

**Board of Election Commissioners Meeting
City of Galesburg, Illinois
September 19, 2024 — 9:00 a.m.
City Hall Erickson Conference Room**

Chairman Roger Williamson called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Attending were Commissioners Veronica Peoples and Robert Potter, Executive Director Lisa Watson, and Assistant Bill Gohring. Also in attendance were Pamela Davidson, David Amor, Nancy Eberhardt, and Jeannette Chernin.

After reviewing the minutes from the August 19, 2024 meeting, Veronica Peoples made a motion to approve the minutes. David Christensen seconded. Motion carried.

After reviewing the minutes from the July 28, 2024 meeting, David Christensen made a motion to approve the minutes. Veronica Peoples seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comment — Pamela Davidson raised a concern about the Election Commission's plan to post police officers at polling places on election day and the potential impact on voter turnout, especially within the Black Community. She also presented a letter from the NAACP Illinois State Conference stating its position on the matter. David Amor and Nancy Eberhardt expressed similar concerns. Lisa Watson explained that the statutory plan in Galesburg was not to post police officers at all polls all day long. The plan is for a couple of police officers to travel from polling place to polling place and walk through the polling place briefly and leave.

Lisa Watson noted that the City Election Office is in a building that is attached to the Public Safety Building. It is the closest office to the Police Department. It is practically in the Police Department Lobby, but in 2020, 4,200 voters cast their ballots at the City Election Office and in 2016, 3,700 voters cast their ballots at the City Election Office.

Old Business:

Memo Only Budget — David Christensen provided an overview of the Memo Only Budget. The ending checking balance for August was \$98,503. That is approximately \$31,490 higher than last year. Total expenses for August were \$18,466. Total revenue for August was \$20,505. This included a private grant to pay for the required mailing of the Optional-Permanent Vote By Mail Status Application.

2024 General Election — November 5, 2024

Election Judge Training — The training will be conducted on October 3rd at the new Public Library in the Community Room. We are hearing some reports of covid. So far, no judges are backing out of the classes. The consensus is to continue.

Election Judge Precinct Emergency Coordinator Pay — This duty is an extra responsibility. Each precinct will require one of the judges to take on this responsibility.

Should that person receive additional compensation The topic died for the lack of a motion.

Public Test – October 26 at 11:00 a.m. – The Public Test will be conducted in the basement of City Hall. Entrance will be through the Public Safety Building. A Public Notice will be published in the ‘Burg.

Draylist Setup – Assignments were reviewed.

Electioneering – There will be cones at City Hall with “No Electioneering” signage. They will be 100 feet from the office.

2025 Election

Possible Candidate Update

Wayne Dennis – Ward 2

Kelli Bennewitz – City Clerk

Peter Schwartzman – Mayor

Laura Williams – Township Assessor

Filing Candidates Receipt Paperwork – Can other people pickup paperwork for candidates? A situation arose with a person who did not come in for instructions. The Filing Paperwork Checklist has been updated.

New Business:

Invoices & Supplies— Veronica Peoples made a motion to approve the invoices for the month of August. David Christensen seconded. Motion carried. Veronica Peoples made a motion to approve the supply list for the month of August. David Christensen seconded. Motion carried.

Schedule October meeting—The next commissioners’ meeting was scheduled for Thursday, October 17, 2025 at 7:00 a.m.

Other:

The Equipment Vendor has been contacted and asked to revise the invoice and not set up a credit for next year. The bill will be \$6,000 less.

Can the bill be set up as a cash advance for payment on October 1st? David Christensen made a motion to set up the bill as a cash advance payment, payable on October 1, 2024. Veronica Peoples seconded. Motion carried.

David Christensen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Veronica Peoples seconded. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.