



City Council

City Council Chambers ♦ 524 West Stephenson Street ♦ Freeport, IL 61032

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING Monday, May 5, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Freeport, Illinois, City Council was called to order in council chambers by Mayor James L. Gitz with a quorum being present at 6:02 p.m. on Monday, May 5, 2014.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call: Mayor Gitz and council members Tom Klemm, Shawn Boldt, Jennie DeVine, Dennis Endress, Sally Brashaw, Michael Koester, and Andrew Crutchfield (7). Alderperson Bush was absent. Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderperson Brashaw.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Alderperson Endress moved for approval of the agenda as presented, seconded by Alderperson Koester. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

MINUTES

The minutes from meetings held on April 14, 2014, April 21, 2014, and April 28, 2014 were presented. Alderperson Brashaw moved for approval of the minutes, seconded by Alderperson DeVine. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS

There was no one signed in the sheet for public comments on agenda items.

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

An honorary resolution was read to recognize Rodger Gorsline for his dedication and service to the Freeport Fire Department. Fire Chief Scott Miller provided a recognition plaque to Rodger Gorsline and thanked him for his 30 years of service as a firefighter in the Freeport Fire Department. Chief Miller stated Firefighter Gorsline began his career in April of 1984 has served in many capacities including firefighter, lieutenant in January of 2007 and captain in December of 2012. He was also honored with a certificate of valor in 1987. Chief Miller thanked Lieutenant Gorsline for his service, dedication and commitment to the community. Alderperson Koester moved for acceptance of the honorary resolution, seconded by Alderperson Klemm. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

Fire Chief Scott Miller introduced two promotions in the Freeport Fire Department including Scott Reeser who received a promotion to Captain and Curt Timmer who received a promotion to Lieutenant.

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 5 2014**

Chief Barkalow introduced a recent promotion in the Freeport Police Department of Chris Shenberger and stated he has been promoted from the rank of Corporal to Sergeant.

A proclamation was read aloud regarding Motorcycle Awareness Month for May 2014. Alderperson Koester thanked Mayor Gitz for the support of ABATE of Illinois. He reminded drivers about the importance of motorcycle safety and stated that ABATE has a display at the Visitors Center.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were presented on the Consent Agenda in the council packet and Mayor Gitz read the listed items into the record; [Consent Agenda PDF](#)

A. Approval to receive and place on file:

1) Police Department Report on Activities for December 2013, January 2014, February 2014 and March 2014

B. Approval of Water and Sewer Bills Payable (Register #139, 141, 143, 144) --- \$331,584.41

C. Approval of Payroll for pay period ending April 19, 2014 --- \$414,858.28

D. Approval of Finance Bills Payable (Registers #138, 140, 142, 145, 146, 147) --- \$859,337.59

Alderperson Brashaw moved for approval of the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Alderperson Koester. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of;

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

Nays: none

ACCEPTANCE OF MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF TODD BARKALOW AS CHIEF OF POLICE

Mayor Gitz provided in the council packet a letter dated May 5, 2014 as follows, "Pursuant to Section 288.04 (a), I, James L. Gitz, hereby appoint Todd Barkalow as Chief of Police for the City of Freeport. This appointment will be at a Grade 24, 25 year step. Alderperson Endress moved for acceptance of the appointment as presented, seconded by Alderperson Koester. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of;

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

Nays: none

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

1ST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2014-19:

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN THE CITY OF FREEPORT AND THROUGHOUT STEPHENSON COUNT (FY 2015) -- [view memo](#)

This ordinance was presented by Community Development Director Jim Brown and Transit Coordinator Kevin Cooley. Director Brown presented the ordinance by stating this ordinance is one of three items on council agenda (one ordinance and two resolutions) in regard to public transportation. The City of Freeport currently provides grant funded public transportation and that operates solely within the City. This ordinance would expand that service countywide. As stated in the preamble, the approval of this ordinance and the subsequent initiation of that countywide service would fulfill obligations under an intergovernmental agreement between the City and the County as approved back in June 2012.

