



City Council

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

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING Monday, March 15, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Freeport, Illinois, City Council was called to order by Mayor George Gaulrapp at 6:00 pm on Monday, March 15, 2010, in Council Chambers with a quorum being present.

ROLL CALL

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderman Bush.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Alderman Endress moved to approve the minutes of February 16, 2010 regular meeting, seconded by Alderman O'Neill. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

Alderman Endress moved to approve the minutes of March 1, 2010 regular meeting, seconded by Alderman O'Neill. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - AGENDA ITEMS

There was no one signed on the sign-in sheets for public comments at this time.

PRESENTATIONS

A proclamation was read proclaiming March 15 through March 17, 2010 as American Legion Week in the City of Freeport.

A proclamation was read affirming and supporting the Census 2010 efforts and encouraging all residents to participate in the complete count to bring greater revenue for services for the City of Freeport community.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following Consent Agenda items were presented:

- A. Approval to receive and place on file:

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- 1) City Treasurer's Investment Report to Council for period ended January 31, 2010
 - 2) City Treasurer's Cash and Fund Report to Council for period ended January 31, 2010
 - 3) Fire Department 2009 Year End Review
 - 4) Fire Department Report on Activities for February 2010
 - 5) Police Department Report on Activities for February 2010
 - 6) Community Development Reports for February 2010 including Building Permits; Electrical, HVAC, Plumbing and Sign Permits; Cash and Miscellaneous Receipts
- B. Approval of Water and Sewer Bills Payable (#379 and 380) ---- \$206,571.28
- C. Approval of Payroll for pay period ending February 27, 2010 ---- \$406,157.03
- D. Approval of Finance Department Bills Payable (#377, 378, 381) ---- \$427,502.78

Alderman Endress moved to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented, seconded by Alderman O'Neill. The Consent Agenda items were approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL

The council packets contained the following items:

A memorandum was read from Mayor Gaulrapp asking for interested candidates to come forward to serve on the Historic Preservation Commission, Housing Authority Board or Police Pension Fund Board of Trustees. Interested persons were asked to contact the Mayor's office.

A memorandum was read from Duane Price of the Finance Department presenting the nine month results ending January 31, 2010 to council. In that period we had a deficit of \$130,000. The State of Illinois is now four months behind in their income tax payments. These results assume that we will receive and book all revenue that is due to the City. The memorandum explained the accrual basis of accounting and the end result could be a deficit for the year of \$750,000 to \$1,000,000 dollars. The council was provided the opportunity to ask questions of the Finance Department in regard to revenue and expenses in particular the telephone and electricity taxes being well below the budgeted amounts, grant administration costs and hangar rent at the airport. Various taxes are lower than anticipated based on previous year's receipts. Mr. Price stated that there could be as much as 5 months of state sales tax that we can not book which could possibly have deficit for the year of \$1,000,000. The State of Illinois is currently working on vouchers from September. As we prepare our budget and move forward we need to take this into consideration.

City Treasurer Linda Buss was called to the podium and spoke regarding cash flow for the City. There will be three payrolls for City employees in April and stated for the record that we will not be able to meet those payrolls we will run out of money. Accounts payables will be held and it could be until May that money is received which is due in from the State. The County Treasurer has said she will try to get the real estate tax bills out as quickly as she can. The City is controlling their expenses and the State is holding revenues that are due to the City. The State hasn't sent the taxes that they have collected for us.

A memorandum from Craig Joesten, Executive Director of Freeport Water and Sewer Commission was included in council packets regarding Cottonwood Storm Sewer Improvements CDAP Grant No. 08-242033, ARRA CDAP Grant No. 09-282016 Bid Award. The City of Freeport Water and Sewer

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Commission publicly opened bids for the project on Wednesday, March 10, 2010. Bids were received from Fischer Excavating of Freeport, Illinois, Stenstrom Excavation & Blacktop of Rockford, Illinois, and Civil Constructors of Freeport, Illinois. A five-page bid tabulation spreadsheet was provided in the packet. The work identifies Phases 1 and 2 of the Cottonwood project as specified in the two separate grant outlines. Another portion of Phase 1 will be sanitary sewer lining, it will be bid later this month, for award in April/May 2010. Funding for the project comes from \$700,000 of grant monies (through two grants) with \$240,000 (\$120,000 each grant) required matching from the Capital Improvement Project surcharge. Due to replacement of late 1800's water main, partial funding of the water line replacement shall come from CIP line item from Water Main Improvements as approved in the FY 2011 CIP plan.

