

## Mayor's Minute-March 5, 2026

I am excited to share news about Alluvial with you! The State and Federal funding has finally been released for the project-the paperwork is signed and the work has finally begun. This has been about ten years of work and there have been many setbacks. But, our community of local, dedicated residents has persevered and we have succeeded in creating a locally owned and operated cooperative water treatment plant. When the plant is constructed and operational, we will be free of American Water. The people that live here, use the water we produce, and operate the facility we have fought so hard for will be the local leaders who will have a voice in determining our rates and services. We will no longer be at the mercy of some distant monopoly that makes decisions for us in which we have no input. It was a real honor to have the director of the USDA Rural Development in IL, Jesus Ortega, attend the signing ceremony. Site prep work has already begun with clearing the property so that construction may begin. We should be able to expect water production to begin in just a couple of years.

We are also moving forward with developing the Comprehensive Plan which will put goals and strategies on paper that will keep us focused and accountable. But we need your help. Please participate in the surveys, open houses, and other steps that will be offered to you so that we can develop your vision for Bunker Hill. Look for flyers at the Fish Fry on the website and FB page that contain QR codes for an online survey that you can complete. Paper copies of the survey are available at the Fish Fry and at the city office. Please return paper surveys to one of the City's staff at the office. Surveys will be available beginning in February and an Informational Open House should be happening in late March. We will continue collecting information at least through March. All of the information gathered will be used to determine our future direction. The QR code at the end of this newsletter will link you to the community survey so that you can give your opinions on general topics related to Bunker Hill. We are meeting with the School Board, other organizations in town, and the public. Participate in our community organizations and events, attend meetings, envision changes that will help Bunker Hill to grow, and tell us what you think. You have a voice. We are listening. We need your ideas, your participation, and your patience. I look forward to seeing where you determine that we are going.

John Chapman, Mayor



BH Community Survey



BHHS Survey