

January 2, 2024

The Gallipolis City Commission met in an organizational and regular session on Tuesday, January 2, 2024, at 8:00 p.m. at the Gallipolis Municipal Building, 333 Third Avenue, having complied with Section 9 of the City Charter.

Prior Commission President Dr. Bill Thomas called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Upon roll call, the following members were present:

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

Others attending were:

Dow W Saunders, City Manager
Shelly L. Clonch, City Auditor
Andrew Noe, City Solicitor
Ronnie Lynch Tanya Fulks

Nominations were taken for the two-year terms for President and Vice-President of the Commission. Mr. Jenkins nominated Mr. Fulks for President, seconded by Mr. Frazee. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes. Mr. Jenkins nominated Dr. Thomas for Vice-President, seconded by Mr. Frazee. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

City Solicitor Andrew Noe conducted the swearing-in of the re-elected Commissioners, Mr. Michael W. Brown and Mr. Michael C. Fulks.

President Fulks presided over the remainder of the meeting.

The commission received the minutes of December 19, 2023, prior to this meeting. Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the December 19th minutes, seconded by Dr. Thomas. Upon voice vote on the motion to approve the minutes, all votes were yes.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- There are two resolutions on the agenda that he has requested rules suspension and passage on the first reading. Also, there is an ordinance for first reading entering into a contract with the County for indigent fees with no changes from the previous year.
- The bid opening for the Blue Fountain lift station upgrade will be January 12th at 2:00 pm.
- We had an employee resignation in the Water Office and the position has been posted on Indeed. The Wastewater Plant is reviewing applications they have received for their vacant operator position.
- Sadly, there was a fatality within the City limits on State Route 7 from a single-car accident.
- He has submitted the forestry grant and will send the resolution passed tonight to the State.
- Received an email notification from Emily with the Ohio Department of Development clarifying that the grant for meters does not have to go by BABA restrictions.
- The County has requested changes in parking on Locust Street to diagonal spaces. Mr. Jenkins said that we do not want the same issue that we have on State Street where it is difficult for two cars to pass if a large vehicle is parked. The County needs to clarify the dimensions of what they are proposing.
- He included a copy of the Fire Department's report with run percentages that he thought would be helpful to the Commission.

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

- \$4,500.00 from Mounts Tree Service for tree clean up. Inv: 12/15/23. PO: 12/19/23.
- \$5,260.00 from Kucera International for water and sewer aerial images. Inv: 6/1/23. PO: 12/19/23.
- \$6,500.00 from Dan Reese for GIL Gala expenses. Inv: 12/2/23. PO: 12/27/23.

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 and Mr. Saunders will be starting budget meetings with department heads followed by budget sessions with the commission. She asked the commission to let her know what days and times work best for them.

Mr. Jenkins stated that the commission will have a work session tomorrow, Wednesday, January 3, 2024, from 10 am to 2 pm. The City Manager stated that he was not aware and would have to send out the notice right after the meeting ended.

There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading Resolution No. R2024-01 entitled **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF MATERIALS, SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT, AND SERVICES FOR USE BY THE CITY IN THE CALENDAR YEAR 2024 AS HEREIN DESCRIBED.** The City Manager requested in writing that the rules be suspended and this resolution be passed on the first reading. Mr. Jenkins made a motion to suspend the rules and adopt the resolution on the first reading, seconded by Dr. Thomas. Upon roll call to suspend the rules and adopt the resolution on the first reading, all votes were yes.

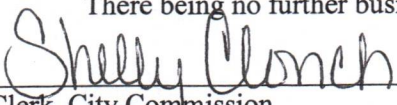
There was presented and read to the Commission for a first reading Resolution No. R2024-02 entitled **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPLY AND ACCEPT A GRANT AWARD FROM OHIO'S URBAN FORESTRY GRANT PROGRAM FOR EMERGING PROGRAMS 2023.** The City Manager requested in writing that the rules be suspended and this resolution be passed on the first reading. Mr. Jenkins made a motion to suspend the rules and adopt the resolution on the first reading, seconded by Dr. Thomas. Upon roll call to suspend the rules and adopt the resolution on the first reading, all votes were yes.

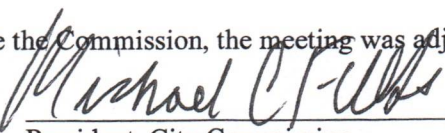
There was presented and read to the Commission as a first reading Ordinance No. O2024-01 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE GALLIA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR PAYMENT OF LEGAL SERVICES TO THE CITY'S INDIGENT CITIZENS.** Mr. Brown made a motion to place the ordinance on the first reading, seconded by Dr. Thomas. Mr. Jenkins said that he would like to know if and what other villages are paying to the County for these services. Upon voice vote to place the ordinance on first reading, all votes were yes.

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

Upon return from the executive session and before adjournment, Dr. Thomas had a question concerning the library's request to vacate a portion of Spruce Street. He said if the City does go ahead with this, he would like to see a section with the asphalt shaved off that shows the original brick street displayed along with the old rails for historical reasons. Mr. Jenkins suggested a drawing to visualize what this would look like. Mr. Saunders said we need to locate where the sewer is also.

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


Clerk, City Commission


President, City Commission