

CITY OF GALESVILLE

COUNCIL MEETING

August 13, 2026

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

Council attending: Bruce Bender, Dave Carlson, Randy Larson, Jean Seely, Jesse Swing

Council Absent: Richard Sacia

Others in attendance: Officer Dustin Barton, Library Director Laura Oanes, Jessica Schue, Johnson & Block – Kim Hollermann

Randy Larson 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.

Announcement of closed session to consider Employment, Promotion, compensation or Performance Evaluation Data of Any Public Employee Over Which the Governmental Body has Jurisdiction or Exercises Responsibility, specifically to discuss the police chief position.

Motion by: Jean Seely and seconded by Jesse Swing to suspend the rules and take up the item Review the audit for year ending December 31, 2025. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

Kim Hollermann from Johnson & Block reviewed the draft audit. The audit has not been certified for Marinuka Manor or Eden house because of staffing issues. She doesn't see any reason the audit would change for the city. The Governmental funds had a \$695,173 increase from 2025. The water utility is in compliance with the debt covenants required and the annual debt service was above the required ratio. The unassigned general fund has approximately 9 months of revenue available and at least 2 months is recommended. The city has 66% of its debit capacity remaining.

Motion by: Jean Seely and seconded by Dave Carlson to suspend the rules and take up the item Speaker Jessica Schue, Candidate for Clerk of Circuit Court. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

Jessica Schue has worked as a paralegal for 26 years. This experience has given her the opportunity to create a great working relationship with the clerk's office. She enjoys what she does and wants to remain in the field. She is hoping to step into the roll with an understanding of what municipalities need and how to be a strong reliable partner.

Motion by: Jean Seely to suspend the rules and take up the item Approve Capital Request from Library Board to replace the carpet in the community room and tile in the entry of the library Motion passed with unanimous consent.

Laura Oanes, Library Director, shared that the library board would like to use part of the fund balance and donations to replace the carpet in the community room and the tile in the entry way. The use of the room has increased significantly. A quote has been obtained from Floorcrafters for \$11,600.64

Motion by Dave Carlson and seconded by Bruce Bender to Capital Request from Library Board to replace the carpet in the community room and tile in the entry way of the library. Motion carried 5-0

Motion by Jean Seely and seconded by Randy Larson to approve the Council Meeting minutes from July 9, 2026. Motion carried 5-0

Motion by Jean Seely and seconded by Bruce Bender to approve the July 2026 Treasurer's Report and Cash Accounts Balance Reports. Motion carried 5-0

Police report was submitted, Officer Barton stated that Officer Andrew Dahl has completed his probation and the new squad car is in use.

Laura Oanes, Library Director, reported it has been a busy summer and the summer program went well.

Todd Peterson, Director of Public Works, was not in attendance

There were (2) permits issued by the Building Inspector.

Jean Seely, Chairperson of the Police, Fire & Personnel Committee, reported that they met per the minutes submitted.

Motion by Jean Seely and seconded by Jesse Swing to renew the health insurance with plan G402 Quartz Gundersen Performance Gold HMO. Vote: Bender-yes, Carlson- yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Swing-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jean Seely and seconded by Jesse Swing to offer a cash in lieu benefit to employees waiving health insurance for themselves or dependents beginning 9/1/26. The benefit would be \$300 for single, \$350 for family and \$250 for spouse paid monthly through payroll. Vote: Bender-yes, Carlson- yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Swing-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jean Seely and seconded by Dave Carlson for the HRA contribution to remain the same as last year. Vote: Bender-yes, Carlson- yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Swing-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jean Seely and seconded by Dave Carlson to approve the Resolution for Inclusions Under the Wisconsin Public Employer's Group Health Insurance Program starting January 1, 2027 with ETF. Vote: Bender-yes, Carlson- yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Swing-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jean Seely and seconded by Jesse Swing to renew dental insurance with Delta Dental. Vote: Bender-yes, Carlson- yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Swing-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jean Seely and seconded by Jesse Swing to renew life insurance with Kansas City Life. Vote: Bender-yes, Carlson- yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Swing-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jean Seely and seconded by Randy Larson to approve Resolution for Inclusion Under Group Life Insurance with ETF Vote: Bender-yes, Carlson- yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Swing-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jean Seely and seconded by Dave Carlson to approve Resolution for Inclusion Under the Income Continuation Insurance Plan with ETF. Vote: Bender-yes, Carlson- yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Swing-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jean Seely and seconded by Randy Larson to approve Local Employer Enrollment in Supplemental Benefits with ETF. Vote: Bender-yes, Carlson- yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Swing-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jean Seely and seconded by Jesse Swing to form a 3-person Oversight Committee of the Police Department. Vote: Bender-yes, Carlson- no, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Swing-yes. Motion carried.

The goal of the committee is anytime there is a police department issue it would go to this committee instead of Police, Fire & Personnel Committee. A committee must be formed in order to discipline and oversee police personnel.

Jesse Swing, Chairperson of the Finance & Insurance committee, reported that they met per the minutes submitted. No action to be taken.

Motion by Dave Carlson and seconded by Randy Larson to approve the Capital Request from Marinuka Manor to replace external walk-in freezer. Vote: Bender-yes, Carlson- yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Swing-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dave Carlson and seconded by Jesse Swing to approve letter of support to WisDOT for Standalone Curb Ramp Project. Motion carried 5-0

Motion by Dave Carlson and seconded by Randy Larson to review the bid received by the County and authorize the Trempealeau County Department of Land Management to award the contract for the Becker/Jokisch Habitat WQT Project with the total cost to be reimbursed by the Galesville Sewer Utility. Vote: Bender-yes, Carlson-yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Swing-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jesse Swing and seconded by Jean Seely to Approve Accounts Payable and Manual Checks for General: \$138,308.92 Sewer: \$71,386.07, Water \$17,815.70, Capital Project Fund \$29,350.48, Library \$2,882.71; Total \$259,743.88. Vote: Bender-yes, Carlson- yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Swing-yes. Motion carried.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

- a. Plan Commission 6:15 August 18, 2026
- b. Police, Fire & Personnel 5:30 August 19, 2026
- c. Finance & Insurance 6:00 September 8, 2026
- d. Council 7:00 September 10, 2026

Correspondence and other reports submitted included:
July budget comparison detail for General, Sewer and Water funds
Galesville Chamber of Commerce minutes, June 10, 2026

Motion by Dave Carlson and seconded by Randy Larson to convene into closed session under Section 19.85(1)(c) of the Wisconsin Statutes: Considering Employment, Promotion, compensation or Performance Evaluation Data of Any Public Employee Over Which the Governmental Body has Jurisdiction or Exercises Responsibility, specifically to discuss the police chief position. Governing Body members, the municipal attorney and municipal clerk may attend the closed session. Vote: Bender-yes, Carlson- yes, Larson-yes, Seely-yes, Swing-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dave Carlson and seconded by Randy Larson to reconvene into open session. Motion carried 5-0

Motion by Randy Larson and seconded by Bruce Bender to appoint Dustin Barton as interim Police Chief at the wage discussed. Vote: Bender-yes, Carlson- yes, Larson-yes, Seely-no, Swing-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jesse Swing and seconded by Randy Larson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5-0

X

Jennifer Hess
City Clerk/Treasurer