

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
105 S MAIN ST  
FARMER CITY, ILLINOIS  
MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2026  
6:00 P.M.  
AGENDA**

**PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

- Call to order
- Roll call
- Pledge of allegiance to the flag
- Proclamations/presentations/recognitions -
- Public Comment –

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The following items will be adopted on a single motion without discussion unless a council member requests separate consideration:

- Invoice payment approval list
- Approval of the minutes for the February 2, 2026 council meeting

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS--Ordinances or resolutions previously tabled.**

**NEW BUSINESS--Ordinances and resolutions for initial consideration**

- A. Resolution 2026-142 A Resolution of the City of Farmer City in support of the Illinois America250 Commemoration.
- B. Resolution 2026-143 Resolution authorizing the expenditure of funds from hotel/motel account – Robert McIlvain with FC Merchants’ Organization requesting reimbursement for brochure costs.
- C. Discussion regarding use of South Park by the Farmer City Haunted Forest.
- D. Approval of change order increasing the electrical completion date from 12/31/2026 to 6/30/2027.
- E. Approval of engineering services agreement between the City of Farmer City and Maurer-Stutz for sidewalk improvements.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

5 ILCS 120/2 (C)(1) Personnel to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline and/or performance of specific employee (s) pursuant to Section 2 (C)(1) of the Open Meetings Act.

**NEW BUSINESS--Ordinances and resolutions for initial consideration**

- F. Resolution 2026-144 Resolution Authorizing Execution of an Employment Agreement with City Manager.

**OTHER ITEMS**

- A. City manager report
- B. Non-agenda items and other business

**ADJOURNMENT**

NOTE: Anyone planning to attend the meeting who has need of special assistance under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is asked to contact the city clerk’s office at (309) 928-2842, 48 hours before the meeting. Staff will be pleased to make the necessary arrangements.

PUBLIC COMMENT: This section is intended for public statement and is not a period of time for debate. Each speaker is limited to a maximum of 5 minutes per Ordinance 943 passed 10/6/2014.

Vendor Name	Net Invoice Amount	Description
<b>100</b>		
EVANS FROEHLICH BETH & CHAMLEY	320.00	150 PLUM ROW
EVANS FROEHLICH BETH & CHAMLEY	200.00	PARKING ORDINANCE
EVANS FROEHLICH BETH & CHAMLEY	400.00	S. DEMOLITION
ENGER BROTHERS INC.	135.00	CITY HALL FURNANCE REPAIRS
MIDWEST MAILING & SHIPPING SYSTEMS INC.	561.00	FOLDER INSERTER RENTAL
T-MOBILE	46.25	MONTHLY SERVICE
TILES IN STYLE LLC	72,850.00	DEMOLITION- 135 CLINTON AVE
QUADIENT FINANCE USA INC.	200.00	POSTAGE METER
QUADIENT LEASING USA INC.	488.04	MAIL METER RENTAL
NICOR GAS	129.00	MONTHLY GAS
NICOR GAS	176.49	MONTHLY GAS
MTK TECHNOLOGIES INC.	1,000.00	MONTHLY IT SERVICE
HINCKLEY SPRINGS	10.50	ADMIN SUPPLIES
EVANS FROEHLICH BETH & CHAMLEY	460.00	CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TESTORY, SCOTT	75.00	CIMOA MEETING- 1-22-26
HEART TECHNOLOGIES INC.	48.00	MONTHLY VPN
VERIZON	183.35	MONTHLY TELEPHONE
POLICE LAW INSTITUTE	380.00	1-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION
COE EQUIPMENT INC.	707.63	SWIVEL JOINT
RUSH TRUCK CENTER- CHAMPAIGN	4,094.50	FUEL TANK REPAIRS
T-MOBILE	46.26	MONTHLY SERVICE
McKINLEY WATER CONDITIONING	14.00	STREETS SUPPLIES
McKINLEY WATER CONDITIONING	10.00	STREETS SUPPLIES
T-MOBILE	46.26	MONTHLY SERVICE
Total 100:	82,581.28	
<b>270</b>		
MAURER-STUTZ	1,295.00	SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL
Total 270:	1,295.00	
<b>490</b>		
GFL ENVIRONMENTAL	12,759.12	MONTHLY SERVICE
Total 490:	12,759.12	
<b>510</b>		
T-MOBILE	46.26	MONTHLY SERVICE
FRONTIER	188.44	MONTHLY INTERNET
WATER SOLUTIONS UNLIMITED INC	2,497.45	WATER CHEM SUPPLIES
WATER SOLUTIONS UNLIMITED INC	1,302.50	WATER CHEM SUPPLIES
USA BLUEBOOK	75.65	WATER SUPPLIES
CORNEGLIO AG	44.33	WATER SUPPLIES
CORNEGLIO AG	94.85	WATER SUPPLIES
CORNEGLIO AG	22.77	WATER SUPPLIES
LEROY TRUE VALUE HARDWARE	76.95	WATER SUPPLIES
G.A. RICH & SONS	1,730.96	WELL 7 PIPING REPAIRS
LAYNE CHRISTENSEN COMPANY	14,850.00	LUCK WELL- INSPECTION & CLEANING
G.A. RICH & SONS	212,977.00	WATER FILTER PROJECT- EPA GRANT
FEHR GRAHAM	424.33	I74 EXTENTIONS
Total 510:	234,331.49	
<b>520</b>		
T-MOBILE	46.26	MONTHLY SERVICE
NORMALITE NEWSPAPERS	105.00	PUBLIC NOTICE ADV- SEWER

