The City Council met in Regular Session in Council Chambers. Mayor Bryant 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: Bob Cooper, Dan Griffin, William Janis, Christopher J. Rilea, Richard "Tayler" Shore, James "Gus" Stroh and Ross McDowell. Alderperson Brenda Stadsholt arrived at 7:13 p.m.

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: Alderperson McDowell reported that the council would enter into closed session under Section 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act - The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body. Alderperson McDowell noted that several Alderpersons had approached him regarding employee compensation and stated that the matter would be discussed during the closed session.

Alderperson McDowell reported that Alderperson Rilea had been contacted by individuals regarding the Health Department's request for no parking in the area. Alderperson McDowell stated that he was opposed to establishing a no-parking area, noting that the DMV provides a vital service to the community and is well received by residents. He stated that the parking issue could be addressed by moving the mailbox from the north driveway to the south driveway, which would place it closer to the Health Department.

Alderperson McDowell further noted that the existing mailbox is located across from the DMV and that DMV patrons frequently park in the area, sometimes extending down to his residence. He stated that the DMV generates significant business at the location and expressed concern that restricting parking could negatively impact the DMV.

Alderperson McDowell also stated that the City does not have an ordinance prohibiting vehicles from parking in front of mailboxes. Alderperson Janis stated that parking in front of mailboxes is prohibited under federal regulations.
ACTION TAKEN: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
DISCUSSION: Mayor Bryant asked if there were any additions or corrections to the meeting minutes of September 15, 2026.
ACTION TAKEN: There being none, the minutes are approved as submitted.

FINANCE REPORT
DISCUSSION: Mayor Bryant entertained a motion to approve the Finance Report as submitted. Alderperson Rilea made the motion, seconded by Alderperson McDowell.
ACTION TAKEN: Mayor Bryant 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, Janis, Rilea, Shore, Stroh, McDowell and Cooper
Voting No: None

CONSENT AGENDA
DISCUSSION: Alderperson Rilea made a motion to post pone the Consent Agenda until the October 20, 2026 City Council meeting, seconded by Alderperson Cooper.
ACTION TAKEN: Mayor Bryant asked if there were any questions. There being none, the motion passed by the following vote:
Voting Yes: Cooper, Griffin, Janis, Rilea, Shore, Stroh and McDowell
Voting No: None

MAYOR'S REPORT
DISCUSSION: Mayor Bryant reported on the following items:

- Mayor Bryant discussed filling the Economic Development Coordinator position. He stated that he believed the position should be filled, noting that there are currently economic development opportunities taking place in the community and that additional opportunities could be pursued with someone serving in the position. Mayor Bryant clarified that he was not proposing a full-time position, but rather a part-time position, and stated that he had an individual in mind for the position.
- Mayor Bryant expressed concern regarding properties within the City that are not being properly maintained. He stated that he had raised the issue previously and would like to see the City issue more citations for violations of the property maintenance ordinance. Mayor Bryant noted that Chapter 8.15 provides that any person convicted of violating the chapter shall be guilty of a petty offense and subject to a fine of not less than $200 and not more than $750 for each offense. He further noted that each day a violation occurs or is allowed to remain constitutes a separate offense.

ACTION TAKEN: None

CITY CLERK'S REPORT

DISCUSSION: City Clerk, Jesse Hall, reported on the following items:

- The filing period will be October 19 through October 26, 2026. Completed petitions may be turned in to City Hall beginning October 19, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.
- The City received an email from its auditors, CliftonLarsonAllen LLP (CLA), providing an update on the City's annual audit. CLA reported that the audit is moving forward and is currently in a good position. A few sections remain to be completed before the reporting process can begin. CLA further stated that all reporting will need to go through its quality review process before the audit can be issued. Based on the current progress, CLA is anticipating an audit issuance date in mid to late November 2026. This is the current target and would result in the audit being issued earlier than last year. CLA also indicated that the City will likely need to request an Annual Financial Report (AFR) extension, similar to prior years.
- The City has $10,500.00 in ARPA funds remaining that are obligated for water meters and $20,500.00 obligated for lead service line work. He stated that the $20,500.00 could be used to cover the cost of the archaeological dig. Alderperson Rilea asked whether ARPA funds were used for the lead service line identification work performed by Petersburg Plumbing & Excavating LLC, noting that the funds had been allocated for that purpose. City Clerk Jesse Hall stated that the City did not use ARPA funds for that project and that an adjusting entry could be made to correct the General Ledger.

