September 2, 2025

The Gallipolis City Commission met in a regular session on Tuesday, September 2, 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 and a moment of silence.

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:

Shelly Clonch, City Auditor
Andrew Noe, City Solicitor
Jeff Boyer, Project Coordinator
Chad Vaughn, River Cities News
Julia Wood, USDA

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

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

In the absence of the City Manager, Jeff Boyer, Project Coordinator, reported on the following:

- The pool is closed, and Mr. Westfall will be contacting Buckeye Aquatics to make sure it is winterized and check the pump.
- The old mobile home trailer at Mound Hill Cemetery has sold, and we hope to get it moved out this week.
- The mussel study crew is in South Point this week and should be back here in two weeks.
- The water line project crew is now away from the schools and is working on Upper Second Avenue.

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

- $7,123.17 from Lexipol for annual law enforcement manuals. Inv: 7/1/25. PO: 8/25/25.

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

Ms. Clonch stated that bond legislation for a new fire truck and equipment is on the agenda to be passed as an emergency. The USDA is providing the financing, and Ms. Julia Wood, USDA loan specialist, is present at tonight's meeting. When receiving federal funding, there are policies and training you must have in place, with one of them being assisting individuals with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). Employees must be trained on how to understand those with LEP, and this must be included in our personnel manual. "I Speak Statements" must be posted at all locations that the LEP individual would use to make an employee aware of the language they speak. From there, the employee would know what interpreter is needed, or translation applications can be used from their phone.

Also, on the agenda tonight is an emergency ordinance amending the appropriations. This needs to be passed so that any outstanding bills for the swimming pool can be paid. It has been difficult to estimate expenses for this year as we have not had a full season for a while, and repairs had to be made to open.

The Auditor presented to the Commission information she received from the Utility Office Supervisor and the City Manager concerning a change in our credit card software. The machines they have will no longer work at the end of September, as they will be outdated. Currently, the City pays the fees for customers using credit cards or web pay, which has cost the City $11,796.28 from January to July of 2025. There are two options they can choose from:

Option 1: Upgrade their current machines for $400.00 per machine, and continue as we have with paying the fees.

Option 2: Receive new machines at no charge, having newer features such as Google Pay, Tap to Pay, and American Express. The customer would be responsible for the fees at the rate of 3.5%.

The Commission had different opinions on the options, and Mr. Jenkins felt that the decision could be made by the Supervisor and the City Manager, which was the consensus of all Commissioners. Ms. Clonch said they could let the City Manager know their opinion when he returns.

Mr. Fulks stated that he and Mr. Westfall attended the CIC meeting, and included in their packets was a copy of the new program for economic development in Gallia County. He encouraged the other Commissioners to look it over.

There was presented and read to the Commission as a first reading, Resolution No. R2025-04 entitled **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED.** Mr. Brown made a motion to place the resolution on the first reading, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon voice vote to place the resolution on the first reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency measure, Resolution No. R2025-05 entitled **AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY COMMISSION PRESIDENT, MICHAEL C FULKS, TO HAVE SIGNATURE AUTHORITY FOR THE USDA RD LOAN CLOSING DOCUMENTS**. Dr. Thomas made a motion to adopt the resolution as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon roll call to adopt the resolution as an emergency, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency measure, Resolution No. R2025-06 entitled **AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND PROVIDING FOR THE INCURRENCE OF INDEBTEDNESS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING A PORTION OF THE COST OF ACQUIRING A FIRE ENGINE AND TOOLING EQUIPMENT**. Mr. Johnson made a motion to adopt the resolution as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Jenkins. Upon roll call to adopt the resolution as an emergency, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency measure, Ordinance No. O2025-26 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF $780,115 FIRE TRUCK BONDS, SERIES 2025, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING PART OF THE COSTS OF ACQUIRING A FIRE TRUCK AND ALL APPURTENANCES THERETO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**. Mr. Jenkins made a motion to adopt the ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Dr. Thomas. 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 measure, Ordinance No. O2025-27 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O2025-09, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2025-21, SETTING APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025**. Mr. Johnson made a motion to adopt the ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Jenkins. Upon roll call to adopt the ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

Mr. Marvin Ours inquired about the status of the new Spectrum fiber optic installation. Mr. Boyer stated that we have had a couple of meetings with them after they began work on Spruce Street Extension because there were some issues. The last he knew, they hadn't been in to get permits, and we are still waiting on their plans on paper.

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

Shelly Clonch
Clerk, City Commission

Michael N. Wilks
President, City Commission