

December 18, 2012

The Gallipolis City Commission met in special session on Tuesday, December 18, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. at the Gallia County Convention & Visitors Bureau, 61 Court Street, having complied with Section 9 of the City Charter.

Commission President James Jay Cremeens called the meeting to order. He led in a moment of silent meditation in memory of those slain in the Connecticut school shooting, and then gave the invocation.

Upon roll call, the following members were present:

James Jay Cremeens, President  
 Steven E. Wallis, Vice-President  
 Michael W. Brown, Member  
 James A. Cozza, Member  
 W. Matthew Johnson, Member

Others attending were:

Randall J. Finney, City Manager  
 Adam R. Salisbury, City Solicitor  
 Annette M. Landers, City Auditor/Clerk/Treasurer  
 Stephanie Filson, Gallipolis Daily Tribune  
 Tony Gallagher                  Ronnie Lynch                  Marvin Vanderberg  
 Claudia Miller                  Keith Elliott                  Joy Elliott

Commission received the minutes of the December 4, 2012 meeting prior to this meeting. There being no corrections, objections, or additions, these minutes were approved.

President Cremeens thanked Fire Chief Elliott and his wife, Joy, for the nice party for the volunteer firefighters. He commended them for a job well done.

The City Manager reported on the following:

- FEMA – paperwork on several of the projects is in process.
- Mound Hill Road Repair – Foill is ordering the materials for the project, set to begin in January.
- Administrative Offices – A group of employees helped select colors for carpeting, tile, and walls. The contractor is still dealing with the parking area. The change order for the additional work is on tonight's agenda. They are still on schedule for late January/ early February completion.
- Utility Billing Office – Credit card machines are in place. Policies must be developed and implemented for credit card usage. SmartBill will be printing and mailing bills to customers, beginning in early 2013. Mr. Finney showed Commissioners samples of the bills. They will use green and yellow ink to distinguish them from Rural Water's invoices. They are full page bills with space for notes to customers. The bills will now include much more information for customers concerning their consumption, including a graphical representation of usage over the prior twelve months.
- Mr. Finney informed the Commission of the intended purchase of a rescue boat for the Fire Department, using funds available in the Fire Levy Fund. He distributed material describing the boat, manufactured by Rescue One and asked Chief Elliott to elaborate on the features of the boat. This boat is constructed to be very stable in backwaters, which is a major concern in

selecting a serviceable boat for our particular needs. Mr. Wallis, along with several other Commissioners, verbally endorsed the purchase, saying that he had been concerned over the lack of a boat, given the miles of river frontage and backwaters in our service area. Ms. Landers informed the Commissioners that the Fire Levy Fund has enough money to buy the boat and gear right now. She said that the only negative impact would be that we would not be able to pay off the loan on the ladder truck six months in advance, saving a small amount in interest. She said that the concern over potential risk to life outweighed consideration of that small savings. Mr. Wallis made a motion to purchase the boat, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes. Chief Elliott said that the boat would arrive in January.

- The owner of 36 Henkle Avenue has asked to have the demolition of this house added to our grant funding. It was on the original list that was submitted to the Commission for approval. After a short discussion, the Commissioners agreed that this property met the conditions for inclusion. Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve adding this property to the list for grant funding, seconded by Mr. Cozza. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.
- A resident called to discuss the smaller number of Christmas decorations in the City Park. In the discussion, Mr. Finney told the caller that many of the lights are in poor condition and need repair. The conversation resulted in an offer from the resident to help in forming a committee to raise funds for the repair of lights for the City Park. This offer was welcomed by the City Manager and the Commissioners.
- Jail contract – Mr. Finney met with Sheriff Joe Browning in an attempt to renegotiate the per diem jail fees for the 2013 contract year. According to Chief Patterson's survey, the amount is a little higher than others are charging. Sheriff Browning is going to review the costs and see if any change can be made. Also, Sheriff Browning is going to review the numbers from the performance audit for the Sheriff's Department to take over law enforcement for the City. He was skeptical that it could be done for the price they gave, if they could even take it on at all.
- Mr. Finney asked for a volunteer from the Commission to serve on the Volunteer Fire Fighters' Dependents Fund (VFFDF) Board. They customarily meet once per year. Mr. Brown volunteered to serve. Mr. Wallis made a motion to appoint Mr. Brown to the VFFDF Board, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.
- Allen Wood has asked for waiver of the sewer charges on the service line to their ice machine at the Ice Plant, since very little, if any, water ever goes from there into the sewer system. Following a short discussion, Mr. Wallis made a motion to waive the sewer fee on that service line, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.
- Mr. Finney requested approval to attend an EMA disaster recovery class in Columbus on January 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. He may decide to attend only one day, depending on other obligations. The Commissioners indicated that they were okay with this.
- Mr. Finney requested executive session to discuss police staffing/personnel issues.

