

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING * MAY 18, 2026

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: Luke Essenpreis, Jeff Jung, Carl Ratermann, Dan Robben, Tim Schleper, Gary Usselmann.

Absent: Jason Davinroy, Steve Hellige.

City Officials: Public Works Mgr. Don Voss, Electric Operations Mgr. Jason Deering, Street Supt. Tom Tebbe, HR/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, Water Plant Foreman Josh Niederhofer.

Visitor: Kevin Wills, Bernardi Securities

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kevin Wills explained the IRS expectations of the sewer bond issue schedule. Approximately 5% should be spent within the first 6 months. A contract needs to be in place with a plan for spending the proceeds before issuing the next amount. The city plans to open bids in June, award bids in July and start construction in September. Kevin Wills suggested starting the initial authorization and rating process. He also stated that the city may need to pass another ordinance to extend the first authorizing ordinance. Don and Kevin Wills then discussed a future bond issuance for the North Substation. Kevin Wills suggested that the bond counsel prepare a reimbursement ordinance in addition to the authorizing ordinance to allow flexibility to pay back any funds previously spent. These ordinances will be passed at the second June council meeting.

PROJECTS:

- South Water Tower—Caldwell is scheduled to start the week after July 4th
- Sewer Plant Upgrade—bid opening will be mid-June
- Mine Street Improvements—still waiting on the Farrell family
- North Substation—award the transformer and switchgear bids Tuesday night
- HCL East/HCL West—Zoning Hearing on 5/28/26 at 7:30pm to re-zone East from R-3 to R-1
- Bandstand—Recreation Committee needs to meet with Nick Mueth and Steven Christ from Clinton County Showcase to come up with a drawing

PUBLIC WORKS:

- Water sampling—Josh Niederhofer explained recent issues/concerns pertaining to the water sampling process. Currently, the water samples are shipped to the lab and are arriving late or damaged. Council agreed to have Tim Fitzgerald start driving the samples to the lab in Peoria.
- 12th & 13th Street curbing—the Street Dept will start tearing out curbing this week; not all curbing in that area needs to be replaced
- Jamestown Road construction—the south bound lane should open this week
- Skid-Steer Loader—Council agreed to purchase the Bobcat for \$65,006.10
- South 4th Lift Station—needs a new pump and control panel
- Demo Ramjet—Don was offered to demo a sewer jetter; will be a necessary purchase in the future

UTILITIES:

- Transformer bids—Council agreed to award Virginia Transformer in the base amount of \$1,854,860 due to lead time
- Switchgear bids—Council agreed to award Switchgear Power Systems in the amount of \$1,386,350
- PCA—Motion by Schleper, seconded by Robben to lower the rate for the May billing cycle from .0105 to .0075. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Residency requirement—Mark requested that residency for police officers be expanded to within 20 miles of city limits. Council agreed to have Joanne draft an ordinance.
- Mark reported that the drone was damaged while flying over flood waters. He is submitting information to insurance and will replace the drone from the Police Drug Fund.

AMBULANCE:

- Motion by Jung, seconded by Usselman to approve the Billable Runs for April 2026. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
- Collections—Council agreed to sign a contract with Consumer Collection Management, Inc.

RECREATION:

- Hannah's Playground swing has been repaired
- Dieterich Bank donated a pet waste station to the Dog Park
- Park restroom maintenance—Gerstner Plumbing quoted \$4500 to replace the toilets at North Side Park main restroom. Council agreed that all park restroom maintenance should be reviewed and/or completed semi-annually.

- Golf Course aerator—Motion by Schleper, seconded by Jung to purchase a Redexim aerator in the amount of \$13,677.78; 50% will be expensed from the Capital Expense account.
- Paul reported on vandalism to 4 golf carts and the golf course that occurred Saturday evening. Council agreed to charge \$5,000 for damages.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:

- Trevor reported on April financial statements. The auditors are scheduled to come 7/22/26.
- Business District Grants—Trevor presented the eligible costs accepted in the program. Council asked to also include a list of exclusions for consistency. Council agreed to continue reimbursing 50% of project costs up to \$7,500 per grant award. FY27 grant applications will be accepted 7/8/26 - 9/14/26.
- Comprehensive Plan—need to schedule a meeting for the Planning Commission to make final recommendations for council approval and hold a public hearing preferably by early July
- Jansen Ford Redevelopment—the original redevelopment plan will expire December 2026; PGAV is amending the plan extending it to December 2027 due to timing issues preparing construction plans
- Joe's Pizza of Breese—Motion by Schleper, seconded by Usselman to reimburse missed Business District sales tax. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

CITY COLLECTOR:

- The city is progressing and implementing more technology and web-based features. Eventually, there may be a need for either a dedicated outsourced IT company or possibly creating a new position.
- Social Media policy—Recently, there have been spam comments on city Facebook posts. IML has policy and ordinance templates available for municipalities that Joanne will review for council approval.

ZONING:

- Zoning Hearing on 5/28/26 at 7:30pm to re-zone Holy Cross Lane East property from R-3 to R-1

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Resolution for IML Conference—on the Tuesday agenda for approval; Kevin designated Dan, Tim, Jeff, Steve, Bob, Joanne, Trevor and himself to attend the conference in September
- Multi-purpose vehicle—Kevin is getting quotes for a vehicle that will be available for council and all departments to use for various tasks and meetings

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

Motion by Schleper, seconded by Usselman to adjourn after no further business was brought before the Council. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

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