

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING * SEPTEMBER 15, 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 p.m.

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

Absent: Tim Schleper.

City Officials: Public Works Mgr. Don Voss, Electric Operations Mgr. Jason Deering, Street Supt. Tom Tebbe, Clubhouse Mgr. Doug Schulte, 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, Zoning Admin. John Becker.

Visitor: Brian Buchheit, HMG Engineers
Leslie Gregory, F.E.W. CPAs

Leslie Gregory from F.E.W. CPAs reviewed the FY2025 Audit. Overall income was \$2.4 million, up from \$2.1 million the previous year. Ambulance started the fiscal year at negative \$542,000 and ended at a positive \$261,000. All proprietary funds show a positive balance except the Golf due to purchasing new cart batteries. This year \$297,000 funds were found not FDIC secured at Germantown Trust & Savings. Trevor will monitor the fund security and GTSB will be contacted before moving large amounts going forward.

Brian Buchheit from HMG Engineers attended to explain the cost of the additional changes to the Sewer Plant Upgrade. HMG had to redesign some equipment and move the terminal lift station from the old dump site back to the treatment plant site. The project is on track to bid out by October 1st.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- Don would like to offer a prorated contract to reimburse employees for CDL training. He will have a draft for review by the next finance meeting.
- Don had a request from Vern Mohesky to assist correcting a leaning flagpole at the Villas. Council agreed for Don to pour the concrete foundation.
- City Wide Cleanup is scheduled for 10/18/25
- Rock & Oiling for alleys and driveways is scheduled for 9/24/25
- Tom ordered the new bleachers—1 for each field to start. The old bleachers will be removed.

UTILITIES:

- The September Power Cost Adjustment was calculated at \$.0107. Jason suggested reducing it to \$.0075. Motion by Davinroy, seconded by Usselmann to reduce the PCA for September to \$.0075. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Mark presented vehicle bids from Jansen Ford and K&J
 - The Dodge truck has a 10-year/100,000-mile power train and 3-year bumper to bumper warranty; it is not a police vehicle
 - The Ford F-150 has a 5-year/100,000-mile power train and 3-year bumper to bumper warranty; it is a police vehicleCouncil decided to research further and discuss it at the next finance meeting
- Alternative vehicle ordinance—Should the age limit be lowered from 21 years old to 18 years old? Aldermen Jung and Davinroy argued the age limit should be 16 years old. Motion by Hellige, seconded by Robben to change the age limit to 18 years old. Motion denied by 5-3 voice votes. Alderman Davinroy suggested to table the motion and get more information before the next finance meeting.

AMBULANCE:

- Motion by Jung, seconded by Usselmann to approve the Billable Runs for August 2025. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
- Mayor Timmermann made special mention and thanked Allen for his efforts to turn the ambulance service around.
- Medicaid's said the insurance companies will not pay the credit card fees and will end up billing the patient for the fees. Council will discuss possibly increasing rates to offset the loss from credit card fees at the October Finance meeting.

RECREATION:

- Don asked if everyone was in favor of demolishing the bandstand. Council agreed. Kevin will meet with Steve Klostermann to discuss a plan for a future structure.
- Concrete and dirt work are done at the Dog Park. Don requested to not open the Dog Park until May so they can plant grass.
- Doug mentioned the water line underneath the ladies' shower room will need maintenance in early spring.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:

- Insurance renewal—Imming Insurance wants to bid for the city's insurance. Without sufficient time to create a proper RFI, the council decided to stay with IML for 2026 and revisit building a bid packet by 7/1/2026.
- Trevor has received 26 business district grant applications. Finance committee will meet on Tuesday 9/30/25 at 7pm to review the applications. Kevin wants an audit of the grants this year to make sure they are all compliant. Since the Business District plan is currently being updated to include the American Legion and KC Hall, they can submit grant applications this year.
- Still waiting to hear back from Breese Lawn & Garden regarding their Business District agreement. Kevin explained that not all businesses will earn their full amount. The district has 17 years left.
- Meristem Advisors have everything they need from the city for the sewer rate study. The cost will be \$15,000. The rate given should cover the city's payments plus 25%.
- Trevor would like to discuss interfund payables at the next finance meeting.

CITY COLLECTOR:

- Supplemental Appropriation public hearing will be held 9/22/25 at 7pm along with the sewer bonds public hearing. The appropriation ordinance will be on the 10/7/25 agenda for approval.
- Online hosted codification through CivicPlus—initial publication is \$7861.25, and then \$3475.00 for annual service. The city code of ordinances will be available on the city's website via a link to CivicPlus. New ordinances will be supplemented every 4 months. Motion by Usselman, seconded by Jung to approve purchasing codification services from Civic Plus for \$7861.25. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
- Closed session minutes—overdue for review. Executive session minutes are supposed to be reviewed every 6 months to decide if they can be published. Council will review the minutes in closed session at the October finance meeting.
- Leaf Dump is scheduled for 10/25/25 – 12/21/25.

ZONING:

- Zoning hearing scheduled for 9/25/25 to amend the zoning code 40-1-2 to include "with a mile and a half."
- Brad Drewes property—His building permit is still expired, and work is not complete, he has multiple work trailers on the property, and his business is registered as his home address. Joanne will send another notice explaining fines for not having a building permit, trailers on the property and running a business in a residential district.
- Vacant and dilapidated parcels—Joanne will have the title company run title searches on the addresses to find the owners.
- Solar field vegetation maintenance—already covered in the ordinance.

MAYOR'S REPORT

No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Employee Handbook—Luke is making the revisions that were suggested at the committee meeting and will have it for review at the next finance meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Should fishing be allowed at the reservoir?—Council decided to post signs saying “Authorized Personnel Only” and make sure water plant doors are always locked.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

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