

**GALION CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
May 9, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.**

The May 9, 2023 meeting of Galion City Council was called to order by President of Council Eric Webber. The Pledge of Allegiance was followed an invocation from Pastor Heather McLeod.

Clerk of Council Julie Bell called roll with the following members present: Ms. Ault, Mr. Bodkins, Ms. Durbin, Ms. Frank, Mr. Richart, Mr. Watt, and Ms. Zeger.

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, Auditor Saterfield, Director of Law Palmer, and SSD Ward.

President Webber asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 25, 2023 regular meeting. Mr. Richart made the motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Durbin seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

President Webber asked to add Ordinance No. 2023-40 to the agenda. Ms. Ault made the motion to add Ordinance No. 2023-40 to the agenda. Ms. Zeger seconded the motion. The roll call on the motion resulted as follows: Ms. Ault, yea, Mr. Bodkins, yea, Ms. Durbin, yea, Ms. Frank, yea, Mr. Richart, yea, Mr. Watt, yea, Ms. Zeger, yea. Motion carried 7-0.

President Webber asked to add Ordinance No. 2023-41 to the agenda. Ms. Frank made the motion to add Ordinance No. 2023-41 to the agenda. Ms. Durbin seconded the motion. The roll call on the motion resulted as follows: Ms. Ault, yea, Mr. Bodkins, yea, Ms. Durbin, yea, Ms. Frank, yea, Mr. Richart, yea, Mr. Watt, yea, Ms. Zeger, yea. Motion carried 7-0.

President Webber asked to add Ordinance No. 2023-42 to the agenda. Ms. Ault made the motion to add Ordinance No. 2023-42 to the agenda. Mr. Richart seconded the motion. The roll call on the motion resulted as follows: Ms. Ault, yea, Mr. Bodkins, yea, Ms. Durbin, yea, Ms. Frank, yea, Mr. Richart, yea, Mr. Watt, yea, Ms. Zeger, yea. Motion carried 7-0.

President Webber asked to add Ordinance No. 2023-43 to the agenda. Ms. Zeger made the motion to add Ordinance No. 2023-43 to the agenda. Ms. Durbin seconded the motion. The roll call on the motion resulted as follows: Ms. Ault, yea, Mr. Bodkins, yea, Ms. Durbin, yea, Ms. Frank, yea, Mr. Richart, yea, Mr. Watt, yea, Ms. Zeger, yea. Motion carried 7-0.

Ms. Ault made the motion to approve the agenda as amended which was seconded by Mr. Bodkins. Motion carried 7-0.

**Citizen Participation**

Mr. Terry Gribble – 507 Brookview Dr., Galion, OH – Spoke about the park where part of it is being converted to parking lot. Listed many events that will utilize the additional parking. It will be 60 spaces. It is for the community not just the YMCA. Maintenance and snow removal will be handled by the city. Some of the park will remain towards Erie Street. The daycare space is being moved to the old shuffle court area and the old tennis courts will be converted to 4 pickle ball courts that are open to the public not just for YMCA members. No reservations except for maybe lesson times.

Samantha Davis – 244 E. Payne Ave., Galion, OH

Spoke about visibility and inclusion for the LGBTQ+ community. Need to make sure they are seen and heard. Spoke about the Thin Blue Line flags on the cruisers and how it has become a symbol of a blue wall of silence and hate. Would like the progressive flag displayed at the city building, open to discussion on placement and length of the display. Ms. Ault asked if she was aware of the anti LGBTQIA+ passed by council a few years ago.

She requested that if the mayor wouldn’t resign she asked for council to do a vote of no confidence.

## **Legislation**

### **Ordinance No. 2023-34 (Second Reading)**

An Ordinance authorizing the Safety-Service Director to advertise for bids and to enter into a contract with the lowest and best bidder therefor, as provided by law, for the Live Line Tree Clearing, to proceed, authorizing payment therefor, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Richart made the motion to suspend the rules and proceed to the final reading on Ordinance No. 2023-34. Ms. Frank seconded the motion. The roll call on the motion resulted as follows: Mr. Richart, yea, Ms. Frank, yea, Mr. Watt, yea, Ms. Zeger, yea, Ms. Ault, yea, Mr. Bodkins, yea, Ms. Durbin, yea,. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Richart made the motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-34. Mr. Bodkins seconded the motion. The roll call on Ordinance No. 2023-34 resulted as follows: Mr. Richart, yea, Mr. Bodkins, yea, Ms. Durbin, yea, Ms. Frank, yea, Mr. Watt, yea, Ms. Zeger, yea, Ms. Ault, yea. Motion carried 7-0 and Ordinance No. 2023-34 passed for a final reading.

### **Ordinance No. 2023-39 (First Reading)**

An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2013-53 as it pertains to compensation for the Director of Law.

Ordinance No. 2023-39 was held to a First Reading.

