



City Council

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

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING Monday, May 4, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Freeport Illinois City Council was called to order on Monday, May 4, 2009, at 6:00 pm in Council Chambers with a quorum being present by Mayor George Gaulrapp.

ROLL CALL

Mayor George Gaulrapp was present and answering roll call were council members Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill, Corbin, Klemm and Boldt (8). Also present were City Department Heads and Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

SWEARING IN CEREMONY

The Honorable James M. Hauser swore in newly elected officials including George W. Gaulrapp in his second term as Mayor; Linda L. Buss in her fifth term as City Treasurer; and Martha E. "Meg" Zuravel in her first term as City Clerk. The officials then signed their oaths of office and official commissions.

OPENING REMARKS

Mayor George Gaulrapp thanked his family, city council and staff members for their support over the last four years. He provided comments regarding his next term as Mayor stating his plan is to continue to have an open-door policy at City Hall, however, due to limited resources he stated the City is going to focus time and resources on people who want to move Freeport in a positive direction and offer solutions.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Alderman Endress moved to accept the agenda as presented, seconded by Alderman O'Neill. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 20, 2009, was given by Alderman Endress, seconded by Alderman O'Neill. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent. A motion to approve the minutes of the special meeting held on April 13, 2009, was given by Alderman Endress, seconded by Alderman DeVine. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

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PUBLIC COMMENTS - AGENDA ITEMS

There was no one signed up for public comment on agenda items this evening. Mayor Gaulrapp requested for leave from the council for Tom Teich to speak about the Special Olympic and a Malcolm Eaton fundraiser to be held on May 17, 2009.

PRESENTATIONS

Lt. Jeff Davis and Chief of Police Jerry Whitmore of the Freeport Police Department presented volunteer service awards to Auxiliary Police Unit and Civilian Volunteers commending them on the number of hours served to assist our sworn police officers.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval to Receive and Place on File:

1) City Treasurer's Monthly Investment Report for period ended March 31, 2009

B. Approval of Water and Sewer Bills Payable (#243 & 245) --- \$229,114.92

C. Approval of Payroll for pay period ending April 24, 2009 --- \$466,827.26

D. Approval of Finance Department Bills Payable (#242, 244, & 246) --- \$287,434.18

Alderman Endress moved to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Alderman DeVine.

The motion was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays – None (0)

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

COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL

The following items were presented in the council packet this evening:

A. Listing from Mayor's office regarding openings on boards and commissions

B. Memo dated April 28, 2009 from Water & Sewer Project/Utility Manager Denise Blakeley Ihrig regarding project status.

Alderman Endress motioned to place these items on record, seconded by Alderman O'Neill. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

ORDINANCES –THIRD READING

3RD READING OF ORDINANCE 2009-34:

**An Ordinance to Amending Chapter 806 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Freeport –
Temporary Liquor Licenses**

The first reading of this ordinance was held on April 6, 2009. A motion to approve was given by Alderman Boldt seconded by Alderman Klemm. An amendment was approved during the second reading held on April 20, 2009, and then it was automatically laid over to tonight's meeting. Upon the third reading, a roll call vote was taken to pass the ordinance.

Yeas: DeVine, Endress, Helms, Corbin, Klemm, Boldt (6)

Nays: Bush and O'Neill (2)

Motion passed 6-2 and Ordinance 2009-34 was adopted.

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

2ND READING OF ORDINANCE 2009-36:

An Ordinance to Authorize Right of Way or Easement to Stephenson Pecatonica Prairie Path Commission an Intergovernmental Agency Authorized and Appointed by the City of Freeport

The first reading of this ordinance was held on April 20, 2009. A motion to approve the ordinance as presented was given by Alderman Endress, seconded by Alderman Klemm. The second reading was held this evening and it was automatically laid over to the next meeting.

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

1st Reading of Ordinance 2009-37:

Appropriation Ordinance Fiscal Year 2009-2010, for the City of Freeport

Finance Director Craig Joesten presented the ordinance by stating council was given a memo dated May 4, 2009 with the latest information including budget reductions from an April 28, 2009, Department Head Meeting netting a reduction of \$76,950. Director Joesten referred the council to page 13 of the FY 2009/2010 Budget Worksheet stating the amount to be appropriated in the corporate fund is \$17,125,787. The appropriation ordinance included a number of items of contingency that provide the administration the ability to spend if certain situations arise. He referred to the budgeted FY 2009/2010 amount or the spending plan based upon all of the assumptions which are included in the contingencies including price of fuel, healthcare costs, or damage to vehicles. The amount appropriated exceeds the budget or spending plan. Based on the budget reductions taken at the April 28, 2009 meeting, there is now a budget surplus of \$80,218. The council was provided an opportunity for discussion. Alderman O'Neill asked at what point in time would the ordinances be brought forward to take funds from the Fire Capital Improvement fund or the Motor Fuel Tax fund and Finance Director Craig Joesten stated that those are two components of a revenue stream and the funds could be transferred when needed.

Alderman Klemm moved the adoption Ordinance 2009-37, seconded by Alderman Endress. Upon no further discussion, the ordinance was automatically laid over to the next meeting.