Executive Director of the Water and Sewer Craig Joesten stated that in a special meeting of the Water and Sewer Commissioner held on to review the bids. The bid tabulation showed an amount of \$847,147.66 was received by Fischer Excavating, \$1,151,581.50 was received by Stenstrom Excavating, and \$786,661.20 was received by Civil Constructors. The lowest apparent bidder meeting all bid requirements was Civil Constructors of Freeport, Illinois, in the amount of \$786,661.20 and it was unanimously recommended by the Water and Sewer Commission to approve the bid as presented.

Alderman Klemm moved to accept the Civil Constructors bid in the amount of \$786,000.00, seconded by Alderman Endress. Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin asked for a correction of the amount of the bid for Civil Constructors and stated the amount as \$786,661.20. Alderman Klemm amended his motion to accept the bid for \$786,661.20 and Alderman Endress seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

Mayor Gaulrapp spoke about the difference of the general fund and the water and sewer funds as they are not co-mingled and must be kept separate.

ORDINANCES - THIRD READING

3RD READING OF ORDINANCE 2010-15:

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 480, Section 480.22 (Courtesy Zone Fifteen- and Thirty-Minute Parking Zones) on Walnut Between Exchange and Stephenson Streets and Amending Chapter 480, Section 480.24 (Handicapped Persons and Disabled Veterans) add a space on Stephenson Street West of Walnut of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Freeport

The first reading of this ordinance was held on February 16, 2010. A motion to adopt was given by Alderman Klemm, seconded by Alderman Endress. The second reading was held on March 1, 2010, and, upon an amendment to add one handicap parking space on the north side of Stephenson 50 feet west of Walnut, it was automatically laid over to tonight's meeting. Alderman O'Neill moved to make an amendment to the ordinance with the wording provided to each member of the council this evening. The Ordinance on council desks was titled, "Ordinance 2010-15 as amended March 15, 2010 to be distributed at meeting." Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin stated this amendment will clean up the language to delete what used to be there for the space on Stephenson from the listing of fifteen minute parking spaces and the eastside of the Block 53 from the two hour parking. Alderman Corbin seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Nays: None

The motion to amend the ordinance was approved by roll call vote.

The ordinance as amended was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

Ordinance 2010-15 as amended was adopted 8-0.

3RD READING OF ORDINANCE 2010-16:

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 1052 (Water and Sewer Capital Improvement Fund) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Freeport, Illinois

The first reading of this ordinance was held on February 16, 2010. A motion to adopt was given by Alderman Klemm, seconded by Alderman Corbin. The second reading was held on March 1, 2010 and it was automatically laid over to tonight's meeting. Upon the third reading, there was discussion by council members regarding the positive impact of completing the "Big 4" projects and in particular Alderman Bush stated the residents of the third ward understand what we are looking at after the meeting held on March 8, 2010 attended by W & S Project Manager Denise Ihrig. Discussion was held regarding the water pressure issues in different areas of the city. W & S Project Manager Denise Ihrig spoke about the pressure zones and the necessity of a new well.

Discussion was held regarding the availability of grant funding and it was stated that if grant funding was received two aldermen could ask to revisit the surcharge and it would then be up to the council to reduce it proportionately. Discussion was held as to the funding source requiring an iron-clad source of revenue without numerous caveats or conditions since bond markets are so skittish at this time due to the economic times that we are currently going through. There will be numerous applications to the IEPA for the revolving loan process which would require firm language of commitment to funding. Discussion was held regarding ramifications if we did not proceed with these Water and Sewer projects. The "Big 4" projects are a pro-active journey. In May 2009, the Water and Sewer Commission received a non-compliance advisory from the IEPA and now we are subject to annual inspections for our waste water treatment facility. Another annual inspection is due in April and it is thought that we could be called down to Springfield so that it is much better to have a plan in place. Pressure issues also are another vulnerability issues. There are two basins that need to be repaired by shutting down the supply wells and there would be the possibility of having to shut down the water system for a period of two days if a new well is not brought onto the system. This is a proactive step to avoid this possibility. The billing meters are out-of-date. No water lines will be improved with these projects as stated. A cost savings could be realized to bid out the projects when the economy is slow.

