

**Finance-December 16, 2025**

Sign-In: Kim Pierson, Jerry Harrington, Bob Pickerell, City Clerk Jenna DeYong, Mayor Parkinson, Attorney Tonya Genovese, Keith Burton, Dan McDowell, Mary Davis, Jason Smith and Randy LeMaster were present. Greg Garcai and Jim Hawkins were absent.

In the absence of Alderperson Hawkins, Alderperson McDowell called the meeting to order.

**A. Approval of the Finance Committee Meeting Minutes from December 2, 2025**

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson Burton to approve the Finance Committee Meeting minutes from December 2, 2025. All voted yes; the motion carried.

**B. An Ordinance making a Tax Levy for the City of Granite City, Madison County, Illinois for the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 beginning May 1, 2025, and ending April 30, 2026**

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson Burton to approve an Ordinance making a Tax Levy for the City of Granite City, Madison County, Illinois for the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 beginning May 1, 2025, and ending April 30, 2026. All voted yes, the motion carried. All voted yes; the motion carried.

**C. Letter from Fire Pension Board President**

Alderperson McDowell deferred to Finance Director Jessie Curran.

Director Curran stated the Fire Pension Board President has revised the previously entered request for FY2025-2026 Fire pension funding in light of the corrected projections from pension actuaries, Lauterbach and Amen.

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson Pierson to accept and place on file the letter from the Fire pension Board President. All voted yes; the motion carried.

**D. Revisit MCCD loan Forgiveness**

Alderperson McDowell deferred to Mayor Parkinson.

Mayor Parkinson advised that Madison County Community Development has requested the City forgive the list of outstanding loans. He advised that new loans are forgiven after 5 years. He stated there is not a substantial amount of collectible debt and the City cannot collect it until the home is sold. He noted the loans date back as far as 1998 and some homeowners may have passed away or homes may have sold.

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson LeMaster to approve the request by Madison County Community Development for loan forgiveness for the list provided in the packet. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson LeMaster to adjourn the meeting. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk

**Public Works-December 16, 2025**

Sign-In: Bob Pickerell (Chairperson), Kim Pierson, Jerry Harrington, City Clerk Jenna DeYong, Mayor Parkinson, Attorney Tonya Genovese, Keith Burton, Dan McDowell, Mary Davis, Jason Smith and Randy LeMaster were present.

Greg Garcia and Jim Hawkins were absent.

Aldersperson Pickerell called the meeting to order.

**A. Approval of the Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes from December 2, 2025**

Motion by Aldersperson Pickerell, seconded by Aldersperson Smith to approve the Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes from December 2, 2025. All voted yes; the motion carried.

**B. Request to extend a handicapped parking space at 2926 E24th Street**

Motion by Aldersperson Pickerell, seconded by Aldersperson Smith to extend a handicapped parking space at 2926 E24th Street. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Motion by Aldersperson Pickerell, seconded by Aldersperson Smith to adjourn the meeting. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk

## Economic Development-December 2, 2025

Sign-In: Keith Burton (Chairperson), Kim Pierson, Greg Garcia, Jerry Harrington, Jim Hawkins, Bob Pickerell, City Clerk Jenna DeYong, Mayor Parkinson, Attorney Tonya Genovese, Dan McDowell, Mary Davis, Jason Smith and Randy LeMaster were present.

Alderperson Burton called the meeting to order.

### A. Approval of the Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes from November 18, 2025

Motion by Alderperson Burton, seconded by Alderperson McDowell to approve the Economic Development Committee Meeting minutes from November 18, 2025. All voted yes; the motion carried.

### B. Discussion: Data Centers

Alderperson Hawkins recused himself from any discussions regarding Data Centers.

Alderperson Burton opened the floor for a discussion on Data Centers with the goal of making sure everyone is given the information and articles for and against Data Centers.

Alderperson Smith suggested that 20 minutes is not long enough for discussions and possibly have a special Committee Meeting.

Mayor Parkinson stated there is no rush, there is homework to be done before anything comes before the Council. He added they have met with other cities and are planning on visiting data centers. Mayor Parkinson encouraged the Council to research and find the pros and cons. He stated he is trying to bring new businesses to the city, adding he would keep the Council up to date on his research. Mayor Parkinson stated it would be an important decision for the city, coming down to whether it is good for the city and taxpayers.

Economic Development Director Cathy Hamilton advised that the Planning Commission would vet any zoning changes, hold the Public Hearing and provide recommendations to the City Council. She advised of potential changes to the Zoning Code to regulate Data Centers, adding the city wants to convey to residents they are thinking about where they will go, making sure they are isolated from residential areas. She advised the current site that is being considered would need zoning changes as it is not a planned industrial development. The city would consider putting them in M3 and M5 districts.

