

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

The City Council of the City of Galva met in regular session Monday May 4, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. with Debbie VanWassenhove serving as City Clerk. Mayor Rich Volkert presided with the following Aldermen in attendance: John Wirth, Jeff Olson, Jayme Hopping, Jackie Clucas, and Doug Anderson. Alderman Otterstrom was noted as being absent.

The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

Alderman Olson made a motion and was seconded to approve the April 6, 2026 council meeting minutes. The vote was 5 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 5 yeas and no nays.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Volkert reported that the City had received: State of IL: March Video Gaming tax \$2,253.28, February Telecommunications tax \$1,763.08, February State Use tax \$1,749.99, March Cannabis tax \$341.10, February Grocery tax \$843.27, March Income tax \$46,672.42, February Sales tax \$24,451.64, March MFT \$8,088.50, March Personal Property Replacement tax \$5,338.99

First on the agenda was the Poppy Day Proclamation and Miss Poppy: Bryley Glisan. Mayor Volkert read the proclamation. Miss Poppy then asked and was given permission to sell poppies downtown on May 16th.

Next on the agenda was the Henry County Revolving Loan Fund: Jim Kelly. Mr. Kelly introduced himself as the economic development director for Henry County and gave a brief overview of the history of the revolving loan fund and stated that its purpose is to help small businesses and can help to fill the gap for small startups. After going over some more information he ended with stating that there is \$1.2 million available to loan now and encouraged business owners to apply.

Next on the agenda was a presentation by Array Cell Tower. Their representatives were not present to give the presentation.

Next on the agenda was a Resolution Honoring Jordan Murray. Mayor Volkert read the resolution and proclaimed May 4th as Jordan Murray Day he then presented Jordan with a key to the city.

Next on the agenda was the Resolution to Adopt an Updated Hazard Mitigation Plan. Mayor Volkert read the resolution and stated that this is updated every five years and asked for a motion to approve and adopt it. Alderman Anderson made a motion and was seconded to table this until the next meeting so that everyone has more time to look it over. The vote was 5 yeas and no nays.

Next on the agenda was a Bid Opening for a lot at 403 NE 2nd St. We received one bid for this. Mayor Volkert opened the bid, it was from Tom Nash in the amount of \$528.00, they needed to look to see if that met the minimum bid requirements before approving or denying the bid.

Next on the agenda was a bid opening for a lot at 315 SE 4th St. There were no bids turned in for this lot.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Many citizens were present to voice concerns over the proposed CO₂ sequestration project at Big River Resources. Dustin Williams raised a concern about the land use contract that was signed by the city administrator, David Dyer replied that this was done because he wanted to use the money to hire an independent geologist to perform an independent study into this, he also stated that if the project does go through and we did not sign that, instead of a straight line to the ethanol plant the pipe would have had more bends and welds making it more of a safety concern. Amanda Stodgel had concerns over the emergency response preparedness if something goes wrong and presented the city clerk with a FOIA request and served information on an independent audit she is conducting of the emergency services in Galva. Other concerns mentioned by various community members were health and safety concerns with storage of CO₂ underground, long term consequences, transparency of the project, increase in truck traffic, effects on property values, who will be responsible if something happens further in the future, and effects on the water system if a leak were to occur. Brenda Holmes raised a dog concern, the week before she was witness or party to 3 separate dog incidents. One of which ended up with her being bitten by a loose dog, and found out that another neighbor was bitten by the same dog. Chief Townsend went over the Illinois leash law and then explained our process for these types of situations.

Next on the agenda were the Department Head Reports. Chief Townsend had nothing at this time. Jake McClintic stated that the water tower is being cleaned so if there is any disruption in the system it is due to that. Richard Plummer was unable to be present so Mayor Volkert announced for him that spring clean up week will be June 22nd through the 27th.

Next on the agenda were the Aldermen's Reports. Alderman Wirth thanked everyone for coming and stated that he is not for the CO₂ project and has many concerns over it and asked that everyone that has concerns to keep making your voice heard. He then stated

that the car cruise ins are starting up again and that fliers are available. Alderman Hopping stated that he has no opinion on the project yet and would like more information on it. Alderman Olson thanked everyone for coming and stated that he has concerns as well, including the increase in truck traffic, he does not like this however it is a private entity and they do not need our approval for this, just the EPA's and asked that everyone be careful about not spreading misinformation. Alderman Clucas thanked Jordan Murray for being there and for being a champion of Galva. She then stated that with the proposed project she is unsure of what we can actually do about it, it is a private business that has applied for this permit through the federal EPA. She has lived here for many years and has raised her kids here, and stated that every decision the council makes should be for the future of Galva and not short sided. She thanked everyone for being professional and reminded them that we are all in this together. Alderman Anderson thanked Jordan Murray as well and stated that he does beautiful work. As far as the proposed project he is on the fence about it and has a lot of questions. He has worked with the EPA and the only way to fight it is to know their process. He went over some of the questions he wanted answers to, such as who will replace the flow line after so many years, materials used, how close the monitoring system and shut off valves would be, etc. He also stated that closing the plant would hurt the community, they are our biggest tax payer and employ many people.

City Administrator's Report

David Dyer stated that he has a research project for Dustin Williams, what would be the tax fine that would be placed on the ethanol plant if they do not do this.

Alderman Olson made a motion and was seconded to go into executive session. The vote was 5 yeas and no nays.

SEE ATTACHED

Alderman Anderson made a motion and was seconded to come back from executive session. The vote was 5 yeas and no nays.

Coming out of executive session Alderman Anderson made a motion and was seconded to decline the bid for the lot at 403 NE 2nd St because it did not meet the minimum bid requirement. The vote was 5 yeas and no nays. It was then stated that we will wait 6 months and review this again.

After no further discussion Alderman Anderson made a motion and was seconded to adjourn. The vote was 5 yeas and no nays.

MAYOR _____

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk.

