

**CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 17, 2025**

COMMITTEE MEETING

1. Finance: 6:00-6:10

Sign-In: Jim Hawkins (Chairperson), Kim Pierson, Greg Garcia, Jerry Harrington, Bob Pickerell, Michelle Hillman, Deputy Clerk, Mayor Parkinson, Attorney Tonya Genovese, Brad Eavenson, Dan McDowell, Jason Smith and Randy LeMaster were present.

Mary Davis and City Clerk Jenna DeYong were absent.

Aldersperson Hawkins called the meeting to order.

Motion by Aldersperson Hawkins, seconded by Aldersperson Pierson to award the 2024 MCCD Kate St Resurfacing Project Bid to Rooter's Asphalt in the amount of \$212,952.95. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Aldersperson Hawkins said he had received complaints by residents that Cargill Road needs lighting. He spoke with Chad Juneau, who was quoted a bid of \$24,000 to extend lights from Grigsby to the railroad tracks on Cargill while the Safe Schools project is being done. Hawkins suggested all Alderspersons consider where more lighting is needed in their Wards while doing the list of Streets to be repaired.

Aldersperson LeMaster stated he had received complaints from residents living in Cardinal Crossing that lighting is needed at the entrance and roadways back in the subdivision.

Aldersperson Eavenson concurred that lighting is needed in that area and added that going forward it should be a requirement of the developer.

Aldersperson McDowell questioned the cost to the city in the future.

City Engineer Joe Juneau indicated if Ameren is notified, they will conduct an investigation. He stated that in a lot of cases there is an existing pole, adding that if they can get the electric within 75 feet of the run, the lighting component is free with pole installation. In the case of Cargill Road, there is no transformer in the area to support the lighting.

Aldersperson Pierson asked that current lights that are out be addressed. Public Works Director Rick Daily stated if reported to him, he could get them fixed.

Aldersperson Hawkins stated a proposal would be brought to the July 1, 2025, Committee Meeting to evaluate.

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

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk/mdh

2. Economic Development: 6:10-6:20

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

Aldersperson Eavenson called the meeting to order.

Motion by Aldersperson Harrington, seconded by Aldersperson LeMaster to approve a lease agreement for 1416 20th St. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Aldersperson Eavenson announced that Terri's Route 66 Diner would be the new tenant.

Aldersperson Eavenson deferred to Economic development Director Cathy Hamilton.

Director Hamilton advised that the recent rulings of the Illinois Commerce Commission have put an undue hardship and operational burden upon a specific segment of industries in the small business community in the city. She stated there are currently legislative efforts being made throughout the State to pursue ICC corrective measures to modify the criteria and create an industrial user platform.

Hamilton advised of a temporary program to assist the specific segment of the business community that is deemed essential in accordance with COVID-19 standards and serves a vital purpose in providing needed services to the underserved population.

She stated the city would provide one-time temporary relief in the form of a \$10,000 grant that will provide \$5,000 for the previous 12 months and \$5,000 for the next 12 month period while legislative relief is in process.

Mayor Parkinson stated the city is looking to help essential small businesses with the largest consumption of water while an industrial rate is being lobbied.

Aldersperson Hawkins questioned who would approve the grant applications. The Mayor stated he is asking the Council's approval to allow the city to award the grants.

Aldersperson Eavenson asked if Paddlers would qualify for the grant program. Mayor Parkinson stated Paddlers had been given relief through Illinois American Water last year, and he presumed that would continue.

Motion by Aldersperson McDowell, seconded by Aldersperson Harrington to approve a temporary relief grant for essential small businesses within the city. All voted yes; the motion carried.

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

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk/mdh

3. Police: 6:20-6:30

Sign-In: Jerry Harrington (Chairperson), Kim Pierson, Greg Garcia, Jim Hawkins, Bob Pickerell, Deputy Clerk Michelle Hillman, Mayor Parkinson, Attorney Tonya Genovese, Brad Eavenson, Dan McDowell, Jason Smith and Randy LeMaster were present.

Mary Davis and City Clerk Jenna DeYong were absent.

Aldersperson Harrington called the meeting to order.

Aldersperson Harrington deferred to Chief Brooks.

Chief Brooks and Lieutenant Roberts presented a quote for the purchase and annual subscription of a Drone from Paladin Drones, Inc. Chief Brooks indicated the purchase would be paid for using Drug Funds. The cost of the Drone is \$17,000 and \$49,000 for the subscription.

