



City Council

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

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING Monday, January 7, 2008

QUORUM

At 7:00 p.m. with a quorum being present, Mayor George Gaulrapp called this meeting to order.

RECORD

Present were Aldermen Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill, Corbin, and Klemm (8).

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

At this time, the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderman Boldt

RECOGNITION

Mayor George Gaulrapp presented the Dennis Garkey Award for Outstanding Citizen Leadership to Rick and Laurie Hasken who have been instrumental in building the public soccer fields behind Malcom Eaton Enterprises used by the Freeport AYSO. The fields will allow multi-team soccer tournaments to be held locally which could bring visitors to the city. Crews, donations, and good weather are needed to finish the picnic shelters at the fields. Rick and Laurie Hasken were also instrumental in building the concession stand and restrooms at the soccer field at Freeport High School. They were nominated by Jack Gastel.

PRESENTATIONS

- A Presentation was given by Reverend Peter Frank Williams on behalf of the Freeport African – American Ministers United for Change (FAAMUC) asking the citizens of Freeport to unite for the betterment of our youth. Reverend Williams stated that all adults in Freeport should accept the blame for the recent violence in our city. Reverend Williams asked for support of a prayer vigil on Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at 7:00 pm at Philippians Missionary Baptist Church. The FAAMUC is working with Mayor George Gaulrapp and Alderman Ronnie Bush on goals for reducing violence and developing programs to provide positive alternatives for youth. Reverend Peter Frank Williams asked Dick Drogosz to address his concerns on the issue of public safety in the city. Chaplin Soul of the Stephenson County Jail spoke on his views about why our youth turn to violence.
- A presentation was given by Bob Skurla regarding Freeport Area Economic Development Foundation and the 2007 end of the year report. The new name of the foundation will be Northwest Illinois Development Alliance. Mr. Skurla provided the council and the public viewing audience an overview of the manufacturing and commercial activities the foundation has been working on including Dickman Farm Option, Mill Race Crossing Economic Development Project Area, Rubloff Development/ Southgate Shopping Center, Wal-Mart Superstore, FHN/Burchard Hills Project, and the Southwest Plaza Shopping Center.

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APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

On the amended agenda for this evening, item 6 was removed and with this change it was motioned by Alderman Helms to accept the agenda. Alderman Endress seconded and a voice vote 8-0 approved the agenda as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Alderwoman O'Neill moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on Monday, December 17, 2007, seconded by Alderman Helms. On a roll call vote of ayes and nays, Alderman Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill, Corbin and Klemm voted aye. The minutes were approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

All items on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member so requests, in which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered as the first item after approval of the Consent Agenda.

A. Approval to Receive and Place on File:

- 1) United Water Monthly Report for November/December 2007
- 2) Fire Department November 2007 Monthly Totals Fire/Ambulance
- 3) Fire Department November 2007 Ambulance Activity Report
- 4) Community Development Cash and Misc. Receipts – December 2007
- 5) Community Development Building Permits - December 2007
- 6) Community Development Building Permits – Year-End Summary for 2007
- 7) Treasurer's Report for period ended November 30, 2007
- 8) Treasurer's Monthly Investment Report for period - November 30, 2007
- 9) Board of Zoning Appeals and Planning Commission for January 10, 2008

B. Approval of Bills Payable for December 2007 (#47, 48, 49) ---- \$383,919.23

C. Approval of Bills Payable for January 2008 (#50) ---- \$210,094.58

D. Approval of Payroll for period ended December 22, 2007 --- \$401,847.72

E. Approval of Water and Sewer Disbursements for December 2007 ---- \$351,247.03

Motion to approve Consent Agenda items as presented – Helms

Seconded – Endress

Ayes – Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill, Corbin, and Klemm

The Consent Agenda was approved.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION #R-2008-01:

