

TOWN OF GALE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
August 12, 2025

The regular board meeting for the Town of Gale was held on August 12, 2025 at 7:30 p.m. Town board members that were present were Sharon Spahr, Paul Halderson, Mike Oslie, Kevin Duch, Matt Andersen and Sue Henderson the Clerk-Treasurer was also present. Others present were Randy Mickelson, Cynthia Bautch, Vince Howe, Tim Miller, Allen Walk, Amy Walk, John Vehrenkamp, Keith Ronning, Dan Lilla, Jamie and Jim Stetzer, Kevin Evenson, Linda Olsen, Jason Lee, Forrest Payne, Courtney Payne, Rick Geske, Chai Xiong, Soua Thao, Russ Anderson, Stuart Britson, Nancy Brown, Davie Heise, Rhonda Gartner, Gina Modahl, Jim Hilton, Ron Uecke and Joe Spinler.

Paul Halderson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The open meeting law requirements had been met by posting and publication.

Matt Andersen made a motion to approve the minutes as printed. Kevin Duch seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Under specific matters for discussion which was agenda item four:

Joe Spinler from Allied Coop was present regarding asking for a rezone of 28 acres from agricultural to industrial. Allied Coop has purchased 160 acres from Sacia Orchards. This property adjoins the present Allied Coop site. Future use for the land is to build a new dry bulk fertilizer plant which will hold 10 thousand to 14 thousand ton of fertilizer. A storm management plan will be done. In the future a maintenance shed and an equipment storage shed. Current building built in 1979. The new plant would have the load in and load out inside. No current plans for the other acres.

They have not talked to the WDOT regarding using the existing driveway to the stand that sold apples. A service road between the existing site and the proposed site was discussed. Containment was discussed as well as the emergency response plan. The question was raised about increased traffic. The new plant would decrease Spring traffic; the plant would be filled in the fall and winter.

Cynthia Bautch asked about planting trees as a barrier.

Vince Howe spoke up on behalf of his mother-in-law LaVon Manchuck who is against the plan. He will be relaying information to his mother-in-law from the meeting.

A water containment, catch basin will be built.

Tim Miller asked for site plans, access to the roads and a building plan.

Allen Walk felt that safety was the biggest concern for the Galesville Area Fire Department of the emergency response personnel. Discussed the safety of Winnebago road and the possibility of one in and one out entrance. Dust from the existing gravel driveway is a concern.

Forrest Payne asked about what the final plans would be. Will the existing facility be renovated or torn down. The question was raised as to why the Town of Trempealeau turned the plan.

This would be a cleaner and more modern facility.

Gina Modahl asked about if the retaining pond would have pumps.

The Wisconsin pollution discharge permit was discussed.

Rhonda Gartner discussed her concern about the trucks on Winnebago Road.

Matt Andersen asked about details on the proposed building and where it would be.

Mike Oslie made a motion to table the rezone request and bring it back to the September meeting. Matt Andersen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dan Lilla gave a presentation on the GET Youth Sports activities. There were 520 kids in the program. The Town of Gale represents 10% of the kids. This program encompasses the Galesville Area Summer rec program and the Trempealeau Youth sports program.

Dan Lilla gave a presentation on the Trempealeau Parkland project. The Village of Trempealeau had approved 3.1 million for the project. Fundraising is being worked on for an additional 3 million. There are paved trails, two ball fields, a pickleball field and a basketball court. Different elements of the playground were discussed.

Sharon Spahr made a motion to approve the emergency management resolution. Mike Oslie seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Matt Andersen made a motion to approve the picnic license and temporary operator licenses for the Galesville Lions Club for October 4, 2025 for Apple Affair. Kevin Duch seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Matt Andersen made a motion to approve a \$250 donation to the Galesville Area Chamber for Apple Affair. Mike Oslie seconded the motion. Motion carried. Sharon Spahr abstained.

No citizen appearances.

Under the machinery report it was reported that Kevin Duch worked on the AC on the John Deere tractor.

For the road report it was reported that we have been shouldering on Sahlstrom and Samson Lane. Blade patching was done along with culvert replacement. Ditches were mowed as well.

Under correspondence the letter regarding the Smikrud bridge project was presented along with forest tax law orders and the preliminary population estimate.

There were building permits for
Bob Schultz a storage shed on Bakken Road
Tim McBride driveway permit and shed house on river drive

Mike Oslie gave an update on the STCSWC meeting. Steve Hogden gave a report on the La Crosse County policy board meeting. Green Cycle that is owned by Harter. The recycling grant was \$41,000 and it was received. The recycling center is working on a new contract with Hilltopper for the compactor and the open top dumpster at the recycling center. There was discussion on having a tire collection day in October.

The Lake District meeting was discussed. They are working on a website and getting numbers from Davy Engineering.

Mike Oslie made a motion to approve the financial report. Matt Andersen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Sharon Spahr made a motion to approve checks #28056 through #28089. Matt Andersen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mike Oslie made a motion to adjourn. Sharon Spahr seconded it. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.