Lieutenant Roberts explained that the Drug Fund is funded by a percentage of money seized, the sale of assets that are seized and a percentage of the Granite City officers that work with DEA seizures.

Chief Brooks added that the price includes insurance coverage.

Aldersperson Hawkins stated that the initial purchase would be covered by the Drug Fund. It was his suggestion that the annual fee be budgeted as an operational cost for future years. He added the drone is not just a tool for crime-related incidents, it would be used as a tool for first response in emergency situations as well.

Motion by Aldersperson Harrington, seconded by Aldersperson Smith to approve the purchase. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Mayor Parkinson stated the Ordinance amending Title 2 Administration and Personnel Chapter 2.4 Residency for Fire and Police Department Members of the City of Granite City Municipal Code of Ordinances was merely housekeeping to update the Ordinance to reflect contracts. He added that although he believed in the residency of employees, times have changed and courts are ruling against the mandate.

Aldersperson McDowell stated that, although he is opposed to lifting residency requirements, he understands the need to do so.

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

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk/mdh

4. The District: 6:30-6:50

Sign-In: Kim Pierson, Greg Garcia, Jerry Harrington, Jim Hawkins, Bob Pickerell, Deputy Clerk Michelle Hillman, Mayor Parkinson, Attorney Tonya Genovese, Brad Eavenson, Dan McDowell, Jason Smith and Randy LeMaster were present.

Mary Davis and City Clerk Jenna DeYong were absent.

In the absence of Alderperson Davis, Alderperson Eavenson called the meeting to order.

Alderperson Eavenson deferred to Ray Warren, General Manager of The Mill Event Center.

Warren advised that Phil Callis approached him about scheduling an event that would take place on August 23, 2025. He stated he offered The Mill. Mr. Callis decided he wanted to have a bigger event called the Granite City Jam. The event would be staged in the street, closing parts of Niedrinhaus down. Callis has contracted with 4 bands: Chained Lightning, Richrsth Project, Derek St. Holmes and Molly Hatchett. The event would include food and drink vendors and games for children set up along the street. The event will run from 12:00 p.m.- 10:30 p.m. Mr. Callis has verbally agreed to pay the cost of the bands, utilities/stage and games/prizes. The City would be responsible for the cost of EMS, Police and Street Department employees as well as Portable Restrooms, estimating the cost to be roughly \$7,000-8,000.

Mayor Parkinson stated he had a meeting with Republic Trash Services and there is the possibility of them sponsoring the event, covering the cost of the Portable Restrooms.

Alderperson Hawkins questioned if tickets would be sold for the event. Warren stated the vision is a free event.

Alderperson Eavenson questioned if the \$6,000 for the Street Department covered employees to be present all day; Warren indicated it did.

Alderperson LeMaster questioned if sponsors would be sought out to help the city recoup funds. Warren indicated he would work on getting sponsors for the event.

Alderperson McDowell is opposed to the event, citing concerns about the free event being too large for the space provided, the closing of Niedringhaus hurting local businesses, parking and the cost to the city.

Alderperson Smith indicated he has wanted an event in the city for some time but is worried there is not enough time to properly plan for this event to be held in August.

Alderperson Hawkins stated it would highlight the downtown area, and should be looked at as an investment showcasing "The District".

Alderperson Eavenson stated he was not happy that he first heard of the event on Facebook, adding that parking is a concern of his as well.

Mayor Parkinson stated he feels there is still ample time to plan the event, adding he did not feel it would be as large as Alderman McDowell feared, noting it takes years to build a following.

Mayor Parkinson stated he understood the concerns and instructed Warren to come back to the Council in two weeks with possible sponsors, logistics and contracts. He stated the verbal agreements must be made in writing with the help of the city attorney.

Alderperson Harrington questioned if Mr. Callis would be responsible for obtaining additional insurance for the event. Mayor Parkinson stated it would be a city event with Callis as a promoter, and insurance would fall on the city.

Alderson Eavenson directed additional questions and concerns be emailed to Alderson Davis and Mr. Warren.

Alderson Hawkins stated that concerns about the size of the event, parking and security have not been brought up to discourage Mardi Gras.

