



City Council

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

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING Monday, May 16, 2011

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 p.m. on Monday, May 16, 2011, in Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call were council members Tom Klemm, Shawn Boldt, Ronnie Bush, Jennie DeVine, Dennis Endress, Scott Helms, Michael Koester and Andrew Crutchfield (8). Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderperson Koester

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Alderperson Endress moved for approval of the agenda, seconded by Alderperson Koester. Motion prevailed by a call for votes without dissent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Alderperson DeVine moved for approval of the minutes of the meeting held on May 2, 2011, seconded by Alderperson Corbin. Motion prevailed by a call for votes without dissent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - AGENDA ITEMS

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

PRESENTATION

Stephenson County Assessor Ron Kane and Stephenson County Clerk Vici Otte presented information on the redistricting of Stephenson County due to the new census figures and the effect on the City of Freeport. Currently, there are 21 voter districts in the City with each ward representing three districts. With the new population figures there will be 18 districts. With the 21 voter districts, the City of Freeport seven wards are made up of three each. Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin is reviewing the state statutes and, so far, has found that the number of alderpersons can not be changed. Counsel Griffin stated the City of Freeport will have to figure out how to proceed by the fall of 2012.

CONSENT AGENDA

Prior to the presentation of the Consent Agenda items Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin asked for removal of item A 2) Freeport Police Department Report on Activities April 2011, March 2011, February

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 16, 2011

2011 and January 2011. The following items were presented in the council packet for the Consent Agenda this evening;

- A. Approval to receive and place on file:
 - 1) Community Development Report on Activities April 2011 including Building Permits, Cash and Misc. Receipts, Electrical, HVAC, Plumbing and Sign Permits
 - 2) Removed
- B. Approval of Water and Sewer Bills Payable (Registers #549, 553) --- \$126,618.76
- C. Approval of Payroll for pay period ending May 7, 2011 --- \$445,514.26
- D. Approval of Finance Bills Payable (Registers #547, 548, 550, 551, 552, 554) --- \$472,570.68

Alderperson Endress moved to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented, seconded by Alderperson Klemm. Motion prevailed by roll call vote of:

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, Koester, Crutchfield (8)

Nays: none

The consent agenda items were approved.

APPOINTMENTS/RE-APPOINTMENTS

Alderperson Endress moved to accept the reappointment of Lloyd Smith to the Zoning Board of Appeals effective immediately through April 30, 2014, seconded by Alderperson Koester. Motion prevailed by a call for votes without dissent.

Mayor Gaulrapp asked for leave of council to read the next two appointments together and it was so granted. Alderperson Bush moved to accept the appointment of Jeff Ogden to the Zoning Board of Appeals effective immediately through May 30, 2015 and the appointment of Mary Ann Eirhart as Deputy City Clerk effective immediately. This motion was seconded by Alderperson Endress. Motion prevailed by a call for votes without dissent.

ORDINANCES –FOURTH READING

4TH READING OF ORDINANCE 2011-18:

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE, FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012, FOR THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS

The first reading of this ordinance was held on April 6, 2011. A motion to adopt was given by Alderperson Boldt, seconded by Alderperson Helms. The second reading was held on April 18, 2011. The third reading was held on May 2, 2011. A motion to layover the ordinance to tonight's meeting was given by Alderperson Klemm, seconded by Alderperson Helms. Motion prevailed by roll call vote. Upon the 4th Reading held this evening, the Mayor requested that each department head provide a brief synopsis of current staffing and proposed staffing counts included in the appropriation ordinance.

Chief of Police Jerry Whitmore stated the Police Department authorized staffing level for sworn officers is currently 51 and the actual number currently on staff is 49 officers. There are 18 civilians on staff. Last year, there was an authorized staffing level of 55 sworn officers but there were three vacancies and staffing levels were at 52 officers and 18 civilians. The Appropriation Ordinance shows the staffing level to remain at 51 sworn officers by the end of this calendar year 2011. At the beginning of the 2012 calendar year, if the state maintains the money that is owed the City, there is money budgeted to bring the sworn officer count to 53 officers. Two officers would be hired that were lost last year due to attrition

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 16, 2011

and due to budget cuts were not replaced. Also in the budget, is a replacement of three officers to stay at the level of 51 (Chief of Police Jerry Whitmore is aware of three officers who he will lose due to attrition) and the budget allows for their replacements and the two officers that we are currently short due to resignations last week. Officer training classes are schedule in July and October of this year. The earliest to hire replacements for the two that were lost last week will be July. Chief of Police Jerry Whitmore stated that if no one else leaves he is hoping to have the sworn officer count at 53 by the end of the fiscal year.

