

November 7, 2023

The Gallipolis City Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, November 7, 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 a moment of silence to open the meeting.

President Dr. Bill Thomas called the meeting to order.

Upon roll call, the following members were present:

William "Bill" Thomas, President
Michael C. Fulks, Vice-President
Michael W. Brown, Member
William "Kirk" Frazee, Member
R. William "Bill" Jenkins, Member

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 Randy Breech
Keith Elliott Joy Elliott

The commission received the minutes of October 17, 2023, prior to this meeting. Mr. Brown noted that on page three during the moment of silence, it should read Mr. Roger Hood, not Mr. Robert Hood. Mr. Jenkins made a motion to approve the October 17th minutes as amended, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon voice vote on the motion to approve the amended minutes, all votes were yes.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- We previously received a check from the Elks Lodge in the amount of \$4,000 for the flag pole restoration at Mound Hill and we received an additional check from them yesterday for \$4,700. They have given almost \$9,000 this year for the flag and have always donated every year since the flag was put in place. The City appreciates their commitment and contributions.
- The paperwork for the water line design loan has been signed and sent to the state. This loan provides \$800,000 for the design and that will roll into the construction loan of 8 million when approved.
- IBI was here yesterday finishing the final specs for the Blue Fountain lift station and will proceed with the permit to install and get it out to bid.
- The new leaf machine is operational and he commended the maintenance employees on their cleanup of leaves.
- City crews put up the Veterans' banners discussed at the previous meeting. There were around ten available to hang up and will stay there temporarily until the Gallipolis in Lights banners go up. Crews have been painting the park benches and getting the downtown looking good for Gallipolis in Lights.
- He included information in the last packet on the lodging tax for Airbnb's that will need to be reviewed so we can get a plan to move forward.
- John Westfall, Brett Bostic, and himself met with Doug Persohn with Buckeye Aquatics to discuss the pool pump and filter. Mr. Persohn will follow up with reports and a proposal and we were told that nothing is compatible with what we have.
- We are waiting to hear back from ODOD to see if we can use the iPERL meters in our grant project.

- Cody Tremble with Citco was here to discuss getting an 8" meter for Holzer. We want to assess which meter is the best to put there.
- He thanked the Gallipolis Fire Department for their commitment to going door-to-door campaigning to get the fire levy passed.
- The GIS project is finished. RCAP submitted a proposal to host and update the system and it is costly. Ohio Rural Water also started a GIS collection system for the City in the past and can use the information that we own through the contracted terms with RCAP to host at a cheaper rate. He is waiting for a follow-up with Ohio Rural Water for a contract.
- He is working with AEP and SOPEC on the electric charging stations because when we rolled the account to the SOPEC public pricing, we lost the tariff that we were grandfathered into and AEP is saying that we can't get that back. This put us on a demand tariff that has caused our bill to be increased threefold. He is hoping that they can come up with a new tariff.

The City Auditor presented one invoice over \$3,000 for approval of payment:

- \$5,927.34 from Mark Porter Ford for engine replacement on a police car. Inv: 9/25/23. PO: 9/26/23. Mr. Fulks made a motion to approve the payment, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

Ms. Clonch presented to the commission for approval donations in the amount of \$1,000 for July, \$4,700 for August, and \$4,600 for September. These donations were from various donors to Gallipolis in Lights, AEP River Ops for the pool, Elks Lodge #107, and the Bowmans for the flag at Mound Hill. Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the donations, seconded by Mr. Jenkins. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

The Auditor also presented the October 2023 financial statement for approval. Mr. Fulks made a motion to approve the October financial statement, 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 Resolution No. R2023-20 entitled **A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION OF GALLIA COUNTY AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR.** Mr. Jenkins made a motion to adopt the resolution on the second reading, seconded by Mr. Frazee. Upon roll call to adopt the resolution on the second reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading Resolution No. R2023-22 entitled **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW CAPITAL PROJECT FUND (354) FOR WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT.** Mr. Jenkins made a motion to place the resolution on the first reading, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon voice vote to place the resolution on the first reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a second reading Ordinance No. O2023-33 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ISSUE PERMITS TO CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS TO SOLICIT FROM THE OCCUPANT OF A VEHICLE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 3713.06 (B)(2) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS OHIO.** Mr. Fulks made a motion to adopt the ordinance on the second reading, seconded by Mr. Jenkins. Dr. Thomas asked if this would be limited to vehicles or could something be passed around in the park for collection. Mr. Saunders stated that this would make it at his discretion. 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. O2023-34 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR HOSPITALIZATION, MEDICAL, MAJOR MEDICAL, AND DRUG INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES AND ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS OHIO.** 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 was presented and read to the Commission for a second reading Ordinance No. O2023-35 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF A CHRISTMAS BONUS TO ALL PERMANENT FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES, CERTAIN ELIGIBLE PART-TIME EMPLOYEES AND ALL APPOINTED OFFICIALS.** Mr. Fulks made a motion to adopt the ordinance on the second reading, seconded by Mr. Frazee. 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. O2023-36 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF A BONUS TO GALLIPOLIS FIRE DEPARTMENT (GFD) FIREFIGHTERS.** Mr. Brown made a motion to adopt the ordinance on the second reading, seconded by Mr. Frazee. 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 reading Ordinance No. O2023-37 entitled **AN ORDINANCE SETTING VACATION ACCRUALS FOR THE CITY MANAGER.** Mr. Fulks made a motion to adopt the ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Frazee. Upon roll call to adopt the ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

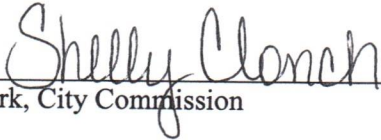
There was presented and read to the Commission as a first reading Ordinance No. O2023-38 entitled **AN ORDINANCE SETTING TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2024.** Mr. Fulks made a motion to place the ordinance on the first reading, seconded by Mr. Jenkins. Upon voice vote to place the ordinance on the first reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency reading Ordinance No. O2023-39 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O2023-08, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE O2023-16, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE O2023-19, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2023-26, 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 as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Fulks. Ms. Clonch stated that she needed this passed as an emergency so that bills turned in for Gallipolis in Lights could be paid as they have used up most of their appropriations. Upon roll call to adopt the ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

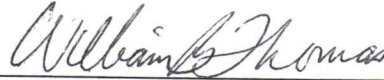
There was presented and read to the Commission as a first reading Ordinance No. O2023-40 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE O2023-09, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2023-27, AUTHORIZING THE CITY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER OR ADVANCE FUNDS.** Mr. Brown made a motion to place the ordinance on the first reading, seconded by Mr. Jenkins. Upon voice vote to place the ordinance on the first reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency reading Ordinance No. O2023-41 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE DIRECTING THE GALLIA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO PLACE ON THE BALLOT FOR MARCH 19, 2024, THE ISSUE OF .5% LEVY ON INCOME FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS AND SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO.** Mr. Jenkins made a motion to adopt the ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Frazee. Mr. Brown asked how much this was going to cost to put on the ballot and stated that he just learned of this ordinance today. Ms. Clonch said with it being put on the primary and not a special election the cost is not high. Mr. Jenkins explained that we needed to get this in sooner than normal because next year is the presidential election with the primary being moved up from May to March. He said that the Police Department alone costs the general fund 1.3 million and the income tax was only bringing in 1.6 million, leaving only around \$300,000 to help fund several more departments from the general fund. The public gets to decide on the .5%, this is just putting on the ballot. Mr. Frazee commented that we are blessed with the Police Department that we have and we don't want to lose that due to funding issues. Upon roll call to adopt the ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

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



Clerk, City Commission



President, City Commission