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

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk/mdh

TOWNSHIP MEETING

Mayor Parkinson called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
Invocation was led by Dan McDowell.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

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

3. Township Board Minutes - Approval of the Township Board Meeting minutes from June 3, 2025

Motion by Alderperson Harrington, seconded by Alderperson Garcia to approve the Township Board Meeting minutes from June 3, 2025. All voted yes; the motion carried.

4. Presentation of Communications

None

5. Finance Committee: Jim Hawkins, Chairperson

A. Bill List - June 17, 2025

Motion by Alderperson Hawkins, seconded by Alderperson Harrington to approve the bills payable from the Town Fund in the amount of \$46,916.22.

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

Motion by alderperson Hawkins, seconded by Alderperson LeMaster to approve the bills payable from the General Assistance Fund in the amount of \$16,416.13

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

6. Unfinished Business

None

7. New Business

None

8. Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk/mdh

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Parkinson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

1. Roll Call

ROLL CALL: Mayor Parkinson, Alderperson McDowell, Alderperson Pickerell, Alderperson Eavenson, Alderperson Smith, Alderperson Harrington, Alderperson LeMaster, Alderperson Hawkins, Alderperson Pierson and Alderperson Garcia were present.

Alderperson Davis and City Clerk Jenna DeYong were absent.

2. City Council Minutes - Approval of the City Council Meeting minutes from June 3, 2025

Motion by Alderperson Harrington, seconded by Alderperson Smith to approve the City Council Meeting minutes from June 3, 2025. All voted yes; the motion carried.

3. Presentation of Communications

A. Residents of the 2200 block of Cleveland Blvd request road closure on Saturday, June 28, 2025.

Motion by Alderperson Harrington, seconded by Alderperson Garcia to approve the request for a road closure on June 28, 2025. All voted yes; the motion carried.

B. Granite City School District Cross Country Invitational - September 6, 2025

Motion by Alderperson Smith, seconded by Alderperson LeMaster to approve the request for the Granite City School District Cross Country Invitational on September 6, 2025. All voted yes; the motion carried.

4. Public Correspondence

None

5. Mayor's Remarks

Mayor Parkinson read a letter of resignation from Assistant City Attorney Derek Filcoff.

Mayor Parkinson deferred to Brenda Whitaker.

Whitaker updated the Council on the Roadside attractions, stating they should all be in place by Friday. She advised the Council about the upcoming Sock Hop and Car Show on Saturday, June 21, 2025 (financed through Great Rivers & Routes) and the sponsorship of six more sculptures by the Port Authority.

Mayor Parkinson awarded City Employee, Chase Knight with a Commendation for his actions on March 7, 2025, where his quick actions saved a life.

Mayor Parkinson presented Sue Nonn, Director of Granite City Animal Control, employees Chris White and Sam Prazma with an award from "Best Friends Save Them All", acknowledging their achievement in operating a 90% no-kill facility.

6. Report of Standing Committees:

A. Negotiations Committee: Greg Garcia, Chairperson

No Report

B. The District Committee: Mary Davis, Chairperson

No Report

C. Planning & Zoning Committee: Dan McDowell, Chairperson

i. Approval of the Graphic Review Board minutes from June 5, 2025

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson Smith to approve the minutes from the Graphic Review Board Meeting on June 5, 2025. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson Eavenson to concur with the Graphic Review Board for a petition requesting a variance to replace an existing 4.6 x 8ft illuminated section of an existing monument sign with a non-conforming 3 x 8ft multicolor LED raceway. All voted yes; the motion carried.

D. Legal & Legislative Committee: Jason Smith, Chairperson

No Report

E. Public Works Committee: Bob Pickerell, Chairperson

i. Approval of the Public Works Committee Meeting minutes from June 3, 2025

Motion by Alderperson Pickerell, seconded by Alderperson Harrington to approve the Public Works Committee Meeting minutes from June 3, 2025. All voted yes; the motion carried.

ii. An Ordinance designating a handicapped parking space for four years at 2672 Edwards Street within the City of Granite City, Illinois

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

Motion by Alderperson Pickerell, seconded by Alderperson Hawkins to approve Ordinances establishing handicapped parking spaces for four years at 2672 Edwards, 2913 Buxton and 2648 E. 28th St.

ROLL CALL: Alderperson McDowell, Alderperson Pickerell, Alderperson Eavenson, Alderperson Smith, Alderperson Harrington, Alderperson LeMaster, Alderperson Hawkins, Alderperson Pierson and Alderperson Garcia. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Alderperson Davis was absent.

