign and submit the grant agreement to meet the deadline. Mr. Fulks made a motion to authorize the City Manager to sign and submit the grant agreement, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a second reading Ordinance No. O2023-26 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O2023-08, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2023-16, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2023-19, SETTING APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS OHIO DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023.** 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 for a second reading Ordinance No. O2023-27 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O2023-09, AUTHORIZING THE CITY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER OR ADVANCE FUNDS.** 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 first reading Ordinance No. O2023-28 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH USI INSURANCE SERVICES (PEP) FOR GENERAL LIABILITY AND PROPERTY INSURANCE.** 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.

Mr. Jenkins made a motion to enter into an executive session to discuss the purchase of real estate, seconded by Dr. Thomas. Upon roll call to enter into executive session, all votes were yes.

Upon return from executive session and there being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.



Clerk, City Commission



Vice-President, City Commission