



City Council

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

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING Monday, January 5, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor George Gaulrapp at 6:00 p.m. with a quorum being present on Monday, January 5, 2009, in City Council Chambers of City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call were council members Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill, and Corbin (8). Also present were the city department heads and Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Alderman Helms motioned for approval of the agenda as presented, seconded by Alderman Endress. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was given by Alderman Endress to approve the minutes from the special meeting, Discussion the Stephenson County Hazard Mitigation Plan, held on Monday, December 8, 2008, seconded by Alderman Bush. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

A motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held on Monday, December 15, 2008, was made by Alderman Endress, seconded by Alderman O'Neill. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS

There was no one signed up for public comments on agenda items this evening.

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

- Proclamations for participation in Big Brothers/Big Sisters mentoring programs were read and distributed by Mayor George Gaulrapp, Alderman Boldt, and Carol Morrisett of FHN.
- Mr. Quentin Davis, Executive Director of the Freeport Downtown Development Foundation (FDDF) introduced Chris Wand of the Durrant Group, Inc. of Dubuque Iowa. The funding for the development of this report was through a grant received by FDDF where it needed to be used for studies and not actual improvements. The report assesses the existing streetscape of blocks making up Freeport downtown and makes recommendations for improvements as to what could be done to make the downtown streetscape more pleasing. The report includes sketches of the final

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streetscape plan if the recommendations were fully implemented. The City has applied for an Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program Grant and, if funds are received, it is set up to use portion of this plan along Main Street and another portion for use on Adams. At the end of the presentation, a slide providing an estimated total anticipated cost in the amount of \$8,246,712 for 38 full and 13 partial blocks - costing approximately \$165,000 to \$185,000 per block (prices do not include cost increase factors due to phasing since the final breakdown of phases is not currently known). The Aldermen were provided an opportunity to ask Mr. Wand or Mr. Quentin Davis questions. Community Development Director Shelly Griswold stated that FDDF was not asking for funding, but instead explained that a resolution is on this evening's council agenda to show support of the report prepared by Durrant Group and it resolves that the report will be used as an advisory tool for private and public development.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval to Receive and Place on File:

- 1) City Treasurer Monthly Reports period ending October 31, 2008
- 2) City Treasurer Monthly Reports period ending November 30, 2008

B. Approval of Water and Sewer Bills Payable (#187, 188, 190) --- \$191,050.02

C. Approval of Payroll for pay period ending December 20, 2008 --- \$411,366.32

D. Approval of Bills Payable (#186, 189, 191) --- \$472,831.14

Alderman Endress moved to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Alderman O'Neill. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill, and Corbin (8)

Nays – None (0)

Motion passed 8-0 and the Consent Agenda items were approved.

ORDINANCES – THIRD READING

3rd Reading of Ordinance 2008-65:

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 480, Section 480.11 (Prohibited Parking Streets) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Freeport - Willard Drive Parking - The first reading of this ordinance was held on December 1, 2008. A motion to approve was given by Alderman Endress, seconded by Alderman Helms. The second reading of this ordinance was held on December 15, 2008, and it was automatically laid over to tonight's meeting. Upon the third reading, a roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill, and Corbin (8)

Nays – None (0)

Ordinance 2008-65 was adopted.

3rd Reading of Ordinance 2008-66:

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 222 (Ordinances and Resolutions) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Freeport - Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals considerations

The first reading of this ordinance was held on December 1, 2008. A motion to approve was given by Alderman Boldt, seconded by Alderman Endress. The second reading of this ordinance was held on December 15, 2008, and it was automatically laid over to tonight's meeting. Upon the third reading, a roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill, and Corbin (8)

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Nays – None (0)

Ordinance 2008-66 was adopted.