A Resolution of Acceptance of Firefighters Grant Program of the Department of Homeland Security - Resolution R-2008-01 was presented this evening to the Committee of the Whole by Fire Chief Kevin Countryman this evening. Chief Countryman stated that this resolution approves the application process of Assistance to Firefighters Grant through the Department of Homeland Security for the Freeport Fire Department. This resolution authorizes the amount of \$63,099.00 to be applied with a local match of \$7,011.00 in order to develop and implement a health and wellness program to comply with NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) Standard 1583 on Health-Related Fitness Programs. At the Committee of the Whole meeting this evening Alderwoman O'Neill motioned to approve the resolution, seconded by Alderman Boldt. This was approved 7-0. Due to the administration and scheduling 49

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RESOLUTION #R-2008-01 (CONT):

Firefighters for physicals in order to comply with the program, it was asked by Chief Countryman to move this forward to the council meeting this evening. A motion was made by Alderwoman O'Neill to move this forward, seconded by Alderwoman DeVine. On a voice vote of 7-0 the committee approved to move the resolution forward to tonight's City Council meeting.

Motion to approve resolution as presented – Helms

Seconded – O'Neill

Ayes – Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill, Corbin, and Klemm

The council adopted Resolution R-2008-01.

RESOLUTION #R-2008-03:

Resolution for the Agreement Between City of Freeport and Illinois Department of Transportation for Federal Participation for the Lincoln Douglas Debate Corridor Improvements (M.F.T. Sec. 07-00138-00-EG) - This resolution was presented by Public Works Director Craig LeBaron to the Committee of the Whole Meeting this evening and it approves a Federal Enhancement Grant to be applied for streetscape improvements along the Illinois 75 and U.S. 20 Corridors known as Section 01-00138-00-LS. This grant will be utilized for improvements along Illinois 75 (Douglas Street) from Galena Avenue to Adams Avenue to create a more pleasing entrance to the Lincoln Douglas Debate Site. The City's share for this improvement will be \$90,000 dollars, which follows the typical federal/local split of 80% federal and 20% local match. Although the City anticipates that local monies donated to this project will cover the majority of, if not all of this match, IDOT requires formal assurance that this match is forthcoming and as such they require the match to be covered by MFT funds for this agreement. At the Committee of the Whole meeting this evening, Alderman Klemm motioned to approve the resolution as presented. This motion was seconded by Alderman Boldt. This was approved on a roll call vote of 7-0. Due to filing paperwork with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Director LeBaron asked the committee to move this resolution forward to this evening's meeting. A motion was made by Alderman Klemm to move this forward to tonight's City Council Meeting, seconded by Alderwoman DeVine. On a voice vote of 7-0 the committee approved.

Motion to approve resolution as presented – Boldt

Seconded – Klemm

Ayes – Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill, Corbin, and Klemm

The council adopted Resolution R-2008-03.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- Request for additional appropriation for public transportation – the city is currently working with 5311 transportation grant. The vouchers received from this grant were used by customers to purchase rides from the Senior Center bus, Freeport City Service Cab, and Malcolm Eaton Enterprises (although now they cannot be used for Malcolm Eaton). The vouchers received in July 2007 have all been distributed. These were sold for \$1.00 each and were sold at Cubs, Sullivan's, and City Hall in the Community Development Department. Director Griswold asked for the council's permission to use \$20,000 from the Wal-Mart Contribution Agreement for public transportation that will be distributed along with the remaining 5311 budget of \$10,000. These amounts will be combined to offer to the public 10,000 additional vouchers at the cost of \$3.00 each. There will be a limit of 10

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vouchers per day per person and the vouchers will only be sold at City Hall. A motion was made by Alderman Klemm to approve the concept presented by Director Griswold, seconded by Alderman Corbin. On a roll call vote of ayes and nays Aldermen Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill, Corbin and Klemm voted aye. Motion passed 8-0.

