

CITY OF GALESVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

August 14, 2025

Mayor Tom Thatcher called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Council attending: Dave Carlson, Rob Grover, Randy Larson, Jean Seely, Ryker Todd

Council Absent: Jesse Swing

Others in attendance: Attorney-Bruce Hart, Library Director- Laura Oanes, Police Chief- Paul Evenson, Officer- Andrew Dahl, Officer- Dustin Barton, Trempealeau County Times-Zach Rastall, Scott Seely, Diane Redsten

Mayor Thatcher led the Pledge of Allegiance

Open meeting laws have been met by posting the agenda on the community board at City Hall, Galesville Public Library, website and distributed to all news media requesting notification in accordance with the open meeting laws on or before 4:00 p.m. on the day before the meeting.

Motion by Rob Grover to approve the Regular Council Meeting minutes from July 10, 2025; seconded by Ryker Todd. Ayes -4, Nays -0, Motion carried. Carlson abstained.

Motion by Dave Carlson to approve the Special Council Meeting minutes from July 24, 2025; seconded by Ryker Todd. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

Motion by Dave Carlson to approve the Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes from August 7, 2025; seconded by Randy Larson. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

Motion by Jean Seely to approve the July 2025 Treasurer's Report and Cash Accounts Balance Reports; seconded by Randy Larson. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

Mayor Thatcher recommended Andrew Dahl for a full-time police officer.

Motion by Ryker Todd to appointment Andrew Dahl as full-time police officer, seconded by Jean Seely. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

Paul Evenson, Police Chief, had no additional comments to the monthly report that was submitted. After Andrew has completed his training, the department will be back to full coverage.

Laura Oanes, Library Director, had no additional comments to the monthly report that was submitted. The summer finale was held on Tuesday and almost 100 people were in attendance.

Mayor Thatcher reported that the Streets & Sidewalk Committee met per the minutes submitted.

The committee reviewed the bids for the retaining wall project with Point of Beginning. This project has been in the works for years and if it isn't approved it will not be completed this year. Ryker felt the assumption of the committee was to use the unassigned fund balance so we don't add any more debt to the bond.

This project was not included in the funding that was just completed. Per a discussion with Jennifer and Sean Lentz the amount could be drawn from the remaining general fund unassigned balance of \$1,209,645 after the funding for the West Side Project. This would leave the city with a remaining unassigned balance of \$1,049,645 and an unassigned balance as a % of revenue 62.87%.

Motion by Jean Seely to award the bid to T2 for \$147,876.00 and to pay Point of Beginning \$4,850.00 to coordinate and overseeing construction of the Ridge Avenue retaining wall with money coming

from the unassigned balance; seconded by Dave Carlson. Vote: Carlson-yes Grover-yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Todd-yes. Motion carried.

There was discussion about changing the alternate side parking time from noon to midnight to make it easier for residents to understand. Chief Evenson explained that most cities have midnight as a time that the date changes for parking. Officer Barton also explained that residents are confused by the noon time.

Motion by Jean Seely to amend ordinance 10-1-28(a) Alternate Side Parking as presented; seconded by Randy Larson. Vote: Carlson-yes, Grover-yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Todd-yes. Motion carried.

Jean Seely, chairperson of the IT Committee, reported that they discussed recycling of unused electronics. Committee members and Randy Larson agreed to take them to the Trempealeau County Solid Waste Commission. The Microsoft Exchange contract will be discussed during the Finance report. The committee is going to work on getting an updated electronic inventory and putting asset tags on computers to help track them and implementing a Capitalization Policy.

Ryker Todd, chairperson of the Police, Fire & Personnel Committee, reported that they met per the minutes submitted.

The health insurance policy is up for renewal on September 1st. After meeting with a representative from The Insurance Center the decision was made to change plans with a -2.1% decrease in premium and pay the difference between the deductible and the max out of pocket with the HRA.

Motion by Ryker Todd to renew the health insurance with plan G402 Quartz Gundersen Performance Gold HMO, the city will pay the difference between the deductible and the max out of pocket through the HRA; seconded by Randy Larson. Vote: Carlson-yes Grover-yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Todd-yes. Motion carried.

Jean Seely, member of the Finance & Insurance Committee, reported the Microsoft Exchange Server contract will expire and has to be updated. Microsoft didn't provide a notice or a cost for this so it could be included in the 2025 budget.

Motion by Jean Seely to extend Microsoft Exchange Server contract for \$4,719.00 using \$1,500.00 coming from the data processing budget that was earmarked for remote attendance as a downpayment, to pay the balance in a budget item for 2026; seconded by Rob Grover Vote: Carlson-yes, Grover-yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Todd-yes. Motion carried.

There was discussion of attaching asset tags to all electronics that was sent back to the IT committee.

There were (7) permits issued by the Zoning Administrator in June and July.

Motion by Rob Grover to approve Street Use Permit from G-E-T High School for September 26, 2025; seconded by Randy Larson. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

Motion by Randy Larson to approve applications For License To Serve Fermented Malt Beverages and Intoxicating Liquors from LeAnn VanVreede, Kathleen McAfee and Samantha Radke; seconded by Dave Carlson. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

The current ordinance states the fee for NSF checks is \$10.00 the city is billed \$31.00. Jennifer proposed removing the cost from the ordinance and increasing it in the schedule of fees to avoid changing the ordinance each time.

Motion by Ryker Todd to amend ordinance 3-1-1(a) Fee For Returning Checks with Insufficient Funds; seconded by Rob Grover. Vote: Carlson-yes, Grover-yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Todd-yes. Motion carried.

Jennifer proposed removing the cost from the ordinance and increasing it in the schedule of fees to avoid changing the ordinance each time.

Motion by Dave Carlson to amend ordinance 3-1-12 Statement of Real Property Status; seconded by Rob Grover. Vote: Carlson-yes, Grover-yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Todd-yes. Motion carried.

Chief Evanson stated that other municipalities have had issues with properties with continues calls and the landlord can be cited if they are called there multiple times. This ordinance will give them the means to take action against a tenant and have them removed. Attorney Hart reviewed and approved the ordinance.

Motion by Ryker Todd to adopt ordinance 11-8-1 Chronic Nuisances; seconded by Rob Grover. Vote: Carlson-yes, Grover-yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Todd-yes. Motion carried.

Changes have been recommended in the ordinances that were approved previously to changes to the schedule of fees.

Motion by Dave Carlson to update schedule of fees; seconded by Jean Seely. Vote: Carlson-yes, Grover-yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Todd-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Ryker Todd to discuss temporary keeping of goats; seconded by Randy Larson. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

There is a current ordinance that doesn't allow goats in the city. The proposed ordinance 7-1-26 Temporary Keeping of Goates; violations and penalties would allow them temporarily to clean up noxious weeds rather than using chemicals.

Motion by Dave Carlson to refer the issue to the Plan Commission to allow for public comment; seconded by Rob Grover. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

Motion by Jean Seely approve Accounts Payable and Manual Checks for General: \$106,491.75, Sewer: \$41,230.37, Water \$9,787.29, Capital Project Fund \$27,242.70, Library \$3,172.64; Total \$187,924.75; seconded by Dave Carlson Vote: Carlson-yes, Grover-yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Todd-yes. Motion carried.

Correspondence and other reports submitted included:

July budget comparison detail for General, Sewer and Water funds

Galesville Cemetery Association minutes, April 22, 2025

Galesville Area Chamber of Commerce minutes, June 11, 2025

Southern Trempealeau County Southern Waste Commission minutes, May 12, 2025

Motion by Randy Larson to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Rob Grover. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

X

Jennifer Hess
City Clerk/Treasurer