3rd Reading of Ordinance 2008-67 (see page 9 for additional motions on this ordinance):

An Ordinance Amending the Boundaries of the Joint City of Freeport – County of Stephenson Certified Enterprise Zone – Addition of Heritage Woods of Freeport, Supportive Living Facility (5.30 acres) - The first reading of this ordinance was held on December 1, 2008. A motion to approve was given by Alderman O’Neill, seconded by Alderman Corbin. The second reading of this ordinance was held on December 15, 2008, and it was automatically laid over to tonight’s meeting. Upon the third reading, Alderman Corbin stated, “It is my understanding that the City has plans to annex this and if we do, then we issue the building permit then we should be entitled to the Enterprise Zone Fees. I would like to make a motion to approve this ordinance conditional upon the Enterprise Zone Committee passing a resolution stating that they agree that 50 percent of a project’s Enterprise Zone filing fees go to the governing body issuing the building permit for a project and, if the Enterprise Zone Committee does not pass such a resolution, that this ordinance be brought back before this Council at the next meeting on Tuesday, January 20, 2009.” This motion was seconded by Alderman Endress. Alderman Helms asked about the time frame for annexing this property and it was answered by the Mayor that they should be shovel ready by April 2009, but it could be moved back because of the tax credits or financing. Annexation of this property the City is looking at March. A roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O’Neill, and Corbin (8)

Nays – None (0)

Motion passed 8-0 and Ordinance 2008-67 was adopted.

Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin explained that all of the ordinances for the Enterprise Zone must read the same, so an amendment to the wording could not be made so the motion that Alderman Corbin made was to make the motion conditional upon this happening and in case it doesn’t happen, it will be laid over. She further explained that he did not amend the motion on the floor but he made it conditional.

ORDINANCES –SECOND READING

2nd Reading of Ordinance 2009-01:

An Ordinance to Abate the 2008 Real Estate Tax Levy for Repayment of the General Obligation Bond Series 2000 – levied a real estate tax in the amount of \$415,010.00

The first reading of this ordinance was held on December 15, 2008. A motion to approve was given by Alderman Helms, seconded by Alderman Klemm and it was automatically laid over to tonight’s meeting. Upon the second reading there was no discussion.

2nd Reading of Ordinance 2009-02:

An Ordinance to Abate the 2008 Real Estate Tax Levy for Repayment of the General Obligation Bond Series 2003 - levied a real estate tax in the amount of \$387,300.00

The first reading of this ordinance was held on December 15, 2008. A motion to approve was given by Alderman Helms, seconded by Alderman Endress and it was automatically laid over to tonight’s meeting. Upon the second reading there was no discussion.

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2nd Reading of Ordinance 2009-03:

An Ordinance to Abate the 2008 Real Estate Tax Levy for Repayment of the General Obligation Bond Series 2004 - levied a real estate tax in the amount of \$1,161,535.00

The first reading of this ordinance was held on December 15, 2008. A motion to approve was given by Alderman Helms, seconded by Alderman Endress and it was automatically laid over to tonight's meeting. Upon the second reading there was no discussion.

2nd Reading of Ordinance 2009-04:

An Ordinance to Abate the 2008 Real Estate Tax Levy for Repayment of the General Obligation Bond Series 2006 - levied a real estate tax in the amount of \$892,850.00

The first reading of this ordinance was held on December 15, 2008. A motion to approve was given by Alderman Helms, seconded by Alderman Endress and it was automatically laid over to tonight's meeting. Upon the second reading there was no discussion.

ORDINANCES –FIRST READING

1st Reading of Ordinance 2009-05:

An Ordinance to Approve the Editing and Inclusion of Certain Ordinances as Parts of the Various Component Codes of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Freeport, Illinois - this ordinance was presented by Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin as an annual codification of ordinances. A motion to approve was given by Alderman O'Neill, seconded by Alderman Helms and it was automatically laid over to the next meeting.

1st Reading of Ordinance 2009-06: An Ordinance Repealing and Replacing Portions of Chapter 486

Snow Emergencies with Winter Parking Regulations – Business District (*amended hours for no parking - 2:00 am to 5:00 am*) - this ordinance was presented by Public Works Director Craig LeBaron stating that after the Winter Parking Regulation went into effect today a paragraph in the ordinance was contrary to the existing no parking regulation for the downtown district throughout other times of the year restricting parking from 2:00 am to 5:00 am to allow business use for movies and bar times. This ordinance keeps it consistent with the signage in the downtown district. Alderman Corbin motioned to approve this ordinance, seconded by Alderman Helms. Alderman Corbin motioned to suspend the rules and pass this ordinance on the first reading, seconded by Alderman Endress. A roll call vote on the suspension of the rules was taken.

