

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

The City Council of the City of Galva met in regular session Monday May 20, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. with Debbie VanWassenhove serving as City Clerk. Mayor Rich Volkert was not present, Senior Alderman Jayme Hopping presided in his absence with the following Aldermen in attendance: Jackie Clucas, Jeff Olson, Doug Anderson, and Rick Otterstrom. Alderman Hartman was noted as being absent.

The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### MINUTES

Alderman Anderson made a motion and was seconded to approve the April 22, 2024 council meeting minutes. The vote was 5 yeas and no nays.

#### BILLS AND CLAIMS

Alderman Anderson 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 5 yeas and no nays.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

Jayme Hopping reported that the City had received: State of IL: April MFT- \$8,883.51, April Personal Property Replacement tax \$16,869.53, March Sales tax \$23,745.51, March Video Gaming tax \$2,833.49, March Cannabis tax \$370.37, February State Use tax \$6,129.08, March Income tax \$38,251.95, February Telecommunications tax \$2,044.55. David stated that for the end of the fiscal year we had a net loss of \$40,071 on the tax income.

First on the agenda was the Poppy Day Proclamation and Mis Poppy. Alderman Hopping read the proclamation and declared May 24, 2024 as Poppy Day. Charlie Gravitt was present as Miss Poppy this year and passed out poppies to anyone who wanted one for a donation.

Next on the agenda was Amending Parking Ordinance 1653. David began by going over the amendments from the last meeting. Alderman Hartman came in at this time. After much more discussion on the ordinance the following items were amended (in addition to the items that were amended at the last meeting): Alderman Anderson made a motion and was seconded to allow for a total of 6 items, with no more than two of each type, and a max of 3 items per street view. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays. Alderman Anderson made a motion and was seconded to amend section 1 to add the definition of an addressable lot instead of just a parcel. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays. Alderman Anderson then made a motion and was seconded to amend the language on section 4 C to state no more than seven days before nor more than seven days after the event. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays. Lastly Alderman Anderson made a motion and was seconded to

amend section 7 to allow for a recreational vehicle to be parked in front of a residence for no more than seven consecutive days instead of 48 hours. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays. There was also much discussion on whether on whether a resident should be allowed to build a building (other than a residence) on an empty lot. Alderman Clucas stated that no ordinance will fit every property, that is what our zoning board is for, to make exceptions. You can apply for a variance to build on an empty lot and go through the process, that way neighbors are informed as well and can bring any concerns to the board, it is a good process. John Wirth stated that he has heard that variances for building on empty lots never pass and is almost always met with the statement of “if we do for one, we have to do for all”. He doesn’t see the harm in changing the ordinance to just allow for it, would bring in more tax revenue than an empty lot as well. Alderman Hartman stated that he would be okay with changing the ordinance to be able to build a building on an empty lot with limitations. David stated that would be on the zoning ordinance and not this parking ordinance. It was suggested to review the zoning ordinance at the next meeting.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

John Wirth stated that the first cruise in was a big success! Dustin Williams questioned why there was a payment to J Mac Metals for Bruce Palmers place and David replied that he had applied for the façade program grant and was approved. Dustin then asked about the building demo downtown and said that he knows the EPA has gotten involved and asked what the repercussions to the city would be. David replied that the contractor is responsible as was stated in their contract. Dustin then asked what the timeframe is for getting the rest of the debris removed and David replied that they were hoping to come in and work on it this week but it depends on the weather. Sandy White then asked why the city is paying for the demolition at Road Trip and David replied that the owner will not do it and so the city is using TIF funds to get it down. Sandy then asked about what kind of rental income the city receives from our leased buildings specifically if Jordan Murray and Stark County Ambulance pay rent? David replied that Mr. Murray does have a residence in town and he does work for the city in lieu of paying rent and that Stark County Ambulance’s rent is tied into what we pay them each month. John Wirth stated that he received a letter from the Mayor stating that the city does not need their help with clean up week, and asked whether the city was doing pickups? David replied that we would be, and always have for residents that need us to. Zac Lessard then explained the liability if we were to have someone else do the pickups and stated that they could help others out on their own if they want but could not be done for the city. John McArthur had a concern about the city making announcements on the Ready to Grow Facebook page, since it is not a city page and recommended the city only use a city regulated Facebook page if they want to make announcements that way. Alderman Anderson replied that the only official news should be on the city website, not a Facebook page.

Next on the agenda were the Department Head Reports. Greg Thompson stated that he has talked to Peerless and it looks like another week or two to get well 4 back on. He also

stated that Laverdiere should be in to work on the Park District storm drain issue after Memorial Day. Richard Plummer announced that the city wide clean up week would be June 17-22 and advised if residents were unable to bring items out to the maintenance building themselves then they can call City Hall to arrange for a one time pick up. Kraig Townsend had nothing at this time.

Next on the agenda were the Aldermen's Reports. Alderman Hartman stated that there are still cars parked at the old Lily Tulip building that should be gone. David stated that is Mayor Volkert's project and he would have him get in touch with Alderman Hartman. Alderman Olson stated that the cemetery looks great! Alderman Clucas thanked everyone for coming again, she also thanked Richard for working on the clean up weeks. Richard then stated that the second one would be in September. Alderman Anderson thanked everyone for coming and bringing issues to the council's attention, he heard the cruise in was great, and he wished everyone a happy Memorial Day.

#### City Administrator's Report

David Dyer stated that we have put some old buildings out for bid before with no interest, but they can be for sale if anyone knows of anyone interested.

Alderman Olson moved and was seconded to move to executive session. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays.

SEE ATTACHED

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.