

Galesburg City Council Regular Meeting
City Council Chambers
55 West Tompkins Street, Galesburg, Illinois
June 20, 2022
5:30 p.m.

Called to order by Mayor Peter Schwartzman at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call #1: Present: Mayor Peter Schwartzman, Council Members Bradley Hix, Kevin Wallace, Dwight White, Jaclyn Smith-Esters, Sarah Davis, and Larry Cox, 7. Absent: Council Member Wayne Dennis, 1. Also Present: Interim City Manager Wayne Carl, City Attorney Brad Nolden, and City Clerk Kelli Bennewitz.

Mayor Schwartzman declared a quorum present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Semenya McCord gave the invocation.

Council Member Smith-Esters moved, seconded by Council Member White, to approve the minutes of the City Council's regular meeting from June 6, 2022.

Roll Call #2:

Ayes: Council Members Hix, Wallace, White, Smith-Esters, Davis, and Cox, 6.

Nays: None

Absent: Council Member Dennis, 1.

Chairman declared motion carried.

Presentation: Josh Bradbury, Darrin Ford, and Matt Gilliland, for i3 Broadband.

- Fiber to home provider of high-speed internet for over 20 years.
- Working with Peoria, Champaign-Urbana, Springfield, and others.
- Ranked in top five nationally for customer service.
- Discussed pre-construction communications.
- Pricing information is available on website - www.i3broadband.com

Presentation: Judy Guenseth, Housing Coordinator, answered questions regarding the Housing Repair Assistance Program.

- Great need for housing repair but many cannot afford it.
- She will meet with individuals and help them through the process as well as redirect them to other programs available.
- Staff will look and see if the application can be made simpler.
- A list of licensed contractors is available at the City Clerk's office.
- Applications will be taken on a first come first serve basis.

Council Member White left the meeting at 6:17 p.m. and returned at 6:20 p.m.

Presentation: Blue Ribbon Award -- 1130 Maple Avenue

CONSENT AGENDA #2022-12

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion.

22-2033

Approve Resolution 22-28 authorizing the transfer of \$40,000 from the TIF II Fund to the TIF IV Fund for Iron Spike Brewing Company, LLC for eligible renovation costs on a building at 150 East Simmons Street.

22-2034

Approve Resolution 22-29 authorizing the transfer of \$22,039.91 from the TIF II Fund to the TIF IV Fund for The Bar 65, Inc. for eligible renovation costs on a building at 65 South Cherry Street.

22-2035

Approve Resolution 22-30 authorizing the transfer of \$156,106.92 from the TIF II Fund to the TIF IV Fund for the Galesburg Symphony Society/Knox-Galesburg Symphony for eligible renovation costs on a building at 95 North Seminary Street.

22-2036

Approve Resolution 22-31 extending the Illinois Housing Development Authority's Single Family Rehabilitation Grant Program through December 31, 2022.

22-8011

Approve bills in the amount of \$890,203.37 and advance checks in the amount of \$167,205.04.

Council Member White inquired about some items on the bills, which were explained by Interim City Manager Carl.

Council Member Smith-Esters moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to approve Consent Agenda 2022-12.

Roll Call #3:

Ayes: Council Members Hix, Wallace, White, Smith-Esters, Davis, and Cox, 6.

Nays: None

Absent: Council Member Dennis, 1.

Chairman declared motion carried by omnibus vote.

PASSAGE OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

22-1018

Council Member Wallace moved, seconded by Council Member White, to approve Ordinance 22-3674 on final reading amending Chapter 30 of the Galesburg Municipal Code amending the time limit of a speaker from three minutes to five minutes.

Roll Call #4:

Ayes: Council Members Hix, Wallace, White, Smith-Esters, Davis, and Cox, 6.

Nays: None
Absent: Council Member Dennis, 1.
Chairman declared motion carried.

22-1019

Council Member Smith-Esters moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to approve Ordinance 22-3675 on final reading amending Chapter 90 of the Galesburg Municipal Code regulating Beekeeping.

