

TOWN OF GALE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
September 9, 2025

The regular board meeting for the Town of Gale was held on September 9, 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 Cynthia Bautch Tim Miller John Vehrenkamp, Keith Ronning Jamie and Jim Stetzer, Kevin Evenson, Jason Lee, Forrest Payne, Rick Geske, Russ Amundson, Mike Kohlbeck, Rob Larson, Sonja and Sean Schindler, Jim Wilber, Caden Perry, 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:

Mike Kohlbeck from McMahon Associates was present regarding Allied Coop 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 power point was presented showing the proposed placement of the plant. Allied has gotten preliminary approval on using the driveway for the apple stand. A service road will tie the existing facility to the proposed facility. The old orchard apple stand will be the office for the plant. There will be one receiving bay for semis. The rest of the land would stay transitional ag. The DNR would dictate where the storm water containment would be and make sure erosion control measures were practiced.

Forrest Payne talked about buffer zone and was concerned about the unknowns. One of them being was there going to be more buildings built in the future. Forrest is not in favor of the rezone.

Tim Miller spoke regarding his concerns for the water flow and protecting the water. Tim would like to see the Town of Gale board turn down the rezone request.

Matt Andersen spoke about the orchard being for sale without anyone wanting to purchase it as an orchard. Allied Coop which adjoins the property and has been in business for 46 years purchased the property. The development next to Allied built their houses in the backyard of a fertilizer plant.

Mike Oslie made a motion to approve the rezone request for 28 acres from agricultural to industrial for Allied Coop. Matt Andersen seconded the motion. Motion carried. A voice vote was taken. Mike Oslie-yes, Sharon Spahr-yes, Kevin Duch-yes, Matt Andersen-yes and Paul Halderson abstained.

Sean and Sonja Schindler were present regarding a parcel in Beaver Creek Estates. This is a 16 acre commons area. The parcel is still listed under Beaver Creek development. Each year Sonja would email Sue to get the amount due. Sonja provided the fronts of two checks that were made out to the Town of Gale but the checks were never received by the Town of Gale or deposited. There is also a cashiers check in question that was sent to Trempealeau County.

Payments were not received on this parcel and it went into foreclosure. Paul Halderson will call corp counsel at Trempealeau County and talk to her.

Under citizen appearances Jim Wilber asked about the town looking at Lebakken Lane since it needs repairs. It was stated that the town roads are looked at and repaired based off of road condition and the amount of use.

Under the machinery report it was reported that a shaft was worked on at Centerville Steelworks. A cylinder on the grader was repaired.

For the road report it was reported that Samson and Sahlstrom roads are completed. McKeeth Road has been milled. We are postponing the work on Irvine Road until 2026. Anderson Lane will be worked on by the Town of Gale crew. Bridge petitions will be looked into. The amounts received for highway aid were discussed.

Under correspondence there was nothing to report.

There were building permits for
Theron Solberg for a storage shed.

Mike Oslie gave an update on the STCSWC meeting. A personnel committee meeting was held. Mike updated the board on the markets and loads sold. The 10-year contract extension with Hilltopper was approved. The budget for 2026 was set. The tire roundup will be October 18th.

A fire board update was given. There will be no increase for the 2026 budget. The chicken dinner fundraiser was a success. There are presently 26 firefighters. The DOT inspections were done on the trucks. There is a UTV being looked at to purchase.

The Lake District meeting was discussed. The website is finished. and getting numbers from Davy Engineering. There will be a booth at the Apple Affair.

Town hall update was given by Mike Oslie. Kevin and Randy power washed the building. Mike Oslie cleaned up the stone and concrete and sealed it. The screens have been fixed and the windows washed. The a/c unit was also cleaned.

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

Mike Oslie made a motion to approve checks #28090 through #28121. Kevin Duch seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Matt Andersen made a motion to adjourn. Kevin Duch seconded it. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