Vendor Name	Net Invoice Amount	Description
FEHR GRAHAM	424.33	174 EXTENTIONS
Total 520:	575.59	
<b>530</b>		
MENARDS - CHAMPAIGN	270.44	ELECTRIC REPAIR SUPPLIES
NAPA AUTO PARTS	179.11	ELECTRIC VEHICLE PARTS
WALKER TIRE & EXHAUST	112.00	ELECTRIC TIRE REPAIRS
INTERSTATE ALL BATTERY CENTER	149.95	ELEC - BATTERY
BHMG ENGINEERS INC.	1,341.79	ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
T-MOBILE	46.26	MONTHLY SERVICE
U.S. POSTAL SERVICE	736.09	MONTHLY BILLS
NORTHWEST LINEMAN COLLEGE	755.00	TRAINING- C. STEPHENS
NICOR GAS	538.11	MONTHLY GAS
IMEA	122,022.47	ELEC GENERATION
NICOR GAS	1,567.21	MONTHLY GAS
NICOR GAS	448.74	MONTHLY GAS
FEHR GRAHAM	424.34	174 EXTENTIONS
Total 530:	128,591.51	
Grand Totals:	460,133.99	

**MINUTES OF THE FARMER CITY, ILLINOIS**  
**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**  
**FEBRUARY 2, 2026 6 p.m.**

**ROLL CALL** Present: Councilmembers Willard McKinley, David Walsh, Chad Jacobs, Kurtis Bozarth and Mayor Scott Testory.

Also, in attendance: City Manager Taylor Baxter, City Clerk Angie Wanserski and City Attorney Joe Chamley.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

**PUBLIC COMMENT** William Walsh was in attendance to thank the snowplow drivers in town and let them know they are appreciated. Mr. Walsh also wanted to voice his concern over the previous meeting. An executive session was held and he was not alerted when the general public could be invited back. He would like to suggest that the city provide an indoor space for citizens to wait during executive sessions.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of the minutes of the January 5, 2026 council meeting.
- B. Fund Warrant List

**MOTION** by McKinley, seconded by Walsh, to approve the consent agenda. Voted unanimously. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Ordinance 1152 Ordinance accepting certain ROW granted to the City of Farmer City, Illinois and an amended contract.

This ordinance repeals ordinance 1149 with an amended contract that eliminates language regarding railroad track removal by Premier as they are not responsible for the tracks. The tracks have not been abandoned but are considered nonfunctional as the tracks on either side of the area involved have been removed.

**MOTION** by McKinley, seconded by Walsh, to approve Ordinance 1152 Ordinance accepting certain ROW granted to the City of Farmer City, Illinois and an amended contract. Voted unanimously. Motion carried.

- B. Ordinance 1153 Ordinance declaring surplus specified personal property owned by the City of Farmer City

This ordinance lists items no longer needed by the wastewater treatment plant and police department.

**MOTION** by McKinley, seconded by Walsh, to approve Ordinance 1153 Ordinance declaring surplus specified personal property owned by the City of Farmer City. Voted unanimously. Motion carried.

- C. Resolution 141 Joint funding agreement for federally funded construction – IDOT Rte 54 sidewalk.

With this resolution, the City of Farmer City is committing to funding \$54,300 from TIF towards the construction of a sidewalk along Rte 54 towards Dollar General.

**MOTION** by McKinley, seconded by Walsh, to approve Resolution 141 Joint funding agreement for federally funded construction – IDOT Rte 54 sidewalk. Voted unanimously. Motion carried.

- D. Discussion regarding sale of 109 S Main St, Farmer City, IL.

A local real estate agent, Kristen Yeadon, with Pathway Realty has reached out regarding the purchase of 109 S Main St, Farmer City. She has met the requirements listed in the RFP and is very motivated to purchase the building. She has proposed a \$24,000 purchase price (80% of the \$30,000 value) and is aware that there will be no TIF assistance due to being the wife of a city employee. The city will consult with Kristen and come to an agreement on how to subdivide the back lot for parking. Council approves of this

arrangement and has asked attorney Chamley to draft a contract for the March council meeting.