The City Auditor presented the November Financial Statement for approval. Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the November Financial Statement, seconded by Mr. Wallis. Upon voice vote on the motion, all votes were yes.

Ms. Landers reminded the Commissioners of the pre-audit meeting tomorrow at 2 p.m. in the meeting room at 848 Third Avenue. They were sent e-mail notices of this meeting last week.

Copies of the latest 2013 budget draft were distributed on flash drives for the Commissioners. Commissioners discussed when to schedule the first budgetary work session. This was tentatively set for Saturday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, at 10 a.m. Ms. Landers mentioned that she would like for the Commission to consider purchasing remote back-up/disaster recovery services from our software provider, if we can make room for it in our 2013 budget.

The City Solicitor reported that there was an issue that arose today with Mr. McGuire resuming tractor work on his property next to the river, endangering the stability of the road on that section of Eastern Avenue. Because this activity was in direct violation of his probation, the court probation department became involved and served him with a violation.

Mr. Cozza asked if the City Manager knew why there would be a compactor/roller driving along Eastern Avenue today. Mr. Finney said that he did not know, but would check. There was speculation that it might be related to work at the First Baptist Church.

Mr. Johnson observed that some of the street lights are not working. Mr. Finney said that they have a list that can be checked in about forty-five minutes. He will see that this is done.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency a Resolution No. R2012-28 entitled **AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY AUDITOR TO REQUEST BIDS FOR A LOAN FOR THE MOUND HILL CEMETERY (ORIGINAL ENTRANCE) ROAD LANDSLIDE REPAIR PROJECT AND REIMBURSEMENT FOR TEMPORARY ADVANCES FOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURES FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS.** Mr. Johnson made a motion to adopt this resolution as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Cozza. Ms. Landers explained that as soon as FEMA gives the word on whether they will participate on the alternate access road, which is on appeal with them, she will need to be prepared to go out for funding on the road repair projects. This will allow her to solicit bids from the banks in a timely manner. The Commission would still need to approve any bond issuance by ordinance and accept or reject the bids. Mr. Johnson made a motion to adopt this resolution as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Cozza. Upon roll call on the motion, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2012-90 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O2012-07, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2012-20, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2012-28, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2012-34, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2012-49, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2012-51, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2012-54, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2012-68, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2012-73, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2012-76, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2012-87, SETTING APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2012.** Mr. Johnson made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Wallis. Ms. Landers went over the changes for the Commissioners. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2012-91 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O2012-08, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2012-21, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2012-35, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2012-50, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2012-55, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2012-77, AUTHORIZING THE CITY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER OR ADVANCE FUNDS.** Mr. Johnson made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Brown. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2012-92 entitled **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. O2011-40, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2011-52, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. O2011-99, SECTION 2,**

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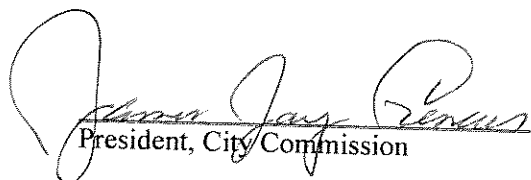
**DECLARATION OF OFFICIAL INTENT, AND DECLARING OFFICIAL INTENT WITH RESPECT TO REIMBURSEMENT OF TEMPORARY ADVANCES MADE FOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURES FOR THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO, TO BE MADE FROM SUBSEQUENT BORROWINGS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Mr. Wallis made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Ms. Landers explained that this amendment adds our portion (up to \$107,098) of the costs of the Mound Hill Entrance Road Project to the list of borrowings. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

There was presented and read to the Commission as an emergency an Ordinance No. O2012-93 entitled **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO AUTHORIZE AND FUND CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 WITH HOON, INC. FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW GALLIPOLIS MUNICIPAL BUILDING FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES FOR EXCAVATION WORK AND ELECTRICAL SERVICE.** Mr. Cozza made a motion to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon roll call to adopt this ordinance as an emergency, all votes were yes.

Mr. Cozza made a motion to enter executive session for personnel issues in the Police Department, as set forth in ORC 121.22(G)(1), seconded by Mr. Johnson. Upon roll call to enter executive session to discuss personnel issues in the Police Department, all votes were yes. Upon completion of executive session, Commission returned to special session.

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

  
Clerk, City Commission

  
President, City Commission