### **Ordinance No. 2023-40 (First Reading)**

An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2022-98 (Permanent 2023 Appropriations) by transferring funds in the General Fund and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Richart made the motion to suspend the rules and proceed to the final reading on Ordinance No. 2023-40. Ms. Zeger seconded the motion. The roll call on the motion resulted as follows: Mr. Richart, yea, Ms. Zeger, yea, Ms. Ault, yea, Mr. Bodkins, yea, Ms. Durbin, no, Ms. Frank, yea, Mr. Watt, yea. Motion carried 6-1.

Ms. Frank made the motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-40. Mr. Watt seconded the motion. The roll call on Ordinance No. 2023-40 resulted as follows: Ms. Frank, yea, Mr. Watt, yea, Ms. Zeger, yea, Ms. Ault, yea, Mr. Bodkins, yea, Ms. Durbin, yea, Mr. Richart, yea. Motion carried 7-0 and Ordinance No. 2023-40 passed for a final reading.

### **Ordinance No. 2023-41 (First Reading)**

An Ordinance amending Section 4 of Ordinance No. 2023-37 which amended Ordinance No. 2022-98 (Permanent 2023 Appropriations) by appropriating and transferring funds in various funds and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Watt made the motion to suspend the rules and proceed to the final reading on Ordinance No. 2023-41. Ms. Frank seconded the motion. The roll call on the motion resulted as follows: Mr. Watt, yea, Ms. Frank, yea, Mr. Richart, yea, Ms. Zeger, yea, Ms. Ault, yea, Mr. Bodkins, yea, Ms. Durbin, no. Motion carried 6-1.

Mr. Richart made the motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-41. Mr. Bodkins seconded the motion. The roll call on Ordinance No. 2023-41 resulted as follows: Mr. Richart, yea, Mr. Bodkins, yea, Ms. Durbin, yea, Ms. Frank, yea, Mr. Watt, yea, Ms. Zeger, yea, Ms. Ault, yea. Motion carried 7-0 and Ordinance No. 2023-41 passed for a final reading.

### **Ordinance No. 2023-42 (First Reading)**

An Ordinance authorizing the Safety-Service Director to advertise for bids and to enter into a contract with the lowest and best bidder therefor, as provided by law, for the Heise Park Paving Project, to proceed, authorizing payment therefor, and declaring an emergency.

Ms. Ault made the motion to suspend the rules and proceed to the final reading on Ordinance No. 2023-42. Ms. Frank seconded the motion. The roll call on the motion resulted as follows: Ms. Ault, yea, Ms. Frank, yea, Mr. Richart, yea, Mr. Watt, yea, Ms. Zeger, yea, Mr. Bodkins, yea, Ms. Durbin, yea. Motion carried 7-0.

Ms. Frank made the motion to pass Ordinance No. 2023-42. Mr. Bodkins seconded the motion. The roll call on Ordinance No. 2023-42 resulted as follows: Ms. Frank, yea, Mr. Bodkins, yea, Ms. Durbin, yea, Mr. Richart, yea, Mr. Watt, yea, Ms. Zeger, yea, Ms. Ault, yea. Motion carried 7-0 and Ordinance No. 2023-42 passed for a final reading.

### **Ordinance No. 2023-43 (First Reading)**

An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2022-98 (Permanent 2023 Appropriations) by appropriating and transferring funds in various funds and declaring an emergency.

Ordinance No. 2023-43 was held to a First Reading.

### **Other Business**

Ms. Durbin asked about the Mosier property. Mayor stated that a plan with EPA is being worked on by the owner of the property. Ms. Durbin told the mayor that he needs to resign.

Ms. Frank asked about the process to turn in dilapidated buildings and properties with trash. There is a form on the website or one can be obtained at the city.

Laws, Ordinances, Zoning, and Permits –

Utilities –

Parks and Recreation – May 10, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

Streets, Alleys, Trees, and Bridges – May 11, 2023 – 6:30 p.m.

Economic Development and Airport – May 16, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

Finance – May 17, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

Police, Fire, and Health – May 18, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

### **Auditor's Report**

Auditor Saterfield handed out his report. Revenues are at 36% and Expenses are at 43%. Reconciliation for April was done by May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Going over the budget with potential issues that need taken to finance committee. Not completely caught up but better. Working with the State. Rollover of Bond Anticipation Notes legislation will be going to Finance Committee. Working on Advances back.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Not in attendance

### **Director of Law**

Nothing

### **Mayor's Report**

General Fund balances need to be preserved and we should avoid drawing them down.

Need Water and Sewer transfers. \$900K plus. Need to find a different way.

Retired a big debt in the Electric Fund. Need to look at the High voltage line upgrade soon.

Specialized assistance with the water issues has been valuable.

PWN sucks – will do what we can to get ODOT to fix and clean-up.

### **President of Council**

It is finals week for the High School. Congrats to those graduating. With the kids soon to be out of school, drivers should pay attention on the streets and in the parks

There being no further business to discuss President of Council Webber asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Frank made the motion and Mr. Bodkins seconded. The motion carried 7-0 and the meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

**Eric Webber, President of Council**

**Julie L Bell, Clerk of Council**