Community Development Director Jim Brown introduced Transit Coordinator Kevin Cooley. A copy of a memorandum written by Kevin Cooley dated April 30, 2014 was included in the council packet.

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 5 2014

Aldersperson Crutchfield asked when the actual start date for the grant period would begin. Transit Coordinator Kevin Cooley explained that grant period begins on July 1, 2014. Aldersperson Crutchfield asked if the council would be ok for two readings of this ordinance to come back the second council meeting in May for the approval. Mr. Cooley stated yes.

Aldersperson Klemm referred to the memorandum dated April 30, 2014, and asked if we have an agreement with the Senior Resource Center in Freeport and, if we do not, do we have a "Plan B". Transit Coordinator Cooley stated we do not have an official agreement and we are working on having one and they provided us the 16th as the date for a definite yes or no. He stated in his opinion this is our best plan, so plan A is what we are really working on very hard and so we do not have a plan that is as good as this one that we are working on. Aldersperson Klemm asked what we need to do to finalize this. Transit Coordinator Colley explained that it is a matter of their full board voting as they came together to vote but they did not have enough board members present at that meeting and it turns out they were really glad to get some more information from both him and an Illinois Department of Transportation representative. He asked council to help facilitate the relationship with the Senior Center board in order to communicate the City's interest to partner with them and let them know how helpful it will be to the City of Freeport and Stephenson County to have this program.

Community Development Director Jim Brown stated he and Kevin Cooley met with the Senior Resource Center director and board president last Thursday and they characterized their concerns as 1) how does this fit into the overall mission of the Senior Center and 2) if it does will it eventually become dominate to the other portions of the Senior Center mission. He stated that the two persons they spoke to were fairly confident in the affirmative.

Aldersperson Brashaw asked about the City's match system and whether the revenues brought in from the grant and how the match works on this grant. Mayor Gitz stated there are actually two different grants coming later in the resolutions one being a 5311 federal pass through and the other a state program where the majority of the money comes from through a DOAP grant. He stated those two grants offset and coordinate with each other by the primary revenue source. He stated the federal grant is 35% grant match which the federal makes up a part it through the fares and part through by using the "not for profit" Senior Center so we could drop the fare requirement on seniors and go to donations and have a fare system for the balance of the transportation system. He stated that is why the not for profit becomes an important piece of this. Aldersperson Brashaw clarified as to whether the City has to budget revenue for this program at this time. Mayor Gitz stated other than having to budget for the grants that we receive as part of the budget. To date, the objective of the City is to not to have our general revenue involved in subsidizing the system providing we are careful in the administration we should be able to continue that pattern. Transit Coordinator Colley agreed provided we are careful in the administration of the program and that is why the Senior Center partnership is important because they bring some grants to the table to match the grants that we already have and that would ensure that if there is any deficit then we can cover that. He stated outside of that; there is a large chance that we could have to pay some out as our expenses grow. He stated the Mayor properly said that is why we want the Senior Center to partner in the administration of the program and then we will be just fine.

Aldersperson Crutchfield asked if the Senior Resource Center decides to back away where that would leave us. Mayor Gitz stated candidly we are looking at option B now quietly but it looks 90% go for

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 5 2014

option A. Mayor Gitz stated, if this option were to be dropped, we will have to have some serious discussion with Illinois Department of Transportation on next steps on this program because our obligation is to have the countywide transportation portion operative by July 1, 2014. So our deadline is one that is imposed upon us by the State and if we had to start over with other not for profits he thinks there is a real question without some assistance from them how we would find a way to bridge all the time gaps.

Aldersperson Brashaw made a motion to move forward Ordinance 2014-19, seconded by Aldersperson Boldt.

Mayor Gitz asked Kevin Cooley if there was a necessity to have this approved now. Transit Coordinator Cooley stated no we do have time and it would be good to have it approved but no if we need to have it delayed then we can. Mayor Gitz stated the other alternative is to have the first reading tonight and then to have a Committee of the Whole next week so we could also have a special council meeting. Transit Coordinator Cooley stated that would suffice. Aldersperson Crutchfield asked would this have any bearing on the approval of the Senior Resource Center. Mayor Gitz stated, "I think that it ratifies that you are insistent on going forward with the countywide transportation system and to that extent it is useful."

