

CITY OF RED BUD
2024 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, 2025.

Mayor, City Council and Leadership Team

22 ordinances, 1534 to #1555. 3 resolutions, 24-001 to 24-003

The Mayor is involved with the following:

Board of Directors - Illinois Municipal League Board of Directors (Conference and Credentials Committee), Southwestern Illinois Metropolitan and Regional Planning Commission, Monroe Randolph Transit District, Monroe County Economic Development Corp, Lower Kaskaskia Stakeholders Inc.

Member – Southwestern Illinois Conference of Mayors, Leadership Council Southwestern Illinois, Randolph County Mayors, So Illinois Mayor’s Assoc. Featured in SI Now magazine, Vol 2 2024. February-Representatives attended the APPA Rally in Washington, DC. April -Liz Cowell was promoted to Finance Officer and Jill Landgraf was hired as the Administrative Officer. May-Mayor hosted the Southwestern Illinois Conference of Mayors meeting in Red Bud. August-Meeting with Rep Bost. September-Representatives attended the IML Fall Conference in Chicago. November-Meeting with Sen Duckworth’s staff. Fox 2 morning show featured Red Bud for their “In Your Neighborhood” segment.

Code Administration/Zoning

44 Residential building permits, 2 Commercial building permits, 6 Home permits

1 Planning Commission hearing

Committees and Commissions

- Economic Development Commission – no changes
- Library Board – Chris Moll and Becky Koopman appointed
- Parks & Recreation Committee – no changes
- Planning Commission – Matt Wagner appointed

Economic Development

- Revolving Loan funds available as of 12/31/2024: \$650,243 (\$550k loan pending)
- Micro-Loan Funds available as of 12/31/2024: \$94,143
- Meetings held: April and July

Financial

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

October – Approval of FY2024 financial audit, with surplus of \$778,022 available for transfer to capital plans

November - Renewed property, liability, workers compensation insurances with IML RMA.

December – Approval of Tax Levy Ordinance \$759,516. Total Appropriation \$18,552,652.

History

On February 28, 1867, “The Town of Red Bud” was chartered. In 2024 we marked the city’s 157th anniversary. City Hall has been in continuous use since 1894, marking 130 years in 2024.

Key Projects

See other materials, Project Update 2024.

Personnel

12 Part time and 30 Full time employees as of 12/31/2024 (including Library)

2024 annual payroll of \$2,173,301. 67 W-2s produced.

40 1099 NECs produced. Total of \$1,289,010.

April – Approval for pay increases effective first full pay period in May: 3.4% for all.

December – Approval to health insurance coverage switch to United Healthcare with a 49% increase.

Police

1,822 events handled (1,669 in 2023 and 1,791 in 2022)

During the year, \$4,586 in donations were received for Cops and Kids at Christmas. December 17 shopping event with 16 children from 10 families.

Population

2020 census showed 3,804 residents.

2010=3,668. 2000=3,422. 1990=2,918. 1980=2,850, 1970=2,559

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 2024 annual average price statewide through November for electric sold to residential customers was 16.10 cents per kWh (no taxes or fees). The City of Red Bud's 2024 average price of electric sold to residential customers was 12.91 cents per kWh (no taxes or fees). In May, received a Illinois Municipal Utilities Association safety recognition award.

Electricity Usage 44,614,375 kWh

Electricity Revenue Rate \$0.1346(\$/kWh) including taxes and fees

* Gas – The City of Red Bud purchases gas from Utility Gas Management.

Gas Usage 183,704(MCF)

Gas Revenue Rate \$7.49 (\$/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 100,484,330 (Gallons)

Water Revenue Rate \$8.16 (\$/1,000 gallons) including taxes and fees

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 \$4.71 (\$/1,000 gallons) including taxes and fees

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

\$286,292 of Rebuild IL and Motor Fuel Tax dollars were spent on street improvements.

* Utility Office – 462 utility locates

Video Gaming

As of December 2024, there were 67 video gaming terminals in Red Bud. Per the Illinois Gaming Board Video Gaming Report for 2024, funds in were \$10,438,512 with funds out (winnings) of \$7,800,205 for a net of \$2,638,307. The city's share of the video gaming terminal tax was \$133,890 and these dollars are used to help support the various parks in our city.

