

**GALION CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 22, 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 Ms. George. 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. Clark, seconded by Ms. George and unanimously carried that his absence be excused.

President Baldinger asked if there were any changes to the minutes dated June 8, 2010. Mrs. Wade made a change to page 2, substituting State Auditor Belinda Miller for City Finance Director Audrey Brodzinski. There being no further changes, a motion was made by Mrs. Wade and seconded by Dr. Fellner that the minutes dated June 8, 2010 be approved as amended. Motion carried.

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

**SWEARING IN OF LT. RODRIGUEZ**

Police Chief Brian Saterfield performed the swearing in of Lt. Marc Rodriguez. Chief Saterfield stated that Lt. Rodriguez has been with the Galion Police Department since January of 2000. He has an Associates Degree in Criminal Justice and is working the midnight shift for us now. With Lt. Rodriguez being promoted we are now back to the staffing level we had as of January 1<sup>st</sup> this year. Lt. Rodriguez thanked his family and the citizens for their support.

**LEGISLATION**

Ordinance No. 2010-12 entitled an ordinance adopting new Galion Civil Service rules and regulations. This is the second reading of this ordinance. Acting City Manager Toy said that this was put into the Laws & Ordinances Committee back in March. It's been recommended by that Committee to be approved by Council. Ms. George stated that Tom Belding and his committee did an excellent job of reviewing the rules and regulations. There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Ms. George, seconded by Mr. Smith and unanimously carried that this ordinance be passed.

Ordinance No. 2010-18 entitled an ordinance enacting new chapter 1337 of the Galion Codified Ordinances, as amended, relating to demolition, and repealing existing chapter 1337 thereof, and declaring an emergency. This is the second reading of this ordinance and the emergency clause has been added. Acting City Manager Toy said that this chapter needed revised concerning demolition in light of the South Market street issue. Matt Ross, City Building Inspector, made some revisions and submitted them to the Laws & Ordinances Committee for review. Ms. George stated that her committee looked at the revisions and discussed with Mr. Ross. She noted that at Council's request the penalty section was changed to reflect a steeper fine with no jail time attached. Ms. George commented that Mr. Ross did a great job with this and hopefully this will prevent future similar issues from occurring with other demolitions. There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Ms. George, seconded by Mr. Smith and unanimously carried that this ordinance be passed.

Ordinance No. 2010-31 entitled an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute a second addendum to the agreement for water service by the City of Galion to Oak Glade Water Association, dated on or about June 4, 1985, to increase the maximum number of taps onto that waterline to thirty-one (31), and declaring an emergency. Acting City Manager Toy stated that this was needed by a property owner on Biddle Road. He bought the property, the home was already there, but there is no water service. This will allow us to service that home. This has been discussed at previous Council meetings. There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Dr. Fellner, seconded by Mr. Smith and unanimously carried that this ordinance be passed.

Ordinance No. 2010-32 entitled an ordinance amending section 719.02 of the Galion Codified Ordinances, as amended, to authorize City Council to establish an annual license fee for solid waste haulers in the City of Galion, and declaring an emergency. Acting City Manager Toy stated that the Ohio Attorney General rendered an opinion that the Board of Health does not have the authority to charge fees. This will change the procedure so that the City can charge the fee. City Attorney Reese Mills added that the City will have a fee schedule and it will be stated in there. The fee is not included in this ordinance. There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Ms. George, seconded by Dr. Fellner and unanimously carried that this ordinance be passed.

Ordinance No. 2010-33 entitled an ordinance vacating the portion of Center Street extending in a northerly direction from Southern Avenue to Virginia Avenue a distance of 250 feet, more or less, and abutting lots 3302 and 3318 on the east and unplatted acreage on the west, and reserving utility easements. This is the first reading of this ordinance. City Manager Toy said that this is vacating a dedicated right of way. The property is not used for anything and you wouldn't even know it was a street if you didn't look at the map. The street was never completed. There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Ms. George, seconded by Mr. Smith and unanimously carried that this be considered the first reading of this ordinance and that this ordinance be referred to a regular meeting held July 13, 2010 for a final vote.

Resolution No. 2010-5 entitled a resolution establishing a moratorium for the City of Galion on hiring new employees and on promotions unless required by law or a critical need is demonstrated. Mrs. Wade stated that this has been through the Finance Committee and was unanimously recommended for passage by City Council. The resolution includes the adoption of a policy of attrition for city employees. Mrs. Wade said that this is a way to set the tone for strategizing staffing. She discussed the huge payroll costs that include salaries, wages, and benefits. Unemployment and medical insurance costs for employees who may be laid-off in the future is another expense. Mrs. Wade cited as an example the planned lay-offs of police and fire department personnel in January of next year, yet City Manager Toy was under pressure to fill a recent vacancy in the police department. Dr. Fellner asked Mrs. Wade to define “critical need.” She responded that if a licensed person is needed at the water plant, for example, that would be a critical need because we would have to follow the law.

Police Chief Brian Saterfield objected to the statement that City Manager Toy was “strong armed” into hiring a police officer. It was included in the budget. He said we’ve asked before what services will be cut and we don’t get an answer. He doesn’t feel management and the City Manager are given credit for what they do. They do an outstanding job of staying within the budget that is adopted by Council. He asked who would be making these critical needs decisions.

Ms. George commented that she feels the Finance Committee would be micro-managing the city departments. City Manager Toy and the department heads are in charge of managing their departments. Council can make suggestions, but the City Manager should be able to do his job. Mrs. Wade responded that she doesn’t feel that it’s micro-managing. We should all look at all positions. All of us would be involved in making the decisions. Ms. Clark asked City Manager Toy how he feels about it. City Manager Toy said that he doesn’t really want to say if he’s in favor of it or not. He was hired to do a job and wants to do it how ever Council decides.

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mrs. Wade and seconded by Ms. Clark to pass the resolution. The resolution was defeated by the following votes: Mrs. Wade – yea, Mr. Smith – nay, Ms. George – nay, Dr. Fellner – nay, Ms. Clark – yea, and Mr. Baldinger – nay.

## **COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

**The Finance Committee chaired by Mrs. Wade discussed the following issues with Council:**

1. City Finance Director Audrey Brodzinski discussed the Year to Date Fund Summary Report ending May 31, 2010. The total fund balance was \$19,200,984.76. She explained that the Open PO Encumbered balances don't have to be spent. Revenues are down due to the economy, so are below budget. The fund balance in the general fund (103) is \$25, 627.36, but the Open PO Encumbered balance is \$121,760.50. This doesn't have to be spent. Ms. Brodzinski said that she is working on a new format for the report.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mrs. Wade announced the next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 30, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. in the Township Room.

Ms. George announced the next Laws & Ordinances Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 13, 2010 at 6:15 p.m. by the City Manager's Office.

Ms. Clark announced the next Parks & Recreation Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 12, 2010 at 6:15 p.m. by the City Manager's Office.

Mr. Smith commended the Galion Inquirer for the good reporting of the Council meetings and Committee meetings.

Ms. George shared that the Maple Heights project will be starting the second week in July.

## **CITY MANAGER COMMENTS**

City Manager Toy reported that on June 18<sup>th</sup> the bids opened up for the Issue I paving projects. This is a 50% matching grant. Our paving project includes the Timberlane residential area and Payne Avenue. The engineer's estimate for the project was estimated at \$266,000. The lowest bid came in at \$240,000.

City Manager Toy said that he has been getting calls concerning the gate on Carter Drive. The gate belongs to the school district and so it is their decision if they want to open it during the summer.

City Manager Toy reported that the contract signing and pre-demolition meeting for the Atwood Manor building is scheduled for July 1<sup>st</sup>.

City Manager Toy stated that a resolution will be on the agenda for the next Council meeting for Sharon Baldinger to replace Bob Cerar on the Crawford County Regional Planning Commission.

He noted that the South Market Street demolition site looks better. There is still some debris there.

City Manager Toy introduced Karen Shaw, our new Deputy Finance Director. She is from Lexington and has worked for public entities most of her career.

City Law Director Reese Mills wanted to make Council aware that he received a document that the City Manager needs to sign concerning the asbestos abatement for Atwood. The document concerns the City applying for and accepting funding for the asbestos abatement, and to tear the building down. He suggested Council make a motion on this. A motion was made by Ms. George and seconded by Mr. Smith that the City Manager is authorized to sign the document concerning the City applying for and accepting funding for the asbestos abatement, and to tear the building down. The motion was carried by the following votes: Mrs. Wade – yea, Mr. Smith – yea, Ms. George – yea, Dr. Fellner – yea, Ms. Clark – yea, and Mr. Baldinger – yea.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Roy Boehm, Galion Resident, asked about an article in the Galion Inquirer concerning an after hours reception that was held Monday night at Shooter's Bar & Grill. He was wondering what it was for. He had been asked by different citizens who seemed concerned about it. President Baldinger said that it was put on by the Chamber of Commerce to introduce the new City Manager, Finance Director, and Deputy Finance Director, among others. It was a way for everyone to get to know each other and meet new city officials.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

**Gail Baldinger**  
**Council President**

**Michelle Talbott**  
**Clerk of Council**