

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING *JANUARY 15, 2024

Minutes of the finance committee meeting of the Breese City Council held on the above date.

Mayor Kevin Timmermann called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Aldermen in attendance: Robert Berndsen, Jason Davinroy, Bryan Eversgerd, Bill Fischer, Carl Ratermann, Tim Schleper, Gary Usselmann.

City Officials: Public Works Mgr. Don Voss, Electric Operations Mgr. Jason Deering, Business Admin. Trevor Schubert, Street Supt. Tom Tebbe, Police Chief Mark Berndsen, EMS Operations Mgr. Allen Pollmann, City Treasurer Robert Venhaus, City Attorney Joanne Stevenson.

Visitors: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC WORKS:

- Downtown Sidewalks – received some complaints about the steep sidewalks on 2nd Street. Don stated they are ADA compliant, and there isn't much we can do. The main businesses that are affected are Whitehouse Restaurant and CC Showcase. There is no room for a handicap ramp. Rear handicap access was discussed, but this would be a cost for the businesses. There was no solution for this issue.

UTILITIES:

- Dale Detmer's wage – council agreed to \$100/hour and limit hours.
- Utility Rate ordinances – Joanne has prepared and they are on the agenda for approval tomorrow.
- Cross Connection Survey – this survey needs to be done every 2 years, and is checking for boilers, sprinkler connections, etc. Surveys will be going out soon.
- Water Service Line Inventory – checking for lead and copper lines. This needs to be done to satisfy EPA. Paperwork is due in April. Will be sent out soon.
- Don looked at a new piece of equipment from Schulte Supply for locating service lines. He stated the price is reasonable at \$8,250. Training is in Detroit, and we will see some expense for training.
- IMUA Scholarship – in the past the city matched the \$1,000 scholarship donation for any Breese resident who is chosen. Council agreed to matching funds again this year.
- 69 KV Pole Switch – bids came in for \$95,000 and \$113,000 respectively. BHMG is reviewing them, and they believe they can possibly get the price and time schedule lowered. Will advise further when BHMG gets back to Jason.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Body cameras & Software – Mark is waiting for bids for body cameras from Axon and Motorola. He would also like to replace the in-car cameras. The council advised Mark to make sure storage and hosting costs are included.

AMBULANCE:

- Billable runs – motion by Schleper, second by Eversgerd to approve the billable runs for December. Motion carried by voice vote.
- Waiting for people to pick up the old ambulance. We will be receiving \$4,900 from Purple Wave.
- Allen stated he is a man down right now, due to an accident off city time. Waiting for a doctor's release before he can return to work.
- Ambulance Christmas party is scheduled for 1/24/24 at the golf course.

RECREATION:

- Dog Park – no decision has been made yet. Tim is working with Walker Mondt to get a meeting scheduled.
- Christmas Lighting Request – council agreed to appropriate \$5,000 toward the Christmas lighting yearly.
- The playground by Main Pavilion – is getting old and needs some repair. IMLRMA used to assess our equipment annually, but not sure if they still do this. Bruce to keep an eye on it to ensure its safety.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:

- The annual joint review board meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2024, at 6:30 PM. Adam Stroud with PGAV will be here to review the audit report and answer questions.
- Audit Update – RFI's have been sent out and we will be accepting bids through 3/15/23. Bids will be opened at the finance meeting on 3/18/24.
- New software training – waiting on Civic to schedule training.
- Joe's Pizza – waiting for updated cost from them. The site plan is in HMG's hands, as Netemeyer Engineering has responded to them.

CITY COLLECTOR:

- Need to approve Consociate Health custom funded health insurance for 2024. The council decided the library employees will be treated the same as all other employees, as far as funding goes. Gary will get with the library with final numbers.

- The state mandated paid leave for all employees effective 1/1/24. This includes part-time employees. It is still unsure how on-call employee hours will be handled; we are waiting on IDOL to address this. Joanne has prepared an ordinance for approval tomorrow night.
- Executive session minutes are to be reviewed semi-annually. Sandy to get these minutes to Joanne to get her opinion on whether to release them or keep them sealed. She will prepare a resolution accordingly.
- Jason Stockman is doing the required cybersecurity training on 1/23/24 @ 2:00 PM at the BAC building. Training for all employees is mandated.
- Mioux Florist delivered a bill for purchases from 1999-2023, which totaled \$418.13. Mr. Mioux realized they haven't been billing us for purchases since 1999. He could only get a detailed bill from 2010 to present. The council agreed to pay for the purchases on the detailed bill which totaled \$273.13.

ZONING:

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- Waste Management contract – Kevin reviewed the prices and options available. Joanne to review the contract and advise. Needs to be signed by 1/31/24.
- Manager contracts – everyone should have received the schedule of appointments for Thursday night.
- Employee handbook – will schedule a meeting to continue reviewing the handbook. Need to finish this up and get it approved.
- Suann Fields resignation – we will need a replacement and Kevin is hoping for volunteers.

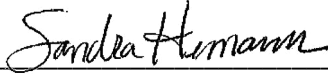
OLD BUSINESS:

No report.

NEW BUSINESS:

No report.

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM.

Non-verbatim minutes taken by: 
Sandy Hemann, City Clerk