Corporation Counsel Griffin stated an automatic layover lays it over to the next regular meeting so that if you want you can lay it over to the date certain. Mayor Gitz stated first we have a motion and a second for approval. Normally there would be an automatic layover. Aldersperson Brashaw stated she would like to make a motion to lay it over to the next regular meeting or special meeting if we have one next week. This motion was seconded by Aldersperson Klemm. This motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

1ST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2014-20:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN ELIGIBILITY STUDY FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY OF THE PROPERTY FOR TAX INCREMENT FINANCING OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT (TIF #5)

Corporation Counsel Griffin presented the ordinance and stated that administration requests suspension of the rules for passage this evening. She stated that a couple of months ago the City was requested to determine eligibility of a new area for a tax increment financing in the area of JoAnn Fabrics. This ordinance is a housekeeping matter to authorize an eligibility study for the area. Aldersperson Boldt made a motion to move forward the ordinance for approval, seconded by Aldersperson Klemm. *(Note from clerk; this TIF has been renamed from TIF #5 to Meadows TIF Redevelopment Area)*

Aldersperson Endress made a motion to suspend the rules for passage on the first reading, seconded by Aldersperson Boldt.

The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of;

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

Nays: none

The motion for passage prevailed by a roll call vote of;

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

Nays: none

Ordinance #2014-20 was passed.

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 5 2014**

1ST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2014-21:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF TAX INCREMENT FINANCING “INTERESTED PARTIES” REGISTRIES AND ADOPTING REGISTRATION RULES FOR SUCH REGISTRIES OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS (TIF #5)

Corporation Counsel Griffin presented the ordinance and stated that administration requests suspension of the rules for passage this evening. She stated this ordinance goes along with the previously presented ordinance and would establish Tax Increment Financing “Interested Parties” Registries and sets forth the rules for such registry. *(Note from clerk; this TIF has been renamed from TIF #5 to Meadows TIF Redevelopment Area)*

The following was included, along with definitions, in the City of Freeport TIF Interested Party Registration Rules; 1) Establishment of Registry. The City shall establish a separate Interested Parties registry for each Redevelopment Project Area, whether existing as of the date of the adoption of these Rules or hereafter established. The City shall establish a new registry whenever it has identified an area for study and possible designation as a Redevelopment Project Area. In any event the process of establishing the new registry must be completed prior to the deadline for sending any of the notices required by Section (J) of these rules or any other notices required by the Act with respect to the proposed Redevelopment Project Area. 2) Maintenance of Registry. The Registries shall be maintained by the City Clerk or his or her designee. In the event the City determines that a person other than the Clerk should maintain the Registries, the City may transfer the responsibility for maintaining the Registries to such other Department provided that the City (i) gives prior written notice to all Interested Parties not less than thirty (30) days prior to such transfer and (ii) publishes notice of such transfer in a newspaper of general circulation in the City. 3) Registration by Residents. An individual seeking to register as an Interested Party with respect to a Redevelopment Project Area must complete and submit a Registration Form to the City Clerk. Such individuals must also submit a copy of a current driver’s license, lease, utility bill, financial statement or such other evidence as may be acceptable to the Clerk to establish the individual’s current City residency. 4) Registration by Organizations. An organization seeking to register as an Interested Person with respect to a Redevelopment Project Area must complete and submit a Registration Form to the City Clerk. Such organization must also submit a copy of a one-page statement describing the organization’s current operations in the City. 5) Determination of Eligibility. All individuals and organizations whose Registration Form and supporting documentation complies with these Registration Rules shall be registered in the applicable Registry within ten (10) business days of the City Clerk’s receipt of all such documents. The Clerk shall provide written notice to the registrant confirming such registration. Upon registration Interested Parties shall be entitled to receive all notices and documents required to be delivered under these Rules or as otherwise required under the Act with respect to the applicable Redevelopment Project Area. If the City Clerk determines that a registrant’s Registration Form and/or supporting documentation is incomplete or does not comply with these Registration Rules, the Clerk shall give written notice to the registrant specifying the defect(s). The registrant shall be entitled to correct any defects and resubmit a new Registration Form and supporting documentation. 6) Renewal and Termination. An Interested Party’s registration shall remain effective for a period of three years. At any time after such three year period the City Clerk may provide written notice by regular mail to the Interested Party stating that such registration shall terminate unless the Interested Party renews such registration within thirty (30) days of the Clerk’s mailing of written notice. To renew such registration, the Interested Party shall, within such thirty (30) day period, complete and submit the same Registration Form and supporting documentation then required of initial registrants in order to

