

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
GALESBURG CITY COUNCIL  
DECEMBER 17, 2007; 7:00 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS,  
GALESBURG CITY HALL  
200 E. MICHIGAN AVE.  
GALESBURG, MI**

**GALESBURG**

200 E. Michigan Avenue  
Galesburg, Michigan 49053  
Phone: (269) 665-7000  
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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Allen at 7:00 P.M.

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Doxey, Jackson, Kissinger, Nicolow, Yingling, Allen

**ABSENT:** None

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Allen.

**III. COMMUNITY COMMENT**

Michael VanNess of Burgess Dr. complimented the DPW employees on the good job they did of cleaning up after the snow yesterday.

Martin Heppler from the Police Department complimented the DPW employees and the Mayor for the nice job they did on the banners. The City looks very nice.

Robert Wilson, DPW Supervisor remarked that some of the brackets holding up the banners have broken. They were homemade because of the expense of purchasing them from the vendor; however, next year's budget will contain money for brackets. He requested that Council include money in the budget to put up spring, summer and fall banners as well. He reported that the DPW Department is getting a contract on the 35<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge reconstruction project. The price of the new contract is \$70,000, much higher than the \$40,000 projected by our engineering firm. Ken Oscarson of Fleas and Vandenbrink has asked for a change in that contract to allow the city to opt out of the contract if the bids come in too high. He has suggested that the contract be transmitted to Attorney Soltis right away for revision to include an exclusion clause. He reported that the American Society of Civil Engineers awarded the City of Galesburg a quality of life award, which he accepted this week.

Commissioner Kissinger asked Mr. Wilson if we are still running with two towers, or are we down to one? Mr. Wilson answered that we are still waiting for the

check valve to be delivered before we can shut the old tower down.

Mayor Allen reported that last Sunday when we got all of the snow DPW Supervisor Wilson called him about a broken hydraulic line on the plow truck. They got it rigged up to do the streets and then received a call from Augusta that their truck was broken down. They used our truck to plow their streets.

**IV. READING AND APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES**

Motion by Commissioner Kissinger, supported by Commissioner Doxey to approve the minutes of December 3, 2007 as submitted.

Motion approved by the following vote:

**YEAS:** Commissioners Doxey, Jackson, Kissinger, Nicolow, Yingling, Allen

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**V. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Letter from Comcast Cable informing the City of a change in their channel lineup and pay per view pricing.

RECEIVED AND PLACED ON FILE

2. Letter from Comcast Cable informing the City of corrections to the Public Education and Government (PEG) channel location changes

RECEIVED AND PLACED ON FILE

3. Letter from City Treasurer, Susan Weston requesting that she be allowed to **waive the personnel policies** and bank unused vacation time

Motion by Commissioner Nicolow, supported by Commissioner Kissinger to approve the Treasurer's request to allow her to either accept payment for accrued vacation or personal leave time that she has not

taken, or to carry it over to the next fiscal year, and to make the same offer to all employees.

Motion approved by the following vote:

YEAS: Commissioners Doxey, Jackson, Kissinger, Nicolow, Yingling, Allen

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

4. Letter from the Michigan Municipal League submitting the 2008 National League of Cities Convention to be held in Washington, D.C. March 8-12, 2008

RECEIVED AND PLACED ON FILE

5. Letter from Prein & Newhof submitting a change of status report on the DWRP Project

REFERRED TO THE MAYOR

6. Letter from Bob Weston regarding the City's Health Insurance Policy

REFERRED TO THE MAYOR

7. Brochure and application for 2008 Board of Review Training. Request from Patrick Couch that the 3 Board of Review Members attend training

Motion by Commissioner Jackson, supported by Commissioner Kissinger to approve payment in the amount of \$85.00 per person for the three (3) **Board of Review Members to attend training.**

Motion approved by the following vote:

YEAS: Commissioners Doxey, Jackson, Kissinger, Nicolow, Yingling, Allen

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

8. Advertisement and rate schedule from the Kalamazoo County Convention & Visitors Bureau

Motion by Commissioner Kissinger, supported by Commissioner Jackson to authorize submission and payment in the amount of \$50 for the **City of Galesburg Logo to be placed as an icon on the KCCVB 2008 Visitors Guide.**

Motion approved by the following vote:

YEAS: Commissioners Doxey, Jackson, Kissinger, Nicolow, Yingling, Allen

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

9. Kalamazoo County Child Abuse & Neglect Council request for donations

RECEIVED AND PLACED ON FILE

10. Application for appointment to the Library Board filed by Barbara Horn of 11310 Valley Dr., Galesburg MI 49053

Motion by Commissioner Nicolow, supported by Commissioner Kissinger to approve the **appointment of Barbara Horn to the Library Board** for a term to expire December 2012.

Motion approved by the following vote:

YEAS: Commissioners Doxey, Jackson, Kissinger, Nicolow, Yingling, Allen

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

11. Planning Commission Minutes from the September 20, 2007 meeting.

RECEIVED AND PLACED ON FILE

## VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no scheduled public hearings.

## VII. ACTION ITEMS

There were no resolutions or ordinances scheduled for adoption.

## VIII. REPORTS OF OFFICERS & BOARDS

### a. Treasurer

Motion by Commissioner Kissinger, supported by Commissioner Jackson to accept the Treasurer's report as submitted.

Motion approved by the following vote:

YEAS: Commissioners Doxey, Jackson, Kissinger, Nicolow, Yingling, Allen

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

### b. Accounts Payable

Motion by Commissioner Kissinger, supported by Commissioner Doxey to approve accounts payable as submitted by the Clerk.

Motion approved by the following vote:

YEAS: Commissioners Doxey, Jackson, Kissinger, Nicolow, Yingling, Allen

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

c. Department of Public Works

Mayor Allen said that he wants everyone to know, who does not already know, that Galesburg was selected as the 49<sup>th</sup> top city in the United States for raising a family. To this end, he proposed erecting signs at the city limits Advertising our place as one of the nation's nicest places to raise kids.

Motion by Commissioner Kissinger, supported by Commissioner to pursue pricing on the placement of recognition panel signs at the same locations as the **City Limit signs** commemorating the selection of Galesburg as a "Great Place to Raise a Family" by Business Week Magazine.

Motion approved by the following vote:

YEAS: Commissioners Doxey, Jackson, Kissinger, Nicolow, Yingling, Allen

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

**X. OLD BUSINESS**

A. Tabled Item; Community Use Policy

The Clerk reported that they have not had an opportunity to meet to reconsider this resolution as of yet. This item will remain on the table until such time as a motion has been made to raise it from the table.

**XI. COUNCIL COMMENT**

Commissioner Doxey complimented the Mayor and DPW Department, saying, the Christmas banners really look nice.

DPW Supervisor Wilson thanked the Mayor for all the time he put into getting the banners hung.

Mayor Allen spoke regarding the letter on tonight's agenda from former Mayor Weston about the City's

insurance policy. He has distributed copies of Mr. Weston's letter to all commissioners and will place this item on the agenda for the next Council meeting for a presentation regarding the legalities of this issue.

Commissioner Nicolow said that the School approached him on this issue. He talked to former Mayor Weston at that time. He said that he may have used incorrect language to describe his proposal. He pointed out that Mr. Weston is the City's Insurance Agent and the spouse of the City Treasurer.

Mayor Allen reported asking Mr. Weston to arrange for a Blue Cross/Blue Shield representative to attend our next meeting for discussion of this proposal from Commissioner Nicolow.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Commissioner Kissinger, supported by Commissioner Nicolow to adjourn.

Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Miner, CMC  
City Clerk