Upon no further discussion, a roll call vote was taken to approve the ordinance as presented.

Yeas: Bush, Endress, Helms, O'Neill, Corbin, and Klemm (6)

Nays: DeVine and Boldt

Ordinance 2010-16 was adopted by a vote of 6-2.

ORDINANCES - SECOND READING

2ND READING OF ORDINANCE 2010-17:

An Ordinance to Issue a Special Use Permit Under the Zoning Ordinance of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Freeport - Type of Relief: Special Use Permit; Owner or Applicant: Gill's Freeport Raceway, In, d/b/a Freeport Raceway Park; Address or Description: 1910 South Walnut Avenue, Freeport, Illinois

The first reading of this ordinance was held on March 1, 2010. A motion to adopt was given by Alderman Endress, seconded by Alderman Klemm. Upon the second reading a discussion was held regarding the noise issues and the special use permit expiring in less than a one year. Community Development Director Shelly Griswold stated that the sound study showed the racetrack exceeded standards but they were not cited for a sound violation. Discussion was held as to why the council would want the special use permit to expire in less than a one year time period. It does not speak well for an economically interested community. Discussion was held regarding adding language to the special use permit that if they do not come in compliance then it could be revoked but to try to extend it three years with provisions on it. Upon no further discussion, the ordinance was automatically laid over to the next meeting.

2ND READING OF ORDINANCE 2010-18:

An Ordinance Adopting an Update to the City of Freeport Comprehensive Plan and Amending Section 1222.01 (Description) of Chapter 1222 (Official Plan and Official Map) of the City of Freeport Codified Ordinances

The first reading of this ordinance was held on March 1, 2010. A motion to adopt was given by Alderman Endress, seconded by Alderman Klemm and it was automatically laid over to the next meeting. Upon the second reading, Alderman Bush provided a summary of the 3rd Ward meeting which was held at the Public Library on March 8, 2010 and it was asked that if he had an amendment to make he should meet with Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin prior to the next meeting. The ordinance was automatically laid over to the next meeting.

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

1ST READING OF ORDINANCE 2010-20:

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 1610 (BOCA National Fire Prevention), Chapter 1620 (NFPA 101 Life Safety Code), and Chapter 862 (Self-Service Gas Stations) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Freeport

The ordinance was presented by Fire Chief Kevin Countryman stating that the terminology in the Codified Ordinance which refers to the BOCA National Fire Prevention is out-of-date and should refer to the International Fire Code. These references were incorporated into Chapters 1610, 1620 and 862 for Self-Service Gas Stations. These are recommended by the State of Illinois as the minimum standards to meet for the fire prevention code. Copies of the International Fire Code are located in the Fire Administration offices. Section 1610.04 was amended for the Violation penalty to include wording, "Persons who shall violate a provision of this code or shall fail to comply with any of the requirements or who shall erect, install, alter, repair or do work in violation of the approved construction documents or directive of the fire code official or of a permit or certificate used under provisions of this code, shall be guilty of a Fire Prevention Code violation, punishable by a minimum fine of \$50.00 and a maximum of \$750.00. Each day that a violation continues after due notice have been service shall be deemed a

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separate offense.” A motion to adopt the ordinance as presented was given by Alderman Endress, seconded by Alderman Klemm and it was automatically laid over to the next meeting.

1ST READING OF ORDINANCE 2010-21:

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 869 (Teen Dance Centers) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Freeport, Illinois

Chief of Police Jerry Whitmore presented the ordinance stating that requirements have been added to the chapter if partnerships or corporations are applicants for a Teen Dance Center and they hire of a resident manager to run the center. This amendment sets the same qualifications for the resident manager as the applicant’s officers, directors, operators, employees, or any other person involved in the operation of the Teen Dance Center. It requires that each person not to have had prior convictions including felony assault, battery, or other offense, any offense involving prostitution or controlled substances, any offense involving tobacco, any offense involving providing liquor to a person under the legal serving age, and any offenses against children. It also requires that each person involved in the operation of a teen dance center has not been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude within the last ten years. The review committee was amended to the three most senior members of the city council. A provision has been added for any teen dance center which has been in existence (which there are none) or any teen dance center which has completed an application on file with the City at the time of the effective date of this ordinance to have ninety (90) days in which to come into compliance with the terms of this ordinance. A definition of a resident manager was requested.

