



## *City Council*

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

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### **MINUTES REGULAR MEETING Monday, May 19, 2014**

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#### **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 6:00 p.m. on Monday, May 19, 2014.

#### **ROLL CALL**

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

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderperson Crutchfield.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

#### **MINUTES**

The minutes from meetings held on May 5, 2014 and May 12, 2014 were presented. Alderperson DeVine moved for approval of the minutes, seconded by Alderperson Brashaw. 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.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

Provided in the council packet was a memorandum dated May 16, 2014 from Jim Brown, Community Development Director regarding Expansion of Public Transit to Stephenson County; Public Hearing & Ordinance.

An excerpt of the publication notice for the public hearing is provided as follows: “The City of Freeport is preparing an application for funding to provide public transportation within the City of Freeport and throughout the County of Stephenson, Illinois, through Section 5311 of the Federal Transit Act of 1964, as amended, and the Illinois Downstate Operating Assistance Program. A public hearing will be held on Monday, May 19, 2014, during the regularly scheduled City Council meeting at the Freeport City Hall Building, 524 West Stephenson Street, 3rd Floor Council Chambers, Freeport, Illinois. At the hearing, interested persons will have an opportunity to comment on the transportation project. Interested persons may submit comments in person at the public hearing or in writing to Kevin M. Cooley, Sr., Transit

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Coordinator, City of Freeport, 524 West Stephenson Street, Suite 330, Freeport, Illinois 61032 on or before May 19, 2014. From May 9, 2014 to May 19, 2014, a memo summarizing the City's transportation project will be available for viewing at the Office of the City Clerk, Freeport City Hall, 524 West Stephenson Street, Suite 310, Freeport, Illinois during the hours of 8:00 am to 5:00 pm local time, Monday through Friday."

At 6:03 p.m., Alderperson Brashaw moved to open the public hearing, seconded by Alderperson Endress. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

Community Development Director James Brown and Transit Coordinator Kevin Cooley were called to the podium by Mayor Gitz for their presentation. Jim Brown stated that as a requirement of the grants a public hearing must be held to provide comment on a transportation project that will "substantially affect a community or the transportation services of a community." The envisioned county-wide expansion will bring substantial changes to the transportation project and its services. The significant changes to the project are outlined in the sections below and will be presented at the public hearing. While much of this information will come as review for the Council and other interested parties, we have attempted here to provide clear and concise text and graphics to explain many of the details. He explained the changes to the Transportation Services through a PowerPoint presentation and provided that the geographic coverage of the current services will expand dramatically, we anticipate that the fee structure and service hours will remain basically unchanged.

The table below summarizes the current and expected project services, fees, and operations. Information provided in the table for service starting July 1, 2014 is for planning purposes only and subject to change.

SUMMARY OF ANTICIPATED SERVICE CHANGES TO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION*		
Service Details	Current Service	Service Starting July 1, 2014
Geographic scope		
Origin	Ride must originate in City of Freeport	Service must begin or end in
Destination	Ride must terminate in City of Freeport	Stephenson Co.
Fare Structure		
Regular fare	\$3.00 if ride requested at least one day in advance	\$3.00 if ride requested at least one day in advance
Senior fare	\$2.00 if ride requested at least one day in advance	No fare required--donations accepted
Children's fare	\$3.00 if ride requested at least one day in advance	\$2.00 for children 7-11; No fare required for children 6 and under--donations accepted
Same-day fare	\$5.00 for all riders, including seniors, if same-day service requested. Same-day service subject to availability	No same-day surcharge, but same-day service remains subject to availability

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Hours of Operation		
Mon-Fri	6:00 am - Midnight	6:00 am - Midnight
Sat	6:00 am - 1:00 pm	6:00 am - 1:00 pm
Sunday	No service	No service

\* Information provided for service starting July 1, 2014 is for planning purposes only and is subject to change.

It was presented that the goals for the program expansion include 1) increase ridership and rider options, 2) to keep fares affordable and 3) to limit the City's financial exposure. The PowerPoint presentation included the current service costs and funding.

