

**GALION CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 23, 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 Mr. Keib. The following Council members were present: Ms. George, Dr. Fellner, Mr. Keib, Mrs. Wade, Ms. Clark, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Baldinger.

President Baldinger asked if there were any changes to the minutes dated February 16, 2010. Two changes were noted concerning Ordinance No. 2010-8. A motion was made by Ms. George, seconded by Dr. Fellner and unanimously carried that these changes be approved. Motion carried. There being no further changes, a motion was made by Mrs. Wade, seconded by Ms. George and unanimously carried that the minutes dated February 16, 2010 be approved as amended.

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

SWEARING-IN OF NEW POLICE OFFICER

Police Chief Saterfield performed the swearing-in of new police officer Andrew Knee. Chief Saterfield said that Officer Knee graduated from Mansfield Senior High School in 2005 and previously worked as a part-time officer with the Lexington Police Department. Also, his father is a 22 year veteran police officer. Officer Knee thanked everyone for the opportunity to work with the Galion Police Department. He said he worked hard for many years and is thrilled to be here.

UPCOMING POOL SEASON

Terry Gribble, Executive Director of the Center Y, discussed the upcoming Heise Park pool season. He stated that they would like to get moving on the contract for this season. They need to get the licensure in place with the Health Department. He suggested using the same contract as the last three years, charging \$90 an hour. Mr. Gribble also suggested a rate increase of \$5 per category for season pool passes. They plan on opening the pool on June 8th and closing on August 14th. Mrs. Wade commended Mr. Gribble for not increasing the hourly rate to the city and working hard to keep costs down. He said the number of pool passes sold depends on how hot of a June we have. Hopefully the weather cooperates this year.

LEGISLATION

Ordinance No. 2010-9 entitled an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to advertise for bids and enter into a contract with the lowest and best bidder according to law to rehabilitate taxiway A at the Galion Municipal Airport, and declaring an emergency. Acting City Manager Toy stated that this is a continuation of a paving project that was done two years ago. At that time it was decided that it wasn't affordable to pave this portion of the airport. There are some good cracks in the pavement now that need to be maintained. He said the reason for the emergency clause is because there is an April 1st deadline to have the bidding completed and turned in to ODOT for them to put into their budget. Mrs. Wade asked if our \$56,000 portion is included in our budget for this year. Acting City Manager Toy said yes. He went on to explain that there are two different sources of grant funds, the FAA and ODOT. We did what we could two years ago with the 95/5 grant from the FAA. This is an ODOT grant which is funded 75/25, our portion being 25% or \$56,000.

Mr. Keib asked the question, "When is enough, enough?" He said we justify this every year. Who profits from the use of the airport? Acting City Manager Toy replied that the people who do use it benefit from it and it is used as an economic tool. Resurfacing the airport won't have to be done again for about 10 years and this is something you probably don't want to ignore. He said he isn't really sure exactly what the ramifications would be if we didn't do this project, but the FAA or ODOT would eventually say something. The airport is analyzed and evaluated every year based on criteria they've created. Mrs. Wade asked those in attendance how many have used the airport. She commented that there were more than she realized, but we still need to look at how long we need to maintain it and how much money we spend on it. Mr. Keib said that the Finance Committee will be looking at the numbers in the airport fund and will report it to Council. There being no further comments, a motion was made by Ms. George, seconded by Mr. Smith carried that this ordinance be passed with Dr. Fellner voting nay.

OTHER BUSINESS

Clerk of Council Michelle Talbott read a letter from Galion resident Linda Miller who is concerned about the water and sewer rates. She also asked about there being a possible levy for street repairs and the \$20 extra dollars that Galion residents pay when renewing their license plate tags. Police Chief Saterfield said that the \$20 was something we applied for and received back in 2006 when it was available. It's not even an option now for other communities. It brings in approximately \$180,000 per year. Acting City Manager Toy said that the money is used for resurfacing projects to match grant money. It is only a supplement and cannot support all the street improvement projects that need to be done.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

Acting City Manager Toy gave a brief report on the snow clean up costs for the two major snow fall events from February 5th through the 19th:

- An extra 600 gallons in diesel fuel was used at a cost of \$1,600
- 200 tons of salt at a cost of \$12,000
- labor – all departments including straight time and overtime, \$22,100

This is a total cost of \$35,700. Acting City Manager Toy said that 700 tons of salt was ordered and received with 300 tons of salt remaining in the budget.

Acting City Manager Toy stated that the Brandt Road water tower was down this morning. There was a leak that the water department had to take care of. He said they repaired it the best they could without any citizens even knowing about it. A gauge was put on to monitor the repair. Acting City Manager Toy thought the crew deserved a good word.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT COMMENTS

President Baldinger reported on last Saturday's Special Council Meeting. He said they interviewed three good candidates in Executive Session. Police Chief Saterfield is conducting background checks at this time on 2 of the 3 candidates.

Mrs. Baldinger stated that she ordered one Christmas decoration to be here March 1st. The electric department will put it up and she asked that everyone take a look at it to see how they like it.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Gail Baldinger
Council President

Michelle Talbott
Clerk of Council