

**Public Works Committee Meeting
Monday, September 21, 2026
Red Bud City Hall
Council Chambers (2nd floor)**

Committee Members Present: Bryce Parsons, Bill Hanebutt, Rodney Nevois, Kyle Donjon

Committee Members Absent: Curt Guebert

Council Members Present: Patrick Mueller, Alan Piel

Council Members Absent: Jeremy DeMond

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

Mayor Harbaugh called the meeting to order at 6:40 P.M.

Old Business

I. Power Plant

- A. Plant Report
Eckart said there have been extra generation runs due to market conditions.

II. Utilities/Streets

- A. Electric
The business park work continues. The switch gear is ready to ship today.
- B. Gas
Normal operations.
- C. Water
Normal operations. There have been some leak repairs.
- D. Sewer
Normal operations. The building upgrades have been completed.
- E. Streets
The MFT concrete projects have been completed. Eckart is working on finalizing quantities for Huebner for verification and billing. The Theodore and Rock Hill project is completed and is seeded.

III. Succession Planning

Eckart does not have definite retirement dates yet.

IV. Annual CPI Utility Rate Increases

City Attorney Rebecca Cooper plans to have a draft prepared for the October committee meetings.

V. AMI Metering Project Update

Eckart just received the contracts from Fletcher Reinhart and Landis and Gyr and will be reviewing them. They should be ready for the committee by January.

New Business

I. Approval of Prior Month's Meeting Minutes – Meeting August 17, 2026

Recommendation made by Committee Member Nevois, seconded by Committee Member Parsons to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2026, meeting. Carried

II. Training Requests

A. J Stellhorn – TVPPA Line Worker Apprenticeship Lab 1 Fundamentals

Registration fee is \$1,127. Gas, lodging, and meals are estimated at \$2,100.

Recommendation made by Committee Member Parsons, seconded by Committee Member Nevois to authorize approval to send Jacob Stellhorn to TVPPA Line Worker Apprenticeship Lab 1 on September 28 – October 2, 2026, in Nickolasville, KY, NTE \$4,600. Carried

B. Byron Schlueter & Jacob Stellhorn – IMUA Vendor Fair

Recommendation made by Committee Member Hanebutt, seconded by Committee Member Parsons to authorize approval to send Byron Schlueter and Jacob Stellhorn to IMUA Vendor Fair in Springfield, IL on October 22, 2026, no registration fee, transportation required. Carried

III. Resignation of Kaleb Barriger

Recommendation made by Committee Member Parsons, seconded by Committee Member Donjon to authorize approval of the resignation of Kaleb Barriger, effective September 18, 2026. Carried

IV. Laborer Position Recommendation

Committee Member Hanebutt questioned why a special council meeting is scheduled to approve the hiring tonight. It does not seem necessary to rush this. This does not give the council members an opportunity to consider or discuss issues. Mayor Harbaugh said the other option is to go into executive session to keep an applicant's identity private. Eckart said that it takes about five weeks from the time he receives a resignation until a candidate can be recommended.

Recommendation made by Committee Member Hanebutt, seconded by Committee Member Nevois to authorize approval to hire Austin Kiefer as a laborer at the rate of \$23.15/hour, pending a pre-employment physical and drug testing. Kiefer will be increased to the laborer full rate of pay upon successful completion of the six-month probationary period, currently \$23.65/hour. Carried

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

None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanne G. Cowell
City Clerk, Red Bud, Illinois