Alderman Klemm moved to adopt the Ordinance 2010-21 as presented, seconded by Alderman Bush. The ordinance was automatically laid over to the next meeting.

1ST READING OF ORDINANCE 2010-23:

An Ordinance to Amend and Adjust the Appropriation Ordinance Fiscal Year 2009-2010 for the City of Freeport, Illinois

Accountant Duane Price of the Finance Department presented the Ordinance speaking about the next two ordinances together. These are amendments to the current appropriation ordinances that we are working under that ends on April 30, 2010. At the beginning of the year, we pass an appropriation ordinance for items that we expect to happen and now we need to look back on what actually happened and make adjustments or amendments. Ordinance 2010-23 amends and adjusts the appropriation ordinance and Ordinance 2010-24 supplements by including items that were not appropriated for and they are usually grants that we received for the year that we did not anticipate. These are estimates of the expense that we will have for the year. For the second and third reading we will be monitoring these expenses and may have to come back with adjustments. Discussion continued with specific questions on line items.

Alderman DeVine moved to adopt the ordinance 2010-23 as presented, seconded by Alderman Endress. The ordinance was automatically laid over to the next meeting.

1ST READING OF ORDINANCE 2010-24:

An Ordinance to Supplement the Appropriation Ordinance Fiscal Year 2009-2010 for the City of Freeport, Illinois

Alderman DeVine moved to adopt the ordinance 2010-24, seconded by Alderman Endress. The ordinance was automatically laid over to the next meeting.

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1ST READING OF ORDINANCE 2010-25:

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 1224 (Subdivision) Section 1224.02 (Procedure for Approval) and Amending Chapter 1242 (Administration, Enforcement and Penalty), Section 1242.12 (Variations, Permits, Planned Developments and Amendments) to Add Provisions for Notifying Members of City Council Upon Filing of Petitions

Community Development Director Shelly Griswold presented the ordinance stating that a request had been received to notify council members when people file zoning or planning amendments so they will know of an upcoming public hearing. The Community Development Director will oversee notice to council and discussion will be considered at the next reading as the best method being electronic mail or email. Alderman Boldt moved to adopt the ordinance 2010-25 as presented, seconded by Alderman Helms. The ordinance was automatically laid over to the next meeting.

1ST READING OF ORDINANCE 2010-26:

An Ordinance for Variation, Permit or Amendment of Codified Ordinances of Freeport, Illinois – Type of Relief: Variance; Owner or Applicant: Derick Symanek; Address or Description: 417 South Hancock, Freeport, Illinois; Public Hearing of the Board of Zoning Appeals was held on March 4, 2010

Mayor Gaulrapp stated there were no objections and the Board of Zoning Appeals voted unanimously to recommend the ordinance to council, therefore, the council may take final action this evening.

Community Development Director Shelly Griswold presented the ordinance and provided information that there were no people present at the public hearing speaking in opposition of this variance. There were also no written objections to allow a front yard of eleven feet in depth (30 feet is the requirement) at the property located at 417 South Hancock in order to expand to the existing garage. There is a large right-of-way in that street so there is still a set back. Discussion was held in regard to the FEMA Flood Elevation Certificate demonstrating that the garage is outside the regulatory floodplain and floodway.

Alderman Boldt moved to adopt the ordinance 2010-26 as presented, seconded by Alderman Corbin.

It was asked that Community Development Director Shelly Griswold go to her office and obtain a copy of the FEMA Flood Elevation certificate so the council could view that paperwork.

While Director Griswold was gone, the council meeting proceeded with resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION #R-2010-10:

Resolution to Co-Sponsor Memorial Day Parade with Allied Veterans Council – Parade to be held on Monday, May 31, 2010

Alderman Endress moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Alderman Helms. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent. Resolution #R-2010-10 was adopted.

RESOLUTION #R-2010-11:

Resolution to Request Temporary Closure of Streets for Annual Memorial Day Parade

This resolution was written to request permission from the Illinois Department of Transportation to temporarily re-route US Business (Galena Avenue) traffic on Monday, May 31, 2010 from 9:00 am to noon for the Memorial Day Parade. Alderman Endress moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Alderman O'Neill. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent. Resolution #R-2010-11 was adopted.