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 5 2014

permit the Clerk to confirm such person's residency or such organization's operations in the City. The registration of all individuals and organizations whose Registration Form and supporting documentation is submitted in a timely manner and complies with these Regulation Rules shall be renewed for an additional, consecutive three year period. If the City Clerk determines that a registrant's renewal Registration Form and/or supporting documentation is incomplete or does not comply with these Registration Rules, the Clerk shall give written notice to the registrant at the address specified in the renewal Registration Form submitted by such registrant, specifying the defect(s). The registrant shall be entitled to correct any defects and resubmit a new Registration Form and supporting documentation within thirty (30) days of receipt of the Clerk's notice. If all defects are not corrected within thirty (30) days of the Interested Party's receipt of the City Clerk's notice, the Interested Party's registration shall be terminated. Any Interested Party whose registration is terminated shall be entitled to register again as if a first-time registrant. 7) Amendment to Registration. An Interested Party may amend its registration by giving written notice to the City Clerk by certified mail of any of the following: (i) a change in address for notice purposes; (ii) in the case of organizations, a change in the name of the contact person; and (iii) a termination of registration. Upon receipt of such notice, the Clerk shall revise the applicable Registry accordingly. 8) Registries Available for Public Inspection. Each Registry shall be available for public inspection during normal City business hours. The Registry shall include the name, address and telephone number of each Interested Party and for organizations, the name and phone number of a designated contact person. 9) Notices to be Sent to Interested Parties. Interested Parties shall be sent the following notices and any other notices required under the Act with respect to the applicable Redevelopment Project Area, et al.

Aldersperson Koester made a motion to move forward the ordinance for approval, seconded by Aldersperson Brashaw.

Aldersperson Klemm made a motion to suspend the rules for passage on the first reading, seconded by Aldersperson Boldt.

The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of;

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

Nays: none

The motion for passage prevailed by a roll call vote of;

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

Nays: none

Ordinance #2014-21 was passed.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION #R-2014-32:

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE SPECIAL WARRANTY FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FUNDING (FY 2015) – [view memo](#)

Transit Coordinator for the City of Freeport, Kevin Cooley, provided a summary and overview of the resolution. His written memorandum in the council packet included that the Federal Section 5311 Program necessitates that fair and equitable arrangements are made to protect the interests of employees affected by the 5311 grant. The execution and posting of the Section 5333 (b) Special Warranty (Exhibit

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 5 2014

A) satisfies the federal requirement and is required for participation in the Federal 5311 program. Alderperson Boldt moved for approval of the resolution as presented, seconded by Alderperson Crutchfield. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of:

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

Nays: none

Resolution #R-2014-32 was approved.

RESOLUTION #R-2014-33:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF A COMBINED APPLICATION FOR SECTION 5311 NON-METRO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION CAPITAL/OPERATING ASSISTANCE AND DOWNSTATE OPERATING ASSISTANCE GRANT FUNDING (FY 2015) – [view memo](#)

