

The City Council met in regular session at the City Center. 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, Christopher J. Rilea, Richard "Tayler" Shore, Gus Stroh and Ross McDowell. Absent: 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: Jennifer Larson, a downtown business owner said, when I moved my business from outside of town to downtown, I was not able to take advantage of the TIF funds. It was my money that refurbished the buildings that I own. Those of you that don't know I own Blue Butterfly Resale Shop, 311 ½ Lodging on Main, the current Edward Jones building and two empty properties in between Gathman Auction Company and Edward Jones. With some of the programs Economic Development Coordinator, Brenda Davenport-Fornoff has given us, like the Blade Sign Program and the City of Havana Downtown Building Mural Program. I have taken advantage of some of the money that has been available. Adding 1% would make a huge difference in helping those who are either already established or want to be established in Havana. I just really want to encourage the City Council as a business owner, as a consumer. 1% is nothing when I am paying a bill. The credit card fee is one thing that probably many of you don't even realize you're paying. When you go to a restaurant there's two different dollar amounts, one for cash and one for credit card. We at Blue Butterfly do the same thing we charge 3% because we are stuck with a 6% fee which is huge for a small business.

ACTION TAKEN: None

DISCUSSION: April Burgett, also a downtown business owner said, I would just say that I probably get calls from other communities at least once a month wanting to know. How did Havana do it? Can you talk to us? Can you give us advice? Where do you start? I always share the City of Havana's website, the Economic Development page, the initial Building Survey and all of the documents that were prepared by 353 Court, LLC. They're still a really valuable resource to just demonstrate. Usually my first question is, do you have money? Because really nothing could have happened ever without money. If they don't have a TIF program and they don't have any funds it's really hard to give them advice on what to do. Because it is the financial part that can be the hardest barrier. I feel like referring back to that forward thinking that the City Council and Mayor did for TIF in 1987 that set us up for a lot of success, because it was used properly when it was spent out and finished. And I feel like 30 years from now. There may be people who say it was a good thing that we did the Business Development District.

ACTION TAKEN: None

DISCUSSION: Kathie Brown, Greater Peoria EDC - Two very brief comments, first I conducted a quick survey of communities within the Greater Peoria region this week in preparation for tonight's discussion. Every community that currently has a Business Development District is very pleased with the revenue created by the tax increment and how they are able to pursue building improvements, beautification projects, business development and even housing rehabilitation programs with the funding. All areas of interest and current emphasis in Havana as well. Secondly, I have known Steve Kline more than 20 years in my work with Community and Economic Development. He is one of the very best in this business, an exceptional talented individual who leads with his heart in every aspect of his life and work.

ACTION TAKEN: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

DISCUSSION: Mayor Stadsholt asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Special Council Meeting minutes held July 3, 2023.

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 Stroh 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: Griffin, Rilea, Shore, Stroh, McDowell, Bryant and Cooper
Voting No: None

FINANCE REPORT

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

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: Rilea, Shore, Stroh, McDowell, Bryant, Cooper and Griffin
Voting No: None

MAYOR'S REPORT

DISCUSSION: Mayor Stadsholt reported on the following items:

- Today we had Third Tuesday Coffee featuring Amanda Sampson, Board Member of the Illinois River Road National Scenic Byway, discussed what it means to be a Gateway Community and the benefits to Havana's tourism industry and small businesses.
- A week ago Tuesday, Jewel Bucy, Brenda Davenport-Fornoff, Terri Brownfield and I were guest at the Riverside Club Luncheon.
- Brenda has nominated our Riverside Renovation and Restoration Committee for the Governor's Hometown Award and we have made the first forty cut.
- Ashlee VanEtten this morning announced that they will be having their 2nd Annual - Back to School Supply Drive benefiting the kids in the Havana Community. Starting July 31st - August 4th.
- Blue Butterfly Resale Shop, will start taking fall and winter clothes on August 1, 2023

ACTION TAKEN: None

CITY CLERK'S REPORT

DISCUSSION: No report

ACTION TAKEN: None

CITY TREASURER'S REPORT

DISCUSSION: No report

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 have continued to update the City's website. I really changed the front page so it shows what is going on in Havana.
- I am unable to get the businesses to agree to have the Tivoli lights attached to their buildings. Two of the primary locations were not in favor unless the City would take the liability and I told them that wasn't an option. However, I have emailed the gentleman at S&S about going ahead and getting the lights for the poles. I have still not heard back from him.
- I am also still trying to get two bids for the welcome signs. I am really struggling to get anyone to respond to me.
- I nominated the Riverside Renovation and Restoration Committee for the Governor's Hometown Award. We did make the first cut and I was supposed to hear by July 16, 2023 if we were awarded the Governor's Hometown Award. There is no money just recognition.

