



City Council

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

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING Monday, June 7, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Freeport, Illinois, City Council was called to order by Mayor George Gaulrapp with a quorum being present at 6:00 pm on Monday, June 7, 2010, in Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call were Mayor George Gaulrapp and council members Klemm, Bush, Endress, O'Neill, Boldt, Helms, DeVine and Corbin (8). Attorney Richard Hauser was present as Corporation Counsel due to the absence of Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderman DeVine.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Alderman O'Neill moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 17, 2010, seconded by Alderman Endress. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

Alderman Endress moved to approve the special meeting and public hearing minutes of May 25, 2010 regular meeting, seconded by Alderman Endress. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

PUBLIC HEARING

The following was read into the record:

- This public hearing was published on May 26, 2010 and May 28, 2010 in the Journal Standard. It was also posted on the bulletin boards of City Hall and provided through email to the media notice listing. Any person wishing to offer evidence in the form of testimony at a public hearing shall testify under oath. Anyone wishing to cross-examine a witness must register in advance of the public hearing and assert an interest beyond that of the general public. Whether such interest exists shall be determined by the Council prior to the commencement of the public hearing. The Chair may impose reasonable limitations on evidence or testimony presented by persons and parties, such as time limits and barring repetitious, irrelevant or immaterial testimony. Unless further time is granted by the Council, comments shall be limited to three minutes.

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Mayor George Gaulrapp asked for a motion to open the public hearing in regard to Appropriation Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2010-2011, for the City of Freeport, Illinois at 6:03 pm. Alderman Endress moved to open the public hearing, seconded by Alderman O'Neill. There were no comments or persons signed on the sheets wishing to offer evidence or provide comments at this time.

At 6:04 pm with there being no evidence to come before the corporate authorities, Mayor Gaulrapp asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Alderman Endress moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Alderman O'Neill. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

APPOINTMENTS

Alderman Bush moved to accept an appointment of Betty Carroll to the Freeport Public Library Board of Trustees effective immediately through May 31, 2013, seconded, seconded by Alderman Endress. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

Alderman Bush moved to accept an appointment of Pastor Frankie Ramos to the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Freeport effective immediately through October 31, 2012, seconded by Alderman DeVine. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - AGENDA ITEMS

There was no one signed on the sheet for public comments regarding agenda items this evening.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following Consent Agenda items were presented:

- A. Approval to receive and place on file:
 - 1) Police Department Report on Activities for period ending April 2010
 - 2) Fire Department Report on Activities for period ending April 2010
 - 3) Community Development Report on Activities for April 2010 including Building Permits; Electrical, HVAC, Plumbing and Sign Permits, and Cash and Misc. Receipts
- B. Approval of Water and Sewer Bills Payable (#399, 400, 403) ---- \$118,468.32
- C. Approval of Payroll for pay period ending May 8, 2010 ---- \$474,165.87
- D. Approval of Finance Department Bills Payable (#398, 401, 402, 404) ---- \$541,676.16

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

Nays: None

COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL

Information from a memo from the Finance Department was read into the record stating that the garbage rates will increase on July 1, 2010 from a per household amount of \$11.42 to \$11.65 (\$0.23 per month) due to an increase in consumer price index (CPI). The annual transfer station rent paid by Moring/Gill will increase by 2.2%. Director Joesten stated the contract with Moring/Gill is through the year 2019 and there is a provision for two five-year extensions.

ORDINANCES - THIRD READING

3RD READING OF ORDINANCE 2010-33:

Appropriation Ordinance Fiscal Year 2010-2011, for the City of Freeport, Illinois

The first reading of this ordinance was held on May 3, 2010. A motion to adopt was given by Alderman Endress, seconded by Alderman Klemm. The second reading was held on May 17, 2010 and it was automatically laid over to tonight's meeting. The third reading was held this evening and discussion was held regarding the amount of money owed to the City by the State of Illinois and specific line item questions by the council.