Transit Coordinator for the City of Freeport, Kevin Cooley, provided a summary and overview of the resolution. His written memorandum in the council packet included that the resolution states 1) the City of Freeport will apply for the transportation funding through Section 5311 Non-Metro Public Transportation Capital/Operating Assistance And Downstate Operating Assistance Grant Funding (FY 2015).; 2) the Mayor is permitted to submit the required application and associated documentation and 3) the City agrees to remain compliant and provide adequate local match funding. Concerning the local match funding Transit Coordinator Cooley explained that the City's Federal 5311 funds will be leverage to match the State's DOAP funds (and vice versa). In doing so, it substantially lowers the City's overall local match obligation. Fare box revenue, special ridership grants, service contract revenue, donations, in-kind services, and other system revenues will be adequate to make up the City's remaining local match obligation. Since the actual system expenses and the actual fare and service contract revenue are inextricably bound to the actual demand, it is difficult to forecast a precise dollar amount. He stated nonetheless, system expenses and system revenues will grow proportionally so that the public transportation system is self-sustained as it has been over the six quarters that Transit Coordinator Cooley has been involved with the program. Alderperson Brashaw moved for approval of the resolution as presented, seconded by Alderperson Endress. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of:

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

Nays: none

Resolution #R-2014-33 was approved.

RESOLUTION #R-2014-34:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A LAW ENFORCEMENT MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT AND THE EXISTENCE AND FORMATION OF THE ILLINOIS LAW ENFORCEMENT ALARM SYSTEM (ILEAS) THROUGH THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION ACT

Chief of Police Todd Barkalow presented the following memorandum dated April 29, 2014: "ILEAS is the largest and most effective law enforcement mutual aid organization in the United States. The ILEAS motto is "Strength through Cooperation." Its' continuing mission is to reduce costs and increase effectiveness of local law enforcement through the combining and sharing of resources and statewide coordination of mutual aid.

"When joining ILEAS, every city which has a law enforcement capability signs the same Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement. This agreement 1) provides the capability to request or to deploy law enforcement resources both regionally or across the State of Illinois at no cost, and 2) creates the

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 5 2014

organization called ILEAS which coordinates those mutual aid requests 24 hours a day and 365 days a year.

“If a disaster strikes requiring more law enforcement resources than Freeport has available, ILEAS will notify other member agencies in the region and coordinate the officers and equipment being requested. “ILEAS does NOT take over or manage the incident. That responsibility and authority remains with the Freeport law enforcement executives and civil authorities. ILEAS exists to provide operational support and services to local law enforcement by harnessing the power of collaboration and cooperation.

“Since 2003, there has been an ILEAS mutual aid agreement which was initially executed in the wake of the events of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. The original mutual aid agreement has never been updated, modified or changed since its’ inception. ILEAS desires to enhance and reaffirm their commitment to law enforcement mutual aid while outlining more specifics with regard to the relationship that currently exists between each of the public agencies and ILEAS itself.

“The original agreement did not provide for an amendment process. If new laws or regulations require a change in the agreement, ILEAS would have to go through this entire process again. The new agreement provides a process that amendments can be made by a vote of the agencies instead of implementing an entirely new agreement.

“This new agreement provides for a smooth transition from the original agreement. The new agreement is written in such a way that the current agreement can co-exist for a period of time to avoid operational disruption.”

Aldersperson Koester made a motion to move forward the resolution for approval, seconded by Aldersperson Klemm. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of:

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

Nays: none

Resolution #R-2014-34 was approved.

RESOLUTION #R-2014-35:

RESOLUTION TO CO-SPONSOR MUSIC AT DEBATE SQUARE WITH LINCOLN-DOUGLAS SOCIETY

The resolution stated the Lincoln-Douglas Society has applied for a special event permit for the “Music at Debate Square” and has requested that the City of Freeport co-sponsor this event. The special event is scheduled for Thursdays in July (excepting Stephenson County Fair week), specifically on July 3, July 17, July 24, and July 31, 2014, from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm. This event will be located at the Debate Square on east Douglas Street in downtown Freeport. While the Lincoln–Douglas Society is considered the custodian of the Debate Square, the land is the property of the City of Freeport. This resolution provides that the corporate authorities agree to co-sponsor this event by applying for the insurance for the special event. Mr. Ed Finch of the Lincoln-Douglas Society was present by leave of council was brought to the podium. He stated that local musicians will be on the Debate Site and people can bring lawn chairs and listen the the music. He stated it is a way to bring more people into downtown Freeport and they hope it will be a successful event. Aldersperson Klemm made a motion to move forward the resolution for approval, seconded by Aldersperson Endress. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of:

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

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 5 2014**

Nays: none

Resolution #R-2014-35 was approved.

