

**CITY OF GALESBURG
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 10, 2023
9 AM**

Mayor Marble called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll was taken, and the following members were present: Mayor Linda Marble, Vice Mayor Judy Lemon, Glen Hawes, Stanley Chovanec and Carol Wortinger.

Absent: Ryan Harnden

Also present: City Manager Sarah Joshi and approximately 12 citizens.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Marble asked to add the issue of Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Office contract renewal to the agenda.

Frazee moved to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Lemon.

On a voice vote motion passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Tim Randall spoke in support of police chief candidate Jeff Crouse.

Galesburg resident Scott Cadwell stated he is against forming a police department, he has nothing against the present candidate as we all make mistakes.

Galesburg resident Scott Johnson said he doesn't appreciate taxes being raised by special assessment.

Galesburg resident Natalie Cadwell said the city dedicated a lot of time dissolving the previous police department. She further stated that the City needs to be fiscally responsible.

Police chief candidate Jeff Crouse thanked the City for their consideration and withdrew his candidacy.

Lemon asked Crouse to reconsider, saying that the city would be lucky to have him.

Frazee agreed with Lemon. He said he is about second chances and asked Crouse to reconsider the decision to withdraw.

Marble stated by not moving forward with Crouse's contract, the city is losing a great candidate.

Hawes also asked Crouse to reconsider his decision to withdraw his candidacy.

Wortinger stated we are losing a good candidate, and everyone makes mistakes.

Crouse stated he appreciates the support and had looked forward to building great things here.

Lemon moved to accept Crouse's withdrawal from the selection process, seconded by Wortinger.

On a roll call vote, the following voted "Aye": Chovanec, Lemon, Wortinger, Marble, Hawes, Frazee.

The following voted "Nay": none

Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION: DISSOLVE THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Marble said that without a chief, the police department would need to be dissolved in order to move forward with a Sheriff Department contract renewal. Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Department has not said whether they will increase rates.

Lemon moved to dissolve our police department, seconded by Wortinger.

On a roll call vote, the following voted "Aye": Lemon, Wortinger, Chovanec, Marble.

The following voted "Nay": Frazee, Hawes

Motion passed.

CONSIDERATION: EXTENSION OF KALAMAZOO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT CONTRACT

Marble asked for a motion to extend the Kalamazoo County's Sheriff Department contract for the coming year.

Lemon moved to extend the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's department contract for one more year, seconded by Wortinger.

On a roll call vote, the following voted "Aye": Chovanec, Wortinger, Lemon, Marble.

The following voted "Nay": Frazee, Hawes

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Marble stated the city needs people to apply for boards and appealed for those present to consider helping with the work of the city by becoming involved. Openings are available on each board and commission, and applications are on the City website.

Frazee agreed with Marble: The city has sharp people who can help.

Lemon stated no experience is necessary to help on boards and commissions.

Wortinger said she voted no originally for the police department because she believes it moved to fast. She stated she is not opposed to having one, though.

There being no further business, Mayor Marble adjourned the meeting at 10:23 a.m.

Linda Marble, Mayor

Lisa McNees, City Clerk

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