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: No report

ACTION TAKEN: None

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

DISCUSSION: Public Works Director, Jay Sarff, reported on the following items:

- We had previously budgeted funds under equipment for the purchase of a snowplow package for the City's existing side-by-side. The package was anticipated to include a poly cab enclosure, heater kit, and snowplow, with an original estimated cost of $9,000.00. Due to increased pricing, the current cost of the package has increased to approximately $15,500.00. Public Works Director Jay Sarff stated that sufficient funds remain in the equipment budget to cover the purchase. Public Works Director Jay Sarff reported that, after discussing the purchase with Tanner at John Deere, an alternative 2024 side-by-side was identified. The newer unit is approximately ten years newer than the City's current machine and is equipped with a cab and climate control. John Deere offered the City a purchase price of $17,000.00, along with a $10,000.00 trade-in allowance for the City's existing side-by-side. The

snowplow package would be added at a cost of $5,000.00, resulting in a total out-of-pocket cost of approximately $12,000.00.

- Public Works Director Jay Sarff reported on the status of the Washington Street Lift Station pumps. He stated that the City recently incurred expenses to have new pumps installed; however, after approximately two weeks of operation, the shafts on the new pumps failed. The pumps have been sent to Armature Motor & Pump Co. for inspection, and the City is currently awaiting a determination from Fairbanks regarding warranty coverage. Public Works Director Jay Sarff stated that the lift station is currently operating with only one pump. To ensure the City has a backup pump available, the existing pump was sent out to be refurbished. He noted that, even after the new pumps are returned and placed back into service, the refurbished pump would remain available as a spare. Public Works Director Jay Sarff explained that the Washington Street Lift Station is a critical facility because it handles wastewater from throughout the City and pumps it to the wastewater treatment plant. The estimated cost to refurbish the existing pump is $26,693.43. The standard turnaround time is approximately six to eight weeks; however, the City can expedite the work for an additional $250.00, reducing the estimated turnaround time to two to three weeks. Public Works Director Jay Sarff emphasized the importance of having a backup pump available. If the remaining operating pump were to fail, the City would be required to operate the vacuum truck continuously to haul wastewater from the lift station. He stated that, even with those efforts, there would be a significant risk of an overflow into the river, which would constitute an EPA violation.
- Fire Marshal Matthew Fliege and I are continuing to work on the proposed sidewalk project. He stated that three quotes have been received, with the third quote still requiring additional clarification and a detailed breakdown. Public Works Director Jay Sarff stated that the City will also need to provide the hospital with an update regarding the status of the project. He noted that additional information will be presented to the Council once the third quote has been finalized and reviewed.
- Alderperson McDowell asked about the Havana Water Department Cross-Connection Survey, specifically regarding the reference to privet wells. He asked whether the reference was intended to mean an outhouse. The Public Works Director Jay Sarff stated that he assumed that was the case.
- Alderperson Rilea asked about the Havana Water Department Cross-Connection Survey letters sent to Havana customers. Public Works Director Jay Sarff explained that the survey is required every three years. Although the survey was last conducted in the spring three years ago, distribution was delayed due to the ongoing lead service line project. During an EPA inspection, the City was notified that the required survey had not been completed. The City advised the EPA that the survey was being distributed and would be completed before the end of the year. Mr. Sarff clarified that customers must complete the survey every three years, regardless of previous submissions.
- Alderperson Rilea also asked about meter replacements, specifically the meter at the Sycamore Motel that had previously been reported as not functioning. Mr. Sarff confirmed that the meter head had been replaced. Alderperson Rilea inquired about the ongoing replacement of meter heads and asked about Public Works employees conducting meter readings on Saturdays. Mr. Sarff clarified that employees respond on Saturdays when called for service shutoffs or similar matters and also perform laboratory work on Saturdays and Sundays.
- Alderperson Rilea expressed concern regarding faded crosswalk and parking lot markings, noting that the parking lines in front of City Hall were barely visible. He emphasized the importance of maintaining visible pavement markings for public safety, particularly given the City's efforts to encourage children to stay off sidewalks while using scooters. Alderperson Rilea requested that the City address the need to repaint the crosswalks and parking lines.

ACTION TAKEN: None

POLICE CHIEF REPORT
DISCUSSION: No report
ACTION TAKEN: None

FIRE MARSHAL/ZONING OFFICER REPORT
DISCUSSION: Fire Marshal, Matthew Fliege, reported on the following items:

- Fire Marshal Matthew Fliege reported that, with the school year back in session, the local schools have completed their shelter-in-place drills. He stated that fire drills were scheduled for the following day and noted that it is also Fire Prevention Week. He added that students from the schools would be visiting the Fire Station on Wednesday and Friday, with approximately 200 students typically visiting the station

each year. He noted that a few students were unable to attend this week but are expected to visit the following week.

- Fire Marshal Matthew Fliege reported that there are several new construction projects underway throughout the City. He noted that there have been a few building code violations, including one serious violation that required attention over the past couple of weeks. He stated that those matters have since been addressed and are currently resolved.

ACTION TAKEN: None

FINANCE AND PURCHASING

DISCUSSION: Alderperson Cooper made a motion to approve the Revolving Loan for Cody Harris in the amount of $25,000.00, with a seven-year amortization schedule at an annual interest rate of 2%, secured by collateral located at 509 E. Elm Street, Mason City, IL 62664, seconded by Alderperson McDowell.
ACTION TAKEN: Mayor Bryant asked if there were any questions. There being none, the motion passed by the following vote:
Voting Yes: Rilea, Shore, Stadsholt, Stroh, McDowell, Cooper, Griffin and Janis
Voting No: None

HEALTH AND SANITATION

DISCUSSION: No report
ACTION TAKEN: None

LICENSES, ORDINANCE AND LEGAL

DISCUSSION: Alderperson Rilea made a motion to waive the first reading of Ordinance 1527, an Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Business Development District No.1 Redevelopment Agreement by and between City of Havana, Illinois and Peoples Insurance Agency of Chandlerville, Inc., D.B.A. Insurance Center and Thomas L. Carlock, Jr. and Kelly J. Carlock (527 S. Promenade St.), seconded by Alderperson McDowell.
ACTION TAKEN: Mayor Bryant asked if there were any questions. There being none, the motion passed by the following vote:
Voting Yes: Cooper, Griffin, Janis, Rilea, Shore, Stadsholt, Stroh and McDowell
Voting No: None

DISCUSSION: Alderperson Rilea made a motion to approve Ordinance 1527, an Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Business Development District No.1 Redevelopment Agreement by and between City of Havana, Illinois and Peoples Insurance Agency of Chandlerville, Inc., D.B.A Insurance Center and Thomas L. Carlock, Jr. and Kelly J. Carlock (527 S. Promenade St.), seconded by Alderperson Shore.
ACTION TAKEN: Mayor Bryant asked if there were any questions. There being none, the motion passed by the following vote:
Voting Yes: Cooper, Griffin, Janis, Rilea, Shore, Stadsholt, Stroh and McDowell
Voting No: None

DISCUSSION: Alderperson McDowell made a motion to call a previous question, seconded by Alderperson Rilea.
ACTION TAKEN: Mayor Bryant asked if there were any questions. There being none, the motion passed by the following vote:
Voting Yes: Cooper, Griffin, Janis, Rilea, Shore,
Voting No: Stroh
Abstained: Stadsholt

DISCUSSION: Alderperson Rilea made a motion to waive the first reading of Ordinance 1528, an Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Business Development District No.1 Redevelopment Agreement by and between City of Havana, Illinois and Havana Farm & Home Supply Co. and Adam Bowles, seconded by Alderperson McDowell.
ACTION TAKEN: Mayor Bryant asked if there were any questions. There being none, the motion passed by the following vote:
Voting Yes: Cooper, Griffin, Janis, Rilea, Shore and McDowell
Voting No: Stroh

Abstained: Stadsholt

DISCUSSION: Alderperson Rilea requested clarification as to whether the City wanted him to prepare an ordinance prohibiting parking in front of the mailbox at the Health Department. The Council stated that an ordinance would not be necessary.
ACTION TAKEN: None

PLANNING
DISCUSSION: No report
ACTION TAKEN: None

PROPERTY AND ZONING
DISCUSSION: No report
ACTION TAKEN: None

PUBLIC SAFETY
DISCUSSION: No report
ACTION TAKEN: None

PUBLIC WORKS
DISCUSSION: No report
ACTION TAKEN: None

PERSONNEL
DISCUSSION: Mayor Bryant 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 Cooper.
ACTION TAKEN: Mayor Bryant asked if there were any questions. There being none, the motion passed by the following vote:
Voting Yes: Cooper, Griffin, Janis, Rilea, Shore, Stadsholt, Stroh and McDowell
Voting No: None

DISCUSSION: Mayor Bryant entertained a motion to come out of closed session. Alderperson McDowell made the motion, seconded by Alderperson Griffin.
ACTION TAKEN: Mayor Bryant asked if there were any questions. There being none, the motion passed by the following vote:
Voting Yes: Cooper, Griffin, Janis, Rilea, Shore, Stadsholt, Stroh and McDowell
Voting No: None

PUBLIC COMMENT #2
DISCUSSION: Public Works Director Jay Sarff reported that Ashley Schaad's "Ashley's Rack Pack Fights Back" benefit will be held on Saturday, October 10, 2026, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at VFW Post #6408. The event will begin with a pool tournament, with teams checking in at 9:00 a.m. and the tournament starting at 10:00 a.m. Live and silent auctions will begin around 2:00 p.m. The event will also include a large inflatable and activities for children from approximately 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. A taco or nacho meal, including dessert and a choice of water, tea, or lemonade, will be available for $10 at approximately 5:00 p.m. Rewind will provide live music to conclude the evening at approximately 7:00 p.m.
ACTION TAKEN: None

ADJOURNMENT
DISCUSSION: Mayor Bryant entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Alderperson McDowell and seconded by Alderperson Stadsholt.
ACTION TAKEN: The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Denis Bryant, Mayor

Jesse Hall, City Clerk

Guests:

Matthew Fliege
Jeremiah Hindahl
Jay Sarff
Carson Harris
Jim Harris