

**CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
MAY 20, 2025**

COMMITTEE MEETING

1. Economic Development: 4:45-5:30

Sign-In: Brad Eavenson (Chairperson), Kim Pierson, Greg Garcia, Jerry Harrington, Jim Hawkins, City Clerk Jenna DeYong, Mayor Parkinson, Attorney Brian Konzen, Dan McDowell, Mary Davis, Jason Smith and Randy LeMaster were present.

Aldersperson Eavenson called the meeting to order.

Aldersperson Eavenson deferred to Economic Development Director Cathy Hamilton.

Director Hamilton advised that items A-D were lease renewals that would be done yearly, adding that the rent had not been increased. She stated that H&R Block had renewed their lease as well.

Motion by Aldersperson Eavenson, seconded by Aldersperson Davis to approve a Resolution to extend the lease of 1204 Niedringhaus property to Shelly Kamadulski. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Motion by Aldersperson Eavenson, seconded by Aldersperson Harrington to approve a Resolution to extend the lease of 1206 Niedringhaus to J.B. Wallace. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Motion by Aldersperson Eavenson, seconded by Aldersperson McDowell to approve a Resolution to extend a lease agreement for 1316 Niedringhaus Ave to James Gilmore. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Motion by Aldersperson Eavenson, seconded by Aldersperson Harrington to approve a Resolution to extend the lease of the 1414 20th Street property to Nicole Harris. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Director Hamilton stated the Resolution for Redevelopment Expense in the Rt 3 Corridor Redevelopment Project Area (Penny Lane LLC) was regarding an expansion project for Weber, where the city encourages the study and planning for possible redevelopment.

Motion by Aldersperson Eavenson, seconded by Aldersperson LeMaster to approve a Resolution for Redevelopment Expense in Rt3 Corridor Redevelopment Project Area (Penny Lane LLC). All voted yes; the motion carried.

Motion by Aldersperson Eavenson, seconded by Aldersperson Harrington to go into Closed Session to discuss real estate and property negotiations. All voted yes; the motion carried.

BEGIN CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Aldersperson Eavenson, seconded by Aldersperson Harrington to come out of closed session. All voted yes; the motion carried.

END OF CLOSED SESSION

Director Hamilton advised there would be a formalized infill housing program at the end of June. She indicated the city had been moving forward with creating partnerships and conducting appraisals, as well as lien removals on city-bought properties.

Mayor Parkinson stated he had spoken with the Governor seeking grants and using the city as a pilot program.

Hamilton stated the \$300,000.00 grant for revitalizing downtown would focus on the Callis building, the Ralph building, the Krummery building and Lascelles.

Hamilton advised that on June 18, 2025, realtors would be invited to The Mill for a business after hours.

Hamilton stated she and the Mayor had met with the other taxing bodies to enter into intergovernmental agreements in hopes of building a Communication Plan that would include a channel for residents.

Aldersperson Hawkins stated he would like the Communication Plan fast tracked, adding it is not something that needs to make the city a profit, it is the cost of doing business and could possibly cut down on the number of FOIA's.

Aldersperson McDowell stated he agreed that unifying all the taxing bodies to create a channel where all could reach the residents instead of taking out an ad in the paper would be useful.

Director Hamilton thanked the Council for their support, noting she would let the other taxing bodies know the Council wants to immediately move forward with the plan.

Aldersperson Eavenson asked the Mayor to speak about The Mill.

Mayor Parkinson stated that The Mill is an entertainment place and civic center, much like the Township Hall, adding that the city is in an emergency after the storm. The Mill can be used to house groups brought in to help the residents clean up the disasters on their property.

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

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk

2. Public Works: 5:30-5:35

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

Aldersperson Pickerell called the meeting to order.

Motion by Aldersperson Pickerell, seconded by Aldersperson Smith to approve a handicap parking space at 2140 Cleveland Blvd. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Motion by Alderperson Pickerell, seconded by Alderperson Smith to approve a handicap parking space at 2532 Edison Ave. All voted yes; the motion carried.

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

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk

3. Legal & Legislative: 5:35-5:50

Sign-In: Jason Smith (Chairperson), Kim Pierson, Greg Garcia, Jerry Harrington, Jim Hawkins, City Clerk Jenna DeYong, Mayor Parkinson, Attorney Brian Konzen, Brad Eavenson, Dan McDowell, Mary Davis and Randy LeMaster were present.

