

October 7, 2025

The Gallipolis City Commission met in a regular session on Tuesday, October 7, 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
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	Ollie Paxton Tipple	Mariah Scarberry	Mike Carter
Richard Tipple	Nan Scarberry	Patty Hays	Randy Breech
Marvin Ours	Lori Hall	Mark Still	Diane Love

The commission received the minutes from September 16th before this meeting. Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the September 16th minutes, seconded by Mr. Jenkins. Upon voice vote to approve the minutes, all votes were yes.

The privilege of the floor was granted to Mariah Scarberry, who stated that she is a blind pedestrian who has lived in the City for seven years. She feels there are dangerous situations in our City and is present tonight to express her concerns about construction zones not being ADA-compliant. It is not safe, there are no barriers, and no help to detour the zone. Ms. Scarberry said that the tactile and truncated domes on the sidewalk corners are not up to standard, specifically 4th Avenue/State Street and Court Street/Second Avenue. She suggested the City put up yellow "blind pedestrian" signs to make the public aware. The City Manager replied that the ADA-compliant curbs were set by an engineer with the State and are supposed to be up to standard. Ms. Scarberry passed around information on ADA requirements and pictures of water standing at the curbs, making it impossible to walk across the street. Mr. Westfall said he received and replied to her emails about the standing water and the curbs. The week that the pictures were taken was around the time we had a lot of hard rain. He will look into getting the blind pedestrian signs put up and also check into the curbs.

Also speaking during the privilege of the floor was Ms. Patty Hays, who asked if the City can fill potholes on Kineon Drive. Mr. Westfall said we did have a leak there, and he will check with the garage to see if the leak is fixed and if the potholes are being filled. Ms. Diane Love also stated she had the same issue with potholes on Holcomb Hill. Ms. Love also mentioned the cat nuisance issue across the street from her. Mr. Fulks assured her that the City is working on that, and it is a slow process.

Mr. Jenkins encouraged everyone to vote for the .5% tax levy.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- The water line replacement project has a crew going up Third Avenue, and a second crew is heading down Fourth Avenue. They also have a third crew working from SR 218 to town to try to get as much done as possible before cold weather hits.
- Optimum/Spectrum is currently installing fiber lines throughout the County. They have hit a couple of our lines outside of town. He wants to make sure that anything they install in town is overhead.

- The Army Corps of Engineers is currently working on the 408 review for the Riverfront project, and it should take four weeks to get the final permit to move forward and get the contractors started.
- He has applied for two grants through OPWC for paving and for a lime slaker at the Water Treatment Plant.
- As soon as we get good weather, we will start to resurface the basketball court.
- Gallipolis in Bloom is coming to an end, and he thanked the committee and their volunteers for all of the work they put into the flowers.

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

- \$29,905.62 from Rumpke for refuse collection. Inv: 8/19/25. PO: 9/4/25.
- \$3,476.64 from Ohio Netting and Fence for basketball court resurfacing. Inv: 9/22/25. PO: 9/25/25
- \$5,986.46 from Ohio Valley Bank for a payment on the pool loan. Inv: 9/18/25. PO: 9/24/25.

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

The Commission received the September 2025 financial statement in their packets, and the Auditor asked for a motion to approve. Dr. Thomas made a motion to approve the September 2025 financial statement, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon voice vote to approve the September financial statement, all votes were yes.

Ms. Clonch presented a list of donations for July of \$50.00, for August of \$400.00, and for September of \$29,800.00. These donations were as follows:

Rebecca Carroll, \$50, Canine Fund	Ed & Jane Slagle, \$100, Gallipolis in Lights
Martha Cornwell, \$100, Gallipolis in Lights	April Magnussen, \$100, City Park Tree Fund
Magnussen Donor Fund, \$4,500, Gallipolis in Lights	Jeff & Valerie Nelson, \$50, Gallipolis in Lights
Helsley Living Trust, \$12,500, MH Spring House	Nancy Smith \$12,750, MH Spring House

Mr. Johnson made a motion to accept the donations, seconded by Mr. Jenkins. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

The Auditor also informed the Commission that there is a first-reading ordinance on the agenda tonight to enter into an agreement for employee health insurance. The proposal came in at a 5% decrease with the same plan that we have now through Medical Mutual. As of 09/30/25, we have a reserve balance of \$1,117,380 and have the option of a moratorium for our December premium. Ms. Clonch passed out a spreadsheet to the Commission of the savings it would be per fund and suggested passing some of the savings onto the employees' bonus. She told the Commission to let her know their opinions.

Mr. Johnson informed all present that Gallipolis in Lights will start to hang lights in the City Park this weekend.

Mr. Fulks said the Pine Street Cemetery walk was this past weekend, and it was really good. They have people who portray those from the French 500.

There was presented and read to the Commission as a second reading, Resolution No. R2025-07 entitled **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER JOHN WESTFALL TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND/OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM(S) AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED.** Mr. Jenkins made a motion to adopt the resolution on the second reading, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon roll call to adopt the resolution on the second reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as a first reading, Resolution No. R2025-08 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 place the resolution on the first reading, seconded by Dr. Thomas. 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. R2025-09 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 2026 AS HEREIN DESCRIBED.** Mr. Jenkins made a motion to place the resolution on the first reading, seconded by Dr. Thomas. 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 second reading, Ordinance No. O2025-28 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH USI INSURANCE SERVICES (PEP) FOR GENERAL LIABILITY AND PROPERTY INSURANCE.** 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, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as a first reading, Ordinance No. O2025-29 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. Jenkins made a motion to place the ordinance on the first reading, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon voice vote to place the ordinance on the first reading, all votes were yes.

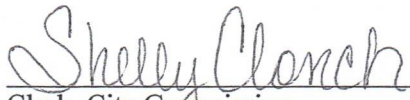
There was presented and read to the Commission as a first reading, Ordinance No. O2025-30 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF A BONUS TO GALLIPOLIS FIRE DEPARTMENT (GFD) FIREFIGHTERS.** Dr. Thomas made a motion to place the ordinance on the first reading, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon voice vote to place the ordinance on the first reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as a first reading, Ordinance No. O2025-31 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 371.06 (B)(2) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO.** Mr. Johnson made a motion to place the ordinance on the first reading, seconded by Dr. Thomas. Upon voice vote to place the ordinance on the first reading, all votes were yes.

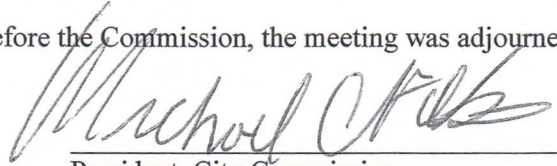
There was presented and read to the Commission as a first reading, Ordinance No. O2025-32 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR HOSPITALIZATION, MEDICAL, AND MAJOR MEDICAL, AND DRUG INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES AND ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO.** Mr. Jenkins made a motion to place the ordinance on the first reading, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon voice vote to place the ordinance on the first reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as a first reading, Ordinance No. O2025-33 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTED SERVICE AGREEMENTS WITH LOCAL HEALTH CLINICS FOR HEALTHCARE SERVICES FOR CITY OF GALLIPOLIS EMPLOYEES AND ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS.** Mr. Jenkins made a motion to place the ordinance on the first reading, seconded by Dr. Thomas. Upon voice vote to place the ordinance 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