ACTION TAKEN: None

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

DISCUSSION: Public Works Director, Jewel Bucy reported on the following items:

- Today we received the proposal from Maurer-Stutz, Inc. for the wastewater treatment plant improvements. It would be for a low interest loan with a 20 year payback, but there is a possibility of a forgiveness. It looks like it's about 2.1 million for all the improvements.
- The sweeper in currently broke down. We are ordering parts for it, but there are several issues going on with it.
- We have an EPA site visit tomorrow.
- We have lead and copper samples coming up, along with inorganic chemicals samples and disinfected byproducts testing to do by the end of summer. Inorganic chemicals and disinfected byproducts testing is due every three years.

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: Alderperson Shore reported, that he has received a few complaints from citizens regarding feral cats. Alderperson Shore said he was going to reach out to Code Enforcement Officer, Julie Ishmael.

ACTION TAKEN: None

LICENSES, ORDINANCE AND LEGAL

DISCUSSION: Alderperson Rilea made a motion to waive the first reading of Ordinance 1472, An Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Professional Service Agree Agreement for the Establishment and Annual Administration of Havana Business Development District NO. 1 by and Between The City of Havana, Mason County, Illinois and Jacob & Klein, LTD. and The Economic Development Group, LTD., seconded by Alderperson McDowell.

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

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

Voting No: None

DISCUSSION: Alderperson Rilea made a motion to approve Ordinance 1472, An Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Professional Service Agree Agreement for the Establishment and Annual Administration of Havana Business Development District NO. 1 by and Between The City of Havana, Mason County, Illinois and Jacob & Klein, LTD. and The Economic Development Group, LTD., seconded by Alderperson Shore.

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

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

Voting No: Rilea

PLANNING

DISCUSSION: No report

ACTION TAKEN: None

PROPERTY AND ZONING

DISCUSSION: No report

ACTION TAKEN: None

PUBLIC SAFETY

DISCUSSION: Alderperson Stroh made a motion to approve a request by the Havana Oktoberfest Committee to close the 100 blocks of North Broadway, West Market, North Plum and West Main from September 6th through September 12th for the Annual Oktoberfest Celebration, seconded by Alderperson Griffin.

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

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

Voting No: None

DISCUSSION: Alderperson Stroh made a motion to approve the request by the Oktoberfest Committee to use the City streets for the Annual Oktoberfest Parade on September 8th, 2023 at 6:00pm, seconded by Alderperson Bryant.

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

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

Voting No: None

DISCUSSION: Alderperson Stroh made a motion to approve a request by the Havana Oktoberfest Committee, to use the City streets on September 9th, 2023 for the Annual Polka Pace and Polka Dot Races, seconded by Alderperson Shore.

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

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

Voting No: None

DISCUSSION: Alderperson Stroh made a motion to approve a request by Shellie Brooks and Nikki French to paint Main Street from start/finish for the Annual Polka Pace Race, seconded by Alderperson Griffin.

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

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

Voting No: None

PUBLIC WORKS

DISCUSSION: No report

ACTION TAKEN: None

PERSONNEL

DISCUSSION: Mayor Stadsholt entertained a motion to go into closed session under Open Meetings Act 2 (C) (1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body. Alderperson McDowell made the motion, seconded by Alderperson Griffin.

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

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

Voting No: None

DISCUSSION: Mayor Stadsholt entertained a motion to come out of closed session. Alderperson McDowell made the motion, seconded by Alderperson Cooper.

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

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

Voting No: 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 Griffin.

ACTION TAKEN: The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 pm



Brenda Stadsholt, Mayor



Jesse Hall, City Clerk

Guests:

Jewel Bucy
Jay Sarff
Matt Fliege
Brenda Davenport-Fornoff
Wendy Martin

April Burgett
Jennifer Larson
Kip Larson
Kathie Brown
Phil Funkenbusch