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill, and Corbin (8)

Nays – None (0)

Motion passed 8-0 to suspend the rules.

A roll call vote was taken to approve Ordinance 2009-06 this evening.

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill, and Corbin (8)

Nays – None (0)

Ordinance 2009-06 was adopted.

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1st Reading of Ordinance 2009-07:

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 1475 (Historic Preservation) Section 1475.16 (Hearing On Application) Of The Codified Ordinances Of The City Of Freeport -A motion to approve was given by Alderman Endress, seconded by Alderman O'Neill. Community Development Director Shelly Griswold presented information to the council that typically an application for review by the Historic Preservation Commission needs to be published in the newspaper 15 days in advance but it doesn't say that the cost of the ad is the responsibility of the applicant and the \$25.00 filing fee does not cover the City for the cost of the ad. Director Griswold stated that wording was added to state that the applicant shall be responsible for the cost of the newspaper notice, and said cost shall be paid to the City prior to the hearing. Also added, "Failure to pay said cost will result in the cancellation of the hearing." The ordinance was automatically laid over to the next meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Appointments/Re-Appointments:

A motion was given by Alderman Klemm accept a re-appointment of Peggy Althoff to the Stephenson County Convention and Visitors Bureau Board of Directors effective immediately through December 31, 2011, and a re-appointment of Alderman Dennis Endress to the Stephenson County Convention and Visitors Bureau Board of Directors effective immediately through December 31, 2011, seconded by Alderman O'Neill. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

A motion was given by Alderman Corbin to accept a re-appointment of Gary Erdmier to the Airport Commission effective immediately through November 30, 2013 and also an appointment of Steve Waters to the Airport Commission effective immediately through November 30, 2013, seconded by Alderman Klemm. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

A motion to accept an appointment of Donald Beckington to the Housing Authority Board effective immediately through October 31, 2013 was given by Alderman Endress, seconded by Alderman Klemm. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

Mayor George Gaulrapp asked for leave of council to move forward on council agenda, item #22, due to having a representative from Fehr-Graham & Associates in the viewing audience.

Resolution #R-2009-04:

Resolution to Authorize an Agreement for Landfill General Engineering between the City of Freeport and Fehr-Graham & Associates

This resolution was presented by Community Development Director Shelly Griswold stating that Fehr-Graham & Associates has done our landfill engineering for some time and this is a particularly important year because it is time to put the cap on the landfill. The City requested to have a stipulation that Joel Zirkle will be the Project Manager for the duration of 2009. Mr. Joel Zirke of Fehr-Graham & Associates provided an overview of capping the landfill and a summary of the ground water impact modeling. The level of confidence for the phytocapping was not there so it was abandoned and a conventional cap will be added at the landfill this year as soon as the bid package is finalized. Mr. Zirkle stated there will be continual monitoring of ground waters and test wells much like what has been done for quite some time. Alderman Helms asked about the amount in the landfill closure fund and Finance Director Craig Joesten

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stated it is \$2,000,000 and with the cost of closure, it will be real tight. The cost of engineering service this year is estimated to be \$250,000 for Fehr-Graham & Associates related to solid waste disposal programs. Director Griswold stated that this is like having FGA on retainer, with a not to exceed dollar amount to do the engineering work since the City does not have an engineer or scientist on staff. Mayor Gaulrapp stated that the City receives approximately \$230,000 from the CPI increase which goes to offset these costs.

Alderman Endress moved to approve the resolution as presented, seconded by Alderman Corbin.

The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill, and Corbin (8)

Nays – None (0)

Resolution 2009-04 was adopted 8-0.

Executive Session

At 7:10 pm, Alderman Endress moved to enter executive session pursuant to Illinois Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (2) – Collective Bargaining, seconded by Alderman O'Neill.

