

CITY OF GALESVILLE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

June 12, 2025

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

Council attending: Dave Carlson, Rob Grover, Randy Larson, Jesse Swing, Ryker Todd

Council Absent: Jean Seely,

Others in attendance: Attorney-Bruce Hart, Library Director- Laura Oanes, Police Chief- Paul Evenson, Trempealeau County Times-Zach Rastall, Mark Kunz, Melanie Pederson, Sawyer Pederson, Lylah Pederson, Cynthia Bautch, Joe Nordie, Diane Redsten, Davy Engineering- Mike Davy.

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.

Mayor Thatcher recognized Joe Nordie for 38 years of service as an officer of the Galesville Police Department and Jennifer Hess for 5 years as Clerk/Treasurer.

Motion by Dave Carlson to approve the Regular Council Meeting minutes from May 8, 2025; seconded by Ryker Todd. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

Motion by Randy Larson to approve the Special Council Meeting minutes from June 4, 2025; seconded by Rob Grover. Ayes -4, Nays -0, Motion carried. Carlson abstained

Motion by Dave Carlson to approve the May 2025 Treasurer's Report and Cash Accounts Balance Reports; seconded by Ryker Todd. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

Paul Evenson, Police Chief, had no additional comments to the monthly report that was submitted. He wanted to recognize Christian Medema for the 10 years that he was an officer. He was instrumental in the upgrade of firearms, instrumental in the purchase and implementation of body and dash cams. Officer Nordie was always there to help and will be greatly missed. All his knowledge of the community members and his relationships was a great thing for the department.

Ryker Todd, Chairperson of Police, Fire & Personnel, reported that the committee met and discussed the policy on unused sick leave at the time of retirement or resignation.

Motion by Randy Larson to update the Personnel Manual Health Insurance Continuation upon retirement by removing the option of a pay out to a deferred compensation plan; seconded by Jesse Swing. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

Motion by Jesse Swing to update the Personnel Manual Sick Leave Compensation upon retirement schedule to 5-14 years of service will pay 10% of their hourly wage at retirement per hour of sick leave, 15 years of service will pay 15%, 25 years will pay 20% and 30 years will pay 25% as amended; seconded by Ryker Todd. Ayes -4, Nays -1 (Grover), Motion carried.

Motion to amend by Dave Carlson to include after at the time of retirement, as defined by Department of Employee Trust Funds; seconded by Ryker Todd. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

There was further discussion on the total benefit that is being offered and the pros and cons of what is being proposed.

Motion by Ryker Todd to update the Personnel Manual for employees who terminate their employment with the city are not eligible to receive pay for unused sick leave as amended; seconded by Jesse Swing. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

Motion to amend by Dave Carlson to add after the word employment, or who's employment with the city is terminated, are not eligible to receive pay for unused sick leave as allowed by Wisconsin statute; seconded by Rob Grover. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

Jesse Swing, Chairperson of the Finance & Insurance Committee, reported the committee met per the minutes submitted discussed the additional cost to grind construction debris.

Motion by Rob Grover to approve the additional cost of \$1,510.40 from Gerke Excavating, Inc. with the funds to come from the street outlay; seconded by Ryker Todd. Vote: Carlson-yes, Grover-yes, Larson-yes, Swing-yes, Todd-yes. Motion carried.

There were 10 permits issued by the Building Inspector in May.

Mike Davy gave an update on the West Side Project funding. There are 3 elements to fund the project that include the Safe Water Drinking Loan Program, Clean Water Fund and General Obligation Bond.

The only change to the financing plan from the bid opening was the change to the amount of the cash contribution toward the water portion of the project from \$700,000 to \$375,000 to reduce the borrowing amount.

Resolution 2025-002 was previously approved showing intent to reimburse expenditures for the project.

The authorized representative resolution for the DNR will appoint the mayor as the authorized representative of the City of Galesville to execute the documents necessary to apply for the Environmental Improvement fund which includes both water and sewer loans.

Motion by Dave Carlson to approve Resolution 2025-003 Authorized Representative for Environmental Improvement Fund; seconded by Ryker Todd. Vote: Carlson-yes, Grover-yes, Larson-yes, Swing-yes, Todd-yes. Motion carried.

This project doesn't have elements that are classified as green according to the definitions in the program. The city is not asking for funding under the green project reserve.

Motion by Dave Carlson to approve the mayor sign the Green Project Reserve application to submit with the Clean Water Fund Program; seconded by Rob Grover. Vote: Carlson-yes, Grover-yes, Larson-yes, Swing-yes, Todd-yes. Motion carried.

The list of financial items needed to complete the loan application has been completed.

There was an environmental review done for the project and there are no issues.

Motion by Rob Grover that an environmental review has been completed and municipality has not located any environmental issues that need to be addressed; seconded by Jesse Swing. Vote: Carlson-yes, Grover-yes, Larson-yes, Swing-yes, Todd-yes. Motion carried.

