

**CITY OF GALESBURG  
CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2020**

In accordance with COVID-19 restrictions this meeting was broadcast on the City's YouTube Channel which provided the public the opportunity to make comment. Mayor West called the meeting to order at 6 pm.

Roll call was taken, and the following members were present: Lori West, Linda Marble, Rebecca Harmon, Denis Homan, and Carol Wortinger. Doug Smith and Rich Pawlawski were absent. Mayor West indicated she had received a call from Doug Smith and his absence was excused.

Also Present: Gabe Baracker, City Manager, Joshua Ranes, DPW Supervisor, and Anna Goodsell, Clerk

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Council then considered the agenda. West indicated she would like to add the appointment to the Personnel Policy Committee to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Doug Smith from the Committee. Upon motion of Marble, seconded by Wortinger, the Council voted unanimously by roll call to approve the agenda with the changes as indicated.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

West gave instructions to the public on how to make comments via YouTube Live. She asked for public comment allowing approximately 5 minutes for the public to make comments. There was no public comment.

**CITY MANAGER CANDIDATES PHONE INTERVIEWS**

The following individuals were contact via phone and the Council conducted interviews.

1. Jason Smith 6:06 pm to 6:14 pm
2. Erin LaPere 6:15 pm to 6:21 pm
3. Brent Bury 6:22 pm to 6:30 pm
4. Sara Joshi 6:33 pm to 6:41pm
5. Steven Buter 6:43pm to 6:56 pm

Mayor West indicated there would be a special meeting held on Monday, September 21, 2020 at 10 am to consider candidates for the City Manager's position.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The consent agenda consisted of the following items

1. Approve Accounts Payable - \$61,313.11
2. Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting – August 3, 2020
3. Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Department August Report

Upon motion of Smith, seconded by Wortinger, the Council voted unanimously by roll call to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **RESOLUTION RESCINDING RESOLUTION NUMBERS 20200803A AND 20200803B**

Upon motion of Marble seconded by Harmon, the Council voted unanimously by roll call to adopt resolution number 20200914A which rescinded Resolution Numbers 20200803A and 20200803B.

#### **RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE STATE OF MICHIGAN BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION CODES AS THE CITY'S BUILDING, PLUMBING, ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL PERMITS ISSUING AGENCY AND INSPECTION AUTHORITY**

The Council then considered the adoption of Ordinance Number 20200914B granting authority to the State of Michigan Bureau of Construction Codes to issue permit and perform construction related inspections. There was general discussion. Upon motion of Homan, seconded by Wortinger, the Council voted unanimously, by roll call to adopt the resolution.

#### **PERSONNEL MATTER – ASSESSOR**

Mayor West stated the next matter for the Council's consideration was termination of the employment of Patrick Couch, Assessor. She reminded by Council that the City is an at-will employer.

Mr. Couch was present and asked that this matter be discussed in closed session.

Upon motion of Marble, seconded by Harmon, the Council voted unanimously by roll call to enter into closed session at approximately 7:10 pm.

Upon motion of Marble, seconded by Homan, the Council voted unanimously by roll call to enter back in to open session. At approximately 7:22 pm West declared the council was back in open session.

Upon motion of Marble, seconded by Harmon, the Council voted unanimously by roll call to immediately terminate the employment of Patrick Couch, Assessor.

#### **WAYNE COUNTY APPRAISAL**

The Council proceeded to discuss entering into a contract with Wayne County Appraisal to provide assessing services for the City. There was general discussion. Upon motion of Marble, seconded by Wortinger, the Council voted unanimously by roll call to enter into the agreement with Wayne County Appraisal.

#### **APPOINT FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) COORDINATOR**

Upon motion of Wortinger, seconded by Harmon, the Council voted unanimously by voice vote to appoint Clerk Anna Goodsell as the City's FOIA coordinator.

## **PERSONNEL POLICY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT**

West reminded the Council that at the last meeting Smith resigned from the Personnel Committee, his term would end on December 31, 2020. Upon motion of Harmon, and seconded by Wortinger, the Council voted unanimously to appoint West to the Personnel Committee to fill the term for Smith.

## **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT**

Josh Ranes, DPW Supervisor reviewed the August Report he had provided with the Council. Upon motion of Homan, seconded by Wortinger, the Council voted unanimously to accept the DPW Report.

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

City Manager, Gabe Baracker reviewed the August Report he had provided with the Council. Upon motion of Marble, seconded by Wortinger, the Council voted unanimously to accept the City Manger's Report.

## **COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

West reported that she had responded to the individual who had a question about the Mid-Way Café during public comment at the last meeting.

Marble offered comments about the work being done by the Planning and Zoning Committee.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Being duly motioned and supported the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Lori West, Mayor

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Anna Goodsell, City Clerk