Fire Chief Kevin Countryman stated the Fire Department has an authorized staffing level of 50 firefighters and there were three retirements last year that were not replaced due to budget constraints so the staffing is currently at 47. The proposed budget is to replace one firefighter bringing the count to 48 sworn officers and one civilian employee. The department will be down two firefighters. When training on the paramedic schooling is necessary, it is a nine month program. Overtime costs have been lowered from between \$120,000 to \$150,000 and currently are around \$20,000 due to reimbursements. The Appropriation Ordinance has funding budgeted for 48 firefighters. Chief Countryman stated it will be reviewed next year as to whether the two other positions should be filled. The shifts are at 15 personnel and by adding the two firefighters it would allow one shift to go back up to 16. The grant counts include the Battalion Chief, Fire Inspector, and Fire Chief in the sworn officer counts. The department is one below the grant level due to economic constraints.

Public Works Director Tom Dole stated the staffing level is at 16 in the Street Department. A couple of years ago they were at 19-20. Last year, the cemetery caretaker was not replaced bringing the count to 16. The position of Public Works Director and Street Superintendent was combined last year so the count is 16 plus Director Dole which is a total of 17.

Finance Director Craig Joesten stated there will be a retirement in the Finance Department of the finance clerk. Those duties of that position will be covered by the accountant, human resource manager, and by changing it to a part-time (10 hours) accounts payable clerk. The Finance Director's salary obligation has again been shifted to Water and Sewer Department bringing the percentage down from 50% to Finance to 35% and the other 65% charged to the Water and Sewer Department.

Mayor Gaulrapp stated that those changes reported by the department heads have been incorporated into the Appropriation budget.

Accountant Duane Price stated that the amount that the City will need to pay towards the pension is determined by the Illinois Department of Insurance and that will be what is levied. The increase in a staff member or two will not increase the levy. It is based upon the staffing levels at the end of this fiscal year. It will change it in future contributions. The amount necessary to be contributed to the pension for next year has already been determined and the amount we will need to levy for in December, one went down and one went up and the total increase was \$60,000, about 3%. Mayor Gaulrapp stated the stock market is back up so our pension funds are doing better. Finance Director Craig Joesten stated that the City will levy in December to be paid next year for this year's assessments. Those are the numbers will be in that 10% area. Director Joesten stated that in the subsequent years, what the Mayor has said those are really difficult because the stock market has really surged ahead and a significant portion of the dramatic

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 16, 2011

increase in the levy that we were forced to consider had to do with the precipitous drop in the values of the plan assets which when those drop they had to make it up to maintain the investment income to get more money. Assuming in subsequent years, as a general statement when you increase your compensation levels, you will generally increase your legacy costs in the future years. The overrunning factor is what the stock market does up or down can accentuate the size of the contributions or diminish that. The percentage increase on the tax bill was 2.3% increase last year.

Discussion was held regarding legacy costs and bringing the staffing level back to what it had been prior to last year. Mayor Gaulrapp stated that the City is looking to return two police officers and one firefighter. The Fire Department has reduced their workforce by two employees. Police and Fire employees hired after January 1 will be under the new pension reform laws in Illinois. Chief of Police Jerry Whitmore stated that the Police Department will be at 51 sworn officers where last year we were at 52 officers. Two employees that had their one year layoff are back on staff. The statistics for burglaries and thefts have increased.

Discussion was held regarding cost of living raises and the effect on the budget. The AFSCME contract was approved with a 1% cost of living increase and gave up 1% in employee PEHP (Post Employment Health Plan). This was a 0% effect on the budget. A one-percent cost of living wage increase for the Fire Union would be an addition cost of \$22,000 and for the Police Union the effect would be \$21,500.

Discussion was held regarding increasing the amount of money in the budget for demolitions, currently it is at \$25,000. Mayor Gaulrapp stated the administration will look at using the money from the Property Transfer Tax for improving neighborhoods. He stated there are sixty-six houses on the watch list for demolition. The real cost comes in tipping fees.

Each Alderperson was provided the opportunity to give their opinion or ask questions on the ordinance.