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RESOLUTION #R-2010-12:

Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of an Illinois Housing Development Authority Grant – Single Family Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Program

Mayor Gaulrapp stated this grant is by the Illinois Housing Development Authority for a Single Family Owner Occupied program in the amount of \$379,000. This is for nine single-family owner-occupied residences under the direction of Community Development. Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin explained this resolution and the next five resolutions on council agenda since Director Griswold was sent to look for a document for Ordinance 2010-26. There are no matching funds for the City.

Alderman O'Neill moved for acceptance of Resolution #-2010-12, seconded by Alderman Klemm. A roll call vote was taken to approve the resolution.

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

Nays: None

Resolution 2010-12 was adopted.

RESOLUTION #R-2010-13:

Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of an Illinois Housing Development Authority Grant – Small Rental Properties Program

Mayor Gaulrapp stated this is for a grant by the Illinois Housing Development Authority for Small Rental Properties program in the amount of \$314,979 which will be used to lend funds for the rehabilitation of approximately twenty low-income rental properties containing no more than eleven units.. Alderman Endress moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Alderman Klemm. A roll call vote was taken to approve the resolution.

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

Nays: None

Resolution 2010-13 was adopted.

RESOLUTION #R-2010-14:

Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of an Illinois Housing Development Authority Grant – HOME Investment Partnerships Program

Mayor Gaulrapp stated this is for a grant by the Illinois Housing Development Authority Grant – HOME Investment Partnership Program in the amount of \$211,000 to be used by the City to make grants for the City's Homebuyer Program for the City to lend funds to qualified homebuyers to help finance the acquisition and applicable rehabilitation of approximately five homes. Alderman O'Neill moved to accept Resolution 2010-14, seconded by Alderman Endress. A roll call vote was taken to approve the resolution.

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

Nays: None

Resolution 2010-14 was adopted.

RESOLUTION #R-2010-15:

Resolution to Approve City of Freeport Privacy Policy – Single Family Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Program

Alderman Boldt moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Alderman Endress. This resolution

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authorizes the Mayor or City Treasurer as well as any other City official or employee as may be required or convenient to sign on behalf of the City of Freeport the agreement and any other document necessary or convenient to fulfill the intent of this resolution. A roll call vote was taken to approve the resolution.

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

Nays: None

Resolution 2010-15 was adopted.

At this time Alderman Helms left council chambers.

RESOLUTION #R-2010-16:

Resolution to Approve City of Freeport Privacy Policy – Small Rental Properties Program

Alderman O'Neill moved for approval of Resolution 2010-16, seconded by Alderman Endress. A roll call vote was taken to approve the resolution.

Yeas: Bush, DeVine, Endress, O'Neill, Corbin, Klemm and Boldt (7)

Nays: none

Resolution 2010-16 was adopted.

At this time Alderman Helms returned to council chambers.

RESOLUTION #R-2010-17:

Resolution to Approve City of Freeport Privacy Policy – HOME Investment Partnership Program

Alderman O'Neill moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Alderman Endress. A roll call vote was taken to approve the resolution.

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

Nays: None

Resolution 2010-17 was adopted.

At this time, the meeting was referred back to the first reading of Ordinance 2010-26.

1ST READING OF ORDINANCE 2010-26:

Community Development Director Shelly Griswold continued with the presentation of Ordinance 2010-26, An Ordinance for Variation, Permit or Amendment of Codified Ordinance of Freeport Illinois for 417 South Hancock and provided a copy of the Elevation Certificate signed by Scott Imel, State of Illinois Profession Land Surveyor. Director Griswold read that the base flood elevation at the site is 760.5 feet the top of the bottom floor for the garage is 765.1 feet. Alderman Bush voiced his concerns regarding the ability of this property to add on and other residents on the eastside are told that they can't add on to their property. Director Griswold stated that anyone whether they are on the eastside or not who can demonstrate through an elevation certificate that they are outside the floodplain or floodway they could do the exact same thing. This is a federal rule by FEMA that the City is mandated to comply with on a local level.

Previously a motion had been made by Alderman Boldt to adopt the ordinance 2010-26 as presented, seconded by Alderman Corbin.

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A roll call vote was taken to approve the Ordinance 2010-26 as presented.