She stated the city of Troy's model was put in the packet as an example, adding that it is approved by the state.

Hamilton advised that Part 1 would go through the Planning Commission and City Council, which would allow the opportunity for data centers. In Part 2, the Planning Commission would hold discussions and citizen engagement, where a Public Notice would go to people within 300 feet of the site. The Planning Commission would provide the City Council with their recommendation for a final decision.

Hamilton advised that there is a county-wide approach to Data Centers and the Mayor is working with two other cities regarding consistency in development. She stated there would be community engagement, research on finding best practices that represent the residents, Legislative Agenda, redevelopment agreements and structuring incentives (TIF or Enterprise Zone).

Hamilton advised on known community concerns: transparency, utility rate increases for residents, utility capacity, noise pollution/light pollution, property tax benefits to taxpayers, water consumption,

nuclear power/coal, the Data Center paying its own costs for utility upgrades and if there are real job benefits for the community.

Aldersperson LeMaster stated in his research he found that problems arise once the center is built with who occupies it and transparency.

The Mayor stated the city would do their due diligence in what we need to make it a good deal for everybody, adding that it has been a big part of talks with the other three. Looking at the mistakes of other places to ensure we do not make them.

Aldersperson Burton stated that in the end, we need to compare the pros and cons and decide what's best for the city.

Aldersperson Smith questioned if tax breaks are fueling the surge. Hamilton stated yes.

Motion by Aldersperson Burton, seconded by Aldersperson LeMaster to adjourn the meeting. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk

## The District: November 4, 2025

Sign-In: Dan McDowell, Kim Pierson, Greg Garcia, Jerry Harrington, Bob Pickerell, City Clerk Jenna DeYong, Mayor Parkinson, Attorney Tonya Genovese, Keith Burton, Jason Smith and Randy LeMaster were present. Mary Davis and Jim Hawkins were absent.

Alderspersion McDowell called the meeting to order in the absence of Chairperson Davis.

### A. Approval of The District Committee Meeting Minutes from October 7, 2025

Motion by Alderspersion McDowell, seconded by Alderspersion Burton to approve The District Committee Meeting Minutes from October 7, 2025. All voted yes; the motion carried.

### B. Update on Projects in "The District"

Alderspersion McDowell deferred to Arts & Entertainment Director Brenda Whitaker.

Director Whitaker updated the Council on the following:

#### 1. Art & Entertainment Walk of Fame:

The inaugural Walk of Fame will honor Granite City natives with national impact in Arts & Entertainment. The first honoree will be Bonnie Bramlett with a planned induction date of May 15, 2026, the second being Gib Singleton to be unveiled at the opening ceremony of gallery space. Arnett Pattern will fabricate the Medallions or Markers used to commemorate inductees. The City is currently working with a sign company to create signage with a QR code leading to more in-depth information about the inductees.

#### 2. Route 66 Centennial Celebration:

The regional celebration in 2026 will be partnered with Great Rivers and Routes. The city is developing a sanctioned BBQ competition through The St Louis BBQ Society and exploring sponsorship and community partnerships to support the event.

#### 3. Fire House Museum Restoration:

The brickwork of the historic Firehouse Museum has been completed with roof repairs scheduled for completion this week. The project has stayed on budget.

#### 4. Downtown District Signage:

Working with Ace Sign Company for fabrication and installation of the Downtown District Entrance Sign.

#### 5. Holiday Decorations:

Holiday decor for Civic Park, Krumery Building and City Hall Rotunda are staged and ready for installation once electrical work in Civic Park and Courtroom repairs are complete.

#### 6. Santa Experience:

The cinema's holiday decorating will begin with the annual "Deck the Halls" tree decorating competition and photos with Santa (Photos will begin immediately following the Candy Cane Parade with a schedule being posted on The District Page).

The Mistletoe Market will be held at the Township Hall (information posted on The District page).

#### 7. Upcoming Grants:

The Enjoy Illinois Route 66 grants through Great Rivers & Routes are expected to be announced mid-December. If awarded, projects will begin immediately to meet the June 2026 competition deadline.

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson Burton to adjourn the meeting. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk

## **TOWNSHIP MEETING-December 16, 2025**

Mayor Parkinson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.  
Invocation was led by Pastor Mark Maynard.

### **1. Pledge of Allegiance**

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **2. Roll Call**

ROLL CALL: Mayor Parkinson, Alderperson McDowell, Alderperson Pickerell, Alderperson Davis, Alderperson Smith, Alderperson Harrington, Alderperson LeMaster, Alderperson Pierson, Alderperson Burton and City Clerk Jenna DeYong were present.

Alderperson Hawkins and Alderperson Garcia were absent.

