

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING \* NOVEMBER 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 7:25 p.m.

Aldermen in attendance: Jason Davinroy, Steve Hellige, Luke Essenpreis, Jeff Jung, Carl Ratermann, Dan Robben.

Absent: Tim Schleper, Gary Usselmann.

City Officials: Public Works Mgr. Don Voss, Electric Operations Mgr. Jason Deering, Street Supt. Tom Tebbe, Golf Course Supt. Paul Smith, City Treasurer Bob Venhaus, Police Chief Mark Berndsen, Ems Operations Mgr. Allen Pollmann, Business Admin. Trevor Schubert, Park Custodian Bruce Kruep, City Attorney Joanne Stevenson.

Visitors:

### **PROJECTS:**

- South Water Tower—Currently have 6 plan holders bidding the project.
- Sewer Plant Upgrade—Bid opening on Thursday at 2pm.
- Mine Street Improvements—Anticipating a bid opening in January. The plans are going to IDOT for final approval.
- Library Renovation—Currently about 10% over budget. Jackie will check to make sure the overage is covered in the Appropriation Ordinance.

### **PUBLIC WORKS:**

- ADA parking spot—Gerio Primary Care at 556 North 2<sup>nd</sup> St. has requested an ADA parking spot on the east bound lane on the corner of N. 2<sup>nd</sup> & N. Clinton. Council approved.
- Memorial Drive sidewalk—Don asked permission to start preliminary work and purchase right of ways before next fiscal year. The project will be completed next summer. He also wants to add a sidewalk on Holy Cross Ln. from Liberty Ct. to McKay Manor. Council approved.

### **UTILITIES:**

- St. Rose Water District—Karl Klostermann understands that the city cannot add a lower rate to the current scale. Karl agreed to sign a 25-year contract to secure the debt service of a 20-year note on the Water Plant expansion. The council agreed to keep a good relationship with St. Rose.
- Top AG property—Don purchased the property for \$1.00. HMG is working on the plat of survey.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

- No-Parking Zones on S. Walnut & Memorial Drive—Joanne prepared the ordinance for approval tomorrow night.
- Mark recently purchased Chris Jansen's bullet proof vest for \$1300 and needs to get another one for Jared Tebbe. The 50% reimbursable grant has passed and Jared agreed to cover that portion of the cost.

## **AMBULANCE:**

- Motion by Davinroy, seconded by Hellige to approve the Billable Runs for October 2025. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
- Collections—Wakefield & Associates dropped Breese Ambulance, so we need a new collections service. Allen will reach out to Joe Heiligenstein to see if that is an option since he already handles Sugar Creek.
- Increase mileage rates—Allen suggested increasing the rate to \$22.00/mile to help offset credit card fees. Joanne will prepare an ordinance for the rate increase.
- New hire—Only received 1 application; Todd Wells, who is currently part time. Allen and Steve scheduled the interview for Monday, November 24<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Allen also requested a committee meeting to discuss raising wages.

## **RECREATION:**

- Golf course November revenue is already more than last year's November revenue. Last November was a record year.
- Working with the Utility Department to possibly run fiber to the golf course for better internet service.
- Don will follow up with Gerstner Plumbing regarding the Southside Park restroom repairs.
- Jason still needs to schedule a meeting with Clinton County Showcase to discuss future plans. No demolition will happen until after Christmas.

## **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:**

- S&P Rating interview—scheduled for Tuesday at 1pm.
- Sewer feasibility analysis—Must pass an ordinance increasing the sewer rates to cover the debt service plus 25% before issuing bonds. Preliminary numbers are an initial 96% increase and 4% every 4 years after. Council decided Trevor and Don need to run more numbers and discuss further at a later date. Joanne will need to prepare an ordinance for approval on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Joint Review Board—Meeting scheduled for December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

- Pledged Securities & Balances Report—Daily bank balances should be recorded each morning and reported at the monthly Finance meeting.

#### **CITY COLLECTOR:**

- Tax Levy—Proposed levy amount is \$1,232,488.18 at a rate of .84, which is an increase of \$58,444.65 from last year. The maximum the city can levy without a truth in taxation is \$1,232,745.71. The ordinance will be on the December 16<sup>th</sup> agenda for approval and submitted to the county by December 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Cannabis Retailers' Occupation Tax ordinance—IL Dept of Revenue requested changes in some language. The amended ordinance is on the agenda for tomorrow night to approve.
- City Hall clock—The clock needs maintenance. Rather than continuing to incur expenses on the clock, the council discussed putting the funds towards updating the landscaping around city hall next fiscal year.

#### **ZONING:**

- Don will reach out to Dawn Drewes for an update.

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

No report.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Employee Handbook—Luke submitted the recommended updates to Jackie for editing. New additions include Maternity Leave and an Employee Complaint form. The council will approve the new handbook on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Non-verbatim minutes taken by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jackie Hummert, City Clerk