Alderperson Smith called the meeting to order.

Alderperson Smith deferred to City Clerk Jenna DeYong.

Clerk DeYong stated the Ordinance would replace the City Attorney with a Legal Department.

Motion by Alderperson Smith, seconded by Alderperson LeMaster to approve an Ordinance amending Title 2 Administration and Personnel Chapter 2.14 City Attorney of the City of Granite City Municipal Code of Ordinances. All voted yes; the motion carried.

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

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk

4. Finance: 5:50-6:10

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

Alderperson Hawkins called the meeting to order.

Motion by Alderperson Hawkins, seconded by Alderperson LeMaster to approve a Resolution to hire special counsel to assist the City in negotiations and contracting for electric power supply for municipal buildings. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Motion by Alderperson Hawkins, seconded by Alderperson McDowell to approve a Resolution to retain Brubaker & associates to assist the City in obtaining bids and proposals for electric power supply for City facilities. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Mayor Parkinson stated Brubaker & Associates works with Attorney Eric Roberson.

Motion by Alderperson Hawkins, seconded by Alderperson Eavenson to approve a Resolution authorizing execution of an electric supply contract for certain city-owned buildings. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Alderperson McDowell asked if the city buildings could use the same aggregate as residents.

Mayor Parkinson stated that municipal buildings are not in the aggregational group and are bid separately, adding that residents get a bulk price with all the participants in the aggregate.

Alderperson Hawkins advised the council he had spoken with Police Chief Brooks regarding a sophisticated drone that could be used by the Police Department. Hawkins stated that the drone could be purchased with money from the Drug Fund, adding it would add an element of safety for officers.

Chief Brooks advised that Lieutenant Roberts recently went to Ferguson for a demonstration of their drone. Chief Brooks stated the drone could respond faster through the air than a squad car making its way through the city and would allow for an assessment to be made before officers were on the scene. Brooks indicated the drone could be mounted anywhere and is weatherproof.

Alderperson Hawkins asked Chief Brooks to bring back a proposal to the council.

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

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk

5. The District: 6:10-6:30

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

Alderperson Davis called the meeting to order.

Alderperson Davis deferred to Director Brenda Whitaker.

Director Whitaker gave an update on the cinema, highlighting the number of moviegoers in 2024 (31,904), adding the Classic Series on Tuesday nights had brought in 1601 people. Whitaker reported that in FY24/25 the Cinema brought in \$521,969.50 with expenditures of \$476, 746.78, leaving a \$45,222.72 profit for the year.

Director Whitaker advised the council that the Mayor, along with Chamber Director Jenna DeYong, were

given the opportunity to have a collection of pieces by internationally acclaimed sculptor Gib Singleton brought to the City. Gib grew up in Granite City and credits his Art Teacher, Mr. Acey for his artistic journey. The collection is currently appraised at \$3.5 million and is the largest private collection of his work. The collection will be displayed at The Mill on the second floor and will give the opportunity for potential revenue through educational partnerships with schools, universities, art programs, ticket sales, memberships, events and possible small-scale retail.

Alderson Hawkins stated that although he is not an art enthusiast, he finds the collection impressive and is excited about the opportunity it will bring to the city.

Alderson Eavenson questioned what was being asked of the council. Mayor Parkinson stated a full proposal would be presented when all the plans were in place.

Motion by Alderson Davis, seconded by Alderson Harrington to adjourn the meeting. All voted yes; the motion was carried.

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk

6. Risk Management: 6:30-6:50

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

Alderson Pierson called the meeting to order.

Motion by Alderson Pierson, seconded by Alderson Smith to go into Closed Session to discuss pending litigation. All voted yes; the motion carried.

BEGIN CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Alderson Pierson, seconded by Alderson Hawkins to come out of Closed Session. All voted yes; the motion carried.

END OF CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Alderson Pierson, seconded by Alderson Hawkins to approve the recommended settlement by counsel. All voted yes; the motion carried.

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

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk

TOWNSHIP MEETING

Mayor Parkinson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Invocation was led by IT Director, Brian Daniels.

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 Eavenson, Alderperson Smith, Alderperson Harrington, Alderperson LeMaster, Alderperson Hawkins, Alderperson Pierson, Alderperson Garcia and City Clerk Jenna DeYong were present.

Kathy Wojtowicz administered the Oath of Office to Town Clerk Jenna DeYong.

Town Clerk Jenna DeYong administered the Oath of Office to Township Supervisor Margaret Shipley, Township Assessor LeAnn Selph, and Town Board Members Mayor Parkinson, Greg Garcia, Jason Smith, Dan McDowell, Jerry Harrington and Randy LeMaster.

3. Township Board Minutes - Approval of the Township Board Meeting minutes from May 6, 2025

Motion by Alderperson Pierson, seconded by Alderperson Harrington to approve the Township Board Meeting minutes from May 6, 2025. All voted yes; the motion was carried.

4. Presentation of Communications

None

5. Finance Committee: Jim Hawkins, Chairperson

A. Bill List - May 20, 2025

Motion by Alderperson Hawkins, seconded by Alderperson Pierson to approve the bills payable from the Town Fund in the amount of \$42,596.01.

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 Harrington to approve the bills payable from the General Assistance Fund in the amount of \$20,037.71.

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.

Note: Supervisor Shipley has increased the General Assistance Flat Grant monthly payment from \$340.00 to \$439.00 effective March 1, 2025, as mandated and adopted by the Department of Human Services.

6. Unfinished Business

None

7. New Business

None

8. Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Parkinson called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

1. Roll Call

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

2. City Council Minutes - Approval of the City Council Meeting minutes from May 6, 2025

Motion by Alderperson Davis, seconded by Alderperson LeMaster to approve the City Council Meeting minutes from May 6, 2025. All voted yes; the motion carried.

3. Presentation of Communications

A. Request to use Civic Park by Celebrate Recovery

Motion by Alderperson Davis, seconded by Alderperson LeMaster to approve the use of Civic Park by Celebrate Recovery. All voted yes; the motion carried.

4. Public Correspondence

None

5. Mayor's Remarks

Mayor Parkinson stated that after Friday's storm the City had coordinated with Madison County Chairman, Chris Slusser, Granite City Park District, Metro East Sanitary District and US Steel for a joint effort to mobilize and quickly clean-up storm debris in the community.

He stated he had drafted an Emergency Declaration that was sent to the Governor seeking resources for the community, adding help is on the way and a phone line would be available soon to residents.

A. Letter of Resignation-Attorney Brian Konzen

Mayor Parkinson read a letter of resignation from Attorney Brian Konzen. He presented Attorney Konzen with a plaque for his 38 years of dedicated service to Granite City.

Attorney Konzen thanked the Mayor and City Council, adding he wished the best of luck to his successor.

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

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson Eavenson to invoke the omnibus rule for items i through iii. All voted yes; the motion carried.

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson Davis to approve Resolutions providing for the demolition or repair of dangerous and unsafe buildings at 2815 Myrtle, 2524 Propes, and 2924 Victory. All voted yes; the motion carried.

i. A Resolution providing for the demolition or repair of a dangerous and unsafe building at 2815 Myrtle Avenue

ii. A Resolution providing for the demolition or repair of a dangerous and unsafe building at 2524 Propes Ave

iii. A Resolution providing for the demolition or repair of a dangerous and unsafe building at 2924 Victory

iv. Graphic Review Board Agenda for June 5, 2025

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson LeMaster to approve and place on file the Graphic Review Board Agenda for June 5, 2025. All voted yes; the motion carried.

D. Legal & Legislative Committee: Jason Smith, Chairperson

i. Approval of the Legal & Legislative Committee Meeting minutes from May 6, 2025

Motion by Alderperson Smith, seconded by Alderperson LeMaster to approve the Legal & Legislative Committee Meeting minutes from May 6, 2025. All voted yes; the motion carried.

ii. An Ordinance amending Title 2 Administration and Personnel, Chapter 2.14 City Attorney of the City of Granite City Municipal Code of Ordinances

Motion by Alderperson Smith, seconded by Alderperson LeMaster to approve an Ordinance amending Title 2 Administration and Personnel, Chapter 2.14 City Attorney of the City of Granite City Municipal Code of Ordinances.

ROLL CALL: 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.

FINAL PASSAGE: 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.

iii. Appointment of Legal Department

Motion by Alderperson Smith, seconded by Alderperson McDowell to appoint Gori Law Firm, with Attorney Tonya Genovese as lead counsel to the City's Legal Department.

ROLL CALL: 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.

