FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING *SEPTEMBER 14, 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: Jason Davinroy, Steve Hellige, Luke Essenpreis, Jeff Jung, Carl Ratermann, Dan Robben, Tim Schleper, Gary Usselmann.

City Officials: Public Works Mgr. Don Voss, Street Supt. Tom Tebbe, HR Director & Clubhouse Mgr. Doug Schulte, Golf Course Supt. Paul Smith, City Treasurer Bob Venhaus, Police Chief Mark Berndsen, Business Admin. Trevor Schubert, Park Custodian Bruce Kruep, City Attorney Joanne Stevenson, Zoning Admin. John Becker.

Visitor: Leslie Gregory – F.E.W. CPAs, Connie Robben – Clinton County Citizens for Life

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Leslie Gregory from F.E.W. CPAs presented the final audit for fiscal year end 2026. She explained that the city received a clean opinion on everything and the net position increased by $3.8 million from the prior year. Kevin instructed Trevor to meet with the Library Board to review their financial policies and procedures.
- Connie Robben attended to propose donating a bench to the Breese Parks on behalf of Clinton County Citizens for Life. The bench will be engraved to read "In Memory of Ester Koch Life is Precious." Council agreed to have the city pour a concrete pad for the bench. Bruce will communicate with Connie on location.

Motion by Schleper, seconded by Davinroy to open the public hearing for the 2026 Comprehensive Plan Update.

PROJECTS:

- South Water Tower—Scheduled to start next Wednesday.
- Sewer Plant Upgrade—Approve Korte & Luitjohan Progress Estimate #1 in the amount of $225,000.00 at Tuesday's Council meeting.
- North Substation—no update
- Mine Street Improvements—Approve resolutions for transfer of easements from City to IDOT at Tuesday's Council meeting; waiting on title insurance.
- HCL East/HCL West—no update
- Breese Nature Amphitheater—Next town hall meeting will be Wednesday, September 30th at 7pm at the Breese American Legion.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- Sale of Street vehicles and equipment—Council agreed to receive sealed bids. Tom and Trevor will decide on a date.

- Purchase new jack hammer—Motion by Schleper, seconded by Usselmann to approve purchasing an Indeco HP800 FS Hydraulic Breaker with skid steer mount from Luby Equipment in the amount of $10,800.00. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion by Schleper, seconded by Hellige to close the public hearing for the 2026 Comprehensive Plan Update. No public attended to comment. The council will approve the updated plan at Tuesday's Council meeting.

UTILITIES:

- Backflow Solutions, Inc. Proposal—Victoria Rodriguez from BSI attended by Teams to explain their backflow and cross-connection control services. BSI offered to waive the $1000.00 implementation fee. She suggested purchasing their most popular, mid-level Premium package for $995.00 annually. Victoria also discussed BSI's fats, oils, and grease (FOG) tracking program for an additional $1500.00 annually. Don said the city spends about $5000.00 per year on chemicals to keep various sewers clean. BSI would require businesses to clean their interceptors every month.
- Breese tank rehab—Need to replace the ladder.
- HMG contract—Approve a contract for the design and construction of the new generator building in the amount not to exceed $24,500.00 at Tuesday's Council meeting.
- Electric rates—Don reminded the council that the electric facility charges and rates increased September 1st according to the ordinance that was passed August 19, 2025. The increase will add $4.94 for the first 700 kWh to residential customers and $24.11 for the first 1000 kWh to commercial customers. Trevor was instructed to double check Don's figures and send them to Dan for review.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

None.

AMBULANCE:

- Motion by Schleper, seconded by Jung to approve the Billable Runs for August 2026. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

RECREATION:

- Bruce will coordinate planting trees this fall with Plant Land and Jerry's Nursery.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:

- Trevor updated the council on August financial reports.
- Business District Grants—Scheduled a committee meeting to review grant applications on Tuesday, October 13th at 6:30pm.
- Sewer/Electric bonds—Need to decide $ amount of Electric and/or Sewer. Trevor will contact Germantown Bank to see how much they want to purchase.

CITY COLLECTOR

- Retirement gift cards—Motion by Robben, seconded by Usselmann to approve giving a $300.00 gift card and personalized certificate of appreciation to employees for their retirement. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
- Veterans Day Parade—Breese American Legion is hosting the parade this year; need to submit an application and donation on behalf of the City of Breese.

HUMAN RESOURCES:

None.

ZONING:

- Short term rental ordinance—Joanne drafted an ordinance establishing a definition for short term rentals and allowing them as a Special Use in R-1, R-2, C-1, and C-2. The ordinance also amends the Hotel/Motel Tax code to include short term rentals. Council will approve the ordinance at the October 6th Council meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Christmas Party—Council agreed to host the employee Christmas party on Friday, December 4th at Bent Oak Golf Course and use Fischer's Butchering & Deli to cater.

OLD BUSINESS:

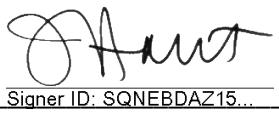
- E Bike ordinance—New Illinois regulations take effect January 1, 2027. Council agreed to post notifications on the city Facebook and website. Kevin will also continue to remind residents at Council meetings.
- Special Event code of ordinances—Joanne is still reviewing. Kevin would like to pass the ordinance by December so that letters can go out to schools and organizations before January 1st.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Code of Ordinances review—Kevin plans to meet with CivicPlus at the IML Conference. The council will approve an ordinance amending peddler fees to match the updated solicitor fees at the October 6th Council meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Non-verbatim minutes taken by: 

Jackie Hummert, City Clerk