Yeas: DeVine, Endress, Helms, O'Neill, Corbin, Klemm and Boldt (7)

Nays: Bush

Ordinance 2010-26 was adopted by a vote of 7-1.

RESOLUTION #R-2010-18:

Resolution for the May 1, 2010 Contract for the City's Healthcare Coverage (Self-Funded NIHP)

Finance Director Craig Joesten presented the resolution recommending the City healthcare plan to remain self-funded and that the City renew its contract with Northern Illinois Health Plan for its TPA administration and Zurich American Insurance Company as our reinsurance carrier on a 24/12 specific \$90,000.00 contract basis with a \$60,000 aggregating specific and 12/12 aggregate contract basis with a \$2,809,479.00 attachment point to contain its healthcare costs and total possible exposure of \$3,120,144.00 through April 30, 2011, with vision and dental coverage for the employees up to an annual amount of \$45,000 to be continued. This resolution the renewal offering for a contract for May 1, 2010 to April 30, 2011 and was received at 2:00 on Friday, March 12, 2010 and we have been given until close of business Friday, March 19, 2010 to take action. Director Joesten reviewed the current coverages and then his recommendations for the next plan year. He suggested that the City adopt a \$90,000 deductible instead of \$70,000 per person specific deductible for a savings in premiums. He spoke about the potential risk involved with the plan and rising expenses for health claims realized by the City of Freeport. Discussion was held regarding requiring those spouses who are eligible to receive health coverage through other employers and which category of employees, spouses, or retirees are costing the city the most money. Alderman Klemm requested statistics as to which category within the plan where expenses are incurred.

Alderman Helms moved to place the resolution on the floor, seconded by Alderman O'Neill. A roll call vote was taken to approve the resolution.

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

Nays: None

Resolution 2010-18 was adopted.

OTHER

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Finance

Request for Authority to enter into \$750,000 Line of Credit for Landfill

Finance Director Craig Joesten stated that we thought we had sufficient funds to close Landfill #4 but regulatory issues have arisen and we, at this time, do not have numbers to quantify to deal with the closure as well as deal with the regulatory issues. We have spent \$1.7 million dollars in the process and our best estimate is that it could cost us another \$700,000 for closure and mediation of the existing problems with Landfill #2 and Landfill #3 and the first year monitoring of Landfill #4.

Director Joesten sent a solicitation to eight banks requesting terms and conditions of a \$700,000 open line of credit to be drawn upon as the need arises with the express purpose of using those funds for the closure of Landfill #4 monitoring and the problems that arise from the remediation of Landfill #2 and #3. He received two offers back on 11th of March. The other banks were not interested due to the regulatory issues banks are under and the issues faced by municipalities.

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Director Joesten went through how far behind the State of Illinois is with income tax payments and when, if and how much would be coming. Director Joesten requested that the bank go back to the loan committee and amend the line of credit for the purpose for general operating requirements and the closure, monitoring and remediation issues at the Landfill. Director Joesten requested commitment from the council to authorize him or the Mayor to continue negotiations with the financial institution, pending final action by the council. The note ordinance will require a suspension of the rules in order to meet payroll the in April.

Alderman Klemm motioned to “move forward with the negotiations to secure a line of credit”, seconded by Alderman Endress. A roll call vote was taken to approve the motion.

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

Nays: None

Motion passed by roll call vote 8-0.

At this time Mayor Gaulrapp got up to leave council chambers and asked Alderman Boldt to take over.

Finance Director

Finance Director Craig Joesten spoke about a billing system that would allow credit card but currently the office of Water and Sewer Commission is training new payment clerks. In order for them to take credit cards it must be determined who will be paying the fee the City or the payee. Take into consideration; we collect \$1.2 million dollars per year in garbage alone. He asked the council to consider who will be paying the 1% to 3% credit card user fees to make it easier on the customer. There is a very real cost involved in taking credit card payments and that has not yet been answered with a possibility of taking it to the commission in May and sometime around the 3rd quarter to possibly to have it available.

Public Works

Public Works Director Tom Dole was told by Alderman Corbin about the nine street lights that are out and Com Ed has the lights ordered.

At this time Mayor Gaulrapp returned to council chambers and resumed to administering the meeting. Mayor Gaulrapp stated they are working with IDOT to get the street stop lights fixed.

