

CITY OF GALESVILLE  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

July 24, 2025

Mayor Tom Thatcher called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

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

Council Absent: Jesse Swing

Others in attendance: Sean Lentz – Ehlers, Tim Spahr, Sharon Spahr, Richard G Sacia, Jim Evanson

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 5:00 p.m. on the day before the meeting.

At the last meeting Sean attended the council discussed funding the West Side Project and using cash from the unassigned general fund balance. Using the cash would lower the borrowing amount. After that meeting it was determined that the city would be funding the cost to repair the drainage issue on Campus Court. Sean had a discussion with the bond attorney and it was recommended that we use cash from the unassigned fund balance to pay for Campus Court and increase the borrowing amount for the West Side Project. The West Side Project is an understandable and clear public works project at fits with using tax exempt debit.

The borrowing amount went to \$1,375,000.00. There were 3 bids with rates from 4.4215% to 4.5604%. Which is lower than we had expected. The high bidder was Northland Securities, Inc. representing Bluff View Bank with a True Interest Cost of 4.41% for 20 years. The city can prepay the loan starting in 2034.

Motion by Ryker Todd to approve Resolution 2025-007 Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of \$1,375,000.00 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2025A; seconded by Dave Carlson. Vote: Carlson-yes, Grover-yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Todd-yes. Motion carried

The plan for (3) rock Galesville signs has been denied by the DOT due to the fact that the signs must be within city limits. La Crosse Sign came back with a drawing of a black and white vinyl sign to replace the signs in the current locations. The colors were chosen because they will withstand the UV rays for a longer period. There was discussion of changing the wording to "Welcome To" and removing the "Historic". It was mentioned that the cost of the signs would not change significantly. Jim Evanson, President of Lions Club, expressed that he didn't feel the club would support funding of this quality, size and cost of the current design it does nothing for what they were looking to do. The original proposal was \$33,495 for signs, \$250 for permits and \$11,100 for (2) bases totaling \$44,845.00. The City, Chamber of Commerce and Lions Club submitted a down payment of \$5,582.50 each to La Crosse Sign in 2024.

Motion by Jean Seely to defer the discussion to the Committee of the Whole in conjunction with the Lions Club, Chamber and Jeff from La Crosse Sign with a date to be determined; seconded by Dave Carlson. Ayes -5, Nays -0, Motion carried

Ryker Todd left the meeting at 5:38.

The contract to update the Comprehensive Plan requires the council to approve a Public Participation Plan.

Motion by Dave Carlson to approve Public Participation Plan for the Update of the City of Galesville Comprehensive Plan 2025-20269; seconded by Jean Seely. Ayes -4, Nays -0, Motion carried.

Motion by Rob Grover to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Randy Larson. Ayes -4, Nays -0, Motion carried.

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Jennifer Hess  
City Clerk/Treasurer