

The City Council met in Regular Session in Council Chambers. Mayor Stadsholt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. City Clerk, Jesse Hall, called the roll and the following Alderpersons answered to their names: Denis Bryant, Bob Cooper, Dan Griffin, Richard "Tayler" Shore and Ross McDowell.
Absent: Christopher J. Rilea, James Stroh and Nick Urish.

A quorum was present. The minutes were recorded by City Clerk, Jesse Hall.

The pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was repeated by all City Officials and guests.

PUBLIC COMMENT #1

DISCUSSION: None

ACTION TAKEN: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

DISCUSSION: Mayor Stadsholt asked if there were any additions or corrections to the meeting minutes of January 2, 2024.

ACTION TAKEN: There being none, the minutes are approved as submitted.

TREASURER'S REPORT

DISCUSSION: Mayor Stadsholt entertained a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Alderperson Shore made the motion, seconded by Alderperson Bryant.

ACTION TAKEN: Mayor Stadsholt asked if there were any questions or corrections to the Treasurer's Report. There being none, the motion passed by the following vote:

Voting Yes: McDowell, Bryant, Cooper, Griffin and Shore

Voting No: None

FINANCE REPORT

DISCUSSION: Mayor Stadsholt entertained a motion to approve the Finance Report as submitted. Alderperson Cooper made the motion, seconded by Alderperson McDowell.

ACTION TAKEN: Mayor Stadsholt asked if there were any questions or corrections to the Finance Report. There being none, the motion passed by the following vote:

Voting Yes: Griffin, Shore, McDowell, Bryant and Cooper

Voting No: None

MAYOR'S REPORT

DISCUSSION: Mayor Stadsholt reported on the following items:

- The Smithsonian Exhibit has come to the Havana's City Center from January 13 – February 17, 2024.
- Monday, January 15, 2024 we had our Annual Standing Committee meeting at the Riverside Club. Thank you to Kathy Brooks with Buzz'n Bean Coffee Company for catering coffee and cookies.
- We're still searching for an Administrative Assistant. We thank Jesse, Alex and Alexandria for filling in and supporting that position until we hire someone.
- I know you don't like it when I say this, but we only need one meeting a month and we could use the other meeting for committees. I know you don't like it, but I'm telling you the last two meetings support what I'm saying and I think we need to look at a time change from November to March. Most of you are home from your jobs by 5:30pm and to wait until 7:00pm to come for a very short meeting. I want you all too really think about it. Maybe what they did in the 1980s is not what we should be doing in 2024.

ACTION TAKEN: None

CITY CLERK'S REPORT

DISCUSSION: No report

ACTION TAKEN: None

CITY TREASURER'S REPORT

DISCUSSION: City Treasurer, Alex Noble, reported that he and City Clerk, Jesse Hall, have a planning meeting tomorrow with auditors CLA (CliftonLarsonAllen), and they will be down during the weeks of 1/29 and 2/5 for FY23 audit fieldwork.

ACTION TAKEN: None

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

DISCUSSION: No report

ACTION TAKEN: None

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

DISCUSSION: Economic Development Coordinator, Brenda Davenport-Fornoff reported on the following items:

- I put in each of your boxes, one of the pamphlets for the Spark! Places of Innovation Smithsonian Museum on Main Street.
- I've been updating the City's website and making sure that the current programs are on there.
- The Energy Transition Community Grant program that we did last year and were approved \$55,482.00 to do the engineering work on Plum Street (Streetscape Phase B). This is a second round of the Energy Transition Community Grant. I believe that since the City of Havana wasn't affected as strongly as some of these other taxing bodies, it's probably going to be about \$50,000.00. I need to have some direction on what project we would want to go for and then I can fill out the grant. Alderperson Cooper asked when it had to be submitted. Economic Development Coordinator, Brenda Davenport-Fornoff said, she would have to ask when it is due. The grant just became available in January. Alderperson Bryant asked if it could be used on any project or if there are stipulations? Economic Development Coordinator, Brenda Davenport-Fornoff said, there are stipulations on what it could be used for. It can be used for research, analysis, and planning regarding economic impact reduced or ceased operations of the regional facility, environmental remediation of sites of closed facilities and other local infrastructure improvements, marketing of tourist and recreation opportunities, business development initiatives to attract, expand, or retain employers, workforce development and support for individuals displaced by closures or reduced operations, including training for skilled trades in regional industries, Investment for construction or improvement in local job training facilities, financial assistance for unemployed, underemployed, and/or low-income residents, public health initiatives and other initiatives to address the economic and social impact of reduced production or closure of regional facilities. Mayor Stadsholt suggested, the City pathway from Orange to Market Street. We are doing a lot of business there. Mayor Stadsholt said, I don't see it as an alley. I see it as a business marketing opportunity for Havana. We have been approached by other businesses back there for improvements. I have never understood why we, the City of Havana, say we own the alleys, but we don't maintain them. If the city owns it, why don't we take care of it? Alderperson Griffin said he just put \$800.00 worth of gravel in his alley. Mayor Stadsholt said, we're always talking about creating jobs, and creating jobs at the Business Park, but could we create jobs for Public Works and more jobs for people to do that? Public Works Department Leadman, Jay Sarff said, you are looking at a lot of ground work. Some of these alleys have some pretty decent potholes in them that would take a whole truck or two truckloads of rock per hole. It would take a whole lot of gravel and a whole lot of time. Fire Marshal/Zoning Officer, Matt Fliege said, we don't own the alleys. The alleys that are maintained by us briefly, are only because either a sewer or something goes down through that way. An alley is just a public thoroughfare. It is more of an easement rather than the City owning it. It is similar to the strip of grass between the sidewalk and the street where residents take care of the maintenance but the City has easements for sewer and water.
- Mayor Stadsholt said, Brenda and her had been invited to a meeting on November 7, 2023 concerning the possibility of an Enterprise Zone from Fulton County extending into Mason County. We were involved in another phone today for an hour with Kathie Brown and Sally Hanley with Greater Peoria Economic Development Council. Brenda and I agreed that it would be great to have an Enterprise Zone from Fulton County extend to the coal docks and helped all of our local people working on that project or if it is extended to the Business Park. We are interested in anything that would help us, the City of Havana, but we will let the county take the lead on this.

ACTION TAKEN: None

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

DISCUSSION: No report
ACTION TAKEN: None

POLICE CHIEF REPORT

DISCUSSION: No report
ACTION TAKEN: None

FIRE MARSHAL/ZONING OFFICER REPORT

DISCUSSION: No report
ACTION TAKEN: None

FINANCE AND PURCHASING

DISCUSSION: No report
ACTION TAKEN: None

HEALTH AND SANITATION

DISCUSSION: No report
ACTION TAKEN: None

LICENSES, ORDINANCE AND LEGAL

DISCUSSION: Alderperson McDowell made a motion to waive the first reading of Ordinance 1479, an Ordinance Providing for and Approving the First Amendment to the Havana RT 78/Illinois River Tax Increment Financing District Redevelopment Project Area, Plan & Projects, seconded by Alderperson Cooper.

ACTION TAKEN: Mayor Stadsholt asked if there were any questions. There being none, the motion passed by the following vote:

Voting Yes: Bryant, Cooper, Shore and McDowell

Voting No: None

Abstained: Griffin

DISCUSSION: Alderperson Shore made a motion to approve Ordinance 1479, an Ordinance Providing for and Approving the First Amendment to the Havana RT 78/Illinois River Tax Increment Financing District Redevelopment Project Area, Plan & Projects, seconded by Alderperson McDowell.

ACTION TAKEN: Mayor Stadsholt asked if there were any questions. There being none, the motion passed by the following vote:

Voting Yes: Bryant, Cooper, Shore, McDowell and Mayor Stadsholt

Voting No: None

Abstained: Griffin

PLANNING

DISCUSSION: No report
ACTION TAKEN: None

PROPERTY AND ZONING

DISCUSSION: Alderperson Griffin reported, that he would like to have a committee meeting prior to the next council meeting regarding turning the Fornoff property that is across from Veterans Park that is on undevelopable property because it is on a flood plan. About maybe turning that into a Christmas Tree Farm for the future of our community and to benefit the Courtyard of Lights.

ACTION TAKEN: None

PUBLIC SAFETY

DISCUSSION: No report
ACTION TAKEN: None

PUBLIC WORKS

DISCUSSION: No report
ACTION TAKEN: None

PERSONNEL

DISCUSSION: No report

ACTION TAKEN: None

PUBLIC COMMENT #2

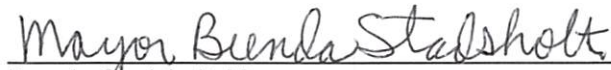
DISCUSSION: None

ACTION TAKEN: None

ADJOURNMENT

DISCUSSION: Mayor Stadsholt entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Alderperson McDowell and seconded by Alderperson Bryant.

ACTION TAKEN: The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.



Brenda Stadsholt, Mayor



Jesse Hall, City Clerk

Guests: Brenda Davenport-Fornoff
Matt Fliege
Jeremiah Hindahl
Alex Noble
Jay Sarff
Wendy Martin