

**GALION CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
MAY 25, 2010**

A Regular Meeting of Galion City Council was called to order by President Baldinger at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said followed by the Invocation given by Dr. Fellner. The following Council members were present: Ms. George, Dr. Fellner, Mrs. Wade, Mr. Smith, Ms. Clark, and Mr. Baldinger. Mr. Keib being absent, a motion was made by Ms. George, seconded by Ms. Clark and unanimously carried that his absence be excused.

President Baldinger asked if there were any changes to the minutes dated May 11, 2010. There being no changes, a motion was made by Ms. George and seconded by Mr. Smith that the minutes dated May 11, 2010 be approved as written. Motion carried.

President Baldinger asked if there were any changes to the agenda. There being no changes, a motion was made by Mrs. Wade and seconded by Ms. Clark that the agenda be approved as written. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

A 2nd Public Hearing was held concerning the FY2010 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Formula Program. The 1st Public Hearing was held April 13, 2010. Mike McBeth with the Crawford Regional Planning Commission briefly discussed the Formula Program saying that the city has to meet certain criteria to be eligible. Applications were due May 3rd and he explained what activities the City is proposing with the allocation of \$62,000: Council on Aging - \$4,300; Sara Beegle Day Care Center - \$5,000; Summit Street resurfacing - \$42,800; and \$9,900 for administration and fair housing. This totals \$62,000. Mr. McBeth said the application will be submitted to the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) by June 25, 2010. There being no further discussion the public hearing was closed.

LEGISLATION

Ordinance No. 2010-27 entitled an ordinance authorizing the City Manager of the City of Galion to file documents pertaining to an FY2010 Formula Community Development Block Grant; indicating consent of Council to fulfill the obligations incident thereto; and declaring an emergency. City Manager Toy stated that this is in reference to the public hearing that was just held. Mr. McBeth explained what the funds will be used for. There is no requirement to match CDBG Formula funds locally. There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. George and unanimously carried that this ordinance be passed.

Ordinance No. 2010-28 entitled an ordinance recognizing the prior service of Audrey Brodzinski with another public agency for the purpose of determining the rate of her accrual of vacation leave with the City of Galion. City Manager Toy explained that this has been a past practice in Galion. The purpose is to recognize prior years of service with a public agency for accumulated vacation time. In this case, Ms. Brodzinski has 3 years of prior service, which equates to two weeks of vacation time. This started to accumulate on her first day with the city. She will be eligible for 3 weeks of vacation at 8 years of service, 5 years from now according the Galion Personnel Manual. There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Ms. George and seconded by Mr. Smith that this be considered the first reading of this ordinance and that this ordinance be referred to a regular meeting held June 8, 2010 for a final vote. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 2010-29 entitled an ordinance vacating an unnamed alley extending in a northerly direction from Cherry Street a distance of 165 feet, more or less, and abutting inlots 937 and 938, and reserving utility easements. City Manager Toy said that this alley is between 374 and 380 Cherry Street. The owners on each side of the alley signed the petition. This is the first reading and he recommended that it go into the Planning, Zoning & Utilities Committee for further review to make sure there aren't any other property owners that need to use that alley or object to its closing. President Baldinger suggested that easements be settled between the two property owners to ensure that the alley will be cared for, that both property owners can use it as a driveway, and that the city still has utility easements in place. Ms. Clark asked what if one property owner sells, can they petition to have the alley open again? City Law Director Reese Mills explained that they would have to go through the procedure again with the petition and it would be put before Council for approval. There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mrs. Wade and seconded by Ms. George that this be considered the first reading of this ordinance and that this ordinance be referred to a regular meeting held June 8, 2010 for a final vote. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 2010-30 entitled an ordinance adopting an official map under section 719.07 (b) of the Galion Codified Ordinances, as amended, to classify city alleys upon which commercial garbage collection activities are permitted, and declaring an emergency. City Manager Toy said that this started because a new garbage hauler was in town and damage to certain alleys was being reported. There was an ordinance on the books referring to this very issue, but no map was found. City Manager Toy along with Lyn Makeever, City Engineer, looked at the alleys and which ones could handle a large garbage truck and the map was resurrected. Ms. George asked if these big trucks could cause more maintenance for the city on these alleys. City Manager Toy said that these alleys should be able to handle a large truck. There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Ms. George, seconded by Mrs. Wade and unanimously carried that this ordinance be passed.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

The Finance Committee chaired by Mrs. Wade in the absence of Mr. Keib discussed the following issues with Council:

1. City Finance Director Audrey Brodzinski gave a brief report on the YTD Fund Summary Report as of April 30, 2010. She said that as far as revenues and expenses are concerned, the city is right on track. 42% of revenues have been collected and 24% of expenses incurred. She explained the reason for some of the negative balances in certain funds. For example, the Police, Fire & EMS Fund (104) shows a year beginning balance of \$22,469. YTD revenue as of April 30th was \$468,725 which totals the YTD expense of \$491,194. Open P.O. Encumbered is \$219,858 which leaves an ending balance of (\$219,858). This will continue as revenues are received and expended. The total ending balance for all funds was \$15,154,520.
2. Mrs. Wade announced a committee meeting will be held June 4th at 9:00 a.m. in the city building. Representatives from Ohio Heartland and Ohio Job & Family Services will attend the meeting to discuss the programs that are available to low income families and how they work. Hopefully this will shed some light on our utility rates and payments issues.