Upon no further discussion, a roll call vote to approve the motion on the floor to pass Ordinance 2011-18 was asked for by Mayor Gaulrapp. Motion prevailed by roll call vote of:
Yeas: Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, Koester and Crutchfield (7)
Nays: Klemm (1)
Ordinance 2011-18 was passed.

ORDINANCES –THIRD READING

3RD READING OF ORDINANCE 2011-30:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 889 (ELECTRICITY KILOWATT- HOURS USE TAX) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT TO EXTEND THE INCREASE OF SUCH TAX

The first reading of this ordinance was held on April 18, 2011. A motion to adopt was given by Alderperson Klemm, seconded by Alderperson Corbin. The second reading was held on May 2, 2011 and it was automatically laid over to tonight's meeting. Upon the third reading it was asked if the funds from this tax are deposited into the general fund of the City and it was answered affirmatively. Upon no further discussion, the motion prevailed by roll call vote of:

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, Koester and Crutchfield (8)

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 16, 2011**

Nays: none

Ordinance 2011-30 was passed.

3RD READING OF ORDINANCE 2011-31:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 290 - COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT, TO AMEND SECTION 290.02 (COMPENSATION PLAN)

The first reading of this ordinance was held on April 18, 2011. A motion to adopt was given by Alderperson Helms, seconded by Alderperson Klemm. The second reading was held on May 2, 2011 and it was automatically laid over to tonight's meeting. Upon the third reading, Alderperson Helms moved to withdraw his motion on the floor and Alderperson Klemm moved to withdraw his second.

ORDINANCES –SECOND READING

(There were no ordinances for second reading at this meeting)

ORDINANCES –FIRST READING

1ST READING OF ORDINANCE 2011-32:

SPECIAL ORDINANCE FOR VARIATION, PERMIT, OR AMENDMENT OF CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF FREEPORT ILLINOIS – TYPE OF RELIEF: SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN AN OUTDOOR RESTAURANT AREA IN A B1-2 (RESTRICTED RETAIL BUSINESS) ZONING CLASSIFICATION; OWNER OR APPLICANT: MUNZY'S INC.; ADDRESS OR DESCRIPTION: 223 WEST MAIN STREET FREEPORT, ILLINOIS

The Freeport Planning Commission unanimously recommended accepting the petition in the public hearing held on Thursday, May 5, 2011. There were no written objectors filed against this petition. Therefore, the city council may take final action on this ordinance this evening. Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin presented the ordinance stating that this request by Munzy's Inc., at the property located at 223 West Main Street to allow outdoor alcohol sales in their fenced in area through a special use permit. Separately, they will be required to go to the liquor commission for permission to allow liquor sales. Alderperson Klemm motioned to move forward the ordinance and make it effective immediately (*per council rules it was scheduled to be voted on this evening*), seconded by Alderperson Koester. Motion prevailed by roll call vote of:

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, DeVine, Endress, Helms, Koester and Crutchfield (7)

Nays: Bush (1)

Ordinance 2011-32 passed by a vote of 7-1.

1ST READING OF ORDINANCE 2011-33:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 484, SECTION 484.03 (BUSINESS LOADING ZONE PERMITS; FEES") OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT

Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin presented the ordinance stating this is a housekeeping ordinance to bring a correction to the codification up-to-date from an ordinance that was passed in 2003. At the meeting for the passage of Ordinance 2002-79, the fee for the loading zone was amended from \$200.00 to \$250.00. Since the ordinance passage, the fee that has been charged for loading zones and courtesy zone is \$250.00. Administration is asking for suspension of the rules for passage this evening. Alderperson

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 16, 2011

Klemm moved to suspend the rules and vote on the ordinance this evening, seconded by Alderperson Endress. Motion prevailed by roll call vote of:

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Koester and Crutchfield (7)

Nays: Helms

Motion passed 7-1. Suspense of the rules passed.

Alderperson Klemm moved to place the Ordinance 2011-33 on the floor, seconded by Alderperson Endress. Motion prevailed by roll call vote of:

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, Koester and Crutchfield (8)

Nays: none

Ordinance 2011-33 was passed.

