

May 6, 2025

The Gallipolis City Commission met in a regular session on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, 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. Mr. Fulks asked for a moment of silence to remember the Hamilton County Sheriff Department, as they had a deputy murdered this week. We also need to remember all of our police and fire first responders.

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
Ronnie Lynch Justin Rice Keith Elliott Joy Elliott
Mike Carter Betty Jo Carter Randy Breech

The commission received the minutes from April 15th before this meeting. Mr. Jenkins made a motion to approve the April 15th minutes, seconded by Dr. Thomas. Upon voice vote, all votes were yes.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- The Planning Commission met yesterday, and they discussed having a vacant position that needs to be filled. Mr. Jeff Snedaker has volunteered to fill the position. Mr. Brown made a motion to appoint Mr. Snedaker to the Planning Commission, seconded by Dr. Thomas. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.
- Buckeye Aquatics and our employees have been busy at the pool getting chemicals adjusted, caulking, painting, and changing filters. So far, it is running smoothly.
- The concrete has been poured for the pickleball court and now has to cure for 30 days. After the curing, the acrylic will then be applied and they have to wait another 30 days to finish the work. Mr. Johnson said he was there recently and was concerned about the South corner needing a retaining wall. Mr. Westfall will follow up with the contractor and said that we have plenty of dirt there that we can use to build that up.
- Repairs have been completed at the Vine Street and Industrial Park lift stations. There have been approximately seven lift stations that have been repaired in a year.
- We are getting calls every day concerning potholes, and the street crew is working on filling these as fast as they can.
- Congratulated Fire Chief Keith Elliott on his recognition from the Ohio Department of Commerce for 45 years of public service.

Dr. Thomas asked Mr. Elliott if the dry hydrants at the riverfront that were previously discussed had been done as he wished. Mr. Elliott said that they need a couple of these hydrants to be intact so they could do a draft out of the river if there is a major fire downtown. The ones there now would make the hose go over the road on First and Second Avenue, only leaving Third and Fourth open to traffic. He would like the hose to the hydrant to run under the ground on First Avenue so the road would not have to be closed off. Mr. Jenkins recommended that Mr. Elliott talk with the design engineer on the riverfront project to see if this is something that can be done.

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

- \$19,612.41 from Ohio Netting & Fence for pickleball court advance. Inv: 4/22/25. PO: 4/23/25.
- \$8,073.00 from Legacy Truck Fitters for a cab & chassis flatbed. Inv: 4/12/24. PO: 4/17/25.
- \$3,892.50 from Davis Caulking & Sealant for caulking at the pool. Inv: 4/3/25. PO: 4/17/25.
- \$26,811.00 from Arcadis for the PFAS General Plan. Inv: 3/14/25. PO: 4/17/25.

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

The April financial statement was included in the Commission packets, and Ms. Clonch asked for a motion to approve. Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the April financial statement, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon voice vote, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as a first reading Resolution No. R2025-02 entitled **A RESOLUTION APPROVING ALL CURRENT EMPLOYEES COVERED BY SECTION 30 AND 31 OF THE GALLIPOLIS CHARTER**. Dr. Thomas made a motion to place the resolution on the first reading, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Mr. Brown asked what brought this about. Mr. Noe explained that around 2012, an ordinance was passed that no longer recognized the civil service eligibility requirements under sections 30 and 31 of the Charter, since the Ohio Revised Code stated that villages did not have to abide by this. The charter cannot be changed by ordinance, and we have to abide by what the charter says, that the Commission must approve all police and fire appointments. Upon voice vote to place the resolution on the first reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as a first reading Resolution No. R2025-03 entitled **A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS OF THE CIVIL SERVICE ELIGIBILITY BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 31(A) OF THE GALLIPOLIS CITY CHARTER**. Dr. Thomas made a motion to place the ordinance on the first reading, seconded by Mr. Jenkins. Upon voice vote to place the resolution on the first 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