Alderman Helms brought up the discussion of City Hall being closed thirteen Fridays during the summer months. He asked how it is working with salaried employees who were sent home for the day and salaried employees who are staying and working. Mayor Gaulrapp stated that each department head was asked to shave 10% off their departments. He spoke in reference to his department in which as an elected official he is returning 10% of his salary to the City and his administrative assistant has a 10% decrease in her salary. He stated Director Griswold has one employee on 17 furlough days and her department has been cut by 10% overall. Mayor Gaulrapp stated that the department heads have taken a reduction in salary. Mayor Gaulrapp stated the salaried employees are still coming here working although they have the option of taking a furlough day. All of them have the option of working or going home. The salaried employees are still working at a 10% reduction. Mayor Gaulrapp answered, yes their pay is being reduced 10% whether they go home or not.

Discussion was held regarding the Water and Sewer Department being closed in Fridays to coincide with the City Hall hours. If a bill is due on Friday, a person can pay in the next business day and we are not shutting off on Friday. Everyone in the Water and Sewer Department as a member of the AFSCME union is still working on Friday and fielding phone calls in case of emergency or answering needs that residents may have.

Discussion was held regarding the City Cemetery and the sexton position in which that person took a job in the Street Department and the position of Cemetery Sexton was not filled. Public Works Director Tom Dole stated this person has been temporarily assigned back to the Cemetery at the care-taker's rate of pay until a point to when we can fill that spot. There are also funds in that budget for part-time workers and this year we have not hired any part-time workers all the work will be performed by the Street Department without the need to hire summer help. The cemetery is a long way away from plotting the points on a GIS system due to the labor costs for inputting the data and the cost of the system.

Discussion was held regarding the recruitment and advertising costs and it was stated the increase was due to turnover or retirement for police and fire, in addition publicizing open positions such as the Community Development Specialist.

Alderman Helms asked about \$15,000 fireworks line item and that he had reviewed the revenue from sales tax and historically there wasn't much difference between June and July. Mayor Gaulrapp asked Director Joesten if the visitors and convention bureau if they would contribute to this fund. Alderman Corbin stated that he has a problem with the line item during a time period when there are lay offs and

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furloughs required of staff members. Alderman O'Neill stated that many times return on investment can't be measured in dollars and cents and that sometimes return would be an improvement in morale of the citizens to do a family oriented event. Discussion was held regarding the solicitation of donations for the fireworks.

Alderman Helms moved to remove the interdepartmental expense line item for fireworks for July 4, 2010 in the amount of \$15,000, seconded by Alderman Corbin. A roll call vote was taken to approve the amendment.

Yeas: DeVine, Corbin, Bush, Boldt, and Helms (5)

Nays: Klemm, Endress and O'Neill

The amendment passed to remove the line item for fireworks from the Appropriation Ordinance.

Discussion was held regarding the funding of NIDA and providing funding which is not tied to performance. Discussion was held regarding the services provided by Northwest Illinois Development Alliance (NIDA). The \$70,000 budgeted is for NIDA to market the TIF areas. The additional \$15,000 would be for marketing the Lincoln Mall, business on bypass 20 north and other parts of the City that do not have TIF districts. NIDA will have one year with a new director to get out there and do the marketing. Mayor Gaulrapp stated if they market in the TIF district, then they will get paid for it and from those efforts we should see results.

Income tax revenues owed to the City of Freeport by the State of Illinois are behind by five months in the amount of \$991,228. The last payment received by the State was on April 15, 2010. That is the reason we decided to cut the budget by \$900,000 because administration does not know what the State will do.

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

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

Nays: None

For clarification purposes, Mayor Gaulrapp stated when council voted on the appropriation ordinance that included the amendment that was previously voted on. Mayor Gaulrapp requested for clarification purposes to have a motion on the floor for the appropriation ordinance with the amendment in it.

Alderman Corbin moved to approve Ordinance 2010-33 as amended, seconded by Alderman Klemm. A roll call vote was taken to approve the appropriation ordinance as amended on the floor.

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

Nays: None

Ordinance 2010-33 as amended was adopted.