1ST READING OF ORDINANCE 2011-34:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1242 (ADMINISTRATION, ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTY), SECTION 1242.11 (VARIATIONS, PERMITS, PLANNED DEVELOPMENTS AND AMENDMENTS) TO AMEND PETITION AND NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

Mayor George Gaulrapp presented the ordinance stating that an amendment was passed a couple of months ago to require petitioners to notice those within 250 feet of the subject property when applying for a variation, special permit, planned development or amendment. A recent petition had to notice 50 properties and Mayor Gaulrapp stated in his opinion this seems excessive. This ordinance requests notice is given to properties adjacent to, contiguous to, or across any street, river, creek, or public way from, any part of the land or property described in the petition. Alderperson Boldt moved to place the Ordinance 2011-34 on the floor, seconded by Alderperson DeVine. The ordinance was automatically laid over to the next meeting.

1ST READING OF ORDINANCE 2011-35:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 608 (ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT TO ADD SUBSECTION (f) TO SECTION 608.02 ENTITLED "OFFENSES BY LICENSEES"; TO ADD SECTION 608.14 ENTITLED ILLEGAL, DISORDERLY ACTIVITIES OR CROWDS ON OR ABOUT PREMISES; AND TO ADD SECTION 608.15, ENTITLED "REPORTING OF INCIDENTS TO POLICE; TELEPHONE REQUIRED ON PREMISES"

Chief of Police Jerry Whitmore presented the ordinance stating that this brought forth from the Liquor Commission in their meeting held on May 12, 2011. It an ordinance which was modeled after a Rockford ordinance and drafted by Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin. The ordinance adds to Chapter 608 (Alcoholic Liquor) wording to charge a fee to Liquor License holders if the police are called for illegal, disorderly activities of crowds on or about the premise if more than two officers have to respond to that incident. There is a fee of \$120 assessed per officer hour in hourly increments with a minimum of one hour as a result of disorderly activities on or about the premises, including but not limited to crowd and/or traffic control. No fee will be assessed if two or fewer police officers respond to the licensed premises or adjacent property. No fee shall be assessed for the first qualifying incident in each calendar year. The ordinance also requires liquor license holders to have a valid telephone on the premise and to call the Police Department if there is a problem. If there is a violation of not calling for instances it would be a violation of the liquor code. Alderperson Boldt moved to place the Ordinance 2011-35 on the floor,

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 16, 2011

seconded by Alderperson Klemm. The ordinance was automatically laid over to the next meeting. Mayor Gaulrapp requested that council consider passage of this ordinance at the next meeting.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION #R-2011-18:

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT CITY OF FREEPORT SPENDING PLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012

This resolution was presented on March 21, 2011 and May 2, 2011. In the meeting held on May 2, 2011, a motion was given by Alderperson Helms, seconded by Alderperson Bush to lay it over to this meeting.

Resolution #R-2011-18 was presented by Finance Director Craig Joesten stating that the Appropriation Ordinance was passed this evening. The Spending Plan is a sub-document to the Appropriation Ordinance. The Appropriation Ordinance outlines the maximum spending that has been approved by the City Council. The Spending Plan is what the administration is really intending to spend subject to contingencies such as emergencies or things like computers going bad. The Spending Plan is less than the Appropriation and it is recommended by the administration for council to adopt. The Spending Plan also grants to the Finance Director in Exhibit A, certain contingency items or additional spending that are deemed appropriate to spend and if they occur prior to having the city council meet to approve. By adopting the spending plan you endorse what the administration today expects to spend in order to deliver all the services to make the city run. This is a work in process. Last year, the City spent less than what the spending plan stated.

Discussion was held regarding a motion by Alderperson Helms to amend the spending plan. Alderperson Helms made a motion "to amend the actual spending plan when it comes to bargaining employee positions what I would like to see is anytime that those staffing levels change from the current level as of May 1, 2011, I would like that to be presented and ultimately be discussed and approved by the City Council before that would go into effect."

It was clarified that this is not for a replacement through attrition. Alderperson Helms stated for example the Fire Department is looking at 49 through the Appropriations and if that were to change throughout the year and go to 50. Mayor Gaulrapp stated the staffing level has already been approved through the appropriation ordinance. Alderperson Helms stated that at any time throughout the year if the staffing level is increased, that it be brought back to council. Chief Whitmore stated that there is a window of time when there are officers hired and put into training prior to those retirement dates so for that three-month-time period the department (and that money has been appropriated) would be at 52 officers.

Alderperson Helm's motion was seconded by Alderperson Crutchfield.

Accountant Duane Price asked for clarification of Alderperson Helm's motion.

