

Planning & Zoning-December 16, 2025

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

Greg Garcia and Jim Hawkins were absent.

Aldersperson McDowell called the meeting to order.

A. Approval of the Planning & Zoning Committee Meeting Minutes from December 2, 2025

Motion by Aldersperson McDowell, seconded by Aldersperson Smith to approve the Planning & Zoning Committee Meeting Minutes from December 2, 2025. All voted yes; the motion carried.

B. Discussion & Possible Action: Request for Lien Abatement 1728 Grand Ave

Aldersperson McDowell deferred to Mayor Parkinson.

Mayor Parkinson advised that he had a meeting with the owner of CP Trans Co. He stated they discussed the city's expectations for the property. It is his recommendation that a contract between the City and CP Trans Co. for the period of one year violation free to have the lien forgiven. If violations incur, the lien will stand.

Aldersperson McDowell asked if the property would go to the city if there were any violations within the year. Mayor Parkinson stated the lien would not be forgiven, the property would still be owned by CP Trans Co.

Aldersperson Smith questioned if the property could be purchased with a lien.

The owner of CP Trans Co stated it could be purchased, adding he is in agreement with the year contract.

Motion by Aldersperson McDowell, seconded by Aldersperson Smith, to approve the lien forgiveness contingent upon the contract for one year violation free of said property. All voted yes; the motion carried.

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

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk

Public Works: January 20, 2026

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

Aldersperson Pickerell called the meeting to order.

A. Approval of Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes from January 6, 2026

Motion by Aldersperson Pickerell, seconded by Aldersperson Smith to approve the Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes from January 6, 2026. All voted yes; the motion carried.

B. Request to extend handicapped parking space at 2937 E 25th Street

Motion by Aldersperson Pickerell, seconded by Aldersperson Smith to approve to extend a handicapped parking space at 2937 E 25th Street for an additional four years. All voted yes; the motion carried.

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

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk

. Economic Development: January 20, 2026

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

Alderson Burton called the meeting to order.

A. Approval of Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes from January 6, 2026

Motion by Alderson Burton, seconded by Alderson McDowell to approve the Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes from January 6, 2026. All voted yes; the motion carried.

B. Proposed Animal Control Agreement authorizing the Mayor to negotiate a lease

Motion by Alderson Burton, seconded by Alderson McDowell to approve an agreement authorizing the Mayor to negotiate a lease for Animal Control proposal. All voted yes; the motion carried.

C. Dissolution and Closing of the Downtown TIF

Economic Development Director Cathy Hamilton advised that the dissolution and closing of the Downtown TIF was a statutory housekeeping item. She stated the TIF closed after 35 years in 2021, adding that once all property tax payments came in and projects were complete, the final amount that needed to be declared surplus and distributed back to taxing districts is \$343,339.00. Once the funds are disbursed, the TIF will officially be closed.

Motion by Alderson Burton, seconded by Alderson McDowell to approve the Dissolution and Closing of the Downtown TIF. All voted yes; the motion carried.

D. Distribution of Surplus Funds from Rt 203 District

Motion by Alderson Burton, seconded by Alderson McDowell to declare the funds from the 203 District surplus and distribute to taxing districts in the amount of \$1,974,001.77. All voted yes; the motion carried.

E. Discussion: Datacenters

Alderson Burton deferred to Cathy Hamilton

Alderson Hawkins recused himself for the Data Center discussion.

Economic Development Director Cathy Hamilton stated she wanted to jump to item F and advised of negotiations with H& R Block located in the Ralph Building, stating they are requesting a three-year extension on the lease.

Alderson Burton distributed a handout from ChatGPT with points to consider regarding Data Centers in Granite City.

Hamilton advised she wanted to update where the city is regarding the process. She encouraged the Council to read the information Burton provided and schedule time with the Mayor and herself for questions.

Mayor Parkinson stated he wanted each Alderson to schedule a time for discussions and questions due to the misinformation that is being shared. He added he wants to ensure the Council has all the information he has to include that there is not an offer to bring a Data Center here.

Hamilton stated she would cover community engagement and where the city is in the process.

In November, a potential investor came before the Council.