The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill, and Corbin (8)

Nays – None (0)

At 7:26 pm, the council returned from Executive Session. Alderman Endress moved to return from executive session, seconded by Alderman O'Neill.

The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill, and Corbin (8)

Nays – None (0)

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution #R-2008-80:

Resolution to Authorize an Amendment to Intergovernmental Agreement for the Operation of an Enterprise Zone - This resolution was presented on December 1, 2008. A motion to approve was given by Alderman Corbin, seconded by Alderman Endress. It was laid over to tonight's meeting to coincide with the third reading of Ordinance 2008-67. At this time, the original motion from the meeting of December 1, 2008, was withdrawn by Alderman Corbin, seconded by Alderman Endress. Alderman Corbin made a motion to amend his original motion to approve the resolution conditionally upon the Enterprise Zone Committee voting to pass a resolution stating that they agree that 50 percent of a project's Enterprise Zone Filing Fees go to the governing body issuing the building permit for the project and, if the Enterprise Zone Committee does not pass such a resolution, that this resolution shall be brought back before this Council at the next meeting. This motion was seconded by Alderman Endress.

A roll call vote was taken on the amended motion. Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill and Corbin (8)

Nays – None (0)

Approval of Resolution 2008-80 with the conditional motion to approve was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill and Corbin (8)

Nays – None (0)

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Resolution #R-2009-01:

Resolution to Ratify Collective Bargaining Agreement with Policemen's Benevolent Labor

Committee (PBLC) - Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin presented the resolution stating that this is proposed contract with the PBLC which is the bargaining unit for the police department's sworn officers and it was briefed during the executive session. This is a three year agreement that expires April 2010. Alderman Klemm moved to approve the resolution as presented, seconded by Alderman Endress. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill and Corbin (8)

Nays – None (0)

Resolution 2009-01 was adopted 8-0.

Resolution #R-2009-02:

Resolution to Support Downtown Freeport Streetscape Plan

This resolution was presented by Community Development Director Shelly Griswold stating that Durrant Group gave a presentation earlier this evening and this resolution believes that a uniform streetscape plan is a useful tool in improving the environment and infrastructure of Freeport's downtown central district. The City will use the plan as a guideline and as an advisory document. Alderman Endress moved to approve the resolution as presented, seconded by Alderman O'Neill. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill and Corbin (8)

Nays – None (0)

Resolution 2009-02 was adopted 8-0.

Resolution #R-2009-03:

Resolution to Authorize Amendment to an Agreement with Neighborhood Housing Services (NHS) of Freeport, NFP

Community Development Director Shelly Griswold reviewed the amendments to the Reimbursement Schedule attached to the resolution and stated that it is not asking for more dollars but it reallocates dollars through April 30, 2009. Director Griswold stated each item that was amended and will provide additional dollars to be spent for foreclosure counseling and adding section g) for \$4,000 for emergency situations such as winter furnace repairs stipulating approval by the directors. Alderman Klemm moved to approve the resolution as presented, seconded by Alderman Boldt. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill and Corbin (8)

Nays – None (0)

Resolution 2009-03 was adopted 8-0.

Resolution #R-2009-05:

Resolution of Support for Mobility and Accessibility Rehabilitation Supplement (MARS) CDAP

Grant - Community Development Director Shelly Griswold reviewed information provided with the resolution and stated that it allows modifications to dwellings that are occupied by people with disabilities by putting in accessible showers, adding ramps and all activities with the grant assist people with low to moderate incomes with physician documented disabilities. Alderman Klemm moved to approve the resolution as presented, seconded by Alderman O'Neill. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

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Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill and Corbin (8)

Nays – None (0)

Resolution 2009-05 was adopted 8-0.