Alderperson Helms stated, "I can go through the bargaining line items and give you each one that would pertain for all departments, for bargaining only." Line items were read for department 44 line 413, department 46 line 413, department 51 line 413, department 52 line 415.0 (Accountant Price stated that includes one increase in firefighter and Alderperson Helms stated that was already approved in the

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 16, 2011

Appropriation Ordinance as of May 1, 2011). Discussion was held regarding the staffing level of the Fire Department as defined through total salary costs and there will be a time period when one firefighter will be hired based on training schedules which could be late summer.

Aldersperson Boldt requested that an amendment should be written for the above stated motion and be brought back to council at the next meeting. Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin asked if the listing can be included on a contingency list if current staffing levels as approved as of May 1, 2011 or exceeded they will come to council.

Aldersperson Helms stated he had two more line items including department 53, line item 413.0 and department 54, line item 413.0.

Mayor Gaulrapp stated that this Spending Plan could be laid over to the next meeting and an amendment containing the final numbers that match the spending plan. Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin stated that in the Appropriation Ordinance we have the personnel line items that give the maximum dollars and there is a cushion in case of bargaining, there is an increase in that salary. Mayor Gaulrapp stated that we can come back in two weeks and state the number of employees in each department and base your amendment off of that. He continued by stating that administration will come back with final numbers that will match the spending plan on what we currently have staffing levels at.

Aldersperson Helms withdrew his motion.

Aldersperson Boldt moved to layover Resolution #R-2011-18 Spending Plan to the next meeting, seconded by Aldersperson Koester.

It was requested to have discussion continue. Aldersperson Boldt withdrew his motion to layover and Aldersperson Koester withdrew his second.

Discussion was held regarding the funding for Northwest Illinois Development Alliance (NIDA). Mayor Gaulrapp stated that there is \$15,000 in funding for NIDA in the budget and the remainder is through contractual services. Discussion was held regarding the line item for NIDA and it was stated that it was located on page 9, Fund 1, Department 49, Account 587.0, Economic Development Foundation – NIDA in the amount of \$15,000 and the remaining would be through contractual services in the TIF district spending plan. Finance Director Craig Joesten stated he believes that amount to be up to \$50,000 and Mayor Gaulrapp thought it was \$70,000. He will check for the next meeting.

Aldersperson Boldt moved to layover Resolution #R-2011-18 Spending Plan to the next meeting, seconded by Aldersperson Koester. Motion prevailed by roll call vote of:

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, Koester and Crutchfield (8)

Nays: none

OTHER

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 16, 2011

Community Development

Bids for Demolition 509-513 South Blackhawk Avenue

Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin presented for Director Griswold the bids for council approval and received on May 12, 2011 for the demolition of structures located on the property at 509-513 South Blackhawk Avenue, Freeport, Illinois. Four bids were received and the bidders were JMP Trucking, Inc. in the amount of \$9,700.00, Brokhausen Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$10,900.00, O'Brien Civil Works, Inc. in the amount of \$14,898.00, and Northern Illinois Service Company in the amount of \$6,850.00. All bids met the requirements. Alderperson Klemm moved to accept the bid from Northern Illinois Service Company in the amount of \$6,850.00, seconded by Alderperson Bush. Motion prevailed by roll call vote of:

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, Koester and Crutchfield (8)

Nays: none

Bids for Mowing Weeds and Grass

Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin presented for Director Griswold the bids presented for council approval and received on May 12, 2011 lawn mowing services anticipated for properties which are in violation of City of Freeport Codified Ordinances Chapter 694 – Weeds and Grass. Two bids were received and the bidders were from Luca Lawn and Landscaping in the amount of \$17.50 per hour and a bid from C & C Mowing in the amount of \$12.00 per hour. It was recommended by the Community Development Department to accept both bids. Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin stated there was a technicality as to the insurance for C & C Mowing in which their proof of insurance was outdated at the time of bid opening and an updated certificate was submitted the next morning. Counsel Griffin stated since the updated insurance certificate was not received at the time of bidding, the council would need to waive the technicality. It is the recommendation of the Community Development Department to award the 2011 Mowing bid to both Lucas Lawn and Landscaping and C & C Mowing.