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**CITY OF RED BUD
PROJECT UPDATE 2024
AS OF 12/31/2024**

FINANCE, PERSONNEL, CULTURAL, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT and OTHER

COMPLETED –

Annual financial requirements – budget, capital plans, audit. **Solar eclipse** – celebration at Lincoln Park. **Online utility bill** - access was made available. **Ordinance updates** – regarding appointments, admin time, residency, and employee training. (Parade) **Detour signs** – joint purchase with Chamber of Commerce and Fire Department. **MRTD Go Local program** – renewed. **Revolving loan** - \$550,000 application approved with contingencies. **Illinois Funds** – approved investing dollars in this liquid option. **CD's at local banks** – Various investments throughout the year. **Holiday gift certificates for staff** – increased to \$125 for full time, \$75 for part time employees. **Grocery sales tax** - approved Ordinance No. 1551 effective 1/1/2026. **Revolving loan funds** – guide and application updated.

PENDING -

- * **OSLAD reimbursement** – Completed reporting documents for the Ratz Park Renovation OSLAD project and awaiting \$400,000 payment.
- * **Senior citizens services** – First meeting was held November 14 to discuss how senior services can be better coordinated, delivered within the community.
- * **IP voice phone system** – Purchase and installation pending (approved 11/18/24).
- * **Vendor ordinances** – Will continue to update ordinances to ease regulations and promote commerce in Red Bud.
- * **Online Accessibility** - Website redesign (approved 9/3/24), creating online fillable forms, auditing form content, improving online search functions for public records, notices and ordinances. Also, new city logo.
- * **Virtual Workspace** - Improving efficiency and collaboration via SharePoint, Teams, cloud document sharing.
- * **Document Management** - OCR ability, historical records, audits of leases, contracts, agreements.

PUBLIC HEALTH and SAFETY

COMPLETED –

FOP contract - negotiated for May 1, 2024 to April 30, 2027 timeframe. **Police Department equipment** – received radar trailer, received car and body cameras, purchased vests/plate carriers and rapid deployment shields. **Cops and Kids at Christmas** – fundraising completed and shopping date held December 17.

PENDING -

- * **Police Department equipment** – New vehicle on order (approved 11/4/24), tasers on order (\$15,686 grant, approved 11/4/24). Drone grant/purchase pending.

PUBLIC WORKS

COMPLETED –

Taylor Street lift station – updates. **Street sweeper** – repairs. **Well #2** – repairs and cleaning. **Generator #1** - catalyst replacement. **AED's** - new units put in service. **IMEA** - power sales contract and capacity purchase agreement extensions approved. **Power plant roof** – storm damage replacement. **Paint sprayer** – new unit. **Vertical turbine pump** – replacement. **Gas Department** – clothing and equipment ordinance. **Water valves** – retrofit. **Water Department** – contract operator renewed and insurance claim repair work on both wells. **Holiday lighting coupon** – increased to \$15 per household. **Motor Fuel Tax, Rebuild IL dollars** – oil and chip of southwest quadrant, Locust and Madison Street sealing, curb and guttering on Rock Hill Drive, sidewalks on South Main. **Electric** – New bucket truck has been delivered. Waiting on some back-ordered parts before it can be put into service.

PENDING –

***Utility Gas Management** - Long-Term Discount Program still in process.

***North County Country Club** – Overflow pipe work to be scheduled for spring 2025.

***Programmable Logic Controller upgrades** for the generators - Due to some new developments in the last few months, our service company is still in the process of reviewing options to ensure the best long-term solution for the City for servicing/maintenance.

* **Lamp posts** – Plans are to remove ten per quarter and deliver to UltraSite. Will work into their production schedule for recoating. The first batch will be delivered to UltraSite in January. Note, multi-year project.

* **Water towers** – We are evaluating the money we have saved for this project, any grants available and the best course of action. Discussion began at December 16 committees. Also, researching asset management programs.

* **Hydrants** – Were flushed in the spring and fall. Pending budget restraints, damaged units are scheduled for repair in 2025.

* **Utilities/Streets** – New backhoe on order (approved 12/2/24), new truck #18 with spreader on order (approved 11/6/23). Truck came in at Ed Morse Ford in December and will be taken to Knapheide for the remainder of the work. Truck #6 rehab parts (new bed/spreader) on order (approved 9/3/24). New spreader has been installed for use this winter. The bed will be installed in early 2025.

* **Rate studies** – In conjunction with IL Rural Water Assoc (no cost, included with membership fee) and Utility Financial Solutions (approved 9/3/24), reviewing water/sewer and electric rates. Water/sewer recommendations passed through committee on December 16.