ORDINANCES - SECOND READING

2ND READING OF ORDINANCE 2010-34:

An Ordinance to Ascertain the Prevailing Rate of Wages for Laborers, Workmen and Mechanics Employed in Public Works of the City of Freeport, Illinois

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The first reading of this ordinance was held on May 17, 2010. A motion to adopt was given by Alderman Corbin, seconded by Alderman Endress and it was automatically laid over to tonight's meeting. Upon the second reading and no discussion, the ordinance was automatically laid over to the next meeting.

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

1ST READING OF ORDINANCE 2010-38:

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 480, Section 480.11 (Prohibited Parking Streets) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Freeport – Lincoln Boulevard

Public Works Director Tom Dole presented the ordinance stating line by line the six changes recommended by the department in an effort to clear the line of sight around FHN Hospital and in particular at the area where the ambulances park and there is a dangerous curve in the road. It is recommended that parking be prohibited in these areas:

- Lincoln, north side, from Whistler 222 feet east
- Lincoln, south side, from Burchard 180 feet east
- Lincoln, south side, from Burchard 307 feet west to Harlem
- Lincoln, south side, from Harlem 175 feet west
- Lincoln, south side, from McKinley 121 feet east
- Lincoln, south side, from McKinley 225 feet west

Alderman Klemm moved to approve the ordinance as presented including items one through six, seconded by Alderman Helms. The ordinance was automatically laid over to the next meeting. Discussion was held about notifying FHN for their employees and affected homeowners in this area and it was requested that Director Dole notify residents and FHN.

1ST READING OF ORDINANCE 2010-39:

An Ordinance to Add Portions of the Frontage Road Between the West Edge of Illinois Route 26 and the City of Freeport's Corporate Limits, a Total of 2,235 feet, to the City of Freeport's Municipal Street System, in Conjunction with Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) Job No. C 92-057-06

Public Works Director Tom Dole presented the ordinance stating that this is a State of Illinois due to the resurfacing of Route 20 and in addition they are constructing a 10 foot bike path what this ordinance does is a jurisdictional transfer of this frontage road including the maintenance of this stretch of road.

Alderman Helms moved to move this ordinance forward, seconded by Alderman Klemm. This includes snow removal and street sweeping. This is 10 foot wide by 9300 square feet and includes future maintenance on it as well. Upon no further discussion, the ordinance was laid over to the next meeting.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION #R-2010-40:

Resolution to Request Temporary Closure of Streets for Cruise Night 2010

This event sponsored by the Freeport Downtown Development Foundation will be held on July 31, 2010 and they request temporary closure of street including IL Route 75 from Galena Avenue to Adams Avenue beginning at noon until 10:30 pm. Alderman Endress moved to approve the resolution, seconded

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by Alderman O'Neill. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent. Resolution #R-2010-40 was adopted.

RESOLUTION #R-2010-41:

Resolution to Request Temporary Closure of Streets for Aquin Catholic Schools' Colby Smith Memorial 4-Mile Classic

This event sponsored by the Aquin Catholic Schools will be held on August 28, 2010 and they request temporary closure of streets including IL Route 26 at the intersection of Empire Street and West Avenue and US Route 20 at the intersection of Galena Avenue and Empire Street from 8:00 am to 9:00 am

Alderman Corbin moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Alderman Endress. Motion passed by voice vote without dissent. Resolution #R-2010-41 was adopted.

RESOLUTION #R-2010-42:

Resolution to Approve Plans and Specifications as Proposed by the State of Illinois, Department of Transportation, for a Joint City-State Improvement of US Route 20, Stephenson County, Illinois

In the absence of Community Development Director Shelly Griswold, Public Works Director Tom Dole presented the resolution stating that this approves the plans and specifications of the bike path as part of the Jane Addams Trail Project for construction a 10 foot wide paved bike path approximately 9,310 feet long to be located on the north side of the proposed south frontage road beginning at Illinois Route 20 and extending to Heine Road and then continuing along the north side of the reconstructed Heine Road.

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

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

Nays: None

Resolution 2010-42 was adopted.