It was recommended to approve an amendment to the existing engineering agreement to add the West Side water and sewer project to keep things simple. The agreement has been amended 3 times in the past for other projects and is already approved by the funding agency and the city.

Motion by Randy Larson to authorize Amendment #4 to Engineering Agreement West Side Water, Sewer & Streets Project; seconded by Rob Grover. Vote: Carlson-yes, Grover-yes, Larson-yes, Swing-yes, Todd-yes. Motion carried.

The application for the SDWLP is almost complete. They are working on how to show the credit for the cash that the city wants to apply to the project. We don't want to borrow all the money but you want to show full project costs to be eligible. The cash will be listed on the application as a credit upon DNR approval.

Motion by Dave Carlson to authorize submittal of the application for the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program; seconded by Ryker Todd. Vote: Carlson-yes, Grover-yes, Larson-yes, Swing-yes, Todd-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jesse Swing to approve Scope of Engagement Letter from Quarles & Brady LLP for the Safe Drinking Water Loan; seconded by Rob Grover. Vote: Carlson-yes, Grover-yes, Larson-yes, Swing-yes, Todd-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dave Carlson to adopt Resolution 2025-004 to the DNR for 2024 Compliance Maintenance Annual Report; seconded by Randy Larson. Vote: Carlson-yes, Grover-yes, Larson-yes, Swing-yes, Todd-yes. Motion carried.

The water main within Valley View Estates was designated as a public city water main. The city owns it and operates it. The part that is built has been tested and approved. By filing the easement, the city gains ownership. The easement includes being able to finish the water main in the development to go far enough to get out and loop back.

Motion by Ryker Todd to approve Resolution 2025-005 to accept the easement for water mains and temporary construction purposes from Valley View Estates, Inc.; seconded by Jesse Swing. Vote: Carlson-yes, Grover-yes, Larson-yes, Swing-yes, Todd-yes. Motion carried.

During a random audit of the records for the Fire Department by the state it was discovered that the ordinance for fire inspections was recommended for change by the Fire Board but was not brought before the council for approval. The current ordinance states that inspections are to be done every 6 months and it was proposed by the Fire Board to change to 12 months.

Motion by Dave Carlson to approve an ordinance change to title 05, Chapter 2, Section 5-2-3(b)(3) Fire Inspection Duties; seconded by Rob Grover. Vote: Carlson-yes, Grover-yes, Larson-yes, Swing-yes. Motion carried. Ryker Todd abstained.

Motion by Jesse Swing to approve Fireworks Permit for Galesville Lions Club on July 4, 2025.; seconded by Ryker Todd. Ayes -4, Nays -0, Motion carried. Rob Grover abstained.

Motion by Randy Larson to approve application for Street Use Permit from Marinuka Manor for July 13, 2025; seconded by Rob Grover. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

Dumpsters are not allowed in R1 zoning district without a permit from the council. The Muellenberg's have applied for an annual permit for their tile business that they operation outside of the city. There have not been any complaints. The dumpster is kept out of sight.

Motion by Jesse Swing to approve dumpster permit from Steve & Sandra Muellenberg 19935 Gibson Steet from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026; seconded by Randy Larson. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

Motion by Jesse Swing to approve Application for Temporary Class "B" Beer Alcohol Beverage License from Old Main Cultural Center for June 28, July 26, and August 23, 2025; seconded by Randy Larson. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

Motion by Dave Carlson to approve Application for Temporary Class "B" Beer and "Class B" Wine Alcohol Beverage License from Old Main Cultural Center for September 20, 2025; seconded by Ryker Todd. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

Motion by Dave Carlson to approve applications for Temporary Operator's Licenses from Chris Heighway for June 28, 2025, Theresa Nelson for July 26, 2025, Bruce Bender for August 23, 2025 and Diane Thatcher for September 20, 2025; seconded by Rob Grover. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

Motion by Dave Carlson to approve applications for Alcohol Beverages Licenses from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 as presented; seconded by Rob Grover. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

Motion by Jesse Swing to approve applications for Cigarette, Tobacco and Electronic Vaping Devise Retail License from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 as presented; seconded by Ryker Todd. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

Motion by Randy Larson to approve applications For License To Serve Fermented Malt Beverages and Intoxicating Liquors from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 as presented; seconded by Ryker Todd. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried.

Motion by Jesse Swing to approve Accounts Payable and Manual Checks for General: \$83,811.47, Sewer: \$36,471.45, Water \$26,081.25, Capital Project Fund \$21,208.93, Library \$3,015.32; Total \$170,588.42; seconded by Dave Carlson Vote: Carlson-yes, Grover-yes, Larson-yes, Swing-yes, Todd-yes. Motion carried.

Correspondence in the packet include: May budget report for general, water and sewer, minutes from Galesville Cemetery Association, Fire Department, Southern Trempealeau County Solid Waste Commission and Galesville Area Chamber of Commerce and a fundraising/ free space application for the Farmer's Market.

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

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Jennifer Hess  
City Clerk/Treasurer