

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

The City Council of the City of Galva met in regular session Monday April 7, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. with Debbie VanWassenhove serving as City Clerk. Mayor Rich Volkert presided with the following Aldermen in attendance: Jim Hartman, Jayme Hopping, Jeff Olson, Jackie Clucas, Doug Anderson, and Rick Otterstrom.

The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### MINUTES

Alderman Olson made a motion and was seconded to approve the March 3, 2025 council meeting minutes. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays.

#### BILLS AND CLAIMS

Alderman Hopping 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: State of IL February Cannabis tax \$333.22, January Telecommunications tax \$1,559.32, February Video Gaming tax \$2,439.57, February Income tax \$23,659.24, January State Use tax \$10,008.48, January Sales tax \$25,121.88, January/February Personal Property Replacement tax \$3,938.47, February MFT \$9,377.65

David mentioned that they are trying to pass a bill that will help stop the state from taking our money, house bill H-30. He then stated that they are also proposing 277 bills that would add additional unfunded mandates to municipalities.

First on the agenda was the Junior Achievement Proclamation. Mayor Volkert read the proclamation and declared April 3, 2025 Junior Achievement Day.

Next on the agenda was the Arbor Day Proclamation. Mayor Volkert read the proclamation and Proclaimed April 25, 2025 as Arbor Day. We have been a Tree City for 39 years this year. He then mentioned that we got a late start with the spring tree program this year, but still ordered around 60 trees.

Next on the agenda was a Service Presentation for Alderman Jim Hartman. Mayor Volkert thanked Jim for all he has done in his eight years serving on the council. He then presented him with a plaque from the city.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Melissa Halsall stated that she is here as a citizen tonight to thank the council for all of the positive things that have been happening in Galva lately. She started by thanking Alderman Hartman for his years on the council and then went on to thank all of the members for the emphasis that has been placed on the City's economic development over the past several years. She stated that the formation of the economic development group, consisting of several council members and some passionate business owners has boosted excited for things to come. She also stated that she is excited about the new businesses that have been coming to Galva! She then emphasized that we have a lot to be proud of in our town and a lot of it is due to the work that our elected officials are doing and thanked them again. John Wirth stated that the car cruise ins will be happening again this year and will take place on the second Friday of the month starting in May. There will be a cruise in the country again as well in the fall, possibly October 14. Dustin Williams asked whether the slide in Wiley Park has been fixed yet. David Dyer replied that it has not, he contacted the person who could possibly fix it and sent pictures however he was not able to do it. The best he could do would be to try and get the piece to replace it, but no guarantee and it would cost between \$25,000-\$30,000 for it. He would like to just wait until we get the funds from the solar company to replace the whole thing. John Wirth then suggested having sign in sheets for meetings going forward and everyone thought that was a good idea.

Next on the agenda were the Department Head Reports. Mayor Volkert spoke for Richard Plummer who was unable to attend and stated that cemetery clean up week will be from April 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>. Chief Townsend stated that he mailed 55 ordinance violation letters this year, which is less than in the past, but he has been trying to be very careful about staying within public view. He stated that he had a squad car go down yesterday but it is still under warranty and will be repaired. He then let the council know that the tasers came in. He also talked about getting more or different cameras to Wiley Park, we have had more issues recently. Alderman Olson asked what the laws on electric bikes were in town. He has been seeing more of them lately. Chief Townsend stated that we just go by the state laws and right now they are treated as regular bicycles, and riders must obey road laws. They do have 3 different classes; the highest class goes up to 26 mph. Alderman Clucas asked if the cameras at the park have been useful and he replied that they have been but it is hard to see everything so he is looking at options. Mayor Volkert stated that the littering recently is the worst he's seen there. Greg Thompson announced that the vac truck is out this week cleaning catch basins and they will be starting on dirt work clean up in the next couple weeks.

Next on the agenda were the Aldermen's Reports. Jim Hartman asked about the fence around the old Bixby Zimmer (Bruce Palmer's place), he wants to see a screen around it so that we can't see all the junk. Mayor Volkert replied that is something that the owner had promised to do and he will talk to him and remind him about it. All of the aldermen then thanked Jim Hartman for his time on the council and Alderman Clucas added a thanks to Melissa Halsall for her words and for getting the information out about no more door tags.

City Administrator's Report

David Dyer told Alderman Hartman not to forget to come and see him every once in a while.

Mayor Volkert stated that he appreciates Jim and all he's done, it's not an easy job.

Alderman Hopping made a motion and was seconded to go into executive session. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays.

Alderman Olson made a motion and was seconded to come out of executive session. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays.

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.