RESOLUTION #R-2014-36:

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A CONSULTING AGREEMENT WITH EMS MIDWEST LLC

Mayor Gitz presented the resolution, if the City Council so chooses, this resolution authorizes the Mayor to sign an agreement to utilize the services of EMS Midwest, LLC as consultant to assist the City in apprising them of legislation and regulatory activities in the Illinois General Assembly or in any agency of department of the State of Illinois. EMS Midwest, LLC will provide the City with information, guidance and make recommendations as to appropriate actions which should be taken and will provide public affairs consulting efforts with key legislative or regulatory officials and their staffs on matters pertaining to the interests of the City. Mayor Gitz has asked Accountant Price to add an amount of \$25,000 for EMS Midwest into the budget for fiscal year 2014-2015. Alderperson Klemm made a motion to move forward the resolution for approval, seconded by Alderperson Boldt. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of:

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

Nays: none

Resolution #R-2014-36 was approved.

OTHER

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS

Community Development

Community Development Director Jim Brown provided an update on the Rental Property Registration process and stated as the June 2, 2014, date draws nearer the registrations are accelerating. He provided a timeline for additional letters to be mailed as reminders for registration. Director Brown provided an update on the progress towards a demolition of a property on Lincoln which is now in the judgment stage. They are reviewing ways to reduce the tipping fees because there are a lot of bricks on the property which is expected to cost \$15,000 in tipping fees. He is still waiting to hear about the IHDA grant funding.

Finance Department

City Accountant Duane Price provided that there will be Committee of the Whole meeting on Monday for discussion of the 2014-2015 budget and he will have another packet for the council members. At the last Committee of the Whole, Public Safety was covered including both the Fire and Police Departments and so this meeting will cover all the other departments. Accountant Price stated he handed out this evening the Capital Equipment Improvement Plan as forecasted for future years for presentation with the budget.

Public Works

Public Works Director Tom Dole stated the crew has been working on replacing a lot of street lights in the downtown area with the Forestry truck. Director Dole stated that he has been notified that 40 to 50 bulbs in downtown Freeport need replacing and he will have crews working on that issue. This same crew is also scheduled to demolish a property at 630 E. Stephenson. There have been crews working to complete street sweeping before any painting can get started. The Street Department will be working in

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 5 2014

front of the micro-surfacing project to fill in potholes to prepare the surface for the project. He stated they have a lot of preliminary work to do before that project gets underway.

Library

Freeport Public Library Director Carole Dickerson was present and invited attendance to the Thursday night performance of “Lend Me A Tenor” at the Winneshiek Theater as a fundraiser for the Library Foundation.

Fire

Fire Chief Scott Miller was present and provided a report on the cardiac monitors that have been ordered. Before they can be used the department will need to attend training. Chief Miller spoke about the recent storms and the wind in the area and notified residents that if they see a downed wire they should assume it is hot, stay away, and quickly call in the Fire and Police Departments by utilizing the 911 call system.

Police

Chief of Police Todd Barkalow thanked the council for their confidence and support of his appointment this evening. He provided an update on the Byrne Grant that has will be filed next week. The City of Freeport and the Freeport Police Department will apply for a Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation (BAJA) Grant through the U.S. Department of Justice. This grant program helps communities develop and implement place-based, community-oriented strategies to address targeted crime issues within a neighborhood as part of a broader neighborhood revitalization initiative. The grant targets “hot spots” of crime where a significant proportion of crime occurs as compared to the overall community.

City Engineer

[Request of acceptance of an Illinois Department of Transportation bid](#) (opened on April 25, 2014) for Jane Addams Trail Section B (Section No. 00-00-133-02 BT)

City Engineer Gallagher presented that on April 25, 2014, the Illinois Department of Transportation held a bid opening for the construction of the Jane Addams Trail – Section B. The three (3) bids were submitted by Fischer Excavating, Martin & Company Excavating, and Civil Constructors. The apparent low bid was submitted by Civil Constructors, Inc. for the amount of \$1,373,294.27. Based on our construction timeline, it is my recommendation to award the project to the apparent low bidder, should Council find the bids favorable. As lead agency, the City of Freeport will have the only approval for this contract. The engineer’s estimate for the project was \$1,263,348.35. Although the bids are above the engineer’s estimate, it will be the responsibility of this department to ensure that the contract stays within the existing grant funding. A formal award will be approved by the Illinois Department of Transportation once all easements/leases have been certified by District 2. The only outstanding certification is in regards to the ComEd lease, which was approved at the last council meeting. This will be submitted to District 2 as soon as it is finalized by ComEd. We anticipate construction beginning in late June. Alderperson Boldt moved to accept the low bid for Civil in the amount of 1,373,294.27 . This motion was seconded by Alderperson Endress. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of:

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

Nays: none

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 5 2014

City Engineer Gallagher stated he will be presenting a Motor Fuel Tax Fund summary report at the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Water and Sewer

Water and Sewer Director Tom Glendenning was present and had no report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Gitz provided information regarding the grant to aid in bringing the Jane Addams Trail closer to Tutty's Crossing.

Mayor Gitz stated his pleasure in the acceptance of the appointment of Todd Barkalow as Chief of Police.

Mayor Gitz stated that staff members have been working on reviewing the corridors along Galena Avenue and West Street and putting together an inventory of possible maintenance and demolition issues. He provided an update on the Chicago Avenue burn-out and the IOCO station on Galena which still needs the asbestos study before the demolition can be completed. They are currently in the courts fighting the legalities of who pays what on the demolition of the Okey Dokey convenience Store. The administration has been working on buying up the \$750.00 tax sales in order to be aggressive on cleaning up the corridors.

Mayor Gitz provided an update on the announcement of Met Life and stated that it was a bolt out of the blue. He will be working to assist workers and has been working to find allocation of resources to work from an internet office. Mayor Gitz stated a meeting has been scheduled with Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) and the Met Life company officials.

He is currently working on publishing the Annual Report and will hopefully have it for the second meeting in May.

NEW BUSINESS/COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council members were provided an opportunity to discuss matters of public concern or to make announcements for their wards.

- Alderperson Brashaw reminded residents when picking up their yards to also assist those who are elderly or disabled.
- Alderperson Koester stated his pleasure in the appointments of both the Fire Chief and the Chief of Police and has seen positive responses in the departments.
- Alderperson Klemm provided an update of the Steering Committee for City Hall Public Outreach in which they reviewed a sample outreach post card and also discussed the survey questions, format, and costs. He stated he would like an item on the Committee of the Whole so that he may provide an update on the Steering Committee for City Hall Public Outreach. The discussion will include whether there will be funding up to \$10,000 for this process, where the next place for City Hall and what to do with the other buildings.
- Alderperson Boldt spoke about the tornado sirens last Tuesday as a tornado touched down in Stephenson County and it was a good thing the alarms were sounded because based on the skies people would not have been ready if it were to hit Freeport.

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 5 2014

- Alderperson DeVine spoke about being with a bus full of preschoolers before the storm hit hard and they were able to usher the children into Taylor Park School to safety.
- Alderperson Endress provided a summary of representing the administration at the “National Day of Prayer.”

PUBLIC COMMENTS AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Henry L. Schoenhard, 1462 S. Carroll Avenue, Freeport Illinois, asked about the fence ordinance and whether four property owners were allowed some reprieve on the fence ordinance’s two foot set back when they want to bring their fences together and put it at their property lines. It seems silly in this case to have the two foot setback because they do not want to have space between the fences and for economic reasons they want to use the neighbor’s fences. He stated that all four of his neighbors are in agreement with the location of the fence. Mayor Gitz stated that he could apply for a variance through the Board of Zoning Appeals and that Community Development Director Jim Brown could guide him through the process.

Seeing no other business to come before this council, Mayor Gitz asked for a motion for adjournment. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

s/ Meg Zuravel

Meg Zuravel, City Clerk