The Laws & Ordinances Committee chaired by Ms. George discussed the following issues with Council:

1. Ms. George said that at the last committee held May 11th they reviewed the Civil Service Rules and found them to be excellent and they will be put before Council at a future meeting for approval.
2. Ms. George stated that they are still fine tuning the demolition ordinance.
3. Ms. George said they received a rough draft of the proposed fee schedule. Matt Ross, City Inspector, gave a copy to Council members and Mr. Mills for their review. Mr. Ross also commented on the demolition ordinance. He said he gave a copy of proposed changes to Mr. Mills for his review. Additions to the ordinance include requiring a copy of the approval to demolish by the EPA, tax records, all insurance documents, among others. Mr. Ross said a suggestion by Police Chief Saterfield to remove the jail time and impose a \$1,000 fine instead was approved by Mr. Mills, so that was added.
4. Ms. George said that according to Ohio Revised Code, garbage haulers can be charged a fee. Stephanie Zmuda with the Health Department will give a brief presentation on it at a future meeting. Also, Police Chief Saterfield suggested that they look at the rule concerning the time and service required of a police officer before he can take an exam to be promoted. He wants to make sure the Civil Service Rule matches the City Charter. Ms. George said she will look into it.

The Planning, Zoning & Utilities Committee chaired by Dr. Fellner discussed the following issues with Council:

1. Dr. Fellner discussed the demolition site on South Market Street. He said he received an email response from Senator Gillmor’s office stating that they are aware of the situation. City Manager Toy said that he talked with State Representative Jeff McClain and he went to visit the demolition site, but he hasn’t had any communication with him since. President Baldinger said he spoke with a representative from Eagle Crusher who said that they are willing to take on some of the responsibility to help clean it up. They said they would cover some piles with tarps. James Connelly, 802 S. Market St., said that he didn’t think there were any tarps down, but he saw someone spray water on the site. Dr. Fellner said he will keep working on this.

The Parks & Recreation Committee chaired by Ms. Clark discussed the following issues with Council:

1. Ms. Clark discussed an issue with Cobey Park. She said a gentleman in the area said that he doesn’t think that the city should be in the park taking down trees and spraying for mosquitoes because that park is considered a nature reserve. Ms. Clark said she is investigating whether Cobey Park was in fact labeled a nature reserve. She asked that if anyone has any information on this to let her know.

OTHER BUSINESS

City Manager Toy said that since we are a member of the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) we are allowed to have a delegate and alternate delegate to attend meetings held by the Regional Council of Governments (RCOG). In the past the city has chosen the City Finance Director to be the delegate and the City Manager to be the alternate delegate. City Manager Toy asked that a motion be made to approve this. A motion was made by Ms. George and seconded by Mr. Smith to approve the City Finance Director to be the delegate and the City Manager to be the alternate delegate to attend meetings held by the Regional Council of Governments (RCOG). The motion was carried by the following votes: Mrs. Wade – yea, Mr. Smith – yea, Ms. George – yea, Dr. Fellner – yea, and Mr. Baldinger – yea.

Clerk of Council Michelle Talbott notified Council of a letter received from the Ohio Soybean Association concerning the city “going green.” If Council would like to pursue this or discuss further they may do so at a future Council meeting.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

City Manager Toy reiterated the dates that the Taylor Road composting facility is open. It is the **third** Saturday of each month and the Friday before.

City Manager Toy said the resumes and applications for the Deputy Finance Director position are due this Friday, May 28th. Interviews are scheduled for June 2nd.

He said he received a letter from the Richland County Engineer's Office stating the part of Galion Airport Road north of US 30 that is in Richland County has been renamed Ulmer Road or Township Road 49A.

The Memorial Day Parade is scheduled for May 31st at 10:00 a.m.

City Manager Toy stated that the Ohio Department of Development has given preliminary approval for the use of excess revolving loan funds to help clean up the Shumaker Ditch. We still need to find out how much of that money we can use. It will go before Council for approval.

City Manager Toy said that the open walk through for the Atwood Nursing Home was held today. Bids are due 10 days from today.

Ms. George asked City Manager Toy when the Maple Heights project will start. He said that the contractor has ordered materials, but hasn't received any yet. They have a crew working on another job but hope to get started by the end of June. The job should be completed by the end of November.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT COMMENTS

President Baldinger said that if anyone would like to be in the Memorial Day Parade they should meet at the American Legion on Monday at 9:30 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jim Connelly, 802 S. Market St., said that he appreciates everything Council is trying to do to resolve the demolition issue on S. Market St. Some of his questions were answered earlier in the meeting.

Don Barnett, 127 Wilson Ave., discussed the vandalism taking place in South Park. He said the ball players pull into South Park by the concession stand on a lane that is not an alley. It is private property. There has been damage to the lane and they have used chain cutters to unlock the gate to gain access there.

Mike Richart, Galion resident, said that he received a call from a neighbor concerning the fees for building decks. He said he was charged a \$100 for the permit to repair his deck and the materials didn't even cost that much. Bill Nedolast, City Building Inspector, said that our fees are based per job, not the size of the job. Mr. Ross said that some communities do base their fees on square footage or the number of electrical boxes, etc. We can do that but it is more complicated because some of the drawings or blue prints we get don't even show that information. President Baldinger asked that it be put into the Laws & Ordinances Committee for further review.

Troy Oldaker, 3405 CR 31, discussed the water tap issue on Biddle Road. He said he bought a house there near the Oak Glade subdivision that doesn't have water hooked up. He wants to fix the house up and sell it, but needs water there. He spoke with a representative of the subdivision association who said that they would approve an additional tap to the water line if the city will allow it. Mr. Oldaker said that the water department has said that the water line could handle another tap, but he needs approval from someone to get it done. There is an agreement between the association and the city. Mr. Mills said that he has a copy of the agreement and will review it. Mrs. Wade suggested that we make an amendment to the agreement once we find out that we can add the tap. Mr. Mills said he will come back to Council for approval if indeed we can add the tap.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Gail Baldinger
Council President

Michelle Talbott
Clerk of Council