

BREESE CITY COUNCIL MEETING * SEPTEMBER 2, 2025

Minutes of the 9th Regular Meeting of the Breese City Council held on the above date.

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

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

Absent: None

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

Press: Matt Wilson, Breese Journal.

Visitors: Melissa Howard, Christy Howard.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Motion by Usselmann, seconded by Davinroy to approve the minutes of the meeting held on August 19, 2025, and place on file. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Melissa Howard and Christy Howard addressed the council regarding the Chamber of Commerce Halloween Pub Crawl. They asked why patrons were not allowed to have open alcoholic containers on the south side of the railroad tracks since Southside Tavern was participating in the event. Chief Mark Berndsen explained the open containers were not welcome in the 4 residential blocks between the tracks and the tavern. Christy offered a few possible solutions. She admitted that she didn't think people would want to walk all the way from Dutchmen's to Southside Tavern. Her concern was that signs would be posted restricting people from walking to their business, and that they would miss out on the income from the event.

Since Southside Tavern will be the first stop for the costume judging, everyone agreed that very few patrons would be traveling south of the tracks during the later hours. The council decided Melissa and Christy should contact Southern Bus & Mobility to get pricing for a bus and split the cost with the other participating establishments.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE:

Motion by Robben, seconded by Schleper to approve an ordinance authorizing the City of Breese, Clinton County, Illinois, to issue Sewer Revenue Bonds (paid from the net revenues of the sewerage system of said City) or, in lieu thereof, General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) (said bonds being general obligation bonds to be issued in one or more series, on a taxable or tax exempt basis, for which property taxes, unlimited as to rate or amount, may be levied), but which are expected to be paid from the Net Revenues of the City's Sewerage System (generally, "Net Revenues" means gross revenues minus operation and maintenance expenses), in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$15,000,000, for the purpose of paying the costs of financing various capital improvements to and maintenance of the production and collection of the sanitary sewer system of the City. On roll call voting "aye": Luke Essenpreis, Steve Hellige, Jeff Jung, Carl Ratermann, Dan Robben, Tim Schleper, Gary Usselman, Jason Davinroy. Motion carried.

UTILITIES:

No Report.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Alderman Ratermann reminded everyone that the Street Dept. is accepting rock & oil applications for alleys and driveways at \$0.19 per square foot through September 19th. Work will be done on September 24th.

Alderman Ratermann also reported that Clinton County Highway Department will begin road repairs on North Walnut Street between the roundabout and New Rt. 50 ramps on Monday, September 8th.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Motion by Hellige, seconded by Jung to approve increasing part time police officer wages from \$25.00 per hour to \$30.00 per hour. On roll call voting "aye": Steve Hellige, Jeff Jung, Carl Ratermann, Dan Robben, Tim Schleper, Gary Usselman, Jason Davinroy, Luke Essenpreis. Motion carried.

RECREATION:

Alderman Davinroy reported that the Public Works crew has started construction on the Dog Park.

Alderman Davinroy also thanked the first responders that tackled the house fire on North 2nd Street last week. Breese Fire Chief Tom Tebbe thanked the City of Breese noting that city crews filled in to assist.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS:

No Report.

ZONING:

Motion by Jung, seconded by Schleper to approve an ordinance amending the City of Breese Zoning Code to change the allowed location for solar and wind farms to only include Industrial, C-2 and C-3

Districts. On roll call voting "aye": Jeff Jung, Carl Ratermann, Dan Robben, Tim Schleper, Gary Usselmann, Jason Davinroy, Luke Essenpreis, Steve Hellige. Motion carried.

Zoning Admin. John Becker stated that there will be a Zoning Hearing on September 25th to amend the City of Breese Zoning Code regarding the Comprehensive Plan. The amendment will correct a typographical error that will include the verbiage "within a mile and a half."

HEALTH:

Alderman Essenpreis mentioned that the City Employee Handbook needs to be reviewed and updated. He will schedule a meeting with the Health Committee and department supervisors next week.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Timmermann appointed Brandon Richter to the Library Board to replace Jean Steinman. Motion by Usselmann, second by Robben to approve the appointment. On roll call voting "aye": Carl Ratermann, Dan Robben, Tim Schleper, Gary Usselmann, Jason Davinroy, Luke Essenpreis, Steve Hellige, Jeff Jung. Motion carried.

Mayor Timmermann reported that the Veterans Honor Flight Parade will travel from Bartelso to New Baden along Rt. 161 at 1:30pm on Monday, September 8th. He encouraged all who can to attend.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 PM.

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