E. Public Works Committee: Bob Pickerell, Chairperson

No Report

F. Police Committee: Jerry Harrington, Chairperson

i. April STATS

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

ii. Promotion of Patrol Officer Michelle Werner to Sergeant and Sergeant Tim Bedard to Lieutenant

Motion by Alderperson Harrington, seconded by Alderperson Hawkins to approve the promotion of Patrol Officer Michelle Werner to Sergeant and Sergeant Tim Bedard to Lieutenant. All voted yes; the motion carried.

G. Fire Committee: Randy LeMaster, Chairperson

Alderperson LeMaster stated he had been getting praise from the citizens regarding the fast response by the city in clean-up efforts after the storm, thanking all involved.

H. Risk Management Committee: Kim Pierson, Chairperson

Aldersperson Pierson welcomed Attorney Tonya Genovese.

I. Economic Development Committee: Brad Eavenson, Chairperson

i. Approval of the Economic Development Committee Meeting minutes from May 6, 2025

Motion by Aldersperson Eavenson, seconded by Aldersperson McDowell to approve the Economic Development Committee Meeting minutes from May 6, 2025. All voted yes; the motion carried.

ii. A Resolution to extend the lease of the 1204 Niedringhaus Ave property to Shelly Kamadulski

Motion by Aldersperson Eavenson, seconded by Aldersperson Davis to adopt a Resolution to extend the lease of the 1204 Niedringhaus Ave property to Shelly Kamadulski. All voted yes; the motion carried.

iii. A Resolution to extend the lease of 1206 Niedringhaus Ave to J.B. Wallace

Motion by Aldersperson Eavenson, seconded by Aldersperson McDowell to adopt a Resolution to extend the lease of 1206 Niedringhaus Ave to J.B. Wallace. All voted yes; the motion carried.

iv. A Resolution to extend the release agreement for 1316 Niedringhaus Ave. to James Gilmore

Motion by Aldersperson Eavenson, seconded by Aldersperson Harrington to adopt a Resolution to extend the lease agreement for 1316 Niedringhaus Ave to James Gilmore. All voted yes; the motion carried.

v. A Resolution to extend the lease of the 1414 20th Street property to Nicole Harris

Motion by Aldersperson Eavenson, seconded by Aldersperson LeMaster to adopt a Resolution to extend the lease of the 1414 20th Street property to Nicole Harris. All voted yes; the motion carried.

vi. A Resolution for Redevelopment Expense in Rt 3 Corridor Redevelopment Project Area (Penny Lane LLC)

Motion by Aldersperson Eavenson, seconded by Aldersperson LeMaster to approve a Resolution for Redevelopment Expense in Rt 3 Corridor Redevelopment Project Area (Penny Lane LLC).

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

J. Finance Committee: Jim Hawkins, Chairperson

i. Approval of the Finance Committee Meeting minutes from May 6, 2025

Motion by Aldersperson Hawkins, seconded by Aldersperson Harrington to approve the Finance Committee Meeting minutes from May 6, 2025. All voted yes; the motion carried.

ii. A Resolution to hire special counsel to assist the City in negotiation and contracting for electric power supply for municipal buildings

Motion by Aldersperson Hawkins, seconded by Aldersperson Harrington to approve a Resolution to hire special counsel to assist the City in negotiating and contracting for electric power supply for municipal buildings.

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

iii. A Resolution to retain Brubaker & Associates to assist the City in obtaining bids and proposals for electric power supply for City facilities

Motion by Aldersperson Hawkins, seconded by Aldersperson Smith to approve a Resolution to retain Brubaker & Associates to assist the City in obtaining bids and proposals for electric power supply for

City facilities.

ROLL CALL: 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.

iv. A Resolution authorizing execution of an electric supply contract for certain City-owned buildings

Motion by Alderperson Hawkins, seconded by Alderperson Pierson to approve a Resolution authorizing execution of an electric supply contract for certain City-owned buildings.

ROLL CALL: 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.

v. Payroll

Motion by Alderperson Hawkins, seconded by Alderperson LeMaster to approve the city payroll for the period of 5/1/2025-5/15/2025 in the amount of \$759,860.64.

ROLL CALL: 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.

vi. Bill List

Motion by Alderperson Hawkins, seconded by Alderperson Smith to approve the bills payable from May 1, 2025, through May 15, 2025, in the amount of \$2,220,656.95.

ROLL CALL: 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.

vii. Finance Report

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

7. Report of Officers

None

8. Unfinished Business

None

9. New Business

None

10. Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk