

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING \* SEPTEMBER 16, 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, Bryan Eversgerd, Steve Hellige, Carl Ratermann, Tim Schleper, Gary Usselmann. Absent: Jason Davinroy, Bill Fischer.

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

Visitors: Leslie Gregory.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Leslie Gregory with F.E.W. CPAs attended to present the FY-2024 audit report. She went through the major points and reported no new management comments. Overall, the audit went well with an increase in net position.

Trevor Schubert stated the auditors would like to see better budgeting in the funds that have a deficit fund balance.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **UTILITIES:**

- Ameren Utility Agreement – IMEA is reviewing this agreement and when they have finished it will go to Joanne for approval. Jason will follow up with this.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS:**

- Sewer Plant Solar – there is room at the new sewer plant to install ground solar panels. Don would like permission to pursue this and see what the cost and load would be. The council agreed to pursue.
- Water Plant Expansion – should have an agreement from HMG at the next finance meeting. It will take at least 2 years to develop a plan. This is something that will need to be done in the future, and we need to start planning now.
- Mater Dei building trades – DV Cabinetry has the contract for the cabinets. Don wants permission to work with the building trades kids on some Tuesday & Thursday mornings while doing the installation. The council approved it.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

- Internet at the parks – Council agreed to get internet at the parks for the police cameras. Chief Berndsen to check with Verizon, Charter & Clearwave. Alderman Eversgerd would rather see hard wire vs. wireless service for reliability.

## **AMBULANCE:**

- Garage HVAC – Don spoke with Kohnen Heating & A/C about air conditioning in the ambulance garage. The cost will be approximately \$12,770.00. Don stated we will also need to add some insulation in the garage. The council agreed to go with air conditioning instead of fans, since the purpose is to keep the meds in the ambulances from overheating. Don was instructed to also get a bid from Kalmer.
- Motion by Eversgerd, second by Schleper to approve the billable runs for August. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
- Allen reported that Terminix discovered that the dehumidifier in the crawl space at the ambulance base has died. Replacement cost to be around \$2,000. The council agreed to replace it. The dehumidifier is needed for mold mitigation.

## **RECREATION:**

- Hannah's Playground bathroom heating – cost to replace the current unit, which is insufficient, to be \$5,300.00. The council agreed to purchase the upgraded unit, so we can keep this restroom open year-round.
- Old playground equipment – Bruce had someone inquiring about it. It was determined that it will be unsalvageable when removed because it will have to be cut apart to get it down.
- Swimming Pool – Doug to get a list of what improvements need to be made before next year. Alderman Berndsen also stated it needs to be closed down for the year.

## **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:**

- Business District Grants – we received 27 in total: 14 for the Downtown Business District, and 13 for the Old Rt. 50 Business District. A committee meeting was set for September 25<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM to review.
- Jansen Ford TIF & Business District Public Hearing – an ordinance and resolution setting the time and date of November 5, 2024, at 7:00 PM at Breese City Hall, are on the agenda for approval tomorrow night. Trevor also stated the required Joint Review Board meeting has been set for October 8, 2024, at 7:00 PM in City Hall.

## **CITY COLLECTOR:**

- Ambulance SSA Contracts – the council agreed to the maximum 1.05 increase which will be as follows: Germantown Twp - \$43,537.00, Germantown Village \$63,185.00, Breese Twp. \$54,640.00, Breese City \$233,961.00. Total increase revenue for 2024/25 of \$18,820.00. It was

noted the rate will be less than the maximum allowable rate because the EAV went up substantially, but the council did not want to do a truth-in-taxation hearing.

- New hire at City Hall for the administrative assistant position will begin October 14<sup>th</sup>. Approval to hire will be on 10/1/24 agenda.
- Health Insurance Meeting – will get with broker to set a date. Also, need to start discussing the changes the council wants to make to next year's health insurance.

### **ZONING:**

- There is a zoning hearing scheduled for 10/3/24 at 7:30 PM for an amendment for Paul Rinella at 1302 Apple Lane to change zoning from C-2 to R-2 to align with surrounding properties.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- Mayor Timmermann stated St. Jacob Glass will be at the library tomorrow morning to look at the doors and windows.
- Due to Mayor Timmermann and Alderman Berndsen attending the TIF conference, the council needs to elect a committee chairman to preside at the next council meeting. Motion by Eversgerd, second by Berndsen to elect Gary Usselmann to act as temporary chairman for the September 17, 2024, council meeting. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
- Recycle survey – the results were 84% voting no, and 16% voting yes, so there will be no curbside pickup. The council agreed to remove the dumpster from city hall, with Wednesday 9/25/24 being the last pick-up. The dumpster will be removed because people are placing non-recyclable items in it, leaving their recycling on the outside of the dumpster, non-residents using it, and the cost is very prohibitive.

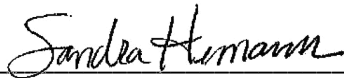
### **OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

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