

**CITY OF GALESBURG
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 6, 2023
6 PM**

Mayor Marble called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll was taken, and the following members were present: Mayor Linda Marble, Vice Mayor Judy Lemon, Glen Hawes, Roger Frazee, Ryan Harnden and Carol Wortinger.

Absent: Stanley Chovanec

Also present: City Manager Sarah Joshi, DPW Supervisor Josh Ranes, and approximately 70 citizens.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Marble stated there was one addition to the agenda: Council had tabled the bulletproof glass last month and wished to discuss it this month, however, the needed information is not yet available, so it is added to the agenda, and can be tabled to the April meeting. Lemon moved to approve the agenda as amended adding GABCA's request to waive the fee for the use of Ike Payne Park for its Easter egg hunt, seconded by Frazee.

On a voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

GABCA President Linda Carlton discussed the planned April 1 Easter Egg Hunt at Ike Payne Park and asked for donations of plastic eggs and candy. She also expressed her wish that agendas include citizen comment time at the end in case people arrive to meetings late.

Rob Wilson referenced a previous communication he had with the mayor and asked for an update.

Jeff McCubbin commented regarding missing agendas or minutes on the website.

The mayor asked for a motion to consider GABCA's request to waive the fee for the use of Ike Payne Park on April 1. Frazee moved, Lemon seconded such action.

CONSENT AGENDA

Wortinger stated the minutes need to be corrected to say four sig sauers. Marble thanked the fire chief for the wonderful annual report. Frazee moved to accept the consent agenda with Wortinger's correction, seconded by Lemon.

On a voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Captain Jeff Christensen acknowledged Deputy Tim Randall's recent retirement and thanked him for his work. He then reviewed the monthly KCSO report, focusing on the unusual number of stolen vehicles.

FIRE BOARD REPORT

Assistant Fire Chief Bruce Turner said that in February, there were 19 calls in Galesburg, 16 in Charleston and 12 mutual aid. There have been 105 calls for the year, up from 69 calls at this time last year.

Frazee said that Turner was named assistant chief at the last fire board meeting after having served for 35 years.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Joshi reviewed her report and responded to questions from Council.

DPW REPORT

DPW Supervisor Ranes reviewed his report and responded to questions from Council.

PRESENTATION: KEVIN TRAYER, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POSTAL SUPERVISORS

Kevin Trayer with the National Association of Postal Supervisors spoke to ask Council and residents to express opposition for a proposed USPS consolidation plan.

RESOLUTION: SUPPORTING SUSPENSION OF USPS CONSOLIDATION PLAN PENDING PUBLIC INPUT AND REVIEW

Frazee moved to approve the resolution supporting the suspension of the USPS consolidation plan, seconded by Lemon.

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

The following voted "Nay": None

Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION: CONFIRMING FEBRUARY 14 VOTE TO ESTABLISH A POLICE DEPARTMENT

Frazee moved to approve a resolution to establish a police department, seconded by Hawes.

On a roll call vote, the following voted "Aye": Hawes, Harnden, Frazee and Marble.

The following voted "Nay": Lemon and Wortinger

Motion passed.

CONSIDERATION: AMENDED ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

The revision adds the police department to the staff side. Marble accepted the change on behalf of Council.

CONSIDERATION: GABCA REQUEST FOR FEE WAIVER FOR GREATER GALESBURG DAY

Marble stated that the Galesburg Area Business & Community Association asked Council to waive the Community Park rental fee and citywide garage sale permit fee the weekend of Greater Galesburg Day, June 16-18.

Frazee moved to waive the fee for GABCA, seconded by Lemon.

On a voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDERATION: KALAMAZOO COUNTY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Marble stated the fees have been raised. Marble asked Joshi to explain further.

Joshi said in 2022 the fee was \$503 and 24 residents used the service. This year, the fees are going up to over \$1200 and the usage trend is flat. Hawes said he supported renewing this program to give residents more time to know about it. Frazee agrees that we should keep it and advertise.

Frazee moved to approve the Kalamazoo County Household Hazardous Waste contract renewal, seconded by Lemon.