In December, the Mayor and herself went to Nebraska to gather more information and education. The start of community engagement objectives with dedicated Data Center information to be added to the city website where people can track exactly where the city is at, as it is a public process. There will be an email address used as an information portal to submit questions and intake comments. It will also state there is no current Data Center project that has been submitted to the city.

Aldersperson LeMaster inquired if questions could be submitted by Alderspersons or the public. Hamilton stated anyone can submit questions and comments.

Aldersperson Harrington stated he understands that the information would not be shared through social media, but suggested adding the link to get information on the City Facebook page. Mayor Parkinson stated he did not say he would not share information through social media, he stated there would be no debate on social media. Hamilton stated there would be more information shared on social media for informational purposes. She added meetings would be held at The Mill to allow for more seating as they anticipate a larger crowd. She stated there are talks of live-streaming the meetings to allow for more community engagement.

Hamilton advised that the city has not, no elected officials or staff members have signed an NDA.

Stating they had not been asked to, adding that the Mayor had been clear stating he would not sign an NDA. She stated developers are realizing it is a ridiculous requirement for a public process.

Hamilton advised that this is a multi-site developer, adding that the Mayor has worked side by side with the city of Troy sharing information. She stated that with the possibility of the city getting one, zoning requirements need to be put into place to protect the community.

Mayor Parkinson stated that we do not have ordinances in place or the ability to regulate where a Data Center or facility could be placed. He added that the meeting on February 5th is to determine what ordinances need to be put into place to protect the citizens of Granite City, in the instance of someone coming to the city to build a data center, plant or facility. He stated the city is not negotiating with Data Centers. The city is strictly trying to protect the city with zoning regulations.

Hamilton stated the city is in fact finding status with a goal of putting together the best possible project.

She stated there would be a pre-funding agreement in place, adding that when you have a development that is above and beyond need for review, it is customary to have the developer fund experts be brought in to evaluate and review. She said there have been no incentives requested, adding that the Mayor stated any incentives must be a benefit to the taxpayer.

Hamilton stated that builds would be restricted to three zoning districts, M3, M4 and M5, ensuring that the citizens are being protected. She stated bare minimums are put in place until the site is decided, and then more stringent requirements would be added.

Hamilton advised there would be a number of Town Hall meetings if a proposal comes.

Mayor Parkinson stated the city must become structurally sound in the event of a proposal for a Data Center or plant of any type is brought to the city. Adding it doesn't matter what the project is, we need to prepare for what comes.

Aldersperson LeMaster asked for an explanation of how the Planning Board works in the event they vote no. Can the Council override the vote?

Mayor Parkinson stated it is a board of citizens that are part of the community. They work as an advisory board to the city. They will look at the data that is proposed and forward to the Council.

Aldersperson LeMaster stated his question is, can that board kill the deal before it gets to the Council?

Mayor Parkinson stated that no, everything runs through the Council.

Aldersperson Burton stated we cannot just vote yes due to tax incentives, but we cannot just vote no because of negative things being said on social media. The Council must determine what is good for the city.

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

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk

TOWNSHIP MEETING: February 3, 2026

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

Invocation was led by Pastor Bud Vickery, from Restoration Church.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

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

3. Township Board Minutes — Approval of the January 20, 2026 Town Board Meeting Minutes

Motion by Alderperson Harrington, seconded by Alderperson Pierson to approve the Township Board Meeting Minutes from January 20, 2026. 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 Hawkins, seconded by Alderperson Harrington to approve the bills payable from the Town Fund in the amount of \$37,003.89.

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

B. Bill List - General Assistance Fund

Motion by Alderperson Hawkins, seconded by Alderperson McDowell to approve the bills payable from the General Assistance Fund in the amount of \$13,769.37.

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

6. Unfinished Business

None

7. New Business

None

8. Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk

CITY COUNCIL MEETING: February 3, 2026

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

1. Roll Call

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

2. City Council Minutes — Approval of the City Council Meeting Minutes from January 20, 2026

Motion by Alderperson LeMaster, seconded by Alderperson Burton to approve the City Council Meeting Minutes from January 20, 2026. All voted yes; the motion carried.

