

**Finance Committee Meeting
Monday, February 16, 2026
Red Bud City Hall
Council Chambers (2nd floor)**

Committee Members Present: Patrick Mueller, Jeremy DeMond, Bill Hanebutt, Rodney Nevois, Alan Piel

Committee Members Absent: None

Council Members Present: Bryce Parsons, Curt Guebert, Kyle Donjon

Council Members Absent: None

Others Present: Mayor Susan Harbaugh, Attorney Rebecca Cooper, City Superintendent Josh Eckart, Code Adm./City Engineer Jeff Mueller, Police Chief John Brittingham, Administrative Officer Jill Landgraf, City Clerk Joanne Cowell

Pledge of Allegiance

Committee Chairman Mueller called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Old Business

I. Elected Official Salary Review

An Elected Officials Salary Review was included in the packets. Chairman Mueller asked that an email be sent, outlining the officials responsibilities and suggested tabling the discussion until next month. Council Member Donjon said that it has been some time since a salary increase, and he thinks an increase is well overdue. He pointed out the substantial number of hours that Mayor Harbaugh puts in and said that she deserves more. The last increase was voted in 2002 and became effective for those elected in 2005 and 2007. Leave on the agenda.

II. Planning Commission Stipend Review

John Holzum, Chairman of the Planning Commission addressed the committee, asking that the per meeting salary for the Planning Commission Members be raised to \$75 per meeting, regardless of whether a hearing was held or not and the Chairman be raised to \$100 per meeting. If twelve meetings were held, the expense could amount to \$8,400 and the 2025 cost was \$915. Now that the comprehensive plan has been completed, Holzum and Code Adm. Mueller anticipate only having meetings for hearings, probably about six per year. Holzum said that the commission has a problem with member attendance and retention, and he felt an increase in pay would help. Often, there is no quorum, therefore there is no meeting and those that show up have wasted their time. Holzum would like to include a significant increase in the budget that he is working on now. Code Adm. Mueller said the fee for hearings (\$200) is meant to cover the commission salary, the required certified mailings, and the publication of notices. Mueller will check with other communities to see what their fees are.

New Business

I. Approval of Prior Month's Meeting Minutes – January 19, 2026

Recommendation made by Committee Chairman Mueller, seconded by Committee Member Nevois, to approve the minutes from the January 19, 2026, meeting. Carried

II. CD Information

- A. Maturing CDs
None

III. Financial Dashboard

Chairman Mueller reviewed the financial summary. The budget is at 75% of the year, the revenue is at 104% of the budget, while expenses are at 54% of the budget, with a cash balance of \$1,182,348.02. Total capital expenditures for FY'26 have been \$1,500,694, which makes the adjusted net income \$269,609.

IV. Audit Bid Proposal

Finance Officer Liz Cowell advertised for audit bids and the only response she received was from Fick, Eggemeyer & Williamson, CPA.

Recommendation made by Committee Chairman Mueller, seconded by Committee Member Hanebutt, to approve Option C proposal from Fick, Eggemeyer & Williamson, CPA for the five- year bid from FY'26 – FY'30 starting at \$11,000 and increasing \$300 per year, ending at \$12,200. Carried

V. Ordinance No. 1572 – Guebert Farm Lease

Recommendation made by Committee Chairman Mueller, seconded by Committee Member Nevois, to approve ORDINANCE NO. 1572: “AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN ASSIGNMENT OF LEASE OF MUNICIPAL REAL PROPERTY” assigning the farming lease from James A. Guebert to Kevin S. Guebert. Carried

VI. Leadership Council Southwestern IL Annual Dinner on March 24, 2026

Recommendation made by Committee Chairman Mueller, seconded by Committee Member Nevois, to approve sending Mayor Harbaugh and Jill Landgraf to the Leadership Council Southwestern IL dinner on March 24, 2026, at a cost of \$125 each. Carried

VII. Southwestern Illinois Conference of Mayors Meeting on March 26, 2026

Mayor Harbaugh will be hosting the March 26th Southwestern Illinois Conference of Mayors meeting. She is encouraging city officials and staff to attend. The cost is around \$50.

Recommendation made by Committee Chairman Mueller, seconded by Committee Member DeMond, to approve paying for any city official/staff member who wish to attend the March 26, 2026, Southwestern Illinois Conference of Mayors meeting. Carried

VIII. Congressionally Directed Spending Opportunity

Mayor Harbaugh said that we would be interested in police and sewer grant opportunities and these are generally 100% grants.

Recommendation made by Committee Chairman Mueller, seconded by Committee Member DeMond, to approve Jill Landgraf apply for congressionally directed spending opportunity grants, as they come open. Carried

IX. Public Comments/Anything for the Good of the City

None

The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanne G. Cowell, City Clerk
Red Bud, Illinois