Alderperson Klemm moved to waive receipt of the insurance at the time of the bid as a technicality, seconded by Alderperson Endress. Motion prevailed by roll call vote of:

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, Koester and Crutchfield (8)

Nays: none

Alderperson Klemm moved to accept the bid for C & C Mowing at \$12.00 per person, seconded by Alderperson Crutchfield. Discussion was held as to the recommendation from the Community Development Director Shelly Griswold for the last two years to accept both bids and the reason being was there are enough properties so that if one can't get them done there is another contractor available. Alderperson Crutchfield withdrew his second. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Discussion was held regarding taking the bid from the lowest bidder or to accept both bids.

Alderperson Helms moved to accept C & C Mowing as the only bidder, seconded by Alderperson Klemm. Discussion was held as to the extreme conditions for mowing of these properties and whether \$12 per hour bid would require more people or time than the \$17.50 per hour bid but it would depend on the equipment each of the contractors had to use. Alderperson Klemm withdrew his second on the motion. Alderperson Helms withdrew his motion.

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 16, 2011

Aldersperson Koester moved to accept both the bids for mowing and hire both contractors and evaluate the usage of each in a 30-day time period. This motion was seconded by Aldersperson Endress. Motion prevailed by roll call vote of:

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, Koester and Crutchfield (8)

Nays: none

Finance

Finance Director Craig Joesten presented a memorandum regarding Fire Capital Improvement Fund Transfer dated May 16, 2011. The memorandum stated that each May, pursuant to 242.53, the Finance Department suggests transfer of funds from the Capital Fund (Fire) to the General Fund. This year, the suggested amount is \$199,485.41. Last year it was \$182,715.42. The gross receipts for fiscal year 2011 were \$534,712.06 which is an increase of \$44,398.21 over the previous fiscal year. Therefore, Director Joesten requested from the council, approval of fund transfer from the Fire Capital Improvement Fund in the amount of \$199,485.41. Aldersperson Klemm moved transfer the fund amount from the Fire Capital Improvement Fund as recommended by the Finance Department, seconded by Aldersperson Boldt. Motion prevailed by roll call vote of:

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, Koester and Crutchfield (8)

Nays: none

Finance Director Craig Joesten stated there was a report provided on the desks for Worker's Compensation Claims for April 2011.

Finance Director Craig Joesten stated he will be soliciting help from the council to communicate the information to the community regarding the Big 4 Projects. The commission has a scheduled award date of September 30. He requested each aldersperson to contact him as to how they would like the information communicated in their ward. If they would like to have meetings, this should be scheduled no later than June 2011.

Public Works

During the last council meeting, traffic signals maintenance for the lights were approved and Public Works Director Tom Dole stated he has received a letter from the Illinois Department of Transportation for funding that is available for fiscal year 2012 to prepare plans and let a contract to replace incandescent traffic signals with LEDS. IDOT would like to determine if the City is interested in participating in 5% of the total costs for this work within the City of Freeport. There are 18 intersections on the list and the estimated cost to the City will be \$10,000. Director Dole will bring this to the next council meeting.

Library

Freeport Public Library Director Carole Dickerson was present and had no further report.

Police

Chief of Police Jerry Whitmore was present and had no report.

Fire

Fire Chief Kevin Countryman provided a clarification as to the staffing counts in the Appropriation Ordinance.

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 16, 2011

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor George Gaulrapp stated he attended a Freeport High School production over the weekend and it is events like this one that focus on the good things happening with our youth along with their participation in the Speech Competitions and Showtime. He received a request from a local citizen asking if they could volunteer time at the cemetery. Mayor Gaulrapp recognized union representatives attending the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS/COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Each council member was provided the opportunity to make public announcements. Alderperson Klemm and Crutchfield spoke about attending a Neighborhood Housing Services conference. Alderperson Boldt requested an update on recouping the costs for mowing properties. Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin stated she had worked with State Attorney John Vogt and there is no relief in sight. Alderperson Bush spoke about a clean up in the 3rd Ward scheduled for June 11, 2011. Alderperson Helms requested an update on the legal costs for the Comcast and it was answered that it was about \$2,400.00.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- Tom Teich, 653 Jefferson Street, Freeport, Illinois spoke about local fundraisers.
- Bernie Mrugala, 1310 S. Galena Avenue, Freeport, Illinois spoke about his property tax bill he had received which went up by \$8.00. He suggested the city work on a capital improvement plan.
- John Staben, 1070 N Canyon, Freeport, Illinois spoke about a program for adults to learn to fly on May 21, 2011.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

s/ Meg Zuravel
Meg Zuravel, City Clerk