

The City of Villa Grove is located in Douglas County, approximately 6 miles from Illinois American Water's Champaign County operations. The City of Villa Grove has a population of 2,553 and serves approximately 1,489 drinking water and 1,069 wastewater customers. The City of Villa Grove joined Illinois American Water's Eastern Division in September 2022.

## **CHALLENGES**

- Operational: Community leaders were looking for the best possible option for the future of operating their water and wastewater systems.
- Financial: The City was concerned about the financial capital needs and wanted to invest in other areas of the community.
- Rates: The City's existing rates were unable to sustain the operations, maintenance and capital improvements necessary to adequately provide water and wastewater service to residents without significantly increasing their bills.

## **SOLUTION**

The City of Villa Grove chose to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) to sell its water and wastewater assets. Through the competitive RFP process, Illinois American Water was selected by the City as the best long-term solution provider to its residents.

## **BENEFITS**

- Operational: Illinois American Water accepted responsibility for the water and wastewater systems and began managing the systems following the closure of the sale. Illinois American Water plans to invest approximately \$21M in the first seven years of ownership.
- Financial: Illinois American Water acquired to the City of Villa Grove for \$11 million. Proceeds from the sale will be used to benefit the community.
- Rates: The City of Villa Grove joined Illinois American Water and rates approved by the ICC were implemented.

**QUESTIONS?** 

Illinois Business

**Development** 

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