FINAL PASSAGE: Alderperson McDowell, Alderperson Pickerell, Alderperson Eavenson, Alderperson Smith, Alderperson Harrington, Alderperson LeMaster, Alderperson Hawkins, Alderperson Pierson and Alderperson Garcia. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Alderperson Davis was absent.

iii. An Ordinance designating a handicapped parking space for four years at 2913 Buxton Avenue within the city of Granite City, Illinois

iv. An Ordinance designating a handicapped parking space for four years at 2648 E 28th Street within the City of Granite City, Illinois

F. Police Committee: Jerry Harrington, Chairperson

i. May 2025 Chief STATS

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

G. Fire Committee: Randy LeMaster, Chairperson

No Report

H. Risk Management Committee: Kim Pierson, Chairperson

No Report

I. Economic Development Committee: Brad Eavenson, Chairperson

i. Approval of the Economic Development Committee Meeting minutes from June 3, 2025

Motion by Alderperson Eavenson, seconded by Alderperson McDowell to approve the Economic Development Committee Meeting minutes from June 3, 2025. All voted yes; the motion carried.

ii. Approval of Lease Agreement 1416 20th St

Motion by Alderperson Eavenson, seconded by Alderperson McDowell to approve the Lease Agreement for 1416 20th Street.

ROLL CALL: Alderperson McDowell, Alderperson Pickerell, Alderperson Eavenson, Alderperson Smith, Alderperson Harrington, Alderperson LeMaster, Alderperson Hawkins, Alderperson Pierson and Alderperson Garcia. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Alderperson Davis was absent.

iii. A Resolution for temporary relief for specific small businesses

Motion by Alderperson Eavenson, seconded by Alderperson Smith to approve an Ordinance approving temporary relief to local businesses effected by Illinois Commerce Commission Classification.

ROLL CALL: Alderperson McDowell, Alderperson Pickerell, Alderperson Eavenson, Alderperson Smith, Alderperson Harrington, Alderperson LeMaster, Alderperson Hawkins, Alderperson Pierson and Alderperson Garcia. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Alderperson Davis was absent.

FINAL PASSAGE: Alderperson McDowell, Alderperson Pickerell, Alderperson Eavenson, Alderperson Smith, Alderperson Harrington, Alderperson LeMaster, Alderperson Hawkins, Alderperson Pierson and Alderperson Garcia. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Alderperson Davos was absent.

J. Finance Committee: Jim Hawkins, Chairperson

i. Award 2024 MCCD Kate St Resurfacing Project Bid

Motion by Alderperson Hawkins, seconded by Alderperson Harrington to award the 2024 MCCD Kate St Resurfacing Project bid to Rooter's Asphalt in the amount of \$212,952.95.

ROLL CALL: Alderperson McDowell, Alderperson Pickerell, Alderperson Eavenson, Alderperson Smith, Alderperson Harrington, Alderperson LeMaster, Alderperson Hawkins, Alderperson Pierson and Alderperson Garcia. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Alderperson Davis was absent.

ii. May 2025 Finance Report

Motion by Alderperson Hawkins, seconded by Alderperson LeMaster to approve and place on file the May 2025 Finance Report. All voted yes; the motion carried.

iii. Payroll

Motion by Alderperson Hawkins, seconded by Alderperson Harrington to approve payroll for the period of 6/1/25-6/15/25 in the amount of \$769,052.90.

ROLL CALL: Alderperson McDowell, Alderperson Pickerell, Alderperson Eavenson, Alderperson Smith, Alderperson Harrington, Alderperson LeMaster, Alderperson Hawkins, Alderperson Pierson and Alderperson Garcia. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Alderperson Davis was absent.

iv. Bill List

Motion by Alderperson Hawkins, seconded by Alderperson Pierson to approve the bills payable from June 1-15, 2025 in the amount of \$505,832.24.

ROLL CALL: Alderperson McDowell, Alderperson Pickerell, Alderperson Eavenson, Alderperson Smith, Alderperson Harrington, Alderperson LeMaster, Alderperson Hawkins, Alderperson Pierson and Alderperson Garcia. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Alderperson Davis was absent.

7. Report of Officers

None

8. Unfinished Business

None

9. New Business

None

10. Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk/mdh