

**CITY OF GALESBURG
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JULY 12, 2021**

Mayor West called the meeting to order at 6 pm.

Roll call was taken, and the following members were present: Lori West, Mayor; Linda Marble, Vice Mayor; Judy Lemon, Dale Harmon, Angelina Rodriguez and Carol Wortinger.

Rebecca Harmon was absent. West indicated it was necessary to make a motion to excuse or not excuse R. Harmon's absence. A motion was made by Marble and supported by Lemon to excuse the absence. A voice vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

Also present: Sarah Joshi, City Manager; Anna Goodsell, Clerk; Josh Ranes, DPW Supervisor, John Crumb and Bill Bresson of Gull Lake Water and Sewer Authority, Kalamazoo County Sherriff's Deputy Tim Randall, and Matt Schuster of the Public Media Network (PMN). City Attorney Roxanne Seeber was attending via ZOOM.

There were approximately 15 interested persons also in attendance

West reviewed the COVID policy and asked those in attendance who had moved their chairs closer together to separate them to allow for 6 feet of social distancing. Two individuals in the audience refused to do so. When repeatedly asked to move their chairs, West asked for the Deputy to intervene. The two individuals choose to leave the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Council proceeded to consider the agenda. A motion was made by Rodriguez, and seconded by Lemon, to approve the agenda as presented. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Richard Mau asked what happened to the items that were in the police evidence room when the police department was dissolved.

Gloria Olinger expressed concern for the increased thefts in the community

Janet Kershner asked how much the police officer got paid

Linda Carlton had questions about the new Downtown Development Authority members and why the old members were replaced.

West gave instructions for those who might want to comment via the Google Voice Mail Box. She provided the phone number.

There was one message in the Google Voice Mail Box from Housing Resources informing the public of Rental Assistance form COVID Emergency Funding.

There were several people in the ZOOM waiting room, each was asked if they would like to make public comment and none of them did.

West again asked if there was further public comment and there was not.

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda was comprised of the following items:

- Minutes of the June 7, 2021 Regular Meeting
- Minutes of the June 28, 2021 Special Meeting
- Paid Invoices - \$28,361.82
- Invoice Needing Approval - \$46,957.26
- May Sheriff's Department Report

Deputy Randall addressed the questions about increased thefts in the area. He suggested people leave their exterior lights on at night and to not leave any valuables in their cars.

Wortinger had questions regarding the bill to be paid. Her question was answered.

Upon motion of Marble, seconded by D. Harmon, the Council voted unanimously by roll call to approve the consent agenda as presented.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Marble, seconded by Lemon to go into closed session to discuss an Attorney Client Privilege communication. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously. The Council went into closed session joined by City Attorney Roxanne Seeber via phone at approximately 6:25 pm.

West declared the Council back into open session at approximately 7:05 pm.

Upon motion of D. Harmon, seconded by Wortinger, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to move forward with the acquisition of property. Marble abstained from voting on this issue.

CONSIDERATION – TERMINATION OF ASSOCIATED GOVERNMENT SERVICES (AGS) CONTRACT

Joshi reviewed the lack of communication and areas in which AGS is not providing the services as outlined in the contract. A motion was made by Wortinger and seconded by Rodriguez to terminate the contract with AGS. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion about securing the services of SafeBuilt. This will be considered at the next meeting.

CONSIDERATION – FUNDING OF FIRE DEPARTMENT CAPITAL PURCHASES

Joshi stated that the millage designated for capital purchase of fire equipment would be expiring this year. The Fire Department had presented a capital purchase plan costing approximately 1.4 million dollars over the next 15 years. She indicated Council members were provided a copy of ballot language that would provide the necessary funds. She also discussed the possibility of a special assessment.

Upon motion of Marble, seconded by Wortinger, the Council voted unanimously to table this item until the August 2, 2021 meeting.

FLOODING ON MORHOUSE STREET

The Board then considered the issue of flooding on the east end of Morhouse Street. Joshi indicated the engineer had prepared plans in 2010 but the Council at the time choose not to take action. She outlined the two possible solutions to the problem. There was general discussion. There was also discussion regarding the flooding on Elmwood Boulevard.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

Sarah Joshi, City Manager, proceeded to give her report. There was general discussion regarding the report.