3. Presentation of Communications

None

4. Public Correspondence

A. Request to Address the Council from Chris Hankins, Business Manager IBEW Local 309 (Data Centers)

Chris Hankins addressed the City Council in support of Data Centers.

B. Request to Address the Council from Charles Bailey, Business Manager, Steamfitters Local 439 (Data Centers)

Charles Bailey addressed the City Council in support of Data Centers.

Matt Lanahan, ICON Mechanical, addressed the City Council in support of Data Centers.

5. Mayor's Remarks

A. Appointment of Ward 2 Alderperson to Fill the Vacancy Created by the Resignation of Mary Davis.

Mayor Parkinson recommended Michalene Millas to fill the Ward 2 Alderperson vacancy.

Motion by Alderperson McDowell, seconded by Alderperson Smith to approve Millas as Ward 2 Alderperson. All voted yes; the motion carried.

B. Recognition of Granite City Police Department Members for SILEC / SIPCA Awards

Mayor Parkinson recognized the Commendation from the Southwestern Illinois Law Enforcement Commission and the Southern Illinois Police Chiefs' Association to Lieutenant Timothy Bedard, Sergeant Andrea Klumpp and Officer Jessica Walker for their work with the Community Preservation Unit.

Mayor Parkinson recognized the Commendation from the Southwestern Illinois Law Enforcement Commission and the Southern Illinois Police Chiefs' Association to Telecommunicator Kelsie Brown for her actions on August 30, 2025, regarding a 911 call.

6. Report of Standing Committees:

A. Negotiations Committee: Greg Garcia, Chairperson

No report

B. The District Committee:

No report

C. Planning & Zoning Committee: Dan McDowell, Chairperson

No report

D. Legal & Legislative Committee: Jason Smith, Chairperson

i. An Ordinance Amending Title 5 Business Taxes, Licenses and Regulations of the City of Granite City Municipal Code of Ordinances Concerning Direct Sales of Baked Goods from Home Kitchen Operation

Motion by Alderperson Smith, seconded by Alderperson LeMaster to approve an Ordinance Amending Business Taxes, Licenses and Regulations of the City of Granite City Municipal Code of Ordinances concerning the Direct Sales of Baked Goods from Home Kitchen Operations.

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

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

ii. An Ordinance Amending Title 5 Chapter 5.142, Section 050 Performance Based Licensing of Landlords of the City of Granite City Municipal Code of Ordinances

Motion by Alderperson Smith, seconded by Alderperson LeMaster to approve an Ordinance Amending Title 5 Chapter 5.142, Section 050 Performance Based Licensing of Landlords of the City of Granite City Municipal Code of Ordinances.

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

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

E. Public Works Committee: Bob Pickerell, Chairperson

i. Acceptance of Tree Advisory Board Reports

Motion by Alderperson Pickerell, seconded by Alderperson McDowell to accept and place on file the Tree Advisory Board Reports. All voted yes; the motion carried.

F. Police Committee: Jerry Harrington, Chairperson

No report

G. Fire Committee: Randy LeMaster, Chairperson

No report

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. Surface Transportation Project (STP-S) Application Fee – Madison Ave.

Motion by Alderperson Hawkins, seconded by Alderperson Harrington to approve an application fee of \$5, 812.86.

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

ii. Payroll

Motion by Alderperson Hawkins, seconded by Alderperson Garcia to approve payroll from the period of 1/16/2026-1/31/2026 in the amount of \$757,662.28.

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

iii. Bill List

Motion by Alderperson Hawkins, seconded by Alderperson Garcia to approve the Bill List in the amount of \$376,067.99.

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

7. Report of Officers

None

8. Appointment / Reappointment

A. Appointment of Kay Rollins to the Plan Commission

Mayor Parkinson recommended Kay Rollins to fill a vacancy on the Plan Commission Board.

Motion by Alderperson Hawkins, seconded by Alderperson Harrington to appoint Kay Rollins to the Plan Commission Board. All voted yes; the motion carried.

9. Unfinished Business

None

10. New Business

None

11. Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Attest

Jenna DeYong, City Clerk