

CITY OF GALVA)
COUNTY OF HENRY) SS
STATE OF ILLINOIS)

The City Council of the City of Galva met in regular session Monday, March 27, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. with Debbie VanWassenhove serving as City Clerk. Mayor Rich Volkert presided with the following Aldermen in attendance: James Hartman, Jeff Olson, Jayme Hopping, Rick Otterstrom, Jackie Clucas, and Doug Anderson. The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Volkert introduced two gentlemen from Amboy, Jeff and Daryl, one of which was running for council in Amboy and they wanted to sit in on one of our meetings to see how our city works.

MINUTES

Alderman Clucas stated that on page 2 where Shawn Kendall was talking there was a section that said 1 ½ but should have said ½. Alderman Anderson made a motion and was seconded to approve the February 27, 2023 council meeting minutes with the above-mentioned correction. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays.

BILLS AND CLAIMS

Alderman Otterstrom moved and was seconded that the bills and claims be approved as presented and the City Clerk is instructed to issue orders on the Treasurer’s account for the several amounts. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Volkert reported that the City had received: January Telecommunications tax \$1,871.44, February Income tax \$21,527.42, January Local Share of State Use tax \$11,320.16, February Video Gaming tax \$2,220.90, February Cannabis Use tax \$305.72, February MFT \$7,913.78, January/February Personal Property Replacement tax \$11,191.51, and January Sales tax \$29,298.79. David Dyer stated that we are up \$9,015 from last year but MFT is going down.

First on the agenda was Crystal Lucas. Mayor Volkert stated that there has been an issue with kids playing basketball in the street. We have already put up a “slow children at play” sign and the Lucas’s paid for a 2nd sign. This is on the road east of CSB. Mrs. Lucas stated that Chief Townsend made her aware of the complaints about the basketball hoop in the road, but they have been doing this for 2 years and that they are not causing any problems and the kids are old enough and smart enough to get out of the road if a car is coming. She wanted to know what the difference between having the basketball hoop in the road and kids who walk or ride their bicycles on the street. Mayor Volkert read our city code stating that it is unlawful to have obstructions in the street, and that the difference is that they are putting a structure in the street vs walking or riding a bicycle, and they need to move it off of city property. After much discussion she agreed to have the basketball hoops moved.

Next on the agenda was Melissa Halsall. Melissa passed out rough examples of a publication she is working on to send out to all Galva and Bishop Hill residents with a community calendar of events. She is hoping this will bring more awareness to everything going on in Galva, improve commerce, and encourage volunteerism. She stated that she is planning on selling ads to help offset the cost but will need help from local organizations as well. She has already talked to the Chamber of Commerce and will be approaching the Park District and School Board as well. She was asked what would happen if she decided to stop working on this at some point, she replied that she is not planning on stopping but she had a thought that it could possibly become part of the city secretary role so that it can be carried on no matter what. She has a quote from B&B Printing for \$991.88 for a Bi-Monthly publication and she is asking for help with the cost from the City and from all of the other entities she is speaking with. Alderman Olson asked if the \$6,000/year would include the printing and mailing and Melissa replied yes that would be a total cost, they would be printed on 11x17 heavy paper and would just be black and white. Alderman Anderson stated that it is an awesome idea, but he is afraid of the liability to the city, especially if it were to be worked on during business hours, and would like to talk to Elisa about that first. He is not sure if we can use tax payers' money to print a newspaper. Melissa replied that she would keep the funds separate from any city accounts. He was still afraid of the liability issue and stated that we need to look into some of that first.

Next on the agenda was the MFT Presentation. Greg Peterson, with Bruner Cooper and Zuck, passed out maps of the proposed street work for 2023. He talked about the 3-year maintenance schedule for the roads and stated that the areas in orange in the NE section of town would be just 1 layer of seal coat and the green section on SE 4th St and 6th Ave would be totally redone including 4" of rock and 2 layers of seal coat. He stated that to do all of the proposed work it would cost approximately \$180,000. David suggested that the council appropriate \$195,000 to cover any surprises. Alderman Anderson made a motion and was seconded to appropriate \$198,000 for the MFT program this year. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays.