Resolution #R-2009-06:

Resolution to Authorize New Lease Terms for Hanger Rental at the Freeport Albertus Municipal Airport - Public Works Director Craig LeBaron presented the resolution and the information contained in the hanger lease stating that this does include an increase in the rates and also requires a minimum of \$1 million in general liability insurance coverage from each lessee. It was asked by administration to lay over the resolution to the next meeting in order for the Airport Commission to review liability amounts for insurance. A motion to layover the resolution as requested was given by Alderman Klemm, seconded by Alderman Endress. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

Resolution #R-2009-07:

A Resolution Proposing Approval Of a Redevelopment Plan and Project For and the Designation of the West Avenue Redevelopment Project Area and the Adoption Of Tax Increment Allocation Financing Therefore, Convening a Joint Review Board and Calling a Public Hearing In Connection Therewith - Community Development Director Shelly Griswold reviewed information provided with the resolution stating that the inducement resolution was passed back in November 2007 and the ensuing months the redevelopment plan has been worked on with Vandewalle and Associates. Director Griswold stated this resolution does a couple of things in addition to proposing approval of the redevelopment plan and designating the project area. The resolution sets a public hearing date for March 2, 2009 at 6:00 pm here at City Hall and that notice will be published at least twice providing advance notice. The resolution states that the City will mail by certified mail notice of the public hearing to all tax payers of parcels within the area and the taxing bodies and this notice will go out tomorrow. Director Griswold also stated that every taxpayer within 750 feet of the outlined area will receive a notice that this plan is on file and available for review and it includes a notice of the public hearing. This resolution states that the redevelopment plan was placed on file on December 26, 2008, in the City Clerk's office and also a copy was placed on file at the Freeport Public Library for the public to review. This resolution sets a date for the Joint Review Board to convene to discuss the redevelopment plan on January 23, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at 230 West Stephenson Street. Director Griswold stated the redevelopment area is roughly bounded by South Street on the north, Illinois Route 26 on the west, Walnut Avenue on the east and Yellow Creek on the south, although there is some areas south the Yellow Creek and east of Walnut and just a bit north of South Street but those are the rough boundaries. Director Griswold was available to answer questions by council. Mayor Gaulrapp answered a question about interest in the area stating that there is some interest but not a major interest and he stated we would like to be very aggressive with the area through marketing plans and also to put ourselves and the community above the curve by giving ourselves enticement tools to bring other retailers to Freeport.

Alderman Klemm moved to approve Resolution 2009-07 as presented, seconded by Alderman O'Neill. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill and Corbin (8)

Nays – None (0)

Resolution 2009-07 was adopted 8-0.

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ORDINANCE 2008-67 (previously discussed on page three of the Minutes)

At this time Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin asked council to revisit Ordinance 2008-67. First, she asked council to rescind the motions from earlier in the evening for Ordinance 2008-67. She then stated that the motions from the meeting on December 1, 2008, needed to be amended to make them conditional upon approval of a resolution by the Enterprise Zone. Alderman Corbin made a motion to rescind the action taken on Ordinance 2008-67, seconded by Alderman Klemm. The motion to rescind the previous action on Ordinance 2008-67 was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill and Corbin (8)

Nays – None (0)

A motion was given by Alderman Corbin, "To amend the original motion of December 1, 2008, to make approval of the ordinance conditional upon the Enterprise Zone Committee passing a resolution stating that they agree that 50 percent of the project's Enterprise Zone Filing Fees go to the governing body issuing the building permit for a project. And if the Enterprise Zone Committee does not pass such a resolution, that this ordinance be brought back before this Council at the next meeting Tuesday, January 20, 2009," seconded by Alderman Endress.

A roll call vote on the amended motion was taken.

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill and Corbin (8)

Nays – None (0)

A vote on the motion as amended for Ordinance 2008-67 was taken by roll call.

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill and Corbin (8)

Nays – None (0)

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Police

Deputy Police Chief Robert Smith stated the Winter Parking Regulations are effective today, January 5, 2009. The provisions of the Winter Parking Regulations are that on even numbered days you park on the even side of the street and on odd numbered days you are to park on the odd sides of the streets and that is effective today going forward in the months of December, January, February and March and it applies everyday.