### **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

City Manager Baxter informed council that the Washington St sewer lining project has taken a turn. Concrete is in the piping and contractors are unable to remove. They recommend the best way forward is to bid out to replace the manhole and piping. It will be better to remove and replace at this point. The bids will be brought before council at the March meeting. CM Baxter is meeting with a developer regarding new housing on 135 Clinton Ave. The state archeologists have determined that there is no ancient burial ground on the interstate property. Councilman McKinley cautions council to watch out for email scams that are prevalent.

### **NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND OTHER BUSINESS**

Mayor Testory would like council to propose goals for the city manager and bring to the March meeting.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by McKinley, seconded by Walsh, to adjourn the meeting. Voted unanimously. Motion carried.

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Angie Wanserski, City Clerk

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-142**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF FARMER CITY IN SUPPORT OF THE ILLINOIS AMERICA250 COMMEMORATION**

WHEREAS, the United States of America will commemorate its 250th anniversary on July 4, 2026, marking a historic milestone in the nation's history; and

WHEREAS, on July 4, 1776, the Second Continental Congress formally adopted the Declaration of Independence, asserting the American colonies' freedom from British rule and laying the foundation for the principles of democracy and self-governance; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission, known as the America250 Commission ([america250.org](http://america250.org)) was established by Congress in 2016 to plan and orchestrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, aiming to engage all Americans in commemorating this historic event through educational initiatives.

WHEREAS, the Illinois America250 Commission ([IL250.org](http://IL250.org)) was established to develop, encourage and execute an inclusive commemoration and observance of the founding of the United States of America, and Illinois' imperative role in the nation's history; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois America250 Commission encourages communities, libraries, schools, local governments, historical societies, cultural institutions and individuals of all ages to develop inclusive commemorations that reflect on Illinois' role in the nation's history and development; and

WHEREAS, recognizing and supporting the Illinois America250 Commission will help ensure a meaningful and educational commemoration for all residents and future generations; and

WHEREAS, the commemoration provides an opportunity to reflect on the state's historical significance, honor the achievements of its people and inspire civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, the **City of Farmer City** hereby formally supports the Illinois America250 Commission and its mission to commemorate our nation's 250th anniversary.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the **Mayor and City Council of the City of Farmer City** expresses its support for the Illinois America250 Commission, and encourages all Illinois communities to organize and participate in local events leading up to and culminating on July 4, 2026, to celebrate America's 250th anniversary.

PASSED THIS 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2026.

AYES: \_\_\_\_\_

NAYS: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSTENTIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED THIS 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2026.

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Scott Testory, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Angie Wanserski, City Clerk

Upon adopting this resolution, municipal officials should forward a copy to the Illinois America250 Commission by email at [IL250@ilhumanities.org](mailto:IL250@ilhumanities.org).

Feb. 26, 2026

City of Farmer City and Farmer City Council Members,

I am writing to you, requesting funds to partially fund a new brochure. It has been 2 years since designing a brochure that mostly consists of Retail in Farmer City. The brochure idea was a hit from the first day, asking area businesses to participate. My goal was to print an attractive-looking brochure with a positive vibe to draw people to town. To show a community working together. The original plans were a trifold brochure, but the idea was greatly received and became a double liner fold brochure. Business owners trusted my design abilities and each paid \$100 to print 5,000 full-color brochures. It is still out in public places, but we need to update it and have plans to distribute even further away than before.

The brochure was a tasteful, well-designed, and attractive enough to get into hotels, gas stations, businesses in Monticello, Clinton, Farmer City, Mansfield, Paxton, Bloomington, Champaign, Mahomet, El Paso, and wherever it got distributed by customers from The Mischievous Monkeys, taking a hundred or more to their towns. Local businesses were also given some to have available to travelers.

Many hours were spent by me going to each and every business in person in town, asking for participation. It was immediately hit with gratitude by many that something like this was going to happen. I used UpClose printing out of Champaign and have plans to use them again. Not every printer can print the double liner fold as was needed.

You may be asking why we now ask for funds when businesses were willing to pay for it themselves two years ago.

First, because I feel as though it should have been partially funded last time, but I didn't want to ask and slow my progress of getting it done. I was determined it would happen and it is not a project that was talked about over and over across tables with nothing ever happening. Plus, it needed the creative edge that I could offer.

Second, because the smaller businesses in town have been hit hard financially, and my fear is that some just may not be able to afford it even knowing it's beneficial. No business in town can survive on our residents only as customers. We need to draw them in from an hour away.

The benefits are more than just a pretty brochure. It gets into the hands of people looking for a destination to visit and spend money. It gets into the hands of people possibly looking to live in a smaller community. This brochure gives a message about working together. It encourages pride in our community. It's just one of those steps needed to get our town

moving forward in the right direction. It shows so many people that there is more to Farmer City than they may be thinking or have heard of. It is a Marketing tool. It creates more tax revenue.

So, how much am I asking for? Any amount will help lower the cost to the business owners in our community and give me a head start of mapping out trips to towns and traveler/visitor stations even further away than previously. It may be enough to print more than 5,000, which then could be available in so many more establishments and towns. I am asking for \$500 to \$1200 dollars. This does not pay for it in total. I need the businesses to pay for it partially, so they feel invested in the project. Many have already come forward wanting to be on it this year. Last time, the money was run through The Mischievous Monkeys, and I paid taxes on that income. If your donation towards this project could be paid to the printing company, it would be much appreciated. It does not go to print till all monies are received. My projected print date is April. I work with each business and help with designing as needed. If I could have a commitment letter from you with the amount you are planning to give, I can then start asking the businesses and organizations in town for their participation. They will be told of your valuable participation.

I do not make any money for doing this project. I'm just happy to produce something positive, going out and around Illinois and Indiana.

I appreciate your consideration and taking the time to evaluate this request. The timely response is welcomed.

Robert Allen McIlvain



The Mischievous Monkeys

Farmer City Merchants' Organization

309-928-7656

**RESOLUTION 2026-143**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FROM  
HOTEL/MOTEL ACCOUNT**

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of expenditures from the municipal hotel/motel tax, levied and collected by the City of Farmer City under Ordinance 771, is “to promote tourism and conventions within the city, and otherwise attract nonresident, overnight visitors to the City and;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Farmer City had received a request from the Farmer City Merchants’ Organization for a grant to help defray the costs of the printing brochures; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Farmer City recommends that the city council approves a grant of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for this purpose; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FARMER CITY FARMER CITY, DEWITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS THAT:

FIRST:           that the City of Farmer City award a grant of \$\_\_\_\_\_ from the proceeds of the municipal hotel-motel tax to the Farmer City Merchants’ Organization to be paid directly to UpClose Printing to help defray the costs of printing brochures;

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FARMER CITY, COUNTY OF DEWITT, ILLINOIS THIS 2<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2026.

AYES: \_\_\_\_\_      NAYS: \_\_\_\_\_      ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_      ABSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Testory, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Angie Wanserski, City Clerk

To: the City Council of Farmer City

From: The Farmer City Haunted Forest

Thank you for your time and consideration. We are requesting permission to use South Park for our 2026 season on the following dates:

October 2 – Walk-through event, 7:00–10:00 p.m.

October 3 – Sensory-friendly event (time TBD); walk-through event, 7:00–10:00 p.m.

October 9–10 – Hayrack events, 7:00–10:00 p.m.

October 16 – Hayrack event, 7:00–10:00 p.m.

October 17 – Children’s Matinee event (time TBD) hayrack event 7:00-10:00pm

October 23 – Hayrack event 7:00-10:00 p.m.

October 24 – Children’s Matinee event (time TBD), hayrack event 7:00-10:00 p.m.

October 30–Walk-through event, 7:00–10:00 p.m.

October 31 – Trick-or-treating during city hours; walk-through event, 8:30–10:30 p.m.

We are requesting permission to begin set-up on August 29, 2026. We will not block or obstruct the trail upon completion of the day's set-up. Pre-runs will be conducted Sept 28th- Oct 1st during the hours of 6 and 10pm.

All tear-down will be completed by November 22, 2026. We are requesting the extra week to account for our decrease in volunteer numbers.

We want to enter into 2026 with more transparency and better communication with the city. To honor our commitment to inclusivity and community comfort, this year’s experience will not include:

\*Any religious iconography, themes, or references

\*Any symbols, letters, or characters beyond what is required for design, construction, or safety

\*Any depictions of violence, references to violence, or gore

Our goal is to create a welcoming, family friendly environment where everyone feels included. We will have a representative available to discuss any questions you might have.

Thank you,

The Farmer City Haunted Forest



**CITY OF FARMER CITY, ILLINOIS**

105 South Main Street  
Farmer City, Illinois 61842-0049  
Telephone: (309) 928-2842

**MEMO**

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**Date:** 2/27/26  
**To:** Mayor Testory and City Council  
**From:** Taylor Baxter, City Manager  
**RE:** Change Order No. 1 – I-74 Project

Mayor and Council,

Attached is a change order request from Fehr Graham regarding the utility extension project for the I-74 project. The request is to extend the project completion dates for electrical components listed in the attached request letter due to availability delays. All other project components will retain the original project completion dates as summarized in the approved construction schedule, also attached.

It is my recommendation to approve this change order request from Fehr Graham. Please call or email me with any questions.

Thank you,

Taylor Baxter  
City Manager



## LETTER OF DELAY

To: Mid Illinois Mechanical  
C/O: Kyle Richardson; President  
Project: Farmer City Utility Extension and New Sanitary Pump Station; Project #24-1171

Date: 12/10/2025

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Dear Kyle,

I am writing to inform you of an unavoidable delay in the Farmer City Utility and New Sanitary Pump Station project schedule due to extended lead time for critical equipment. Our vendors have confirmed that delivery of the following equipment will have an estimated lead time of:

- **UM33 – Multi Phase Sectionalizing Enclosure – 50 weeks**
- **UM3E-3 – Type 9 Switchgear – 24 weeks**
- **UM6-4 – Fault Indicators – 70 weeks**
- **UM6-34 – 200A Dead Break Elbow Surge Arrestor – 32 weeks**
- **UG17-2 – 1500KVA Three Phase Pad Mount Transformer 4KV/12KV – 34 weeks**
- **CAT D25 Generator – 30 weeks**

As a result, the lead times will impact on the overall project timeline. We are actively working with our vendors to minimize this delay and explore alternative solutions where possible.

We understand the importance of this project and remain committed to maintaining quality and compliance standards. Please let us know if you would like to discuss mitigation strategies or schedule a meeting to review options and the updated timeline.

Thank you for your understanding and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Clint Johnson*

Estimator/Project Manager

**SECTION 00 63 63**

**CHANGE ORDER No. 1**

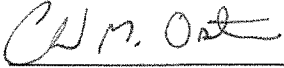
Owner: City of Farmer City                      Owner's Project No.:  
 Engineer: Fehr Graham                      Engineers Project No.: 24-1171  
 Contractor: Mid Illinois Mechanical              Contractors Project No.:  
 Project: Utility Extensions and New Sanitary Pump Station  
 Contract Name: General  
 Date Issued: January 5, 2026      Effective Date of Order: January 5, 2026

The Contract is modified as follows upon execution of this Change Order:

Description: Extend Project Completion Dates for Electrical Components listed in the attached request letter due to availability delays. All other Project Components will retain the original Project Completion Dates as summarized in the approved Construction Schedule, also attached.

Attachments: 1) Extension request letter dated 12/10/25, and 2) Approved construction schedule dated 1/19/26.

Change in Contract Price	Change in Contract Times
Original Contract Price: \$ <u>1,224,000.00</u>	Original Contract Times: Substantial Completion: <u>July 1, 2026</u> Ready for final payment: <u>July 31, 2026</u>
[Increase] [Decrease] from previously approved Change Orders No. 1 to No.1: \$ <u>N/A</u>	[Increase] [Decrease] from previously approved Change Orders No.1 to No.1: Substantial Completion: <u>N/A</u> Ready for final payment: <u>N/A</u>
Contract Price prior to this Change Order: \$ <u>1,224,000.00</u>	Contract Times prior to this Change Order: Substantial Completion: <u>July 1, 2026</u> Ready for final payment: <u>July 31, 2026</u>
[Increase] [Decrease] this Change Order: \$ <u>N/A</u>	[Increase] this Change Order: Substantial Completion: <u>December 31, 2026</u> Ready for final payment: <u>June 30, 2027</u>
Contract Price incorporating this Change Order: \$ <u>1,224,000.00</u>	Contract Times with all approved Change Orders: Substantial Completion: <u>December 31, 2026</u> Ready for final payment: <u>June 30, 2027</u>

<u>Recommended by Engineer</u>	<u>Accepted by Contractor</u>	<u>Authorized by Owner</u>
By: <u></u>	By: _____	By: _____
Title: <u>Project Manager</u>	Title: _____	Title: _____
Date: <u>1/20/2026</u>	Date: _____	Date: _____



**CITY OF FARMER CITY, ILLINOIS**

105 South Main Street  
Farmer City, Illinois 61842-0049  
Telephone: (309) 928-2842

**MEMO**

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**Date:** 2/27/26  
**To:** Mayor Testory and City Council  
**From:** Taylor Baxter, City Manager  
**RE:** Phase I & Phase II Engineering Services – Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Improvements (Allen & Plum Streets).

**Mayor and Council,**

Maurer-Stutz is seeking approval to authorize the completion of remaining Phase I engineering services and initiation of Phase II design for the Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Improvements project along Allen Street (John Street to Main Street) and Plum Street (Allen Street to Richardson Street).

At IDOT's request, Phase I must be finalized through completion of a Bridge Condition Report and Preliminary Bridge Design and Hydraulic Report. Upon completion of Phase I, the consultant will proceed with Phase II services, including preparation of plans, specifications, and cost estimates in accordance with IDOT requirements and the attached scope of work.

