

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

The City Council of the City of Galva met in regular session Monday August 4, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. with Debbie VanWassenhove serving as City Clerk. Mayor Rich Volkert presided with the following Aldermen in attendance: John Wirth, Jayme Hopping, Jeff Olson, Jackie Clucas, Doug Anderson, and Rick Otterstrom.

The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

Alderman Anderson made a motion and was seconded to approve the July 7, 2025 council meeting minutes. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays.

BILLS AND CLAIMS

Alderman Olson 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: June Video Gaming tax \$2,262.96, May State Use tax \$1,789.19, June Income tax \$44,995.87, May Telecommunications tax \$1,493.13, June Cannabis tax \$323.71, May Sales tax \$33,934.11, June MFT \$9,191.30, and May/June Personal Property Replacement tax \$10,305.62. David Dyer stated that the state use tax has been steadily declining over the last year.

First on the agenda was Appraisal Discussion: Old Chevy Building. David stated that the building was appraised for \$30,000 so the minimum bid amount we will be able to accept will be \$24,000. There has been interest from several people wanting the building for storage, but with the zoning it needs to have a retail or commercial component, although the purchaser could always go before the planning commission if they only want it for storage. We can set the parameters for sale based on that as well. After some discussion Alderman Anderson suggested that we table this until October to be able to think about what parameters they would like to set. Alderman Anderson made a motion and was seconded to table the discussion until the October meeting. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays.

Next on the agenda was Approval of Park District Application for OSLAD Grant. David stated that the Galva Park District is applying for the OSLAD grant again this year and for them to submit the application the city must approve them to apply first and show our support. Alderman Anderson stated that they are applying for \$600,000 again to go

towards ball lights, batting cages, sidewalks, dugouts, etc. Alderman Clucas made a motion and was seconded to approve this. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays.

Next on the agenda was a Zoning Ordinance discussion. David Dyer stated that this is continuing the conversation about building structures on empty lots. David then gave details on what it would entail to change the zoning ordinance. After some discussion attorney Zac Lessard cautioned them about this creating a broad stroke for this and we would lose the control of a case-by-case basis. Alderman Wirth discussed possible stipulations that could be put in place. Clerk VanWassenhove stated that in the last 25 years the city has received 30 variance applications for various things and from those applications 27 were approved, however only 2 of the 30 were asking to put a building on an empty lot and of those 2 1 was approved and 1 was denied due to neighbors disapproving. After much more discussion Alderman Wirth agreed to talk to the Zoning Board to see what their thoughts on the matter were.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dustin Williams stated that after hearing that it was a 50/50 chance to pass, he was leaning more towards the case-by-case variance process vs the ordinance change. He also stated that he did not think having buildings on empty lots would decrease neighbors home values or property taxes.

Next on the agenda were the Department Head Reports. Greg Thompson thanked Debbie and Melissa for their help in dealing with the public on the new no door tag process. He then stated that they have been working on the lead line service replacements and that they have 2 hydrants to replace soon. Kraig Townsend stated that Henry County has moved to the new digital Star Com radio system with no real issues so far. Mayor Volkert also mentioned that he, Chief Townsend, and Officer Brown have been working on rules for electric bicycles. Richard Plummer stated that the county will be coming in to oil and chip in the next couple of weeks and asked for people on the NW side of town not to park on the side of the road during that time.

Next on the agenda were the Aldermen's Reports. Alderman Wirth stated that they have another car cruise in this Friday and this one is sponsored by the Backroad Music Festival and will have some great giveaways and a band!

City Administrator's Report

David Dyer stated that the solar array has been coming along and they are doing the panels on the landfill now.

Alderman Clucas made a motion and was seconded to go into 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.