1st Reading of Ordinance 2009-38:

An Ordinance Authorizing Exchange Of Real Estate Between The City Of Freeport And Harold D. Rood And Robert G. Rood Such Property Being West Of Henderson Road And East Of The Pecatonica River, Near The Property Commonly Known As The CMC Heartland Site, For Future Use As Part Of The Pecatonica Prairie Path, Consisting Of Approximately 0.78 Acres Each

Public Works Director Craig LeBaron stated a public hearing for this ordinance was held before the city council on April 6, 2009 and this property is located on the northwest corner of the CMC site and there are two triangular properties to be exchanged of which the council received a map at the public hearing. Alderman Boldt motioned to move the ordinance forward, seconded by Alderman Endress. Upon no further discussion, the ordinance was automatically laid over to the next meeting.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution #R-2009-44:

Resolution Urging Passage of a Comprehensive Capital Infrastructure Program

Mayor George Gaulrapp presented the resolution to urge of legislature in the State of Illinois to support a Comprehensive Capital Infrastructure Program. A motion to approve the resolution as presented was given by Alderman Endress, seconded by Alderman O'Neill. The resolution was approved voice vote without dissent. Resolution #R-2009-44 was adopted.

Resolution #R-2009-45:

Resolution in Support of the Legal Self-Help Center in Stephenson County

Library Director Carole Dickerson presented information on the Legal Self-Help Center in Stephenson County stating that it is available on-line at the Freeport Public Library and staff members are trained on how to use the service. A motion to approve the resolution as presented was given by Alderman O'Neill, seconded by Alderman Corbin. The resolution was approved voice vote without dissent. Resolution #R-2009-45 was adopted.

Resolution #R-2009-46:

Resolution to Co-Sponsor with FDDF an In Case of Emergency (ICE) Event

Fire Chief Kevin Countryman presented the resolution stating that this event will take place on June 20, 2009, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. providing an opportunity for the public to view emergency vehicles. A motion to approve the resolution as presented was given by Alderman Endress, seconded by Alderman Klemm. The resolution was approved voice vote without dissent. Resolution #R-2009-46 was adopted.

Resolution #R-2009-47:

Resolution to Authorize Mayor to Enter into Memorandum of Understanding and Mutual Support Between the City of Freeport, Illinois, the Freeport Police Department, FAAMUC, NAACP and NHS

A motion to approve the resolution was given by Alderman Klemm, seconded by Alderman Bush. The resolution was approved voice vote without dissent. Resolution #R-2009-47 was adopted.

OTHER

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Community Development

Community Development Director Shelly Griswold presented bid tabulations for the 2009 mowing bids received on April 13, 2009. Four bids were received on April 13, 2009 and one bid was a non-responsive bid. Community Development Director Shelly Griswold recommended a contract with the two lowest bidders because in the height of season it is often more than any one entity can handle. The bids recommended to council were provided by Travis Rushing Maintenance and Lucas Lawn and Landscaping. A motion to concur with Director Griswold's recommendation and accept two bids as presented was given by Alderman Klemm, seconded by Alderman Bush. The motion passed by voice

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vote without dissent. Alderman Bush asked about the removal of grass clippings and Director Griswold stated that hauling clippings away was a very specific part of the bid package for this year.

Director Griswold stated the variance petition for Jacob Heitz must be re-publicized for the meeting in June. This Thursday, a Planning Commission meeting has been posted when a Comprehensive Plan-Synthesis Report (commonly referred to as an existing conditions report) will be presented by Houseal Lavigne & Associates. A community visioning workshop will be held on May 20, 2009. Director Griswold spoke about a Brownfields Riverfront Renewal meeting for the public at the Farm Bureau at 6:00 pm on May 12, 2009. A series of green workshops will be held over the next month. Director Griswold will be working on an amendment to off-street parking ordinance and requested input from the council.

Public Works

Public Works Director Craig LeBaron stated the Hancock Bridge has been under surface repair and it is scheduled to be completed by Friday. The sand recovery project from the spring netted the City a savings of \$38,111 due to 702 tons put through a sand sifter and a majority recycled for use next year.

Water and Sewer

Water & Sewer Project/Utility Manager Denise Ihrig explained storm water projects (8) schedule as part of the current budget through to November 2009. A culvert replacement project is planned in the Arcade area and a copy of the project scheduled is available. The Water & Sewer department will be conducting their annual hydrant flushing project and rinsing aids are available from the Water Department.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Gaulrapp thanked the council for allowing him to serve with them over the four years and to serve the community. The National Day of Prayer is scheduled on Thursday, May 7, 2009 at the Stephenson County Farm Bureau. The Mayor will be meeting with current Department Heads over the next thirty days and will schedule time in June for the new appointments or re-appointments.

NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Bush asked about the Youth Program and Mayor Gaulrapp stated that there are no dollars available for this program so grants have been applied for to pay for counselors and in addition, grants for hiring youth for mowing. Alderman Bush suggested a youth program in the Fire and Police Departments and it was suggested that they join the civilian academy which is already in place. Alderman DeVine stated she will be attending the Freeport Fire Academy beginning next week. Alderman O'Neill thanked the City Unions for providing a packet with ideas and suggesting for budget reductions. Alderman Boldt spoke about a fundraiser to "flush out" cancer.

At 6:52 pm upon a motion being given, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

s/ Meg Zuravel
Meg Zuravel, City Clerk