

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
GALESBURG CITY COUNCIL
MAY 18, 2009; 5:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
GALESBURG CITY HALL
200 E. MICHIGAN AVE.
GALESBURG, MI**



GALESBURG

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The Regular meeting of the Galesburg City Council was called to order by Mayor Allen at 5:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Councilmembers Garrett, Jackson, Kissinger, Nicolow, Van Ness, Yingling, Allen.

ABSENT: None.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Allen.

Motion by Councilmember Jackson and supported by Councilmember Kissinger to amend the agenda to move the Budget Working Session listed under Old Business up to the next order of business for tonight's meeting.

Motion approved unanimously.

The Council entered into a work session on the budget. Department Directors were in attendance to indicate where cuts could be made. Reductions were made in General Fund requests to cut appropriations to the following levels:

Dept./Acct. #	Orig Req.	Rev. Req.
MTT	101.253.964.000	\$10,000
Cemetery	101.276.956.000	\$ 500
GPD	101.301.743.000	\$ 1,900
	101.301.861.000	\$10,000
	101.301.970.005	\$ 6,530
Inspections	101.371.727.000	\$ 400
Planning	101.400.900.000	\$ 700
	101.400.956.000	\$ 300
Public Wrks	101.441.930.000	\$ 1,000
	101.441.935.000	\$ 0
	101.441.967.000	\$ 0
Adm/Zoning	101.721.800.000	\$ 500
Library	101.790.932.000	\$ 350
	101.790.960.000	\$ 500
	101.790.970.000	\$ 1,800
	101.790.982.000	\$ 8,000

Clerk Miner raised the topic of the 2002 Public Safety Millage. That ballot language sought approval of the levy of 1 mill to be used for "fire fighting equipment." The fire truck was purchased and the City's portion of the debt will be paid in full this year. There are funds available in the account that can be used for "fire fighting equipment." Those funds could be utilized to pay for Capital Outlay equipment and other equipment expenses in the Fire Department's Budget. The Fire Department Budget went up by \$17,400.00 in total for the 09/10 Fiscal Year. The City's portion of that increase is \$8,700.00. The use of the voted public safety money would help make up the difference for the fire department. Councilmember Kissinger said that he can identify \$12,750 in equipment funding in the Fire Department Budget.

(These departmental cuts, plus the \$12,750 in public safety funding will reduce the general fund budget liability by \$57,012.00.)

Motion by Councilmember VanNess and supported by Councilmember Jackson to take a 10 minute recess.

Motion approved unanimously.

This meeting of the Galesburg City Council recessed at 6:30 P.M. and reconvened at 6:41 P.M.

III. COMMUNITY COMMENT

Linda Carlton, President of the Galesburg Downtown Development Assn. requested permission for a carnival ride owner to stay in his camper at the City Parking lot on Norm's Place during Greater Galesburg Days.

Motion by Councilmember Jackson and supported by Councilmember Kissinger to approve the request of the DDA that the carnival ride owner be allowed to sleep in his camper on the City Parking lot during Greater Galesburg Days.

Motion approved unanimously.

Pat Crowley, Kalamazoo County Drain Commissioner addressed Councilmembers regarding the County's Drainage System. She said that the County has had a

long history of poor drain maintenance and she and her assistant are working hard to do things in a timely and economical way and in a way that includes the input of municipalities. She explained the FEMA Floodplain map process. She said that new maps are coming in October. The County then has one year to put the new plans in place. The State of Michigan is doing away with the wetland permitting division. These processes will now be under the direction of the Army Corp of Engineers. The water tables in Kalamazoo County are very high right now and many home owners are paying the price for this. They are now encouraging people not to put basements in their homes and to include sump pumps in their homes when they are built.

IV. READING AND APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Motion by Councilmember Garrett and supported by Councilmember VanNess to approve the minutes of April 20 and May 4, 2009 as submitted.

Motion approved by the following vote:

YEAS: Councilmembers Garrett, Jackson, Kissinger, Nicolow, VanNess, Yingling, Allen.

NAYS: None

V. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter from the State of Michigan Department of Energy Labor & Economic Growth Public Service Commission regarding their dispute resolution services for video/cable/television complaints.

RECEIVED AND PLACED ON FILE

2. Request from Representative Wenke for email addresses that he can use to communicate with Galesburg elected officials.

Councilmember Yingling provided her address to be given to Rep. Wenke.

3. Notice from Consumers Energy Southwest District requesting information on proposed road projects for 2009.

RECEIVED AND PLACED ON FILE

4. Letter from Comcast Cable providing notice of the inclusion of In Demand Pay Per View HD being added to channel 265.

RECEIVED AND PLACED ON FILE

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no scheduled public hearings.

VII. ACTION ITEMS

There were no action items.

VIII. REPORTS OF OFFICERS & BOARDS

a. Accounts payable

Motion by Councilmember Kissinger and supported by Councilmember Jackson to approve the accounts payable report and authorize issuance of warrants in the total amount of \$10,099.59.

Motion approved by the following vote:

YEAS: Councilmembers Garrett, Jackson, Kissinger, Nicolow, VanNess, Yingling, Allen

NAYS: None

b. Department of Public Works

DPW Supervisor Wilson asked for approval of an appropriation in the amount of \$1,750 for street sweeping. This usually occurs the week prior to Greater Galesburg Days.

Motion by councilmember Nicolow and supported by Councilmember VanNess to approve the request by Mr. Wilson for a \$1,750 appropriation for street sweeping.

Motion approved by the following vote:

YEAS: Councilmembers Garrett, Jackson, Kissinger, Nicolow, VanNess, Yingling, Allen

c. Minutes of City Boards & Commissions:

- Galesburg Parks Board
- Galesburg Memorial Library minutes of April 13, 2009

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Clerk Miner informed Councilmembers that with the reductions in revenue sharing, and the number of delinquent taxes not collected, the City is in need of a short term loan to get through the last month of the fiscal year. She requested approval for a short term loan from the Water Fund in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 with the understanding that the Administration will only draw on such funds as they absolutely must to make it through. The loan will be repaid from delinquent tax collections and the final installment of revenue sharing which typically arrives around the first of July.

Motion by Councilmember Kissinger and supported by Councilmember Jackson to approve a short term loan from the water receiving fund to the general fund in the amount of \$50,000.

Motion approved by the following vote:

YEAS: Councilmembers Garrett, Jackson, Kissinger, Nicolow, VanNess, Yingling, Allen

NAYS: None

Motion by Councilmember Nicolow and supported by Councilmember Garrett to authorize the City Clerk to gather information relative to a City Wide cleanup and to make arrangements to have a newsletter advertising said cleanup printed and distributed by the Boy Scout Group that is distributing information for the library under the supervision of Kay Maxson.

Motion approved unanimously.

X. OLD BUSINESS

Motion by Councilmember Jackson and supported by Councilmember Kissinger to approve scheduling the next City Council meeting to begin at 5:00 P.M. on June 1, 2009 to allow for completion of review of the budget.

Motion approved unanimously.

XI. COUNCIL COMMENT

Councilmember Yingling asked for clarification of where the money to repay the short term loan is coming from. Clerk Miner explained.

Councilmember Jackson said that at the last meeting there was a motion to remove Bill Thompson from the Galesburg Police Department Roster. He has asked to be reinstated to the roster and promised that no charges will accrue to the City of Galesburg for training or otherwise. They would then be able to use him in case of need, like for Greater Galesburg Days, etc.

Motion by Councilmember Jackson and supported by Councilmember Nicolow to reinstate Bill Thompson on the GPD Roster.

Motion approved by the following vote:

YEAS: Councilmembers Garrett, Jackson, Kissinger, Nicolow, VanNess, Yingling, Allen.

NAYS: None

Councilmember Garrett asked about a committee to work on the schedule for the Police Department. Their scheduling needs to be reviewed so that the City has maximum coverage.

Chief Mau responded saying that we have 120 hours of coverage out of a possible 160 per week.

Councilmember Garrett said that people want to know why Sgt. Heppler comes in so late and leaves early.

Linda Carlton of the DDA complimented the great job Sgt. Heppler did last Friday night with the Senior Sleep Over at the High School.

Councilmember Nicolow asked if we ever had any positive outcome on the fire hydrant issue.

Chief Mau said that Charleston just got their report in.

Councilmember Garrett spoke about 90 Washington St. and the building inspector.

Linda Carlton reported that Writton Graham has gone all over town spraying sidewalk cracks for weeds.

Mayor Allen spoke regarding the need for the old lumber company property to be mowed.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Kissinger and supported by Councilmember Jackson to adjourn.

Motion approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Miner, CMC
City Clerk, CFO