Approval will allow the City to maintain compliance with IDOT, keep the project on schedule, and position the improvements for bidding and construction.

Thank you,

Taylor Baxter  
City Manager



STANDARD SHORT FORM PROPOSAL AND AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Client Name and Address: City of Farmer City
105 S. Main Street
Farmer City, IL 61842

Client Contact Information: Taylor Baxter

Project Name and Location: 2023 Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Improvements
Allen Street from John Street to Main Street
Plum Street from Allen Street to Richardson Street

Effective Agreement Date: 12/10/2025

Client hereby authorizes Maurer-Stutz, Inc. (MSI, Engineer) to provide Professional Services in connection with the above referenced Project. Client's Project, of which Engineer's services under this Agreement are a part, is generally identified as follows:

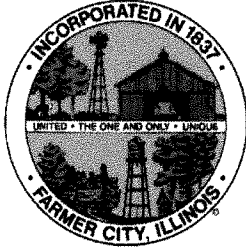
Complete the Phase I Bridge Condition Report and Preliminary Bridge Design and Hydraulic Report per IDOT's request to complete the Phase I planning and project report. Complete the Phase II design including plans, specifications, and estimates per the attached tasks and design hours for the Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Improvements along Allen Street from John Street to Main Street and along Plum Street from Allen Street to Richardson Street.

Maurer-Stutz, Inc. proposes to provide professional services on the Project based on the following Fee Method:

Estimated Fee: \$39,500

This Proposal is subject to and governed by the General Terms and Conditions that are attached to hereby made a part of this agreement.

Table with 2 columns and 3 rows: FOR OFFICE USE ONLY, Proposal No., Project No., Effective April 1, 2011



## CITY OF FARMER CITY, ILLINOIS

105 South Main Street  
Farmer City, Illinois 61842-0049  
Telephone: (309) 928-2842

# MEMO

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**Date:** 3/2/26  
**To:** Mayor Testory and City Council  
**From:** Taylor Baxter, City Manager  
**RE:** Compensation Adjustment Following Annual Performance Evaluation

Mayor and Council,

Following completion of my annual performance evaluation and pursuant to the compensation provisions of my employment agreement, I am formally requesting Council consideration of a base salary adjustment.

The independent evaluation resulted in an overall score of 3.90 out of 5.0, characterized as "good to very good." The evaluation reflects that Council expectations are being met across core areas, with noted strengths in governance, fiscal management, policy execution, and professional conduct. Identified areas for improvement are developmental and appropriate for continued growth in the role.

My current annual salary is \$108,139. I respectfully request a 4% base salary increase, bringing the base salary to \$112,464, with any cost-of-living adjustment applied separately and consistent with other City employees.

The revised agreement is attached. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

Taylor Baxter  
City Manager

**RESOLUTION NO 144**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH CITY MANAGER**

WHEREAS, the city of Farmer City, Illinois has adopted the managerial form of government;

WHEREAS, the employment of a municipal manager is a matter pertaining to the local government and affairs of the city of Farmer City;

WHEREAS, the city of Farmer City has authority pursuant to the Illinois Municipal Code (65 ILCS 5/5-3-7 et. seq.) to appoint a municipal manager and enter into an employment agreement for a municipal manager;

WHEREAS, the Mayor has appointed Taylor Baxter to serve as Municipal Manager and entered into an Employment Agreement with him; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Farmer City to enter into said Employment Agreement with Taylor Baxter;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FARMER CITY, DEWITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS:

FIRST: that the mayor be authorized to execute for and on behalf of the City of Farmer City an Employment Agreement.  
A copy of said Employment Agreement, marked Exhibit A, is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

SECOND: that the city clerk be and she is hereby authorized and directed to attest to the signature of the mayor on said agreement and retain in the city clerk's office a fully executed original of said agreement for public inspection.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FARMER CITY, DEWITT COUNTY, ILLINOIS THIS 2<sup>n</sup> DAY OF March, 2026.

AYES:                      NAYS:                      ABSTAIN:                      ABSENT: \_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Testory, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Angie Wanserski, City Clerk



## EXHIBIT A EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into this 2<sup>nd</sup> of March, 2026 by and between the City of Farmer City, Illinois hereinafter called "Employer," and Taylor M. Baxter, hereinafter called "Employee," WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Employer desires to employ the services of the Employee, as City Manager of Farmer City, through appointment by the City Council as provided in the Illinois Compiled Statutes, and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the City Council to provide certain benefits, establish certain conditions of employment, and to set working conditions of said Employee; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the City Council to (1) secure and retain the services of Employee and to provide inducement to remain in such employment and (2) to make possible full work productivity by assuring employee's morale and peace of mind with respect to future security and (3) to provide for a just means of terminating Employee's services at such time as he may be unable to fully discharge his duties due to disability or when Employer may otherwise desire to terminate his employment; and

WHEREAS, Employee desires to accept employment as City Manager of Farmer City;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the mutual covenants herein contained, the parties agree, as follows:

### **Section 1: Duties**

The duties of the City Manager are described in the City of Farmer City Code of Ordinances, Section 30.063, which is attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by this reference.

