The City of Countryside is proud to announce the award of a $1 million grant from the Illinois Clean Energy Foundation. This grant was awarded as part of their Net Zero Building program. Net zero energy consumption means the total amount of energy used by the building on an annual basis is roughly equal to the amount of renewable energy created on the site. Countryside Mayor Sean McDermott stated, “As local elected officials, we all have a responsibility to protect our environment, and mitigating the impact of climate change needs to be a priority.”

The City worked with Dewberry Architects to design a sustainable facility. The Municipal Complex will be built at 803 Joliet Road. This facility will incorporate geothermal heating and cooling, and photovoltaic (solar panels) on the roof and car ports to generate additional power. A few additional features included in the design are electric charging stations for vehicles, energy efficient appliances, automatic plumbing fixtures, occupancy sensors, and LED lighting fixtures.

Mayor Sean McDermott added, “The Countryside City Council is committed to building a sustainable facility. The Countryside Municipal Complex will be the first net zero municipal building in the State of Illinois. This is a huge commitment on our part which we hope will entice others to follow.” Construction will begin in April, 2018 and continue into 2019.