

**CITY OF RED BUD**  
**2023 MAYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT**

As directed by the Illinois Municipal League, "The mayor or president is required to annually give the council information concerning the affairs of the city." Therefore, as Mayor of the City of Red Bud, Illinois, I present the following information for review.

- Susan L Harbaugh, January 31, 2024.

City Council and Mayor

22 ordinances, #1512 to #1533

2 resolutions, 23-001 to 23-002

February – Mayor and City Superintendent attended the American Public Power Assoc legislative rally in Washington DC

May 1 – Newly elected officials sworn in: City Clerk Joanne Cowell, Mayor Susan Harbaugh, Treasurer Mike Doiron, Aldermen Jeremy DeMond, Kyle Donjon, Rodney Nevois, Alan Piel, Mike Rheinecker

May 1 - Transition to City Attorney Rebecca Cooper, Cooper Gilbreth Doyle Law Offices

In May, the Mayor was invited to join the Southwestern Illinois Metropolitan and Regional Planning Commission and was added to the Board of Directors in August. In July, the City joined the Monroe County Economic Development Corp and the Mayor subsequently joined their Board of Directors. In September, the Mayor was invited to join the Illinois Municipal League Board of Directors and serves on the Conference and Credentials Committee.

The Mayor is also involved with the following: Leadership Council Southwestern Illinois, Lower Kaskaskia Stakeholders Inc, Monroe Randolph Transit District (Board of Directors), Randolph County Mayors, Southern Illinois Mayor's Association and Southwestern Illinois Conference of Mayors.

City Hall

April 3, June 5, July 10 - Approval of Illinois Country Harvest services for city hall planters

May 15 – Approval to purchase printer/copy machine as well as servers for city hall and the police department

December 4 – Approval of Caselle module for utility customers with rollout in 2024

Code Administration/Zoning

65 Residential building permits

3 Commercial building permits

4 Home permits

8 Planning Commission hearings

January 3 - Approval for city hall gutters project.

June 5 – Approval to draft specification for a Comprehensive Plan

August 7 – Approval for proposal from Quadrant Design for city hall repairs

August 7 – Approval to go out for bids for the Ratz Park Renovation Project

December 4 – Approval to accept Farnsworth proposal for the Comprehensive Plan

Committees and Commissions

- Economic Development Commission – February 6 – Jennifer Gregson appointed.
  - Library Board – August 7 – Kristy Cooper appointed.
  - Parks & Recreation Committee – No changes
  - Planning Commission – December 4 – Alan Lasley and Joshua Johnson appointed.
- April 3 – Approval of contributions in honor of Volunteer Month

## Community

Continued support for the Chamber of Commerce, Beautification Committee, Santa's Village, Red Bud Fire Department, Red Bud Waverunners, Muskets, Red Bud Athletic Association, North County Country Club, Community Foundation of Red Bud.

August 7 – Approval for the Monroe Randolph Transit District Go Local Program

August 21 – Approval to pay for concrete pad for VFW M44 Howitzer

## Economic Development

- Economic Development Funds available for loan as of 12/31/2023: \$543,985

- Microloan Program funds available for loan as of 12/31/2023: \$87,765

- Meetings held: March and July

February 6, February 20, May 1 – Approval of edits to the Enterprise Zone Territory, map, and ordinance. As of December 31, we are awaiting receipt of the revised maps.

July - Joined the Monroe County Economic Development Corporation (in addition to the Randolph County Progress Committee)

August 7 – Approval of the name Red Bud Business Park as well as street names of Commerce Way, Enterprise St, Production St and if needed, Executive St

August 7 – Approval to establish a commercial properties listing on city website

## Financial

January 3 – Approval to apply for the Energy Transition Community Grant. On March 7, we received word we would receive \$86,776

April 3 – Approval of Preservation Heritage Grant Fund application. November 30 – Received \$3,500.

April 17 – Approval of CD investments of \$600,000

May 1 – Approval of FY2024 Budget, Capital Plans and Appropriation Ordinance

June 19 – Approval of CD investments of \$1,000,000

October 2 – Approval of FY2023 clean audit, no management letter, with surplus of \$928,636 available for transfer to capital plans

October 16 – Approval of CD investments of \$600,000

December 4 – Approval of Tax Levy Ordinance \$723,316. Total Appropriation \$17,591,312.

December 18 – Approval of CD investments of \$1,000,000

## History

On February 28, 1867, “The Town of Red Bud” was chartered. In 2023 we marked the city’s 156<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## Key Projects

- Improved water quality – see Utilities and Streets, Water and Sewer

- Ratz Park Revitalization – Project bids were due October 4. Single bid was denied. Project was rebid on December 14. Bids due January 26, 2024. Project completion date of September 13, 2024. Grant timeframe of October 2022 to September 30, 2024.

- Lincoln Park expansion via donation – completed in May

- Red Bud Business Park – Name was chosen for the complex. Streets have been named. Lot pricing, funding and scope discussed December 18.

- Police Department equipment – 1) LPR’s were approved November 7, 2022. Vehicle LPR installed, others pending. 2) Durango arrived and on September 8 was transferred to Datatronics for equipment, awaiting completion. 3) Radar trailer is on order. 4) Body and in-car cameras have arrived. In-car cameras are awaiting installation.

- City Hall building repairs and maintenance – Awaiting Quadrant to provide bid specs.

- Comprehensive plan for the city’s future – Project moves forward in 2024 with an estimated 12-18 month completion.