Neither the City Council nor any of its members shall direct or request the appointment of any person to, or removal from, office by the City Manager or any of his subordinates, or in any manner take part in the appointment or removal of officers and employees, except where expressly provided for by the Code of Ordinances of the City of Farmer City, Illinois, or state law.

### **Section 2: Hours of Work**

Employee will be an "exempt executive employee" as that term is defined by the Fair Labor Standards Act, exempt from hours of work recordkeeping and overtime compensation standards.

It is recognized that Employee must devote a great deal of time outside the normal office hours to business of the Employer, and to that end Employee will be allowed to take compensatory time off as he shall deem appropriate during said normal office hours.

### **Section 3: Term**

This agreement will run for a term coterminous with the current term of the Mayor (ending Spring 2027). It may be amended and extended by the Mayor and Council members that assume subsequent terms of office.

Except in the circumstances set forth in Section 4, the City Manager shall not be removed during the ninety (90) day period preceding or following any City Council election or during the ninety (90) day period following any change in Council membership (except for the term of the Mayor as this Agreement cannot, by law, extend beyond said term).

#### **Section 4: Termination**

If the Mayor and City Council terminate the employment of the City Manager from and after December 30, 2025, for any reason other than City Manager's "misconduct" as defined in the Government Severance Pay Act (5 ILCS 415/5) as amended, the City Manager shall be entitled to the lump sum payment of twenty (20) weeks of salary and any other benefits payable under the City's fringe benefit policy, including life, health, dental and disability insurance, at City's expense. The word "termination" shall include a resignation by the City Manager at the urging or suggestion of a majority of the corporate authorities of the City done either by formal action or informally through any form of communication with the City Manager. If at the time of termination, the City insurance plans do not allow for such continuation, the City agrees to pay the City Manager a lump sum cash payment equal to twenty weeks of full premium for any coverages (health, life, dental, disability) that are not continued.

In the event that this Agreement is not renewed or extended beyond the current term of the Mayor, then the City shall pay the City Manager a lump sum cash payment equal to twenty (20) weeks of aggregate compensation as severance pay and continue all health, dental, life, disability insurance and all other City provided benefits in full force and coverage, at City expense, for that same period of time. Provided however, the City shall not be obligated to pay the amount referred to in this paragraph in the event this Agreement is not renewed due to the City Manager's "misconduct" as defined in the Government Severance Pay Act (5 ILCS 415/5) as amended, or because the City Manager has accepted an offer of employment from another employer in excess of any offer from the City.

"Aggregate compensation" herein shall mean salary, automobile allowance and deferred compensation contribution.

Said continuation of group health insurance coverage shall be in addition to any protection afforded the City Manager by the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA). Coverage under COBRA shall begin on the date all coverage extended under the severance provisions herein expire.

Upon termination, whether voluntary or involuntary, the City shall compensate the City Manager for accumulated vacation leave (capped at 5 weeks), floating holidays or personal time, and sick leave (pursuant to city policy), at the City Manager's then current rate of pay.

Employee may resign at any time subject only to a requirement for thirty (30) days' written notice to the City Council.

#### **Section 5: Salary**

Effective March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026, Employer agrees to pay Employee for his services rendered pursuant hereto an annual base salary of \$112,464 per year.

Effective December 30, 2025, and on each December 30<sup>th</sup> thereafter, Employer agrees to pay Employee for his services rendered pursuant hereto an annual base salary commiserate with his yearly performance evaluation, if warranted.

Employer shall not, at any time during the term of his employment, reduce the salary of Employee, except in conjunction with a reduction across-the-board for employees of the Employer.

#### **Section 6: Deferred Compensation**

In addition to the Employee's base salary, Employer agrees to contribute an amount equal to 1% of the base salary into the City of Farmer City Deferred Compensation Plan with the ICMA Retirement Corporation Deferred Compensation Plan on Employee's behalf in equal proportionate amounts each pay period. Employee may contribute any amounts allowable by law, in his sole discretion, to this defined plan as well. These contributions are regarded as salary for computing the payroll deduction for the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF). They will be tax deferred for computing federal income tax.

#### **Section 7: Retirement**

The City will provide a defined retirement benefit for Employee with the IMRF. Employee will contribute a percentage of his annual salary by payroll deduction to IMRF. The City's contribution to IMRF will vary on an annual basis based upon an independent actuarial evaluation of the pension benefit obligation provided to all employees participating in IMRF.

