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

The City Council of the City of Galva met in regular session Monday September 08, 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, Jayme Hopping, Jeff Olson, Jackie Clucas, Rick Otterstrom, and Doug Anderson.

The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES
Alderman Olson made a motion and was seconded to approve the August 3, 2026 council meeting minutes. The vote was 6 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 6 yeas and no nays.

COMMUNICATIONS
Mayor Volkert reported that the City had received: State of IL: July MFT $9,598.07, July Video Gaming tax $2,540.02, June state Use tax $933.46, July Income tax $27,267.51, June Telecommunications tax $1,410.54, July Cannabis tax $399.42, July Personal Property Replacement tax $3,283.29, June Sales tax $31,268.72, and June Grocery tax $1,148.84

First on the agenda was a Freedom Fest presentation. Mayor Volkert started by thanking the committee for all that they do throughout the year to raise money for our fireworks. Melissa Halsall and Rosemary Howell were both present with the committee and Melissa stood up and spoke about Freedom Fest, what they do and why they do it. She also thanked all of her committee members and Berkshire Hathaway Foundation for their generous donation of $12,500. She then presented the council with a check for $35,000 to pay for this year's fireworks.

Next on the agenda was Ordinance 1666: Updated Fireworks Ordinance. David Dyer stated that the current city ordinance for fireworks is outdated and does not reflect state law so he has put this ordinance together to be in compliance. He pointed out that personal fireworks displays will now be considered a misdemeanor instead of just a $50.00 administrative warning ticket. After some discussion Alderman Olson made a motion and was seconded to approve the ordinance. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Raylene Palm asked if there was anyway to divert the water by their house. Jake McClintic replied that he would have Debbie put in a work order to see what the issue is. Bruce Palmer stated that he has seen a lot of complaints about the roads being oil and chipped but he thinks the street crew did a great job! He lives in Kewanee and the roads there are terrible and at least we are doing something to try and fix our roads, shame on anyone complaining and thank you to the crew! Raylene Palm then asked about getting a fence around Washington Park since it is so close to the road? David Dyer replied that he is already looking into it and had quote from Interstate Fence. For a 4' tall black vinyl fence with a swing gate that would just go around the playground equipment it would cost $8,613. Alderman Anderson made a motion and was seconded to purchase the fencing. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays.

Next on the agenda were the Department Head Reports. Jake McClintic stated that the well uptown is down after the big storm, they believe it was hit by lightning. They are testing it and will know more by the end of the week. The storm flow meters are out as well, we need these for EPA purposes to monitor storm overflow, they are around $8,500 each. If these are not fixed before the next storm we will get a violation. The council agreed to have him order new ones. Chief Townsend was not present so Mayor Volkert stated on his behalf to be careful while driving in school zones. Richard Plummer was also unable to be present so Mayor Volkert announced for him that the fall cemetery clean up week will be October 12-16, please have all items that you would like saved removed by October 11th and you can replace them after the 16th. He also announced that the fall city clean up week will be October 28th-31st. You can bring items that you would like to dispose of to the city maintenance yard during this time and will be open extended hours from 7am-5pm on the 28th and 29th, 7am-3pm on the 30th, and 7am-12pm on the 31st. If you are unable to bring the items yourself, they will do a one time pick up for residents on October 28th, but you must call City Hall to arrange for this by October 26th. Proof of residency is required. He then stated that we have forms available at City Hall for the fall tree sale through the Henry County Soil and Water Conservation District. Forms must be returned to City Hall by September 14th to be able to get it in on time. Trees are available for ½ off if you purchase through the city.

Next on the agenda were the Aldermen's Reports. Alderman Wirth thanked David for his work on getting the fencing for Washington Park and for working to make it nicer. Trees are getting planted and there were new benches placed. He then asked what the status of the pickleball court was. David replied that they are still working on getting that but we're getting there. John then stated that the last cruise in of the season will be this Friday at 6 and then thanked everyone for their help and support of his bicycle project. Alderman Olson thanked Melissa Halsall and the rest of the Freedom Fest committee for all of their hard work. Alderman Clucas stated that the Galva branding survey is now up on the city website and we would love everyone's input so please go on and fill it out at www.galvail.gov Alderman Anderson also thanked the Freedom Fest committee for all that they do. Alderman Otterstrom stated that everyone else already said what he wanted to.

City Administrator's Report

David Dyer had nothing at this time.

Mayor Volkert congratulated the Backroad group and Doug Anderson and his crew for still being able to put the concert on through all of the rain and flooding!

Alderman Hopping 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 back from executive session. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays.

Coming out of executive session Alderman Anderson made a motion and was seconded to put the Old Lord's Chevy building out for bid. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays. Alderman Olson then made a motion and was seconded to put 403 NE 2nd St out to bid. The vote was 6 yeas and no nays.

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

MAYOR_____

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk.