

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL IN
THE CITY OF SAVANNA, CARROLL COUNTY, ILLINOIS, ON TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2026
AT 6:00 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 333 CHICAGO AVENUE,
SAVANNA, ILLINOIS 61074**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Jeff Griswold called the meeting to order on said date at 6:00 PM. Notice of the meeting was delivered to all Council members and posted at 333 Chicago Ave, Savanna, Illinois, in accordance with the State of Illinois Open Meetings Act.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Jeff Griswold led the council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL/ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM:

Mayor Jeff Griswold established a quorum. Member presents were Mayor Jeff Griswold, Pat Sanchez, Katie Herrig, Nick Law, Jacob Helms, Jim Friedenbach, and Rob Davies. Also present were City Attorney Scott Anderson, Budget Officer Brittany Hatteberg, Assistant Superintendent of Public Works Eric Hartman, Fire Chief Scott Parker, Police Chief Don Stephens, Mike Miller, Mike Nester, Tara Walters and Kristina Tranel with MSA, Cheyenne Hoffman with Fehr Graham, Shawn Picolotti, Jan Bristol, and Linda Grissinger.

PUBLIC HEARING:

To Discuss the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2026/2027: At 6:01 P.M., Mayor Jeff Griswold opened the public hearing on the 2026/2027 Budget. Jan Bristol asked whether the budget would include resurfacing the alley between Park and Gilbert Streets, since it wasn't completed last year. Mayor Griswold responded that the MFT Funds used for that work haven't been finalized yet. With no further comments, Mayor Griswold asked for a motion to close this public hearing. Rob Davies motioned to close this portion, seconded by Pat Sanchez. Roll call vote aye: Jim Friedenbach, Rob Davies, Jacob Helms, Katie Herrig, Nick Law, and Pat Sanchez. Nay: None. Motion passed.

Community Development Block Grant Public Infrastructure Project: Mayor Giswold proceeded with the second public hearing and Tara Walters with MSA reviewed the project's closure. This meeting is regarding Project 19242041, Funded by the Dept. of Commerce, Economic Opportunities Council, for the replacement of 5200 linear ft of PVC sewer pipe along Bowen, Gilbert, Towanda, Milwaukee, Elm, and Bench Streets, as well as non-operational hydrants, storm sewers, and associated restoration work. Grant funds expended of \$1,500,000, with \$162,000 in matching city funds. With no further comments, Mayor Griswold asked for a motion to close this public hearing. Nick Law motioned to close the public hearing, seconded by Jim Friedenbach. Roll call vote aye: Rob Davies, Jacob Helms, Katie Herrig, Nick Law, Pat Sanchez, and Jim Friedenbach. Nay: None. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Pat Sanchez motioned to approve the agenda as presented, Rob Davies seconded. All voting in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

5 ILCS 120/2 (C)(5) The Purchase or Lease of Real Property for the use of the Public Body, Including Meetings held for the Purpose of Discussing Whether a Particular Parcel Should be

Acquired: Mayor Griswold asked for a motion to enter into a brief Executive Session. Pat Sanchez motioned to enter Executive Session at 6:08 P.M., Nick Law seconded. All voting in favor, none opposed. Motion passed. Mayor Griswold also asked Budget Officer Brittany Hatteberg and Tara Walters with MSA to attend the Executive Session. Nick Law motioned to return to the open session at 6:18 P.M., seconded by Rob Davies. All voting in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Consideration of the Minutes of the April 14, 2026 Regular Meeting: After a brief review, Rob Davies motioned to approve the April 14, 2026 minutes, seconded by Katie Herrig. All voting in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Business Development District Committee, 4-28-26: Chair Rob Davies briefly reviewed the things discussed at the 5:00 PM meeting. He informed the Council of a presentation from Jacob Schoenhaar and Marketing Consultant Brienna Junk, regarding a mural on the TBK Bank building. They will be developing a funding structure to present at a future meeting. There was also discussion on the club sign located near Stebbins Appliance and the planters. Pat Sanchez motioned to accept the report, with Katie Herrig seconding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

WARRANT #12A:

Final Bills for FY 2025/2026 Totaling \$102,359.19: After a brief discussion, Pat Sanchez motioned to approve Warrant #12A, seconded by Rob Davies. Roll call vote aye: Jacob Helms, Katie Herrig, Nick Law, Pat Sanchez, Jim Friedenbach, and Rob Davies. Nay: None. Motion passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

MSA, Project Update: Tara Walters stated there was no update for this meeting, but she did introduce Kristina Tranel, who will be taking her place during leave.

Ordinance, Authorize the Sale of Surplus Property, High School and Pool 13:

Ordinance, Authorize the Sale of Surplus Property, 3 Axon Tasers: Mayor Jeff Griswold proposed combining the two Ordinances for the Sale of Surplus Property. Jim Friedenbach asked about a possible date for high school sale and Katie Herrig responded that it would be alumni weekend. Pat Sanchez motioned to approve both Ordinances, Sale of Surplus Property for High School, Pool 13, and 3 Axon Tasers, Nick Law seconded. Roll call vote aye: Katie Herrig, Nick Law, Pat Sanchez, Jim Friedenbach, Rob Davies, and Jacob Helms. Nay: None. Motion passed.

Ordinance, Annual Budget Fiscal Year 2026/2027: Rob Davies motioned to approve on second read, Nick Law seconded. Roll call vote aye: Nick Law, Pat Sanchez, Jim Friedenbach, Rob Davies, Jacob Helms, and Katie Herrig. Nay: None. Motion passed.

Ordinance, Amending Title 7, Chapter 3, Section 11, Garbage and Recycling Collection and Disposal: Pat Sanchez motioned to approve on second read, Nick Law seconded. Roll call vote aye: Pat Sanchez, Jim Friedenbach, Rob Davies, Jacob Helms, Katie Herrig, and Nick Law. Nay: None. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinance, Revising Annual Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2025-2026: Mayor Griswold requested a waiver of first reading and approval on second read. Nick Law motioned to waive first read and approve on second read, seconded by Pat Sanchez. Roll call vote aye: Jim Friedenbach, Rob Davies, Jacob Helms, Katie Herrig, Nick Law, and Pat Sanchez. Nay: None. Motion passed.

Ordinance, Amending Title 1, Chapter 23, Sections 5 (C) & (D), City Personnel Regulations: Mayor Griswold reviewed this ordinance change regarding bonuses. Jacob Helms motioned to approve first read, with Rob Davies seconded. Roll call vote aye: Rob Davies, Jacob Helms, Katie Herrig, Nick Law, Pat Sanchez, and Jim Friedenbach. None opposed. Nay: None. Motion passed.

Ordinance, Amending Title 5, Chapter 5, Open Burning: Jacob Helms explained that the regulation was too vague in terms of days, items allowed, and areas to burn. He proposes 2 set days every week. Jim Friedenbach voiced concern about reducing the 25' distance from structures to 15', since some older lots may not be wide enough to accommodate that distance. Mayor Griswold also questioned the hours approved. Jacob Helms had asked surrounding communities for their recommendations. After a brief review, Pat Sanchez motioned to approve the first read, Katie Herrig seconded. All voting in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Ordinance, Amending Title 1, Chapter 23, City Personnel Regulations: Mayor Griswold requested a motion for first reading. Pat Sanchez motioned to approve the first read, with Rob Davies seconding. Jacob Helms explained the lack of comprehensive guidance on accidents involving municipal vehicles. After discussion and some questions, it was recommended that this be returned to the Public Safety Committee for further review. Roll call vote aye: Katie Herrig, Nick Law, Pat Sanchez, Jim Friedenbach, and Rob Davies. Nay: Jacob Helms. Motion passed.

Request for Unbudgeted Funds, Well #4: Mayor Jeff Griswold explained that the cost for Well #4 needs to be increased by \$3,044, which was originally approved as an unbudgeted expense. Pat Sanchez motioned to approve the request for unbudgeted funds for Well #4 not to exceed \$5,000, with Nick Law seconding. Roll call vote aye: Jacob Helms, Katie Herrig, Nick Law, Pat Sanchez, Jim Friedenbach, and Rob Davies. Nay: None. Motion passed.

Consideration of Payment Regarding IHDA Grant: Mayor Griswold requested a motion to approve this payment to complete demolition on of a residence on Division Street. Pat Sanchez motioned to approve the payment not to exceed \$6,000; Rob Davies seconded. Roll call vote aye: Katie Herrig, Nick Law, Pat Sanchez, Jim Friedenbach, Rob Davies, and Jacob Helms. Nay: None. Motion passed.

Water at West Carroll CUSD #314, Discussion: Mayor Griswold was contacted by a school board member regarding the Junior High football program and is seeking assistance with watering the new field here in town. Fire Chief Scott Parker voiced concern about water pressure off a hydrant and the wear and tear on the hydrant. After the discussion, more information will be needed and addressed at a later date.

Estate Sale at Former High School: Katie Herrig has approached an Estate Sale Company due to the volume of items to be sold. She would like to hire them to handle the sale at a 35% commission.

Using this company would save her a great deal of trouble with the items left at the school, as the sale would take place during Alumni weekend. Mayor Griswold suggested Katie contact the company and get a contract to review at the next Council meeting.

Painting Former Football Field Grand Stand: Mayor Griswold was contacted by a citizen to repaint the stadium in red & white Savanna colors. They would provide paint and labor to accomplish this. Nick Law motioned to approve the request, but needs a proposal from the parties to do the labor. The Council's consensus at this point is to approve.

CITIZENS, COUNCIL, MEMBERS:

Linda Grissinger asked about the painting of the Mike Hubble building. Katie Herrig responded that he was not prepared to complete it last fall but will do so shortly. Fire Chief Scott Parker mentioned that the Fireman's Ball will be returning for Alumni weekend. Pat Sanchez asked about the contact for the fireworks company. Katie Herrig will be calling them directly.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Jeff Griswold motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 PM, Katie Herrig seconded. All voting in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Minutes composed by Rhonda Weiss, City Clerk.