Roll Call #5:

Ayes: Council Members Hix, Wallace, White, Smith-Esters, Davis, and Cox, 6.
Nays: None
Absent: Council Member Dennis, 1.
Chairman declared motion carried.

22-1020

Ordinance on first reading amending Section 113.043 (A) of Chapter 113 of the Galesburg Municipal Code regarding the limitation on the number of Class A-1 liquor licenses.

22-2037

Council Member Hix moved, seconded by Council Member White, to approve Resolution 22-32 to accept a Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity grant in the amount of \$200,000 for the replacement of the Galesburg Fire Department Training Tower at the Dale May Training Site. The project is estimated to cost \$325,000 and the City's share of \$125,000 will be paid from the Grant Fund. Council Member Hix thanked Representative Dan Swanson for his assistance and support of this grant.

Roll Call #6:

Ayes: Council Members Hix, Wallace, White, Smith-Esters, Davis, and Cox, 6.
Nays: None
Absent: Council Member Dennis, 1.
Chairman declared motion carried.

BIDS, PETITIONS, AND COMMUNICATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Vida Schultz addressed the Council and noted that the Save Hawthorne Pool group is still active and are currently looking at painting a mural on the former handball wall near the pool. They are also staying in touch with Elizabeth Varner and Don Miles. Interim City Manager Carl stated that staff met with the consultants recently and that the bid documents should be going out in July.

Jeannette Chernin distributed copies of pictures she had taken of the former Broadview hotel. These pictures show broken windows, open doors, and trash and debris on the property. She inquired if something could be done before the Railroad Days Festival since the carnival will have close proximity to the hotel. Interim City Manager Carl stated that staff is working with a contractor on boarding up the property.

Chernin also thanked the Council for getting the Pride flag flown on the City square and appreciates the representation.

Robert Cain addressed the Council inquiring if the BIRD scooters had lights on them. It was noted that they do. He feels that the motorized bikes need to be plated and licensed. He is also pleased to see the work on the new Library.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Interim City Manager Wayne Carl reported that the Traffic Advisory Committee discussed some potential pros and cons of allowing utility vehicles or golf carts on City streets in Galesburg.

Pros included the following:

- Residents may benefit from having an alternative mode of transportation, especially when traveling shorter distances within a neighborhood.
- It may be more fuel efficient, depending on the vehicle.
- For some, it would be a benefit to living in Galesburg, as not all communities allow the use of these vehicles.

Potential cons discussed were as follows:

- Crashes involving these vehicles could be more prone to serious or fatal injuries.
- Galesburg has more heavily traveled streets than smaller communities where these are typically allowed.
- There may be a learning curve in implementing the program and ensuring residents are aware of the requirements.
- Overall enforcement of the requirements associated with operating these vehicles would be a concern. Primarily, it may be difficult to enforce the vehicles not traveling or crossing busier streets.
- Insuring unlicensed or unregistered motorists are not driving these vehicles.
- Some residents may not like the use of these vehicles in neighborhoods, as they can travel off the roadway and could end up on private property.
- Also, there may be noise concerns when using some of these vehicles on residential streets.
- The City may have to provide a staff member that would have to inspect vehicles each year for compliance when they register.

The Committee discussed the pros and cons, and ultimately did not recommend allowing these vehicles on City streets. Primarily, the safety concerns and other issues mentioned outweighed some of the benefits that were discussed.

Council Member Cox stated that the licensing could be used as a revenue source and that strict restrictions could be placed to ensure safety. Council Member Hix believes that this subject might be worthy of consideration and that they would be enforced just like vehicles. Council Member Smith-Esters stated that she would be concerned about children on these vehicles, which are not like scooters, and that it would be hard to enforce in general.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS (Agreements, Approvals, Etc.)

Council Member Smith-Esters moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to remove agenda item 22-4049 from the table.

Roll Call #7:

Ayes: Council Members Wallace, White, Smith-Esters, and Davis, 4.

Nays: Council Member Hix, 1.

Absent: Council Member Dennis, 1.

Abstain: Council Member Cox, 1.

Chairman declared motion carried.

22-4049

Council Member Smith-Esters moved, seconded by Council Member White, to approve a professional services agreement in the amount of \$18,800 plus time and material for assisting the Council with determining the programs and services to be located in a Community Center.

Roll Call #8:

Ayes: Council Members Wallace, White, Smith-Esters, and Davis, 4.

Nays: Council Member Hix, 1.

Absent: Council Member Dennis, 1.

Abstain: Council Member Cox, 1.

Chairman declared motion carried.

22-4059

Council Member Smith-Esters moved, seconded by Council Member Wallace, to approve a settlement agreement and release of claims in the amount of \$180,000.

Roll Call #9:

Ayes: Council Members Wallace, White, Smith-Esters, Davis, and Cox, 5.

Nays: Council Member Hix, 1.

Absent: Council Member Dennis, 1.

Chairman declared motion carried.

22-4060

Council Member Smith-Esters moved, seconded by Council Member Cox, to approve a facade grant not to exceed \$40,000 for Iron Spike Brewing Company, LLC., 150 East Simmons Street.

Roll Call #10:

Ayes: Council Members Hix, Wallace, White, Smith-Esters, Davis, and Cox, 6.

Nays: None

Absent: Council Member Dennis, 1.

Chairman declared motion carried.

22-4061

Council Member Smith-Esters moved, seconded by Council Member Cox, to approve a facade grant not to exceed \$22,039.91 for The Bar 65, Inc., 65 South Cherry Street.

Roll Call #11:

Ayes: Council Members Hix, Wallace, White, Smith-Esters, Davis, and Cox, 6.

Nays: None

Absent: Council Member Dennis, 1.
Chairman declared motion carried.

22-4062

Council Member Smith-Esters moved, seconded by Council Member White, to approve a facade grant in the amount \$156,106.92, to be paid out in three equal installments, for the Galesburg Symphony Society/Knox Galesburg Symphony, 95 North Seminary Street.

Roll Call #12:

Ayes: Council Members Hix, Wallace, White, Smith-Esters, Davis, and Cox, 6.

Nays: None

Absent: Council Member Dennis, 1.

Chairman declared motion carried.

22-4063

Council Member Smith-Esters moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to move forward with the demolition process on the following properties:

1. 701 North Prairie Street (residence and detached garage)
2. 213 Pine Street (residence)
3. 1169 Lombard Street (garage)
4. 1145 East South Street (residence and detached garage)

Roll Call #13:

Ayes: Council Members Hix, Wallace, White, Smith-Esters, Davis, and Cox, 6.

Nays: None

Absent: Council Member Dennis, 1.

Chairman declared motion carried.

22-4064

Council Member Smith-Esters moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to approve a non-exclusive option to purchase real estate agreement for the property the City owns on West Carl Sandburg Drive (2.96 acres).

Roll Call #14:

Ayes: Council Members Hix, Wallace, White, Smith-Esters, Davis, and Cox, 6.

Nays: None

Absent: Council Member Dennis, 1.

Chairman declared motion carried.

Council Member Smith-Esters moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to sit as the Town Board. The motion carried.

TOWN BUSINESS

22-9013

Trustee Davis moved, seconded by Trustee Cox, to approve Town bills and warrants be drawn in payment of same.

Fund Title	Amount
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Town Fund	\$4,018.11
General Assistance Fund	\$5,966.06
IMRF Fund	\$1,767.12
Social Security/Medicare Fund	
Liability Fund	
Audit Fund	
Total	\$11,751.29

Roll Call #15:

Ayes: Trustees Hix, Wallace, Smith-Esters, White, Davis, and Cox, 6.

Nays: None

Absent: Trustee Dennis, 1.

Chairman declared motion carried.

Council Member Smith-Esters moved, seconded by Council Member Wallace, to resume as the City Council. The motion carried.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Council Member Hix announced that the Lolita Junk Memorial Golf Outing for the United Way will be held this Friday at Bunker Links Golf Course. Also, the Public Schools Foundation will also hold an outing at Bunker on July 9th. Information for both outings can be found online. He also noted that several of the items questioned on the bills for the golf course (golf balls and carts) are used to generate revenue.

Council Member Wallace thanked those who attended and participated in the meeting. He noted that his goal is to get some properties in his Ward cleaned up but understands that it is a process to do so. He hopes to beautify the community for future generations.

Interim City Manager Carl asked Fire Chief Hovind to report on fire pits and recreational burning. Chief Hovind noted that there are two types of recreational fires:

- In a container such as an outdoor fireplace or a fire pit and does not require a permit.
 - All outdoor fireplaces must be constructed of brick, metal, clay or other noncombustible materials commercially manufactured and specifically designed for the purpose of recreational fires.
 - Outdoor fireplaces must have at least 5 feet of clearance from walls and fencing.
 - The opening (top) of a fire pit cannot exceed 2 feet in inside width.
 - The sides of a fire pit must be enclosed and constructed of bricks, concrete blocks, heavy gauge metal, or other non-combustible materials.
- On open ground fire (weiner roast), which will require a permit from the Fire Department, however, there is no charge for this permit.
 - Allowable hours for a recreational fire on the ground are between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. and maximum length of time for this fire shall be four hours.
 - Permits need to be requested by 9 a.m. on the day the event is to be held. Twenty-four hour notice is appreciated.
 - The fire must be attended at all times by an adult.

- A method of fire control and extinguishment shall be immediately available for utilization. This method may be a minimum 4A rated fire extinguisher, dirt, sand, water barrel, garden hose, or water truck.
- Fire fuel shall consist of dry seasoned wood. No construction wood, landscape waste, brush, or household trash is allowed.
- The pile of burn material shall be of a size not larger than three feet in diameter and two feet in height.
- The fire must be located a minimum of 25 feet from any structure or other combustible object (fence, tree, shrub).
- The fire shall be thoroughly extinguished at the conclusion of the event or by the expiration time on the permit whichever comes first.

Council Member White thanked everyone who came to the Juneteenth celebration at Standish Park and expressed how important freedom is and how the country was built on the backs of many who weren't free. He reminded everyone that Galesburg was built by abolitionists but they weren't able to walk down Main Street or enjoy certain areas of Lake Storey.

Council Member Smith-Esters stated that she was able to enjoy Lakeside Waterpark with her son for the first time and had a blast. She also invited the public to join the Youth Commission on Tuesday for clean up at the park at Lombard School. She also noted that Commission members will be doing a college visit at Carl Sandburg College on Monday, June 27th. Anyone interested in attending can register online on the City's website.

Council Member Davis announced that Prairie Players Community Theatre will be presenting Rodgers & Hammerstein's *"A Grand Night for Singing"* on July 22-24, 2022. Auditions for the performance will be June 14-21, 2022,

Mayor Schwartzman stated that the Knox Community lost a beloved member of their faculty and a coach, Jonathan Powers. He also sent well wishes to Council Member Dennis who couldn't be at the meeting due to back issues.

The Mayor reminded everyone that the Primary Election will take place on June 28th. He noted that City residents can vote early at City Hall and that the Election Office would be more than happy to help answer any questions if needed.

He also stated that this past weekend was amazing with Father's Day and the Juneteenth celebration. He noted that he has two daughters who grew up here and was honored to be recognized, along with Council Member White, for being fathers at the celebration. He also congratulated White for his performance and portrayal at the celebration. The Mayor also announced that on Saturday there was an anti-stigma event at Standish Park hosted by Bridgeway and their Recovery Oriented System of Care (ROSC) program.

The Mayor also announced that there is a new water feature at Lakeside and thanked Elizabeth Varner, Interim Parks & Recreation Department Director, and her staff for their hard work in getting the element open.

There being no further business, Council Member Wallace, seconded by Council Member White, to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:33 p.m.

Roll Call #16:

Ayes: Council Members Hix, Wallace, White, Smith-Esters, Davis, and Cox, 6.

Nays: None

Absent: Council Member Dennis, 1.

Chairman declared motion carried.

Peter D. Schwartzman, Mayor

Kelli R. Bennewitz, City Clerk