Deputy Police Chief Robert Smith explained the difference between a dangerous dog versus and vicious dog stating that we have had a couple of cases lately that ended with a dog being shot by an officer, although that is not always the case. It is incumbent upon dog owners to make sure that if they have a dog that may not be friendly to strangers or other dogs to confine it or keep it properly leashed in such a way that is won't get loose to encounter the general public because frequently these encounters end badly with a dog being shot or someone being injured. There is a difference between a dangerous dog and a vicious dog. A dangerous dog would be declared after one biting of a human or animal that is reported to the police station and upon being declared dangerous those owners have the opportunity to pay a \$200 registration with the City of Freeport in addition to keeping it contained in their house or yard at all times. On the third offense the dog is classified as vicious and at that time the dog may be humanly dispatched. Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin stated that under State law if there is a serious attack, the dog may be determined as vicious immediately and it could be dispatched, otherwise it is three bites your out rule.

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Fire

Fire Chief Kevin Countryman asked for help in clearing pathways to fire hydrants due to snow or call the Fire Department Administration and they will try to get out and clear the snow.

Community Development

Alderman Boldt asked about an ordinance about garbage cans and recycling bins and Community Development Director Shelly Griswold stated that you cannot place containers out until 8:00 pm or dusk the night before your garbage collection and the containers should be removed from public view by 6:00 pm the day of your garbage collection. People will receive a three day warning.

Community Development Director Shelly Griswold stated that due to weather related issues, the Community Planning Workshop has been re-scheduled for Tuesday, January 13, 2009 at 7:00 pm at the Freeport Public Library and she encouraged everyone to attend.

Director Griswold spoke about the resolution for the Redevelopment plan for the West Avenue TIF stating that this week the notices will be sent out. The resolution set some items in motion; it sets a date for the Joint Review Board to convene to discuss the redevelopment plan stating it is scheduled on January 23, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at 230 West Stephenson Street; it sets the date of a public hearing to be held on March 2, 2009 at the City Hall for the purpose of hearing from any interested persons; and if the schedule stays on schedule it asks the City Council to look at the first reading of the adoption of the ordinances in the meeting on March 16, 2009 so it would be in March and April when the council will be asked to vote on passing the Tax Increment Financing area for West Avenue.

Public Works

Public Works Director Craig LeBaron stated that ten signs were installed at entrances to the City for Winter Parking Regulations now in effect. Director LeBaron explained that the even numbered sides of the street are generally north and west sides of the street and the odd sides of the street are south and east sides. Snow totals for December were 15 snow events covering 20 of the first 28 days of the month, 791 hours of regular time, 1,032 hours of overtime, spreading over 2,000 tons of material, logging 15,000 miles on the 15 snow trucks, and using over 4,500 gallons of fuel for a total cost of approximately \$180,000. We've already had about 40 inches of snow and typically an entire winter is 36 inches.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Gaulrapp spoke about the fire on Crocker Street sending our condolences for their loss. He stated he could possibly be attending the Presidential Inauguration on January 20, 2009 - on his personal time.

NEW BUSINESS

Each council member was given an opportunity to publicly address significant items of interest.

Alderman Boldt motioned to move the next regularly council meeting from Tuesday, January 20, 2009, to the following Monday, January 26, 2009 due to three members being gone, agreed by the Mayor. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent. Alderman Boldt asked Director Griswold to look into the dry cleaning sign between the Fieldstone and Cannova's to ask if something can be done to make the owner

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take it down. Alderman Bush thanked the Street Department for the ride along on the plows. Alderman Endress asked about pot hole filling and Director LeBaron said they were out today and on Friday and will continue as weather permits. Alderman Helms asked about the Pretzel City Transit update and Community Development Director Shelly Griswold stated that it is awaiting software installation and vehicle procurement. Alderman Helms asked to have the City trash haulers invited to the first meeting in February. Alderman O'Neill asked if there has been anything further to adding fines for grass cutting and weeds to the Property Tax Bill and Director Griswold stated that she is still working on it but now the fines are sent to collections by using a local contractor.

The Mayor thanked the negotiating team of the City led by Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin for the police contract reaching a good conclusion giving special compliments to the job done by police officers.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no one signed up for public comments this evening.

An adjournment of the meeting was motioned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Meg Zuravel, City Clerk