* **New electric distribution station** – Preliminary design stage (approved 12/2/24).

* **Motor Fuel Tax** - Resolution for 2025 to invest \$400,000 in various street and sidewalk improvements: oil & chip in the northwest quadrant, new culvert on Theodore/Rock Hill Dr, curb & gutter replacement on Rock Hill Dr, sidewalk replacements on S. Main St between 2nd and 3rd Streets, and full depth patching on Locust St.

ZONING, PLANNING

COMPLETED –

Façade grant program – Pilot project adopted. **Mural ordinance** - adopted. **Façade grant applications** – two approved. **Mural applications** – two approved.

PENDING -

* **Red Bud Business Park (RBBP)** – 50 acres on the east side of town to be developed in phases for light industrial and commercial businesses. In August, lot pricing was established. In November, we received our IEPA water and sewer permits. The project will go out for bids in January 2025. Using ARPA \$473,575 plus Energy Trans Comm grants \$86,776+\$68,466. RISE and Regional Site Readiness grants pending. Site listed with Intersect Illinois.

* **City hall updates** – Bell tower to basement assessment complete disclosing numerous building maintenance projects. The project will go out for bids in January 2025.

* **Comprehensive Plan** – Approved 12/4/23 to proceed with Farnsworth Group. Phase 0-Steering Committee meetings held. Phase 1-analysis completed. Phase 2-stakeholder engagement completed (August and September meetings plus online public input 9/25/24 to 11/10/24) completed. Phase 3-draft plan pending. \$7,500 grant received.

* **2021 International Building codes** – Adopt the 2021 codes and develop a uniformed regional approach within Monroe and Randolph counties (SB2368).

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, PARKS & REC

COMPLETED –

Community garden – 4 boxes added plus 8 donated by Roeslein & Assoc, total count of 52. Compost bin added. **YMCA pool agreement** – for 2024 season approved. **Ratz Park Renovation Project** – Bids accepted in March, ceremonial groundbreaking March 12, project completed by September 30 and ribbon cutting ceremony October 2. Benches and trash cans donated by the Community Foundation of Red Bud. **Camera system** - added for Sports Complex. **Lawn mower** – purchased for use at Lincoln Park. **Floor resurfacing at Ratz Park and Lincoln Park main bathrooms** – donation by Complete Concrete and Designs. **Historic block of concrete and plaque/stand** in Ratz Park – donated by Red Bud Area Museum and Roeslein & Assoc

PENDING -

* **Splash pad other** – Consideration of signage for rules, baby changing stations, improved features capacity.

* **Sports Complex** – Using IMEA’s Energy Efficiency Program, lighting upgrades for diamond 1 (approved 7/1/24).

* **Dog park** – In addition to pledged large and small dog area products, plus amenities, UltraSite held a square collection (Oct 12) and a Jukebox BINGO event (Nov 16) to raise funds on the city’s behalf. Proposal from UltraSite approved 9/3/24. Detailed planning for the dog park scheduled for 2025.

* **Swimming pool** – On 12/18/24, camera work on the pool supply lines, with intent to determine the origin of sand that is infiltrating the system. In addition, 10 test holes were drilled. A point for further exploration could be in the southwest corner. Also pending, building improvements and a

look at the “big picture” items to extend the life of the pool. Assume management of the pool for the 2025 season.

GRANTS

APPROVED/AWARDED -

- IL Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board – \$30,128.92 for in-car and body cameras
- 2024 Energy Transition Community – \$68,466 for RBBP
- “SI Ready: SI Now Top 20 Project” grant of nearly \$130,000 to benefit projects across the Southern IL region, including the RBBP as one of the 20 projects
- Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority Less Lethal Alternatives via Axon - \$15,686 for tasers
- Southwestern Illinois Board of REALTORS – \$7,500 for Comprehensive Plan
- UltraSite – Fundraising of \$8,893.70 on city’s behalf to help defray expenses of a future dog park

PENDING –

- RDMS/RISE Implementation grant – requested \$932,041 for RBBP
- Regional Site Readiness grant – requested \$929,046 for RBBP
- HeroFund USA Inc grant – application cycle opens in January 2025 for \$23,000 for drone
- IMEA Energy Efficiency program – accessing \$47,739.84 for Sports Complex lighting

For questions about any of these projects, please call 618-282-2315.