

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING * FEBRUARY 17, 2025

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, Steve Hellige, Carl Ratermann, Tim Schleper, Gary Usselmann. Absent: Bill Fischer

City Officials: Public Works Mgr. Don Voss, Business Administrator Trevor Schubert, Electric Operations Mgr. Jason Deering, Police Chief Mark Berndsen, EMS Operations Mgr. Allen Pollmann, Park Custodian Bruce Kruep, Zoning Administrator John Becker, Deputy City Clerk Jackie Hummert, City Attorney Joanne Stevenson, Treasurer Robert Venhaus.

Visitors: Lucas Essenpreis, Walker Mondt.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC WORKS:

- The county contacted Don about the road repair on Walnut Street by the roundabout. When construction begins, the county will be shutting down the southbound traffic on Walnut St. The city will be replacing some curbing and removing the median before the county begins their portion.
- Tom is working up the costs for the Mine Street Improvement. Don stated there will only be funds for the curbing and storm sewer. He also stated we still need to get the ROW purchased from one landowner yet.

UTILITIES:

- Past due landlord bills – we are down to 1 landlord with outstanding bills and Don will get in contact with them.
- Fair solar credit – Council in agreement to keep it at the current 5.45 cents for 2025 instead of the 3.89 cents calculated by our energy provider. A letter to be sent to the solar customers informing them of this.
- Service Order Software – Don researching software from Brightly Software Co.
- Automatic meter reading software – Don still researching.
- Polaris Ranger for Sewer Dept – Don to get a price quote to the council.
- Changing the location for the new lift station to the new wastewater treatment plant should save the city approximately \$600,000. The original plan was to place it at the old sewer plant. HMG is working on the new plan.

- #5 engine – we have found parts to do the repair, but it will be about 8 weeks for delivery. We still need to find a mechanic/company to do the work.
- Looking to the future, the council discussed retiring the old Cooper engine and getting a bigger/better replacement. Jason to start researching this.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- The council agreed to place a yield sign at the corner of N. Cherry & 12th Street. Joanne to prepare the ordinance.
- Mark would like to sync all the speed limits coming into town. Council in agreement. IDOT will need to be contacted to change the speed limit on Route 50 since it is a state highway. Joanne to prepare the ordinance.

AMBULANCE:

- Motion by Eversgerd, second by Schleper to approve billable runs for January. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
- Sugar Creek's ambulance was taken out of commission by an accident and their second ambulance was out for repair, leaving them with no ambulance. They borrowed one of ours short term and the city will continue to assist them with runs when possible.
- One of our ambulances will be going in for repair on Tuesday, so we will be down to 2 ambulances for a short time.

RECREATION:

- Dog Park – Walker Mondt asked the council if he can get the fencing ordered. J Square Fence LLC has quoted a cost of \$22,250; Fears Fencing submitted a quote of \$25,900. Motion by Davinroy, second by Schleper to order fence from J Square Fence LLC. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Walker asked for a project manager to oversee the project. The council decided to contact HMG.
- Will set up a committee meeting with the Christmas lighting committee.
- Bruce stated he will need 2 new part-time employees at the park for the coming summer season. He was instructed to move forward with hiring them.
- Golf course maintenance – no update.
- Point of Sale System for clubhouse and pool – no update.
- Swim pool bathhouse – Don is researching new doors for the restrooms.
- Breese Youth Soccer and Baseball – current organizers are stepping down. Will need to find replacements. It was discussed to have someone within the city do this. Will do more research and talk to the park board.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:

- Jansen TIF & Business District ordinances are ready to be passed at tomorrow night's meeting.
- YMCA donation – City has been donating \$1500 for the last several years. The council agreed to continue the donation.

CITY COLLECTOR:

- Full budgets need to be turned in to the city collector by March 17th. We will set up a committee meeting after that date to review all budgets.

ZONING:

- Cannabis dispensary rules – John Becker and Joanne to research state laws regarding regulation and zoning regulations. At the current time, we have nothing to regulate the opening of a dispensary in the city.
- Solar Ordinance – Joanne prepared the ordinance and sent out. John noted a couple changes that need to be made. Kevin asked managers to review and send any changes to Joanne by March 1st so we can get it approved soon.

MAYORS REPORT

- Will appoint Jamie Fields to the library board and re-appoint Jean Steinman to the library board at the meeting on February 18th.
- Managers paperwork – Kevin wants all plans, quotes, bids etc. on paper and sent out to the council before a meeting, so they can review and ask questions before they must vote on it.

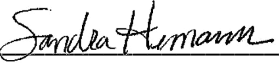
OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 PM.

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