#### **Section 8: Insurance**

Employee will receive medical, dental, income disability, life insurance and worker compensation benefits for him and his children, equal to benefits provided to other city employees. Employee will contribute the standard contribution for employee/children coverage.

#### **Section 9: Vehicle**

The Employee is required to be on call for twenty-four (24) hour service, so therefore, must have access to a vehicle for City business. In lieu of a city vehicle, Employee will be compensated for the use of his personal vehicle for City business at a rate of \$250 per month, including any and all travel within the region consisting of DeWitt County, Champaign County, Piatt County, McLean County, Macon County and Logan County. All travel outside of the region shall be reimbursed at a cents per mile rate equal to the IRS allowable rate then in effect. Employee will not be compensated for personal use outside of the day-to-day use of the vehicle or to/from his residence.

#### **Section 10: Cell Phone**

The City will reimburse Employee \$100 per month for the use of his personal smart phone to conduct City business. Employee is responsible for maintaining the smart phone in good working condition and may continue to use it for personal use as well.

#### **Section 11: Vacation Leave**

Employee shall accrue, and have credited to his personal account, two (2) weeks' vacation each year, accrued biweekly. Employee shall be credited with two (2) weeks' vacation each year, accrued biweekly upon his anniversary date, beginning December 30, 2025, and each year thereafter through the term of this contract.

#### **Section 12: Other Employment Benefits**

Employee will receive sick leave, holidays and personal leave equal to other city employees who have managerial responsibilities.

### **Section 13: Professional Development**

The City will budget and pay for professional dues and subscriptions of Employee necessary for his continuation and full participation as a credentialed manager with ICMA as well as continuation and full participation in continuing education and conferences of the International City Manager's Association, Illinois City/County Manager's Association, Illinois Public Employer Labor Relations Association, and Illinois Municipal League. Employer recognizes there may be other professional organizations or events necessary and desirable for her continued professional growth and for the good of the Employer as approved by the City Council.

Employer hereby agrees to budget and pay for travel and subsistence expenses of Employee for a reasonable number of professional and official travel, conferences, and meetings necessary to adequately pursue professional development and official functions for Employer, subject to the City's Travel Reimbursement Policy.

The City recognizes that certain job-related expenses are incurred by the Employee and agrees to pay or reimburse such reasonable and necessary expenses as approved by the City Council.

### **Section 14: Performance Evaluation**

The City Council will conduct an initial work session with Employee to discuss and clarify initial expectations for Employee's work objectives and strategies. The City Council will conduct a review of Employee's performance every year on or about his anniversary date to evaluate progress toward objectives, to update objectives and strategies for the next evaluation period and increase salary and benefits, if warranted.

### **Section 15: Bonding**

The City shall bear the full cost of any fidelity or other bonds required of the City Manager under any law or ordinance.

### **Section 16: Indemnification**

In addition to that required under state and local law, Employer shall defend, save harmless and indemnify Employee against any tort, professional liability claim or demand or other legal action, whether groundless or otherwise, arising out of an alleged act or omission occurring in the performance of Employee's duties as City Manager, except that the City shall not be liable to defend, save harmless, and indemnify the Employee against any willful or wanton misconduct. Employer may compromise and settle any such claim or suit and pay the amount of any settlement or judgment rendered thereon.

### **Section 17: General provisions**

This agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the heirs at law and executors of Employee.

This agreement shall become effective upon adoption and approval by the City Council of the City of Farmer City and execution and delivery by all parties.

The corporate authorities agree to make the provisions of this agreement possible to budget and appropriate the necessary funds and to take whatever other actions that the corporate authorities must take to uphold the provisions of this agreement.

If any provisions, or any portion thereof, contained in this agreement are held unconstitutional, invalid, or unenforceable, the remainder of this agreement, or portion thereof, shall not be affected and shall remain in full force and effect. Any portion inconsistent with the law shall be reformed to comply therewith if possible.

This Agreement shall be deemed to be an Agreement and agreement made under and shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of Illinois.

Neither this Agreement, nor any provisions hereof may be changed, revised, modified, waived, discharged, terminated, or otherwise abrogated, diminished or impaired other than by an instrument in writing duly authorized and executed by both the City and Employer.

This Agreement may be signed in any number of counterparts with the same effect as if the signatures thereto and hereto were upon the same instrument.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the City of Farmer City has caused this agreement to be signed and executed in its behalf by its Mayor and duly attested by its City Clerk, and the Employee has signed and executed this agreement, both in duplicate, the day and year first written above.

City of Farmer City, Illinois

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Testory, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Taylor M. Baxter, City Manager

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Angie Wanserski, City Clerk

Executed: \_\_\_\_\_