- Director Griswold stated that before she goes further with the building permit changes she would like the recommendation of the Building Commission and Alderman Klemm asked to be notified of the meeting.
- The use of the County GIS system was discussed and Director Griswold recommends that the funds appropriated for the city's GIS system be moved to the county since we are using their system instead of investing in our own.
- There is a public hearing to designate the Freeport Carnegie Library Building located at 314 West Stephenson Street as an historic landmark on Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.
- There will be a meeting for the Property Maintenance Task Force on Monday, January 14, 2008, at 6:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers.

PUBLIC WORKS

- Public Works Director Craig LeBaron presented that proposals were received at City Hall on December 21, 2007, for HVAC proposals for city owned buildings. Proposal packets were sent to Honeywell, Norstar, Loescher, Mechanical Inc., and Johnson Controls. Two proposals were received, one from Honeywell and one from Johnson Controls. Director LeBaron referred to his memorandum dated January 4, 2008 given to council members and containing a full summary of this HVAC proposal process stating his recommendation of acceptance of the Honeywell bid in the amount of \$42,890.00 per year for five years with options to extend on yearly basis there after be approved. A motion was made by Alderman Klemm to approve the recommendation presented by Director LeBaron, seconded by Alderman Boldt. It was asked by Alderman Helms why the contract amount was less than previous years. Director LeBaron answered that some equipment is no longer needed and also stated that the city is pleased with the service given by Honeywell. On a roll call vote of ayes and nays Aldermen Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill, Corbin and Klemm voted aye. Motion passed 8-0.
- The LAPP program will concentrate this year on Stephenson Street from Park Crest to Carthage and possibly from Carthage to the city limits.

POLICE

- Police Chief of Police Jerry Whitmore thanked the council for their support and he will let you know what you can do to help with the situation of violence among the youth in the city.

FIRE

- Fire Chief Kevin Countryman thanked the council for the support of the resolution – it should allow the Fire Department to promote better health in 2008.

LIBRARY

- Mayor George Gaulrapp stated that this morning the Library hosted a press conference to announce a generous \$100,000 bequest of Mr. Alfred W. Grupe. His nephew, Mr. Dan Borcharding of Lebanon, Tennessee was in attendance.

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MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor George Gaulrapp presented an item to the council for a \$10,000 salary compensation for the additional job duties performed in the Water & Sewer department by Finance Director Craig Joesten. No council action, since this has no affect on the budget of the Water & Sewer department.
- The city has several openings on boards and commissions, including the Board of Zoning Appeals and Historic Preservation Commission. If any Council member has a recommendation for a person to serve on a board or commission, please call the mayor or send him an email.

NEW BUSINESS

- Alderman Boldt asked Chief of Police Jerry Whitmore about the police security at the new Wal-Mart Supercenter since he had received so many phone calls and although he knew the answer, he thought it best to publicize it again. Chief Whitmore explained that Wal-Mart is a private contractor paying the police for the security and this resolution was approved by the council back in the beginning of December. Alderman Boldt thanked Chief Whitmore and Countryman for everything the police and fire do to protect the citizens.
- Alderwoman O'Neill asked to have information prepared by Finance Director Joesten for the next meeting regarding Life Insurance for Non-Bargaining employees since there seems to be disparity between our management level staff and their union employees. She also welcomed the Boy Scout troop visiting the City Council Meeting with troop leader and Fireman Jack Heitz.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Windy Pearson, 711 S. Carroll Avenue, Freeport, spoke to the council on public safety stating that she agrees with Reverend Peter Williams and Chaplin Soul. We need to help children to live more productive lives. She noted that the Journal Standard and Realtors are helping to mentor youth after school and also suggested a similar program could be started for junior police and at other businesses. Ms. Pearson also works to raise funds for the Boys and Girls Club of Freeport-Stephenson County and reminded the public about the Rock and Bowl scheduled for Saturday, January 12 and a fundraiser at Golden Corral on January 24 featuring waiters – Mayor Gaulrapp and Director Griswold. There will also be an event at the Masonic Temple on February 16 and a basketball league for 30 and over as a way to raise funds for the Boys and Girls Club in order to open their doors to our youth.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.