July 21, 2026

The Gallipolis City Commission met in a special session on Tuesday, July 21, 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. Mr. Fulks requested a moment of silence in memory of former City Commissioner Mr. Carroll Snowden, who recently passed away, as well as the father of the City Manager's secretary.

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	Joy Elliott	Keith Elliott	Kyla Bryant
Marvin Ours	Jim Osborne	Betty Carter	Justin Rice

The commission received the minutes from July 7th before this meeting. Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the July 7th minutes, seconded by Mr. Carter. Upon a voice vote to approve the minutes, all votes were yes.

The Privilege of the Floor:

- Ms. Kyla Bryant requested the privilege of the floor to discuss the gate at the Riverfront and boat parking. She said that she is a frequent boater, and the area available for boats to launch and park does not have enough space for both boaters and non-boaters. It has been causing some confusion and confrontation. Ms. Bryant asked if the gate separating the rest of the Riverfront area could be opened on the weekends for those taking boats out because right now it is a disaster with such a small space. Mr Fulks said right now the construction is not completed and there is no lighting, and for safety purposes, it is not a good idea. The City Manager stated we are at the mercy of the contractor on getting the lights installed, but hopefully it will be done in the next few weeks.

- Mr. Marvin Ours inquired about a house on the lower block of Fourth Avenue with trash piled everywhere. He said he did see a dumpster there but asked if anyone from the City had approached them about cleaning it up. The Solicitor said the resident is on probation for a violation of the property maintenance code. He plans to prepare an ordinance for the next meeting that would amend the code to charge property owners as well as the occupant when properties are not cleaned up. The ordinance would have increased fines and change the offense to a more serious misdemeanor of the 1st degree.

- Mr. Jim Osborne expressed his appreciation for Commissioner Brown as he sees him picking up trash and branches from the sidewalks. He also thanked the Commission for the road repairs on Fourth Avenue.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- Fire Chief Keith Elliott has recommended the promotion of volunteer firefighter Jonathan Elliott to the vacant position of Lieutenant. The Chief said he had two firemen apply, with one dropping out midway. He has gone through the assessment process and has received verbal approval from the Civil Service board. Dr. Thomas made a motion to appoint Mr. Jonathan Elliott to the position of Lieutenant, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon a voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.
- He asked Mr. Noe to discuss vacating an alley where Atomic Credit Union will be going between Eastern Avenue and Chatham Avenue. There is an issue with the adjacent property owner after Atomic had the property surveyed. The paved portion of the alley extends through their lot instead of following the correct alley right-of-way. As a result, the actual alley location remains unpaved and is currently covered with grass. Mr. Noe felt it was in the best interest of the City to vacate the alley and get out of it, as long as we still have utility easements. The property owners will work together to establish mutually acceptable ingress and egress access to the property. The City would need to get both property owners' consent or publish six times in a circulated newspaper and prepare an ordinance to be passed. The Commission all agreed with Mr. Noe's recommendation.
- The contractor is trying to finalize the Riverfront project, including installing lights, dock work, benches, tables, swings, and getting the historical markers and signs placed.
- There is an ordinance on the agenda tonight for a grant/loan project through OPWC for a lime slaker at the Water Treatment Plant. He hopes to get it bid out in the next few weeks.
- The contractor for the upcoming Fourth Avenue and Henkle Avenue paving project came into the office today. There are a few places along the road that need to be repaired before paving begins, and we also need to plan on cars being moved off the street. The plan is to get started on this project in the next few weeks before school begins.
- There is a resolution on the agenda tonight to begin the application for phase two of the Waterline Replacement project. We will need to have a work session to discuss the project's size and the water rates needed to fund it.

The City Auditor requested approval of the June financial statement that the Commission received in their packet before this meeting. Dr. Thomas made a motion to approve the June financial statement, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon a voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as a first reading, Resolution No. R2026-04 entitled **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A GRANT/LOAN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION THROUGH THE OHIO SMALL GOVERNMENT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM FOR WATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENTS.** Mr. Brown made a motion to place the resolution on the first reading, seconded by Dr. Thomas. Upon a 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. R2026-05 entitled **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO A WATER SUPPLY REVOLVING LOAN ACCOUNT (WSRLA) AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF WATER FACILITIES (WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PHASE 2); AND DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOAN.** Mr. Carter made a motion to place the resolution on the first reading, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon a 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. 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 adopt the ordinance on the second reading, seconded by Mr. Kirby. Upon a roll call vote to adopt the ordinance on the second reading, all votes were yes.

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

Shelly Clonch
Clerk, City Commission

Michael [illegible]
President, City Commission