

December 3, 2024

The Gallipolis City Commission met in a regular session on Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. at the Gallipolis Municipal Building, 333 Third Avenue, having complied with Section 9 of the City Charter.

City Commission President Mr. Michael Fulks called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence in remembrance of former City Manager John LeBlanc who passed away this past weekend.

Upon roll call, the following members were present:

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

Others attending were:

John Westfall, City Manager
Shelly Clonch, City Auditor
Andrew Noe, City Solicitor
Chad Vaughn, River Cities News
Ronnie Lynch Jeff Boyer Marvin Ours
Randy Breech Keith Elliott Joy Elliott

The commission received the November 19, 2024 minutes before this meeting. Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the November 19th minutes, seconded by Mr. Jenkins. Upon voice vote, all votes were yes.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- Drawings are being finalized for the water line project to bid out in March with construction beginning in the spring or early summer. He passed out to the Commission information on options for a 0% interest 30-year or 40-year loan. The water rates will have to be raised an additional 1% or 1.5% in addition to the annual 3% to help fund the project.
- Arcadis will be here on Thursday at 9:00 a.m. and will be bringing more engineers for site visits on the riverfront project.
- There was a 6" water main break over the weekend. It was in an area where we will be replacing the lines so hopefully, these kinds of things won't happen.
- The leaf route is starting to slow down and we will continue to pick up leaves through the end of this month.
- The lights in the park look very nice and there was good attendance for the lighting.

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

- \$6,118.75 from Bob's Market for Gallipolis in Lights expenses. Inv: 11/12/24. PO: 11/18/24.
- \$4,000.00 from High-Tech Special Effects for Gallipolis in Lights. Inv: 11/16/24. PO: 11/25/24.

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

Ms. Clonch said that she received an email from Mr. Thom Mollohan with the Gallia County Family and Children First Council after she reached out and asked if the city could appoint a representative if no Commissioners were able to be on the board. Mr. Mollohan responded that in the City's case, the bylaws simply state that it must be a representative of the municipal corporation with the largest population in the county. Ms. Clonch said she asked Mr. Brett Bostic if he would be interested in serving on the board

because he works closely with families and children through the Rinky Dink basketball and recreation programs and he said that he would. Mr. Jenkins made a motion to appoint Mr. Brett Bostic to the Family and Children First Council, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon voice vote of the appointment, all votes were yes.

The City Auditor requested to add to the agenda tonight two emergency ordinances amending the appropriations and transfers. This is not surprising the Commission with anything but is ordinances to clean up lines in the budget from projects and grants to match what was actually spent. It is not adding any appropriation funds but reducing them for projects that came in under cost and transfers and advances that were not needed.

There was presented and read to the Commission as a second reading Ordinance No. O2024-41 entitled **AN ORDINANCE LIMITING THE NUMBER OF ADULT USE CANNABIS OPERATORS PERMITTED WITHIN THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS PURSUANT TO SECTION 3780.25 (A) OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE**. Mr. Johnson made a motion to adopt the ordinance on the second reading, seconded by Mr. Jenkins. Upon roll call to adopt the ordinance on the second reading, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Jenkins, Dr. Thomas, and Mr. Fulks voted yes, and Mr. Brown voted no.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency Ordinance No. O2024-42 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O2024-04, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2024-11, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2024-24, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2024-32, SETTING APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024**. Mr. Jenkins made a motion to adopt the ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon roll call to adopt the ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency Ordinance No. O2024-43 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O2024-05, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2024-12, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2024-25, AUTHORIZING THE CITY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER OR ADVANCE FUNDS**. Mr. Jenkins made a motion to adopt the ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon roll call to adopt the ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

Mr. Fulks announced that this would be the last meeting of the year unless something came up.

Mr. Marvin Ours asked about the water line letters that came in the mail as he has received a couple of calls from people asking him if he knew anything about it. Mr. Westfall explained that this is a mandated survey by the EPA to determine what the water lines are made of on the customer side and the City side. They are mostly interested in any lines that would have lead. Eventually, all galvanized lines will have to be changed.

Mr. Ours also said that he noticed the meetings on Zoom were stopped and asked if this was going to be permanent because sometimes it is hard for him to make it to the meetings. The City Manager said that not many people were using it and that's why they quit sending out meeting links. Mr. Fulks said as long as someone is at the meeting to set it up that no one has an objection to continuing with Zoom.

Mr. Fulks wished everyone a Merry Christmas from the City Commission. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.


Clerk, City Commission


President, City Commission