Water and Sewer

Water and Sewer Project Manager Denise Ihrig commended council on making the commitment to the investment in the infrastructure of the City of Freeport by approving the capital investment surcharge.

Fire

Fire Chief Kevin Countryman provided a reminder regarding storm season and if they hear the storm warning sirens to seek shelter. A summary of the Fire Stations was emailed this week to Alderman Helms, it provided items that need to be worked on at the Fire Stations including a repair to roof, kitchen repair and window repairs, but overall the stations are in order. There were items included as a wish list for the capital improvement such as traffic pre-emptive devices, remolding facilities, mobile data terminals, hose repairs and annual siren repairs.

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MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor George Gaulrapp provided an overview of the Home Show and thanked Sally and Steve McMann for organizing. He spoke about Boy's and Girl's Club fundraiser, a water diversion seminar he will attend, and a building contractors meeting that may be held soon. He provided information regarding the City finances, what the City has done to cut out excess of the budget and stated now it is down to personnel. There was a report of what may be a minor environmental issue during the meeting tonight and further information will be provided to the press tomorrow.

NEW BUSINESS

Each council member was provided the opportunity to publicly address significant items of interest. Alderman Bush spoke about the draft Comprehensive Plan and the problem in his ward of not feeling like they are being listened to or not being able to improve their homes in the flood plain and floodway. Alderman Helms discussed why we don't charge storm water fee proportionate to the lot size. Water and Sewer Utility Manager Denise Ihrig spoke about the new GIS system that is being implemented that could allow setting the fees based on lot size but this could be cost prohibitive. Instead they are looking into other ways of diverting storm water through native plantings, landscaping and rain barrels. Impact fees for new development could be look at by Community Development and Water & Sewer. Permeable parking lots could be looked into as well. Alderman O'Neill asked residents to complete and mail back their US Census 2010. Alderman Boldt requested the administration to review the Winter Parking Ordinance at the next council meeting.

Mayor Gaulrapp stated that Habitat for Humanity is proposing to build three homes across from the FHS Junior High soccer fields. Mayor Gaulrapp thought it would be a nice effort for council and city employees to team up and help on one of the homes by contacting his office.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- Tom Teich, 669 E. Jefferson Street, Freeport, Illinois, asked about the Little Caesars coming to Freeport and it was answered that it will be located next to the Family Video but they are working to get the space ready at this time so the administration does not know the opening.
- Alex Dvorak, 669 E. Jefferson Street, Freeport, Illinois, spoke about the Chicago and Jefferson the sidewalk that needs to be repaired.
- Windy Pearson, 711 S. Carroll Avenue Freeport Illinois, spoke about the Comprehensive Plan. She stated that residents of the 3rd Ward and on the eastside of Freeport can't be bought out or sold out. This is their homes. As she reads the Plan, she stated that the City is looking for volunteer acquisitions of properties and relocations of residents and it is not going to happen. She stated that there are flood insurance policies with 60 of the 66 being purchased by people on the eastside residents. She suggested that the city should educate Yellow Creek since this is a flood area. The city allows condos and medical facilities on the south end while on the east side the only growth that the city discusses has to do with the Rawleigh building, boat docks and bike trails. None of these benefit the residents of the eastside. She asked the council, "How you would feel if someone was going to allocate you out of your home, buy you out of your home."
- Bernie Mrujala, spoke about the problems of financing the landfill and addressed the problem with the CPI funding all being on the base. Most of the area where he lives is living on retirement income and \$70 increase to the CPI is a lot. We need to be concerned about the base and the rate that we can apply that to. He stated that he thinks the improvements need to be made. He also

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asked about contingencies because if they put in a new well and increase the water pressure, then we could have more main breaks.

- Jimmy Pearson, 807 E. Stephenson Street, spoke as a concerned citizen of the third ward and told Mayor Gaulrapp that he had 43 questions ready for him at the last 3rd Ward Meeting that he was not able to ask. Mayor Gaulrapp stated that if he had a set of questions, that he should provide them to his office prior to the meeting so he can have a chance to gather research for an answer. Mayor Gaulrapp stated that he had an appointment to attend to at the last meeting and prior to his leaving he asked if anyone had any questions for him. Mayor Gaulrapp asked for the questions this evening.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

s/ Meg Zuravel
Meg Zuravel, City Clerk