

July 7, 2026

The Gallipolis City Commission met in a regular session on Tuesday, July 7, 2026, 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 C. Fulks called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Upon roll call, the following members were present:

Michael C. Fulks, President
William "Bill Thomas, Vice President
Michael W. Brown, Member
Michael D. Carter, Member
Dennis L. Kirby, Member

Others attending were:

John Westfall, City Manager			
Shelly Clonch, City Auditor			
Andrew Noe, City Solicitor			
Ronnie Lynch	Heath Lucas	Mary Nally	Joy Elliott
Keith Elliott	Michael Johnson	Betty Carter	Justin Rice
Jim Osborne			

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

The privilege of the floor:

- Ms. Mary Nally with SOPEC, which Gallipolis has been a member community for several years, was present to discuss installing electric charging stations in Gallipolis. SOPEC has received a large federal grant for EV stations and would like to put two stations in the gravel parking lot across the street from the Municipal Building on Third Avenue. The City would need to pass legislation to participate, and participation is not a commitment or binding agreement for the City as the project moves forward. It just creates the ability for a future agreement with SOPEC with mutually agreed-upon terms and conditions. The install would be in the first half of 2027 and is a five-year grant. SOPEC would be 100% over the project, which includes construction costs of 2 dual ports, software and billing, an electric meter, paving the size of 4 or 5 parking spaces, and possible lighting. After the 5-year grant period, SOPEC would collect data to see the benefits, one being bringing more business to our downtown area, and make a plan with the City. Ms. Clonch stated that we want to make sure that adding additional charging stations will not deter the use of the City's stations, which covers the cost of the software and maintenance contracts. Mr. Fulks asked if this study would be comparable to us being a small community versus a bigger City in terms of bringing in more revenue for our local businesses. Ms. Nally replied that the research that has been done showed the greatest benefit of EV chargers was in rural communities, specifically to support local businesses. The Commission will need to discuss this more in depth before a decision is made.
- Mr. Heath Lucas requested the privilege of the floor to propose starting a baseball summer league that is Gallipolis City School-based. He is requesting the City's support and the ability to have access to the City ball fields. The Commission was in favor of this, and Mr. Lucas will see what he can get going and bring it to the City Manager. The City Auditor said that we would need to check with our liability insurance to be sure there would not be an issue.
- Mr. Jim Osborne reiterated his thanks from previous meetings for the temporary fix on Hedgewood Drive and also for the repair of the road and sidewalk by his driveway. He expressed his appreciation for cutting the weeds back that were overgrown, but noted that the weeds that were cut are lying on the road. He also invited all to the upcoming Gallia Academy Hall of Fame events.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- The Fourth of July celebration at the City Park went well, and he received positive comments. He thanked the Police, Fire, and Maintenance Departments for all of their hard work before, during, and after the festival.
- Everyone received a handout that included pictures of the springhouse on Mound Hill that Irvin Saunders completed, and he did a great job. There are also pictures of the recently resurfaced basketball court and pictures of the shelter houses at the different parks showing a lot of wear and tear on the roofs.
- The contractor on the water line replacement project is tying in mains and service connections. We hope to have this first phase water project completed by the end of the year.
- Allard is still working on the punch list for the Riverfront project.
- Chillicothe Road was repaved by Columbia Gas after their work was completed. For the City's paving project, Henkle Avenue will need to have some repairs prior to blacktop being laid. Mr. Carter asked if the water line contractor would be repairing Fourth Avenue in front of the school before paving, and Mr. Westfall said he would check and find out. Mr. Brown said he has had complaints about the road on Garfield Avenue, and Mr. Westfall said they are finishing up tying in mains, and then they will work on the road repairs.
- He was contacted by an engineering firm concerning a gas station wanting to tie into the sewer at the Industrial Park and maintain their own line and pump station. Mr. Westfall said he is comfortable with what they proposed, but we need to be mindful of the capacity. He would like the Commission's approval before they move forward. Dr. Thomas made a motion to allow them to tie into the sewer, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon a voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes. Mr. Westfall also said that the City is trying to get a grant to restore our lift station at the Industrial Park.

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

- \$3,490.25 from USA Blue Book for dissolved oxygen sensor. Inv: 6/3/26. PO: 6/10/26.
- \$3,300.00 from Allcom for quarterly IT billing. Inv: 6/10/26. PO: 6/17/26.
- \$31,332.00 from Arcadis for water line project engineering. Inv: 5/18/26. PO: 6/17/26.

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

Ms. Clonch went over the emergency ordinance on the agenda tonight to amend the appropriations. Additional funds are needed for the housing of prisoners in the Police budget due to housing and medical bills, roof repairs of shelters at the parks, a court grant refund, and chemicals at the pool.

There was presented and read to the Commission as a second reading, Resolution No. R2026-03 entitled **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW ENTERPRISE FUND (565) WPC RESERVE**. Mr. Brown made a motion to adopt the resolution on the second reading, seconded by Dr. Thomas. Upon a roll call vote to adopt the resolution on the second reading, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as a second reading, Ordinance No. O2026-17 entitled **AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND REJECTING BIDS FOR THE PAVING OF CITY STREETS**. Mr. Carter made a motion to adopt the ordinance on the second reading, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon a roll call vote to adopt the ordinance on the second reading, all votes were yes.

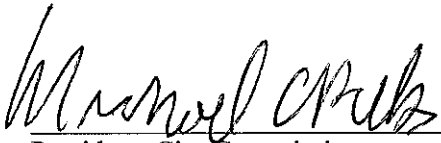
There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency ordinance, Ordinance No. O2026-18 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O2026-03, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2026-10, SETTING APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026.** Dr. Thomas made a motion to adopt the ordinance as an emergency measure, seconded by Mr. Carter. Upon a roll call vote to adopt the ordinance as an emergency measure, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as a first reading, Ordinance No. O2026-19 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN DOCUMENTATION FOR PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY AT 514 2ND AVENUE, GALLIPOLIS, OHIO 45631.** Mr. Carter made a motion to place the ordinance on the first reading, seconded by Mr. Kirby. Upon a 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