### Parks & Recreation

January 3, July 10 - Approval of tree trimming and removal of dead trees at both Ratz and Lincoln Parks.  
February 6 – Approval to add five (5) garden boxes to the Community Garden. Garden total of 39.  
March 6 – Approval for concrete work at Musket Field at Lincoln Park  
March 6 – Approval of team benches for soccer fields at Ratz Park  
April 3 – Approval to replace turf in the batting cages at the Sports Complex  
May 1 – Approval for lawnmower replacement  
May 1 – Approval of Hubbard land donation of 2.698 acres adjacent to Lincoln Park  
May 1 – Acceptance of \$1,000 grant from the Randolph Co Farm Bureau (Comm Garden)  
May 1 – Approval for inside painting at the swimming pool  
June 5 – Approval to purchase windscreens for multipurpose courts in Lincoln Park  
July 10 – Approval of new trees for Ratz and Lincoln Parks  
July 10 – Approval for trash cans and family grill  
August 7 – Approval for repair of the water/dog fountain in Lincoln Park

### Personnel

14 Part time and 30 Full time employees as of 12/31/2023  
March 6 – Approval of Keith Bauer retirement with just under 20.5 years of service, with effective date of March 31  
May 1 – Approval for pay increases: 6.5% for all, with additional increases for the Utility Billing Clerk and Utility Clerk  
May 1, December 18 – Approval of updated fringe benefits: gifts for retirees plus an increase in life insurance. Paid Leave for All Workers Act.  
December 18 – Approval to continue health insurance coverage to Aetna with a 2.5% increase

### Police

1,669 events handled  
May 15 – Approval to purchase Durango squad vehicle and corresponding equipment  
May 15 – Approval to purchase a radar trailer  
October 2 – Approval of car and body cameras  
During the year, \$4,400 in donations were received for Cops and Kids at Christmas. December 18 shopping event with the children.

### Population

2020 census showed 3,804 residents  
2023 estimates indicate 3,700 residents

### Utilities and Streets

\* Electricity - The City of Red Bud continues to be a member of the Illinois Municipal Electric Agency. We maintain our own local power generation plant which is utilized when called upon. The 2023 annual average price statewide through November for electric sold to residential customers was 16.05 cents (no taxes or fees). The City of Red Bud's 2023 average price of electric sold to residential customers was 11.72 cents per kWh (no taxes or fees).  
Electricity Usage 42,852,397 (kWH)  
Electricity Revenue Rate \$0.1357 (\$/kWH) including taxes and fees  
August 7 – Approval for heat exchanger plates for generators #7 and #8

\* Gas – June 19 - The City of Red Bud transitioned from the purchase of gas from Symmetry Energy Solutions, LLC to Utility Gas Management with an effective date of November 1. Ron Ragan

is engaged and provides regular information on gas markets and what we can do to keep our rates as stable as possible.

Gas Usage 169,250 (MCF)

Gas Revenue Rate \$10.07 (\$/MCF) including taxes and fees

\* Water and Sewer - The City of Red Bud maintains two wells near the Kaskaskia River. In addition, Red Bud has two water towers – the north tower with a capacity of 500,000 gallons and the south tower with a capacity of 200,000 gallons.

Water Usage 102,689,774 (Gallons)

Water Revenue Rate \$5.91 (\$/1,000 gallons) including taxes and fees

A number of measures have been put in place during 2023 to improve the water quality:

January 3 - Promoted from within to hire a Class D Water Operator

January 3, May 1 – Approval of water contract services with AW Services

Spring – Hydrant flushing

July 10 – Approval to add a new position of Water/Wastewater Technician. August 21 promotion from within.

July 10 – Approval for step increases for additional licensing

September 5 – Approval of chemical treatment of well #1. (note, well #2 was treated in 2022)

October – The water aerator was replaced. As of 12/31/2023, final paperwork to be processed. The \$187,000 grant that assisted with this project time frame of March 2, 2022 to February 28, 2024.

The City maintains a sewer processing plant with design flow of 300,000 gallons per day with a max flow of 600,000 gallons per day.

Sewer Revenue Rate \$4.42 (\$/1,000 gallons) including taxes and fees

January 3 – Approval for Bio Solutions for utility plant lagoons repair work

April 3 – Approval for Korte Luitjohan for cleaning and repairs at the wastewater treatment plant

July 10 – Approval of Taylor Street lift station upgrades

September 5 – Approval for filter media replacement by Korte & Luitjohan

\* Streets - The City of Red Bud maintains approximately 28 miles of streets.

\$37,677 of Motor Fuel Tax dollars were spent on street improvements

February 6 – Approval to add a crosswalk at the Red Bud Elementary School

May 1 – Approval for concrete program request for St. John’s Lutheran Church

July 10 – Approval for sealing of Country Club Drive

November 6 – Approval to purchase replacement truck and equipment

December 4 – Approval of MFT Resolution, December 18 – Approval of updated 2024 MFT Resolution in the amount of \$300,000

\* Utility Office –

503 Utility locates

December 4 – Approval for replacement of the geothermal system

### Video Gaming

As of December 2023, there were 71 video gaming terminals in Red Bud. Per the Illinois Gaming Board Video Gaming Report for 2023, funds in were \$10,121,598 with funds out (winnings) of \$7,565,522 for a net of \$2,533,155. The city’s share of the video gaming terminal tax was \$127,414 and these dollars are used to help support the various parks in our city.

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