Next on the agenda was the Junior Achievement proclamation. Mayor Volkert read the Proclamation and declared April 6, 2023 as Junior Achievement Day.

Next on the agenda was the Arbor Day Proclamation. Mayor Volkert read the proclamation and declared April 28, 2023 as Arbor Day.

Next on the Agenda was **Resolution 340: Authorizing the Sale of Certain Real Estate.** David Dyer stated that this is for the old Dailey lot by Alderman Hartman. We have to follow certain rules to sell city property and this is the 1st step, to pass this resolution and publish it one time. Alderman Olson made a motion and was seconded to pass the resolution. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays.

Next on the agenda was a Professional Services Contract. David stated that we have had a couple of months now to look into the contract with Hometown Consultants. The contract does include a termination clause if needed. Alderman Olson asked since they work with

other cities as well, how much time would be put towards us? Cole replied that they would spend 3 days a week on Galva. After some more discussion Alderman Anderson made a motion to approve the contract and was seconded. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays. Alderman Anderson then thanked Alderman Clucas for introducing them to us and stated that he thinks this is a golden opportunity for Galva.

Last on the agenda was Awarding Construction Bids. David stated that we have two bid projects to look at. Greg Thompson stated that the first is for a sanitary sewer project in the NE section of town (aldermen were given a map of the area), there have been a lot of plugs in that area and the camera can't see the problem, its under water. All of the aldermen were also given copies of the bids for the project. The lowest bid was from Five Cities Construction for \$385,081.00 and the highest was from Hood Construction for \$483,420.00. He stated that the bids came in higher than expected but the 1923 infrastructures are starting to fail and if we don't do something it will tumble over time. The second bids were for a sanitary sewer project on US 34. We only had one viable bid come back for that from Laverdiere Construction for \$454,802.50. David stated that we cannot afford to do both projects and that the smaller project is in a residential section and we have a little less than 1/3 of the money with ARPA funds. He suggested we go with the lowest bid (5 cities) for that project. Richard has been wanting to do these roads but these issues have to be fixed first, then we can go back and do those roads next year. After much discussion it was decided to do the first sanitary sewer project. Alderman Anderson made a motion and was seconded to go with the lowest bid from Five Cities on the first proposed project. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays. Mayor Volkert thanked Greg and Richard for working on this.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

Next on the agenda were the department head reports. Nate Byers thanked everyone, firemen, police, and city; for the help on recent fires, daytime help is great! They are lucky to have so many show up. Richard Plummer stated that cemetery clean up will be from April 2nd through the 7th, all flowers must be removed during this time. Greg Thompson stated that the EPA's Lead and Copper report is due in by April 8th and thanked Melissa for all of her help on that. We will have one year after that to get the rest of the information to them. We need to get more compliance from the public but the new equipment has been a lifesaver. So far they have found 24 lead services that need replaced and then we should be lead free. Kraig Townsend brought our newest full-time officer with him, Sean Bonner. He is part time certified already and just needs to go to the training classes. Sean then introduced himself and thanked everyone for the opportunity to work here. Everyone welcomed him. Kraig then stated that the dog kennel has been purchased and will be ready to install when we get the new car in late May/early June.

Mayor Volkert thanked Officer Brown for continuing to be our SRO, there was another school shooting down south and we are lucky to have him around just in case.

Next on the agenda were the Aldermen's Reports. Alderman Hartman stated that manholes need to be raised again. Alderman Clucas asked about a couple of fence panels at Veteran's Park that are missing, Richard replied that Interstate Fencing was supposed to get him a price 6 months ago but he hasn't heard back from them, he will contact them again.

City Administrator's Report

David Dyer stated that they have not been able to find a good price on a new truck so he has told Richard to start looking at good used ones. Criteria he wants met is that it has to be a 2015 or newer, heavy duty, no more than \$40,000, needs to pass an inspection by Tarleton's, 50,000 miles or less if possible, a long bed, and any color is fine.

After no further discussion Alderman Otterstrom made a motion and was seconded to adjourn. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays.

MAYOR _____

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk.