

**GALION CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
January 23, 2018**

The January 23, 2018 meeting of Galion City Council was called to order by President Carl Watt. The Pledge of Allegiance was followed by a moment of silence.

Clerk of Council Julie Bell called roll with the following members present: Mr. Baldinger, Ms. Clark, Mr. Comerford, Ms. Erlsten, Dr. Fellner, Mr. Richart, and Mr. Triplett.

The roll call for elected officials and officials required by Council Rules and the Ohio Revised Code to be present was called with the following present: Mayor O’Leary, Director of Law Palmer, and Safety-Service Director Ward.

Department Heads in attendance: Bob Johnston and Matt Echelberry.

President Watt asked for a motion to approve the minutes from January 9, 2018 regular meeting. Ms. Clark made the motion to approve the minutes which was seconded by Mr. Baldinger. Motion carried.

Mr. Richert made the motion to approve the agenda as amended which was seconded by Dr. Fellner. Motion carried.

Public Comments

Mollie Schmotzer, 1113 N. Market Street, Galion, Ohio – spoke to council regarding trains blocking the crossing on State Route 309 and being a safety concern. The mayor and members of council told her what has been done by the city. The city has been doing all it can but the courts have ruled that the railroads cannot be fined for blocking the cross

George Sutton, 448 Harding Way West, Galion, Ohio. Mr. Sutton spoke about the Historic West Main Design Review District and his dissatisfaction with the restriction on vinyl windows. There was much discussion back and forth. Mr. Sutton was advised that the Design Review Guidelines are currently being revised and will be coming before council in the near future.

Legislation

Resolution No. 2018-3 (First Reading)

A Resolution approving and ratifying the prior acts of the department heads and Safety-Service Director and approving “Then and Now” certificates for said expenditures, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Richart made the motion to approve seconded by Mr. Comerford.

Dr. Fellner made the motion to suspend the rules and proceed to the final reading on Resolution No. 2018-3. Mr. Comerford seconded the motion. The roll call resulted as follows:, Dr. Fellner, yea, Mr. Comerford, yea, Ms. Clark, yea, Ms. Erlsten, yea, Mr. Richart, yea, Mr. Triplett, yea, Mr. Baldinger, yea. Motion carried 7-0.

The roll call on Resolution No. 2018-3 resulted as follows: Mr. Richart, yea, Mr. Comerford, yea, Ms. Erlsten, yea, Mr. Baldinger, yea, Ms. Clark, yea, Dr. Fellner, yea, Mr. Triplett, yea. Motion carried by a vote of 7-0 and Resolution No. 2018-3 passed for a Final Reading.

Other Business

Upcoming committees:

Parks and Recreation – February 14, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Finance – February 21, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Police, Fire and Health – January 24, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. and February 28, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Laws, Ordinances, Zoning & Permits – February 6, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Utilities – February 7, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Economic Development and Airport – February 1, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
Streets, Alleys, Trees, and Bridges – February 8, 2018

Auditor's Report

Will hold off until the council training section of the meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Not in attendance. Annual report was distributed by auditor's office.

Director of Law

Will defer to the council training. Reminded council that if they have questions they are welcome to come talk to him.

Mayor's Report

Mayor announced that it is likely that the city will be working with a new owner of the GE Property. Possibly about income tax credits.

PWS working on the cracks that have developed. Also working on paving list for 2018. Also filling potholes as quickly as possible.

President of Council

None

Director of Law Palmer and Clerk of Council Bell conducted a council training session. Topics covered were:

1. Council Rules – review and how to make changes
2. Council Operation
 - a. Considering legislation
 - i. Difference between emergency clause and rules suspension.
 1. Other Communities
 - b. Making Motion to suspend rules
 - i. Wording
 - ii. Rationale
3. Meetings
 - a. How special meetings are called.
4. Committees
 - a. Agenda items
 - b. Taking minutes
 - c. Law Director present only if requested
 - d. Draft Legislation preparation
 - e. Sunshine law overlap and attending other committee meetings.
5. Sunshine Law
 - a. Sunshine Law training requirement
 - b. Executive Sessions – how to call, who to include, voting
 - c. Public Records include personal email and text messaging.
6. General
 - a. Difference between legislative and executive action.

Auditor Treisch explained some aspects of his office to council members.

There being no further business to discuss President Watt asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Triplett made the motion and Mr. Baldinger seconded. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:45.m.

Carl W. Watt
Council President

Julie L. Bell
Clerk of Council