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

The following voted "Nay": None

Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION: POLICE CHIEF CANDIDATE

Marble stated the Personnel Committee interviewed police chief candidate Jeff Crouse on March 1. Captain Guilds from the City of Kalamazoo also participated in order to ask specific law enforcement questions and provide insight. After extensive consideration and background check, the Personnel Committee recommends to council to hire Jeff Crouse as police chief with a starting salary of \$75,000.

Crouse briefly introduced himself.

Following general discussion, Frazee moved to approve hiring Jeff Crouse as police chief, seconded by Hawes.

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

The following voted "Nay": None

Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION: BUDGET AMENDMENT RESOLUTION

Marble presented the budget amendment resolution.

Lemon moved to approve the budget amendment resolution, seconded by Hawes.

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

The following voted "Nay": None

Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION: DPW BARN HEATER REPLACEMENT

Marble presented the heater replacement quote and asked Supervisor Raney for additional information. Supervisor Raney said one of the heaters in their barn failed two weeks ago and repair cost exceeded replacement cost. The heaters were new in 2012, and he would like to replace both. The total would be around \$890.

Harnden moved to approve the replacement of barn heaters at DPW, seconded by Frazee.

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

The following voted "Nay":

Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION: GENERATOR MAINTENANCE QUOTE

Marble presented the generator maintenance quote and asked Supervisor Raney for more information. Supervisor Raney said at the annual maintenance inspection found corroded and broken battery cable, batteries and coolant that need to be replaced, leaks in the freeze plugs in the motor, and a broken door tab.

Harnden, moved to approve Wolverine Power Systems quote, seconded by Frazee.

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

The following voted "Nay": None

Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING: FIRE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

Marble stated this public hearing is for the special assessment district for the provision of fire services and that it is the first of two that are required before the special assessment process is complete. Marble asked when the notice of public hearing was published and mailed to residents. City Manager Joshi stated the notice was published on February 24, 2023 in the *Climax Crescent* and sent to each property holder on the same date.

Frazee moved to enter into public hearing for fire special assessment, seconded by Lemon. On a voice vote, the motion passed.

Marble noted that the language in the notice was misleading. It stated that the city proposes to levy approximately 3.85 mils, but council had not yet discussed the actual levy.

Council heard comment from 17 residents.

Lemon moved to close public hearing, seconded by Harnden.

On a voice vote motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDERATION: FIRE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

Hawes moved to not move forward with the fire special assessment, seconded by Harnden.

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

The following voted "Nay": None

Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING: POLICE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

Marble asked for a motion to enter public hearing for the police special assessment district.

Frazee moved to enter public hearing for a police special assessment district, seconded by Lemon.

On a voice vote carried unanimously.

Marble asked the public for comments or objections to the proposed establishment of the special assessment district. Council heard comment from nine residents and one business owner.

Lemon moved to close public hearing on police special assessment, seconded by Harnden.

On a voice vote carried unanimously.

Harnden moved to not move forward with police special assessment, seconded by Hawes.

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

The following voted "Nay": None

Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION: RECEPTION AREA SECURITY

Marble stated we tabled this in the February meeting until the March meeting.

Lemon moved to table consideration of the expenditure until the April meeting, seconded by Harnden.

On a voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDERATION: IKE PAYNE PARK FOR EASTER EGG HUNT

Marble asked for council consideration of GABCA's request that the city waive the fee for the use of Ike Payne Park on April 1 for an Easter egg hunt.

Harnden moved to waive the park rental fee for GABCA's Easter egg hunt, seconded by Lemon.

On a voice vote motion, passed unanimously.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Fraze reported that the Fire Board is still working on its budget.

Lemon stated the Planning Commission is wrapping up its work on an accessory buildings ordinance and will move on to a fence ordinance.

Wortinger said negotiations on the Joint Fire Board agreement are going very well.

Fraze commented that the notices of public hearing indicating a maximum of 10 mills was misleading as it was not council's intent to levy that amount. He said that it was his intention was to have a good police department and that two mills should help fund it adequately. He also wants night patrols back again. With regard to the fire special assessment district, there is a 30-year fire engine that will need to be replaced. We are building the department, and we have to fund it.

Wortinger stated she would like a police department at night. There have been thefts and break-ins during the evening hours.

Marble thanked everyone for attending and commenting.

There being no further business, Mayor Marble adjourned the meeting at 9:36 p.m.

Linda Marble, Mayor

Lisa McNees, City Clerk