OTHER

Community Development Director

Community Development Director Shelly Griswold was not present at the meeting.

Finance

Finance Director Craig Joesten was present at the meeting and had nothing further to report.

Public Works

Public Works Director Tom Dole took the opportunity to clarify that there are close to twenty-five parking spaces along the area of the FHN Hospital.

Fire

Fire Chief Kevin Countryman was present at the meeting and had nothing further to report.

Police

Deputy Chief of Police Jeff Davis was present at the meeting and had nothing further to report.

Library

Library Director Carole Dickerson provided a new brochure for the children's department and introduced and adult reading program for this summer at the Freeport Public Library.

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MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Gaulrapp stated that on Saturday, June 12, 2010, from 7:00 am to 9:00 am there will be a litter pick-up. Interested people should meet at the Lincoln Douglas Parking.

NEW BUSINESS

Each council member was provided the opportunity to publicly address significant items of interest.

City Engineer Denise Ihrig provided an update of the sink hole in Tutty's Crossing. After the special meeting and public hearing where we went after \$100,000 in grant funding from CDAP, the grant has now been submitted. Civil Constructors was the contractor on site and had to go down 26 feet below grade to place a temporary repair on the damaged pipe. When they televised the line after the repair is made, it is flowing like a river in terms of inflow and infiltration of the sanitary sewer line. Once the video footage came in then we called to DECO and requested to shift a grant from the Cottonwood area. In this area there are sanitary sewer lines that go under two railroad crossings and the sanitary sewer runs along the Pecatonica River and through the Tutty Crossing site. If the depth we had to dig down to do the repair is any indication, we need to get sanitary sewers to a location to where they are serviceable and able to do a more permanent location of the lines.

Discussion was held regarding Navajo Drive and the native planting and landscaping recommended in the area of Carl Sandburg School.

Alderman Klemm provided thank you to Pat and Linda Beckman for their expedient work on the additional parking area at the Fieldstone to alleviate the parking situation in that area that was brought up during a neighborhood watch. New rain management projects are being built in the Fieldstone parking lot and the Lazarus site where they are utilizing rain gardens. The Hunt basin area is on hold to budget considerations and reduction in staffing. Discussion was held regarding the status of the FBO operator bonus at the Albertus Airport and it was answered that a meeting will be held upon the return of Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin.

There will not be fireworks this year for the 4th of July financed by the City and it was encouraged for anyone interested to donate money for this event to continue.

Alderman Helms asked for an update on Freeport Raceway status and Landfill 2 and 3. Finance Director Craig Joesten provided that Landfill 4 is closed and the cover is on. Landfill 2 and 3 have displayed tendency to be leaching outside the boundaries. The action of planting poplar trees to soak up the leaching doesn't appear to be working so the next course is to drill some test well to determine the composition and the actual magnitude of the leached being generated which will then lead to a plan to come up with a remedial action to deal with it. Sometime by this fall the test wells should let us know and some things that could be done would be a curtain wall or pump it out and re-circulate through the waste water treatment plant collection system, mostly trying to keep it from migrating. The methane results show that it is registering three times higher than normal parameters and we are waiting to see if that is something that we will need to remediate. One of the accepted methods is to flare off the methane. The harnessing of the methane was found to be too high of a cost of conversion for an interested party of the methane gas.

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An update on the Pearl City Road and Kiwanis Drive was provided of City Engineer Denise Ihrig stating that there are two designs that could work at the intersection. They are both agreeable to the City and Stephenson County Chris Isbel and it is being worked on but due to the construction engineering and costs involved the project would exceed \$1 million. Neither of these entities have the funding at this time in the budget. Alderman Helms asked for a traffic study and the costs associated with it and he is hoping that the speed may be reduced in this area or installing a speed table coming from the east on Pearl City Road.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Agenda or Non-Agenda Items (limited to 3 minutes per person)

Tom Teich provided information on the annual ice cream social at Provena on June 27, 2010.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

s/ Meg Zuravel

Meg Zuravel, City Clerk