

BREESE CITY COUNCIL MEETING *JULY 21, 2026

Minutes of the 30th Regular Meeting of the Breese City Council held on the above date.

Mayor Kevin Timmermann called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

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

City Officials: Public Works Mgr. Don Voss, Street Supt. Tom Tebbe, Electric Operations Mgr. Jason Deering, Police Chief Mark Berndsen, HR & Clubhouse Mgr. Doug Schulte, Park Custodian Bruce Kruep, Business Admin. Trevor Schubert, City Attorney Joanne Stevenson, Zoning Admin. John Becker.

Press: Matt Wilson-Breese Journal, Corey Johnson-Union Banner.

Visitors: Ellen Woehrmann-IMUA, Caden Klay, Chris Klay, Leslie Klay, Austin Deal, Dylan Ziegler, Amy Farrell-remotely.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Motion by Jung, seconded by Essenpreis to approve the minutes of the meeting held on July 7, 2026, and place on file. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion by Robben, seconded by Hellige to authorize payment of the bills, City Collector and City Treasurer Report. On roll call voting "aye": Jeff Jung, Carl Ratermann, Dan Robben, Tim Schleper, Gary Usselmann, Jason Davinroy, Luke Essenpreis, Steve Hellige. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE:

Motion by Robben, seconded by Davinroy to approve the Appropriation Ordinance for fiscal year 2027 in the amount of \$46,896,644.89. On roll call voting "aye": Carl Ratermann, Dan Robben, Tim Schleper, Gary Usselmann, Jason Davinroy, Luke Essenpreis, Steve Hellige, Jeff Jung. Motion carried.

UTILITIES:

Motion by Schleper, seconded by Jung to approve a resolution authorizing the Mayor and the City of Breese to execute an agreement to purchase property for the Mine Street Project and counter-offer addendum to IDOT Form LA-416E and to provide future access points on the seller's remaining Mine Street property. On roll call voting "aye": Gary Usselmann, Jason Davinroy, Luke Essenpreis, Steve Hellige, Jeff Jung, Carl Ratermann, Dan Robben, Tim Schleper. Motion carried.

Motion by Schleper, seconded by Essenpreis to approve a declaration of covenants related to the Mine Street Project. On roll call voting "aye": Tim Schleper, Gary Usselmann, Jason Davinroy, Luke Essenpreis, Steve Hellige, Jeff Jung, Carl Ratermann, Dan Robben. Motion carried.

Ellen Woehrmann from the Illinois Municipal Utilities Association announced Caden Klay as the scholarship recipient for 2026. He was 1 of 4 applicants chosen out of 70 to receive \$1,000.00 from IMUA. Mayor Timmermann congratulated Caden and presented him with an additional \$2,500.00 on behalf of the City of Breese.

Motion by Schleper, second by Hellige to approve a contract with HMG Engineers for the Wastewater Treatment Improvements Construction Phase Services in the amount of \$680,000.00. On roll call voting "aye": Jason Davinroy, Luke Essenpreis, Steve Hellige, Jeff Jung, Carl Ratermann, Dan Robben, Tim Schleper, Gary Usselmann. Motion carried.

Motion by Schleper, seconded by Hellige to approve the purchase of a Pitney Bowes Relay 4500 in the amount of \$15,554.41. On roll call voting "aye": Luke Essenpreis, Steve Hellige, Jeff Jung, Carl Ratermann, Dan Robben, Tim Schleper, Gary Usselmann, Jason Davinroy. Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Street Superintendent Tom Tebbe reported that the Street Department is finished oiling and chipping Ward 4.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Alderman Hellige reported that the city has contacted Flock regarding recent concerns and is reviewing its company policy.

Alderman Hellige reminded everyone that the Breese EMS Golf Scramble is Saturday, August 1st. They still need teams for the afternoon. EMS Director Allen Pollmann plans to use proceeds from the golf tournament for a new power lift stretcher.

Police Chief Mark Berndsen introduced the new part-time officers Austin Deal and Dylan Ziegler. They both start the part-time police academy in August.

Chief Berndsen reported that the Bike Safety Day is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. this Friday, July 24th at City Hall.

RECREATION:

Motion by Davinroy, seconded by Schleper to approve a contract with Nickas Architecture, LLC for stage and pavilion design services in the amount of \$6,950.00. On roll call voting “aye”: Luke Essenpreis, Steve Hellige, Jeff Jung, Carl Ratermann, Dan Robben, Tim Schleper, Gary Usselman, Jason Davinroy. Motion carried.

Alderman Davinroy reported that the Breese Optimist is hosting a Dive-In Movie at the Breese Pool Wednesday, July 29th at 8 p.m. It is a free event with snacks and drinks provided.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS:

No report.

ZONING:

Motion by Jung, seconded by Robben to approve an ordinance re-zoning a parcel located on North 4th Street and Mine Street from R-2 to C-2. On roll call voting “aye”: Dan Robben, Tim Schleper, Gary Usselman, Jason Davinroy, Luke Essenpreis, Steve Hellige, Jeff Jung, Carl Ratermann. Motion carried.

Alderman Jung reported that there is a zoning hearing scheduled on Thursday, July 30th at 7:30 p.m. in City Hall for a variance for Jered & Catherine Huegen at 924 North 5th Street.

HEALTH:

Alderman Essenpreis asked residents to take care of themselves in the heat and be aware of kids on bikes.

Mayor Timmermann reported that the Clinton County Health Department detected positive traces of the West Nile Virus in Breese. Any questions should be directed to the Clinton County Health Department.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Timmermann welcomed Officers Austin Deal and Dylan Ziegler to the Breese Police Department.

Mayor Timmermann thanked Caden Klay for representing the City of Breese and reiterated the importance of organizations like Illinois Municipal Utilities Association.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

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