### **3. Township Board Minutes - Approval of the Township Board Meeting Minutes from December 2, 2025**

Motion by Alderperson Pierson, seconded by Alderperson Harrington to approve the Township Board Meeting Minutes from December 2, 2025. All voted yes; the motion carried.

### **4. Presentation of Communications**

None

### **5. Finance Committee: Jim Hawkins, Chairperson**

#### **A. Bill List - Town Fund**

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson Smith to approve the bills payable from the Town Fund in the amount of \$91,653.63.

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor Parkinson, Alderperson McDowell, Alderperson Pickerell, Alderperson Davis, Alderperson Smith, Alderperson Harrington, Alderperson LeMaster, Alderperson Pierson and Alderperson Burton. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Alderperson Hawkins and Alderperson Garcia were absent.

#### **B. Bill List - General Assistance Fund**

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson Smith to approve the bills payable from the General Assistance Fund in the amount of \$28,386.25.

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor Parkinson, Alderperson McDowell, Alderperson Pickerell, Alderperson Davis, Alderperson Smith, Alderperson Harrington, Alderperson LeMaster, Alderperson Pierson and Alderperson Burton. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Alderperson Hawkins and Alderperson Garcia were absent.

### **6. Unfinished Business**

None

### **7. New Business**

None

### **8. Adjournment**

Motion by Alderperson Smith, seconded by Alderperson LeMaster to adjourn the meeting. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:02p.m.

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk

## **CITY COUNCIL MEETING-December 16, 2025**

Mayor Parkinson called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

### **1. Roll Call**

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor Parkinson, Alderperson McDowell, Alderperson Pickerell, Alderperson Davis, Alderperson Smith, Alderperson Harrington, Alderperson LeMaster, Alderperson Pierson, Alderperson Burton and City Clerk Jenna DeYong were present.

Alderperson Hawkins and Alderperson Garcia were absent.

### **2. City Council Minutes - Approval of the City Council Meeting Minutes from December 2, 2025**

Motion by Alderperson Smith, seconded by Alderperson Pierson to approve the City Council Meeting Minutes from December 2, 2025. All voted yes; the motion carried.

### **3. Presentation of Communications**

#### **A. Request for road closure: St Elizabeth-Royal Run 5k, Saturday, November 14, 2026**

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson Harrington to approve the request from St. Elizabeth for the Royal Run 5k on Saturday, November 14, 2026. All voted yes; the motion carried.

### **4. Public Correspondence**

None

### **5. Mayor's Remarks**

Mayor Parkinson advised the Council of the resignation of Ward 2 Alderperson Mary Davis effective January 1, 2026.

Mayor Parkinson honored Granite City resident Pat Niehaus on her 100th birthday.

### **6. Report of Standing Committees:**

#### **A. Negotiations Committee: Greg Garcia, Chairperson**

No report

#### **B. The District Committee: Mary Davis, Chairperson**

Alderperson Davis advised of the new sign at the entrance to "The District" and encouraged everyone to keep checking the website for upcoming activities at The Mill Event Center.

#### **C. Planning & Zoning Committee: Dan McDowell, Chairperson**

##### **i. Request for lien abatement 1728 Grand Ave**

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson Smith, to approve the request for lien abatement of 1728 Grand Ave contingent on completion of the contract as discussed in Committee. All voted yes; the motion carried.

#### **D. Legal & Legislative Committee: Jason Smith, Chairperson**

##### **i. 2026 City Council Meeting Dates**

Motion by Alderperson Smith, seconded by Alderperson Pierson to approve and place on file the 2026 City Council Meeting Dates. All voted yes; the motion carried.

#### **E. Public Works Committee: Bob Pickerell, Chairperson**

##### **i. An Ordinance designating a handicapped parking space for four years at 2647 Iowa Street within the City of Granite City, Illinois**

Motion by Alderperson Pickerell, seconded by Alderperson Pierson to invoke the omnibus rule for items i through iv. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Motion by Alderperson Pickerell, seconded by Alderperson Harrington to approve an Ordinance designating a handicapped parking space for four years at 2647 Iowa, 1707 Edison Ave, 2135 Bryant Ave and 2525 Sheridan Ave.

**ROLL CALL:** Alderperson McDowell, Alderperson Pickerell, Alderperson Davis, Alderperson Smith, Alderperson Harrington, Alderperson LeMaster, Alderperson Pierson and Alderperson Burton. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Alderperson Hawkins and Alderperson Garcia were absent.

**FINAL PASSAGE:** Alderperson McDowell, Alderperson Pickerell, Alderperson Davis, Alderperson Smith, Alderperson Harrington, Alderperson LeMaster, Alderperson Pierson and Alderperson Burton. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Alderperson Hawkins and Alderperson Garcia were absent.

**ii. An Ordinance designating a handicapped parking space for an additional four years at 1707 Edison Ave within the City of Granite City, Illinois**

**iii. An Ordinance designating a handicapped parking space for an additional four years at 2135 Bryant Ave within the City of Granite City, Illinois**

**iv. An Ordinance designating a handicapped parking space for an additional four years at 2525 Sheridan Ave within the City of Granite City, Illinois**

**F. Police Committee: Jerry Harrington, Chairperson**

**i. November 2025 Chief STATS**

Motion by Alderperson Harrington, seconded by Alderperson Davis to approve and place on file the November 2025 Chief STATS. All voted yes; the motion carried.

**G. Fire Committee: Randy LeMaster, Chairperson**

**i. EMS Run Report**

Motion by Alderperson LeMaster, seconded by Alderperson Pierson to approve and place on file the EMS Run Report. All voted yes; the motion carried.

**H. Risk Management Committee: Kim Pierson, Chairperson**

No report

**I. Economic Development Committee: Keith Burton, Chairperson**

No report

**J. Finance Committee: Jim Hawkins, Chairperson**

**i. An Ordinance making a Tax Levy for the City of Granite City, Madison County, Illinois for the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 beginning May 1, 2025, and ending April 30, 2026**

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson Smith to approve an Ordinance making a Tax Levy for the City of Granite City, Madison County, Illinois for the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 beginning May 1, 2025, and ending April 30, 2026.

**ROLL CALL:** Alderperson McDowell, Alderperson Pickerell, Alderperson Davis, Alderperson Smith, Alderperson Harrington, Alderperson LeMaster, Alderperson Pierson and Alderperson Burton. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Alderperson Hawkins and Alderperson Garcia were absent.

**FINAL PASSAGE:** Alderperson McDowell, Alderperson Pickerell, Alderperson Davis, Alderperson Smith, Alderperson Harrington, Alderperson LeMaster, Alderperson Pierson and Alderperson Burton. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Alderperson Hawkins and Alderperson Garcia were absent.

**ii. Fire Pension Board Request**

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson Davis to accept and place on file the Fire Pension Board letter. All voted yes; the motion carried.

**iii. MCCD Loan Forgiveness**

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson LeMaster to approve loan forgiveness requested by MCCD.

**ROLL CALL:** Alderperson McDowell, Alderperson Pickerell, Alderperson Davis, Alderperson Smith, Alderperson Harrington, Alderperson LeMaster, Alderperson Pierson and Alderperson Burton. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Alderperson Hawkins and Alderperson Garcia were absent.

**iv. Payroll**

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson Smith to approve payroll from the period of 12/01/2025-12/15/2025 in the amount of \$809,602.55.

**ROLL CALL:** Alderperson McDowell, Alderperson Pickerell, Alderperson Davis, Alderperson Smith, Alderperson Harrington, Alderperson LeMaster, Alderperson Pierson and Alderperson Burton. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Alderperson Hawkins and Alderperson Garcia were absent.

**v. Bill List**

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson Pierson to approve the Bill List in the amount of \$787,192.65.

**ROLL CALL:** Alderperson McDowell, Alderperson Pickerell, Alderperson Davis, Alderperson Smith, Alderperson Harrington, Alderperson LeMaster, Alderperson Pierson and Alderperson Burton. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Alderperson Hawkins and Alderperson Garcia were absent.

**vi. Finance Report**

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson Smith to approve and place on file the Finance Report. All voted yes; the motion carried.

**vii. Supplemental Bill List**

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson Davis to approve the supplemental bill list in the amount of \$17,789.62.

**ROLL CALL:** Alderperson McDowell, Alderperson Pickerell, Alderperson Davis, Alderperson Smith, Alderperson Harrington, Alderperson LeMaster, Alderperson Pierson and Alderperson Burton. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Alderperson Hawkins and Alderperson Garcia were absent.

**7. Report of Officers**

**A. Director of Art and Tourism Project Update**

Director Whitaker advised that the brick repair and roofing project for the Fire House Museum was completed with grant funds on budget.

The District sign on Niedringhaus Ave has been installed, and Ace Sign Company is waiting on a part to complete the project. The brick work around the sign will be completed, and the project came in under budget.

She stated results for the last round of Route 66 grants had not been released yet.

**8. Unfinished Business**

None

**9. New Business**

Mayor Parkinson advised that, with the uncertainty of the Steel Mill, he is exploring new business opportunities for the city. He advised that he had visited a Data Center in Nebraska and encouraged the Council and residents to have an open mind and research for themselves the pros and cons of Data Centers.

**10. Adjournment**

Motion by Alderperson Davis, seconded by Alderperson McDowell to adjourn the meeting. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk