



City Council

City Council Chambers ◊ 230 West Stephenson Street ◊ Freeport, IL 61032

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT - AMENDED
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, September 17, 2007**

Call to Order of meeting at 5:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL BY MAYOR GAULRAPP

Member present were Aldermen Klemm, Boldt, Bush, Endress, Corbin, O'Neill, DeVine, and Helms

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Dick Weiss, 2535 Cooper Drive, Freeport, spoke on behalf of funding for NHS and how the property transfer tax was used to support NHS during his administration as Mayor. Submitted comments to the committee in writing.
- Alma Schulz, 1730 S. Hance, Freeport, spoke in favor of ordinance for handicap signage. Also in favor of volunteer ordinance
- Kay Woods, 8580 Shawnee, Freeport, is on ADA Commission and spoke in favor of the handicap ordinance.
- Brett Blair, 3453 Stockton, spoke in favor of ordinance for handicap parking. Mr. Woods is also and employee of RAMP and attended Highland Community College. Would like to see more enforcement of handicap parking.
- Deb Elzinga, 1147 W Lincoln, spoke in support and investment of NHS. Does not like the process of negotiation. Home ownership most important. Threaten ability to achieve success.
- Patricia Marm, Winslow, Illinois, spoke in support of the handicap ordinance.
- Dan Neal, 1815 Gladewood, Board President of NHS. If there were stipulations on funding it would punish NHS. Negotiation was a nine month process with the City. Why would the City want to limit the ability of NHS to help Freeport Beautification? NHS asking to add Aldermen O'Neill and Bush to the negotiating team.
- Jim Fritz, 710 Kiwanis, NHS Board. \$75,000 would be a \$25,000 cut in funds from last year. Direct benefits of the program to economy in Freeport. Requesting to keep funding at \$75,000.
- Jerry Seidenberg, 1710 Gladewood, spoke in reference to the property transfer tax, the intent of the fund, and in support of NHS. Requesting the committee to follow the advice of President Bush. Mr. Seidenberg can tell us what will happen if we don't follow President Bush's advice – out of town buyers will buy up the property.
- Wendy Pearson, 711 S. Carroll - which is a NHS house. There are issues facing the 3rd ward and specifically out of town owners of property. There is a need to maintain property around us and revitalize the neighborhoods. Too many unconventional loans available to people. Spoke in favor of NHS funding.

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FINANCE

1. An informational item on the Year-End Fiscal Report was presented by Finance Director Craig Joesten. Refer to September 12, 2007 letter from Duane Price completing the review of the Fiscal Year 2007. The final results show a gain for the year in the Corporate Fund of \$7,098. This means our revenues exceeded our expenses by \$7,098. This is the first surplus in five years and the City continues to invest in the City and has not cut programs.

2. Resolution to authorize agreement with Neighborhood Housing Services of Freeport, NFP was presented by Finance Director Craig Joesten. The section under A. Role of the City, item a. was amended to read \$75,000 paid within 30 days of the date of this agreement for the City's fiscal year 2007-2008. Item b. was removed. Leslie Mastroianni spoke on behalf of NHS. A motion was made by Alderman Boldt to approve the resolution with the amendments. A motion to delete goals as written in the resolution and use NHS goals and accept the amendments was made by Alderman Boldt, seconded by Alderman Klemm. Vote in favor 7-1, with Chairman Helms voting nay. Instructed to clean up the contract and prepare for next council meeting.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

1. The Rawleigh Corridor Master Plan and Implementation Strategy was presented by Colleen Johnson of Vandewalle & Associates. A twenty-eight page documentation including appendices outlining the Brownfield Prioritization, Rawleigh Corridor Phase I ESA, and Community Objectives Exercises Results was reviewed in a Power Point presentation.

Motion to approve - Corbin

Second – Klemm

Vote to approve – 8-0

2. A Resolution Authorizing Submittal of United States Environmental Protection Agency Brownfield Cleanup Grant Applications was presented to the committee by Colleen Johnson of Vandewalle & Associates. Each grant would be for \$200,000 for the Rawleigh building including the Powerhouse, Building B, and the Spring Street Parking Lot. Both grants involve some in-kind match.

Motion to approve submittal of the grant – Klemm

Second – Endress

Vote 8-0

Motion to send this issue to City Council this evening – O'Neill

Second – Endress

Vote 8-0 in favor

3. Resolution Authorizing Application for and Execution of a Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Grant was presented by Colleen Johnson of Vandewalle & Associates.

Motion to approve application for the grant – Klemm

Second – Corbin

Vote 8-0

Motion to send this issue to City Council this evening – O'Neill

Second – Endress

Vote 8-0 in favor

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4. Resolution to enter into Agreement with Vandewalle & Associates for Services Related to USEPA Grants for Brownfield Cleanup was presented by Community Development Director Shelly Griswold.

Motion to approve – Klemm

Second – Endress

Vote 8-0

Motion to send this issue to City Council this evening – O’Neill

Second – DeVine

Vote 8-0 in favor

5. Resolution to approve corrected version of reimbursement agreement with FHN in relation to a TIF District to be known as the Burchard Hills Redevelopment Project Area was presented by Community Development Director Shelly Griswold.

Motion to approve – Boldt

Second – O’Neill

Vote 8-0

Motion to send this issue to City Council this evening – Klemm

Second – O’Neill

Vote 8-0 in favor

6. An Ordinance amending Chapter 1242 (Administration, Enforcement and Penalty) and Chapter 1262 (Off-Street Parking and Loading) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Freeport, Illinois was presented to the committee by Community Development Director Shelly Griswold.

Motion to take off and table until October 1 meeting –Klemm

Second – Endress

Voting Aye – Bush, DeVine, Corbin, Klemm, and Boldt (6)

Voting Nay – O’Neill and Helms (2)

Motion passed 6-2

7. An informational item was presented by Community Development Director Shelly Griswold regarding garage demolitions. The current process is rather lengthy for garages and this amendment could make it easier for someone to dismantle an accessory building. Committee asked to have this brought to the October 1, 2007 meeting.

PUBLIC SAFETY

1. An Ordinance Amending Chapter 240 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Freeport (Auxiliary Police) was presented by Police Chief Jerry Whitmore.

Motion to approve – O’Neill

Second – Klemm

Vote 8-0 in favor

2. An Ordinance Amending Chapter 240 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Freeport (Disabled Person Parking Enforcement Volunteer Program) was presented by Police Chief Jerry Whitmore.

Motion to approve – Boldt

Second – Klemm

Vote in favor 8-0

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PUBLIC WORKS

1. An Ordinance amending Chapter 460 (Operation Generally) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Freeport - Stop Sign at Sioux Drive and Country Court was presented by Director Craig LeBaron.

Motion to approve ordinance and send to council at next meeting – Boldt

Second – Bush

Vote 8-0 in favor

2. An Ordinance Amending Chapter 480, Section 480.24 (Handicapped Persons and Disabled Veterans) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Freeport was presented by Alderwoman Linda O'Neill. Alderwoman O'Neill stated that this ordinance was amended to include requirements for owners of property required to display handicap parking signs to ensure that their sign is in compliance with current state signage requirements. Upon approval of this ordinance, property owners are given 90 days to bring their signs up to date. A violation of this section shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$100 for each day the handicapped parking sign has not been corrected.

Motion to approve ordinance and send to council at next meeting – O'Neill

Second – Corbin

Vote 8-0 in favor

3. An Ordinance amending Chapter 612 (Animals) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Freeport, Illinois – Horses, Alderman Klemm presented the amendments to the committee to make it unlawful to ride horses within the city limits unless it is for a Special Event.

Motion to approve the ordinance and send to council at the next meeting – Klemm

Second – Endress

Vote 8-0 in favor

4. A Resolution to Establish Loading Zone for Persons with Disabilities (311 N. Walnut) was presented by Public Works Director Craig LeBaron. The Administration is requesting that this issue be forwarded to City Council this evening.

Motion to approve resolution - Endress

Second – O'Neill

Vote 8-0 in favor

Motion to send to council this evening – O'Neill

Second – Endress

Vote 8-0 to send to council

5. A Resolution to Extend Agreement with Delmar Kampen for Services related to land application and/or on-farm Landscape Waste Composting was presented to the committee by Public Works Director Craig LeBaron. October 15, 2007 is the scheduled week to start the leaf pick up program.

Motion to approve resolution – Klemm

Second – Endress

Vote 8-0 in favor

6. A Resolution to Authorize Intergovernmental Agreement between Stephenson County, Freeport Park District and the City of Freeport providing for Sharing of Obligations for Lease of Commonwealth Edison Property was presented to the committee by Public Works Director Craig LeBaron.

Motion to approve resolution – Boldt

Second – O'Neill

Vote 8-0 in favor

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7. Resolution for the Agreement between City of Freeport and Fehr-Graham & Associates for Preliminary Engineering of the Lincoln Douglas Debate Corridor Improvements (M.F.T. SEC. 07-00138-00-EG) was presented by Public Works Director Craig LeBaron. The Administration is requesting that this issue be forwarded to City Council this evening.

Motion to approve resolution – Klemm

Second – Endress

Vote to approve – 8-0

Motion to move to council this evening – Corbin

Second – Klemm

Vote 8-0 to move to council this evening

8. An informational item on the bid process for a 5 yard Dump/Plow Truck was presented to the committee by Public Works Director Craig LeBaron.

OTHER

- The Ward Tours are scheduled and will start and stop at the airport at 5:30 p.m. on Monday.
- City Council Retreat – Alderman Bush will ask Lynn Feaver to schedule and Aldermen will be asked to come up with items to discuss.
- A discussion about neighborhood meetings and the number of council attending. Corporate Council Sarah Griffin explained that if the meeting has two aldermen and the mayor attending, then the meeting must have an agenda posted or it is not in compliance with the open meeting act.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m.