DISCUSSION – SUPERVISORY CONTROL AND DATA ACQUISITION (SCADA)

John Crumb from the Gull Lake Water and Sewer Authority explained what SCADA is and how it is used to monitor the water and sewer systems. He also explained how it has the potential to decrease staff expenses and overtime expenses. He said it would be necessary to have a Council work session to give a presentation to show specifically how SCADA works.

CONSIDERATION – 32 MAPLE STREET PIPE LINER

It was explained the home at 32 Maple Street had repeatedly had sewer back up and they had replaced the pipe from the home to the city's portion but continued to have problems. It was determined there were tree roots in the city's lines. These were removed and now a pipe liner needs to be installed to stabilize the pipe. Our equipment along with staff from GLWSA will be used for the excavation. A motion was made by Marble and seconded by Lemon to install the pipe liner at a cost of \$4,160. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION - WAIVING CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGARDING ATTORNEY SERVICES

The Council then considered a resolution waiving conflict of interest regarding attorney services. West explained that Bauckham Sparks is the attorney for both the City and Comstock Township, and it was time to renew the water franchise agreement between the entities; therefore, it was necessary to disclose the conflict of interest. A motion was made by Marble and seconded by Rodriguez to adopt the resolution. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN – AMENDEMENT 1 AND 2

The next matter for the Council's consideration was an amendment to the Kalamazoo County Solid Waste Management Plan. This amendment would provide for the disposal of construction and demolition waste. This addition of services would have no financial impact on the City. Upon motion of Marble, seconded by Wortinger the Council voted unanimously by roll call to adopt the resolution.

Amendment 2 will be considered at the next City Council meeting.

CONSIDERATION – PUBLIC MEDIA NETWORK (PMN) PARTICIPATION

The Council then considered entering into a participation agreement with Public Media Network to broadcast the City Council meetings. Matt Schuster of PMN reviewed the history and services provided by PMN. There was general discussion. A motion was made by Marble and seconded by Rodriguez to enter into the Urban Cooperation Act Agreement establishing PMN to authorize the City to become a member of PMN. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDERATION – MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL LEAGUE (MML) CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Upon motion of Rodriguez, supported by D. Harmon, the Council voted unanimously by roll call to approve West and Marble to attend the MML Conference in September.

CONSIDERATION – UPDATES TO COVID POLICY

Joshi reviewed the proposed updates to the COVID Policy. A motion was made by Marble, seconded by Lemon, to approve the updates to the COVID Policy. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDERATION – COST OF LIVING WAGE ADJUSTMENT

A motion was made by Marble, supported Lemon the Council voted unanimously to give 1.3% Cost of Living wage increase to all City employees retroactive to July 1, 2021.

5-WAY INTERSECTION UPGRADES BY MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (MDOT)

Joshi indicated she had been contacted by MDOT, with information about planned upgrades to the 5-way intersection. She stated the City had the option to have the traffic signals placed on mast arms. The wiring for the traffic signals would be contained within the mast arms. There was general discussion. Joshi stated she would provide the Council with more information so a decision could be made at the August meeting.

CONSIDERATION – BID FOR MAINTENANCE PROJECT AT CITY HALL

Marble stated in the interest of transparency she needed to inform that Council that the only bid that was submitted was from Clerk Goodsell's brother. A motion was made by Marble, and supported by Lemon, to award the bid to Affordable Remodeling for \$59,156. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed. Wortinger was in opposition to the motion.

CONSIDERATION – EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE TO WATER TOWER

Two quotes were presented for the exterior maintenance of the water tower. There was lengthy discussion. A motion was made by Marble and supported by Rodriguez to accept the bid from Fedewa, Inc. for power washing the exterior, sanding off the graffiti and applying 2 coats of urethane paint to lower ring costing \$5,900. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDERATION – QUOTES FOR STREET SWEEPING

There was discussion regarding the quotes for street sweeping. Upon motion of Lemon, seconded by D. Harmon, the Council voted unanimously by roll call to accept the quote from Sweeping Corporation of America for \$2,160.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Josh Ranes, DPW Supervisor gave his report. He added that Kalamazoo Fence Company has begun installing the fence at the DPW barn.

SUB-COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

Rodriguez stated she was looking for new playground equipment and would appreciate help with park related responsibilities.

Marble gave a report about the Planning Commission.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

D. Harmon thanked those in attendance for coming to the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Being duly motioned and supported the Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lori West, Mayor

Anna Goodsell, City Clerk