

**ROCHELLE CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM MEMO
REGULAR MEETING**

SUBJECT: A Resolution Authorizing and Approving a Farm Lease Agreement between Kevin Herrmann and the City of Rochelle AND Petry Farms and the City of Rochelle

Staff Contact: Sam Tesreau, Interim City Manager

Summary: Over the past several years, the city has purchased 55 plus acres for future City of Rochelle Railroad (CIR) expansions, which includes the Rochelle Intermodal Transload Center expansion, the future construction of a rail bridge, and a 200-ft wide 1.3-mile strip of land for future rail construction south of the Lee/Ogle County line. The City approved a farm management agreement in early 2025 with Martin, Goodrich, Waddell, Inc. to manage said property and is automatically renewed for successive one-year terms thereafter unless either part gives no less than 30 days' written notice.

While plans for using this land for future rail growth are ongoing, staff would like to continue to lease the land for the purpose of farming it. Two farm leases are proposed under this resolution and are attached as exhibits 1. The City pays 6% of gross revenues, with fee being no less than \$1500, to the farm manager.

Funding Sources:

Source:	Budgeted Amount:	Proposed Expenditure:

Strategic Plan Goal Application: Economic Development and City Railroad extensions

Recommendation: Approve a Resolution Authorizing and Approving a Farm Lease Agreement with Kevin Herrmann and the City of Rochelle AND Petry Farms and the City of Rochelle