Also provided to the council was a written memorandum from Community Development Director James Brown dated May 16, 2014 including the following:

For some time the Community Development Department has been in discussion with the Stephenson County Senior Resource Center (SRC) regarding its participation as the public transportation service provider. On Thursday, May 15, the SRC Board of Directors voted to approve the SRC's commitment as transportation provider for the county-wide service expansion for a one year period, from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015. This vote was based on these discussions and a draft contract. This contract will need to be finalized over the next few weeks. Of course, the details of the contract and ultimate service provisions are subject to change. This change from PCT—a for-profit entity—to SRC—a non-for profit entity—has been driven by the following:

- Desire to expand current services to the county
- Desire to keep rider fares affordable
- Need to limit the financial exposure of the City

The SRC will bring passion, commitment and expertise to the expanded program. The partnership will enhance the SRC's mission of serving seniors throughout the Stephenson County. The grants we receive and the programs we each operate complement one another. Moreover, the partnership between the City of Freeport and the Senior Resource Center should ultimately reduce the SRC's managerial burden and it should not negatively impact other aspects of the SRC's mission. As a recipient of 5311 and DOAP funds, the City is contractually obligated to maintain a Program Compliance Oversight Monitor (PCOM). This role is filled by the City's Transit Coordinator (Kevin Cooley, Sr.), who will serve as the Director of Operations.

### **The Finances of the Change to County-Wide Service**

The 5311/DOAP programs fund, in part, public transportation in rural counties throughout Illinois. Based on the experiences of these other counties with their public transportation services, one thing is clear: *the expansion of public transportation service from Freeport to all of Stephenson Co. would be financially untenable for the City of Freeport without changing to a non-for-profit service provider.*

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The tables on the following pages help demonstrate the validity of this conclusion.

**CURRENT SERVICE COSTS AND FUNDING (FY 2013)**

<b>Program Cost Data</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Trips provided	39,026	
Cost of program	\$614,374	1
Cost per trip	\$15.74	1
<b>Program Funding</b>		
DOAP Contribution (Maximum)	\$399,343	2
5311 Grant	\$109,273	3
Farebox	\$133,123	4
Total Non-City Funding	\$641,738	
<b>Totals</b>		
Program cost	\$614,374	
Total Non-City Funding	\$641,738	
Surplus/Shortfall	\$27,365	
City Funding	\$0	
DOAP Contribution (Actual)	\$371,978	5

- Note 1                      Cost of program includes all labor, managerial, fuel, vehicle, equipment and other costs associated with the service. These costs are totaled by the City and submitted on quarterly reports to the grant authority. These costs include a contractual and fixed per trip payment to PCT.
- Note 2                      The DOAP Grant provides up to a maximum of 65% of program costs. In this case the actual payment was less because program farebox plus 5311 grant money.
- Note 3                      This amount is fixed and is set by the terms of the grant.
- Note 4                      This farebox total was inflated in FY 13 by a contribution of \$25,000 from Highland CC.
- Note 5                      Since the program had a surplus, the DOAP Grant is reduced from its 65% maximum.

**FY 2013**

The table at right shows the last available FY data (FY 2013). The costs of the program included a fixed per trip payment to PCT. For this FY, the DOAP grant contribution was \$27,365 less than the maximum allowed because the program had a surplus. The City was not required to fund any of the program this particular fiscal year; however in other years it was necessary for the City make up shortfalls of approximately \$10,000.

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**PROJECTED COSTS FOR COUNTY-WIDE SERVICE  
WITH FOR-PROFIT PROVIDER**

<b>Program Cost Data</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Trips provided	54,026	1
Cost of program	\$1,012,447	2
Cost per trip	\$18.73	2
<b>Program Funding</b>		
DOAP Contribution (Actual)	\$658,091	3
5311 Grant	\$109,273	4
Farebox	\$135,065	4
Total Non-City Funding	\$902,429	
<b>Totals</b>		
Program cost	\$1,012,447	
Total Non-City Funding	\$902,429	
Surplus/Shortfall	-\$110,018	
City Funding	\$110,018	

- Note 1 Estimate based on data from other counties.
- Note 2 Cost of program includes all labor, managerial, fuel, vehicle, equipment and other costs associated with the service. These costs are totaled by the City and submitted on quarterly reports to the grant authority. These costs include a contractual and fixed per trip payment to PCT.
- Note 3 The DOAP Grant provides up to a maximum of 65% of program costs. In this case the actual payment was less because program farebox plus 5311 grant money.
- Note 4 This amount is fixed and is set by the terms of the grant.

**PROJECTED COSTS AND FUNDING WITH NFP PROVIDER**

<b>Program Cost Data</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Trips Provided	54,026	1
Cost of Program	\$898,452	2
Cost per trip	\$10.81	2

**PROJECTED  
WITH FOR-  
PROFIT**

The table at right shows the projected costs and funding for county-wide expansion with the for-profit provider. Because of the per trip fixed-cost payment obligation and the projected increase in ridership, there is a shortfall of \$110,018. The City would be required to fund this shortfall. Ironically, as the program becomes more successful, i.e. ridership increases, the City's funding exposure also increases.

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<b>Program Funding</b>		
DOAP Contribution (Actual)	\$583,994	2
5311 Grant	\$109,273	3
Farebox	\$135,065	
Local Match - 3B / Title XX	\$70,000	4
Total Non-City Funding	\$898,332	

<b>Totals</b>		
Program Cost	\$898,452	
Total Non-City Funding	\$898,332	
Surplus/Shortfall	-\$120	
City Funding	\$120	

Note 1	Estimate based on data from other counties.
Note 2	Cost of program includes all labor, managerial, fuel, vehicle, equipment and other costs associated with the service. These costs are totaled by the City and submitted on quarterly reports to the grant authority. These costs include a contractual and fixed per trip payment to PCT.
Note 3	The DOAP Grant provides up to a maximum of 65% of program costs. In this scenario the program receives the maximum 65%.
Note 3	This amount is fixed and is set by the terms of the grant.
Note 4	The SRC receives this grant money; it is used as a local match for the transportation services.

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In this scenario, service is provided by a non-for-profit entity. Program costs no longer included the fixed-rate payment for each trip. Funding is bolstered by the SRC's matching 3B/Title XX grant. The City makes up a shortfall of \$120.

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### **Preparation for County-Wide Expansion**

As a recipient of 5311 and DOAP funds, the City is now contractually obligated to maintain a Program Compliance Oversight Monitor (PCOM). This role is filled by the City's Transit Coordinator (Kevin Cooley, Sr.), who will serve as the Director of Operations. The Transit Coordinator will oversee the transition from city-wide to county-wide service. There are many tasks which must be completed between now and the start of the new service on July 1. Among them are:

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- Complete contract with SRC
- Transfer vehicle leases from PCT to SRC
- Interview and hire drivers and other personnel
- Complete FTA-required drug and alcohol training
- Complete defensive driving and emergency response and other training
- Acquire administrative and operational equipment, e.g. cell phones
- Test communications throughout county and development back-up plans
- Begin marketing of new program
- Convene system design group

The Transit Coordinator will not only be engaged in a leadership role in all of these tasks, but he will also monitor program expenses and potential City costs. It will be his job—and mine—to ensure good service at minimal cost. Two issues of immediate concern are: lack of cellphone network coverage throughout the county which may hinder dispatching or other timely communications, and; ensuring adequate marketing of the new program, to include securing and publicizing the telephone number for service requests. We have been informed by PCT that the current telephone number used will not be available for transfer to the new provider. The system design group's function will be to examine the anticipated trip generation and trip destination locations and determine appropriate operational procedures. This group will consist of the Transit Coordinator, representatives of SRC, and other stakeholders.

The PowerPoint presentation ended with a quote from Sue Lambert, Executive Director of the Senior Resource Center, "I want to express how pleased we are to collaborate with the City of Freeport..." "The expansion...provides a solution to the problem of limited transportation throughout the County."

The final slide provided a listing of immediate tasks to compete including 1) contract with the Senior Center 2) hire, test and train Personnel 3) transfer vehicle leases 4) acquire new equipment (comms) 5) convene system design group and 6) market expanded services.

The presentation was immediately followed by a question and answer session led by Transit Coordinator Kevin Cooley. During the question and answer session the City Council began with some general questions regarding funding, service hours, territory, and the name of the service. The City Council expressed excitement about the public transportation plans. No member offered a dissenting opinion.

Members of the general public were given the opportunity to comment or ask questions. There were no questions from the public at the public hearing, nor were any submitted prior to the meeting.

At 6:21 p.m., Alderperson Klemm moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Alderperson Endress. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Alderperson Brashaw moved for approval of an Honorary Resolution for City Attorney John Mitchell, seconded by Alderperson Boldt. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent. Attorney John Mitchell was formally named as the City Prosecutor in 2002. He has represented the City in the areas of traffic, animal control, nuisance and building compliance, and other various local ordinances as well as in

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numerous demolition cases. The honorary resolution recognizes Attorney Mitchell for his years of service, dedication, and commitment to the City of Freeport and its citizens.

**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) City Treasurer's Schedule of Tax Receipts through April 30, 2014
  - 2) City Treasurer's Monthly Investment Report through April 30, 2014
  - 3) City Treasurer's Report on Cash and Misc. Fund Balances through April 30, 2014
  - 4) City Treasurer's Fire Pension Fund Fiscal Year 13-14 Receipts and Disbursements
  - 5) City Treasurer's Police Pension Fund Fiscal Year 13-14 Receipts and Disbursements
  - 6) Community Development Department Report on Activities for April 2014 including Building Permits, Electrical, HVAC, Plumbing and Sign Permits
  - 7) Police Department Monthly Report for April 2014
- B. Acceptance of a reappointment of Linda L. Buss as Deputy City Clerk with no pay adjustment
- C. Approval of Motor Fuel Tax Fund Bills Payable (Register #MFT-0042) --- \$6,058.40
- D. Approval of Water and Sewer Bills Payable (Register #150 and 158) --- \$88,703.81
- E. Approval of Payroll for pay period ending May 3, 2014 --- \$445,713.00
- F. Approval of Finance Bills Payable (Registers #149, 151-157) --- \$386,456.94

Aldersperson DeVine moved for approval of the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Aldersperson Crutchfield. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of;

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

Nays: none

The consent agenda items were approved.

**ACCEPTANCE OF MAYORAL APPOINTMENT OF FINANCE DIRECTOR**

The following was read into the record as submitted by Mayor James L. Gitz; "Pursuant to Section 288.04 (a), I, James L. Gitz, hereby appoint Cynthia Haggard as Finance Director for the City of Freeport effective on June 5, 2014 at a negotiated annual salary." Aldersperson Endress moved to accept the appointment of Cynthia Haggard as Finance Director as presented, seconded by Aldersperson Klemm. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of;

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

Nays: none

**ORDINANCES – THIRD READING**

**3<sup>RD</sup> READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2014-19:**

**AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN THE CITY OF FREEPORT AND THROUGHOUT STEPHENSON COUNT (FY 2015)**

The first reading was held on May 5, 2014. A motion to move forward the ordinance for approval was given by Aldersperson Brashaw and seconded by Aldersperson Boldt. On a motion by Aldersperson Brashaw, second by Aldersperson Klemm and approval by majority vote, the ordinance was laid over to the next regular meeting or special meeting, if one was held on May 12, 2014. This ordinance was presented for second reading at the special meeting held on May 12, 2014. Upon recommendation by the



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administration, it was laid over to tonight's meeting to coincide with the scheduled public hearing on a motion by Alderperson Brashaw, a second by Alderperson Koester and approval by majority vote.

Provided in the council packet was a memorandum dated May 16, 2014 from Jim Brown, Community Development Director regarding Expansion of Public Transit to Stephenson County; Public Hearing & Ordinance. A public hearing was held previously in the meeting. Upon the third reading, the motion to approve the ordinance prevailed by a roll call vote of:

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

Nays: none

Ordinance #2014-19 was passed.

**ORDINANCES – SECOND READING**

**2<sup>ND</sup> READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2014-22:**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING VARIOUS PORTIONS OF THE CITY CODE TO CREATE A NEW LIQUOR LICENSE CLASSIFICATION (BREW PUB) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT**

The first reading of this ordinance was held on May 12, 2014. A motion to move forward for approval was given by Alderperson Koester, seconded by Alderperson Crutchfield and the ordinance was automatically laid over to tonight's meeting. Upon the second reading held this evening, the motion to approve the ordinance prevailed by a roll call vote of:

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

Nays: none

Ordinance #2014-22 was passed.

**ORDINANCES – FIRST READING**

**1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2014-23:**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 290 (COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS) SECTION 290.01 (CLASSIFICATION PLAN) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT REGARDING FINANCE DIRECTOR**

The first reading of this ordinance was presented by Mayor Gitz stating that this removes the Finance Director from the regular classification of from the regular pay grade titles and moves it to the section marked as "positions not covered". He stated the request for this change is because the requested salary does not fit the grade in our current salary schedules and this is subject to further adjustments only by legislative action. Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin provided to council members a memorandum addressed to James L. Gitz, Mayor, to accompany this ordinance. It read as follows: "The ordinance regarding the Finance Director takes the position out of the normal salary schedule and puts in the "Positions Not Covered" section of the City Code. This allows you to utilize the salary you have negotiated with her (Cynthia Haggard) on an annual basis. Increased for future years will be negotiated separately." The appointment of Cynthia Haggard as Finance Director was approved previously in this meeting and the appointment becomes effector June 5, 2014. The ordinance as presented amends the Finance Director as a grade 24 and places it in a category marked as "e) Positions Not Covered." The wage provisions of Chapter 290 do not apply to elected officials and members of boards and commissions and other positions in this category including the Corporation Counsel, employees of the Water and Sewer Commission, employees of the Library, and the added position of the Finance Director.

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Aldersperson Boldt moved for approval of Ordinance #2014-23, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 290 (Compensation and Benefits) Section 290.01 (Classification Plan) Of The Codified Ordinances Of The City Of Freeport Regarding Finance Director, seconded by Aldersperson Bush.

The administration requested suspension of rules for passage of the ordinance this evening. Aldersperson Klemm moved to suspend the rules for final passage this evening, seconded by Aldersperson Endress. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of:

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

Nays: none

The motion to approve the ordinance prevailed by a roll call vote of:

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

Nays: none

Ordinance #2014-23 was passed.

**1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2014-24:**

**APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015 FOR THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS**

*Presented by Finance Accountant Duane Price (public hearing date published for June 2, 2014)*

Upon the first reading, Accountant Duane Price presented that there will be a public hearing held at the next council meeting held on June 2, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. for the Appropriation Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2014-2015. Copies of Ordinance #2014-24, Appropriation Ordinance, Fiscal Year 2014-2015 for the City of Freeport, Illinois, are available on the city website under quick links; City Council meeting calendars; meeting date of May 19, 2014 and soon to be published agenda for June 2, 2014. A copy is also available for public inspection at the City Clerk's Office during regular business hours. Anyone wishing to express comments or concerns should attend the public hearing or submit a written comment to the Mayor's Office, City of Freeport, 524 West Stephenson Street, Freeport, Illinois prior to the public hearing.

Accountant Price stated that the appropriation ordinance is made up of our budget or spending plan plus contingency in order to create the Appropriation Ordinance which sets the legal limit for spending. Included in the council packet were budget worksheets dated May 14, 2014, along with an accompanying memorandum from Accountant Price stating; "The attached is a copy of the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 budget/appropriation ordinance. Since the last meeting we have added two items to contingency. We have added \$23,000 for computer and network consulting and \$25,000 for software for the Building Department. These changes affect the appropriation ordinance but have no effect on the budget. The budget has not changed. The Appropriation Ordinance column on this worksheet is what is in the Appropriation Ordinance which will be on the agenda for the May 19<sup>th</sup> council meeting."

Aldersperson Boldt moved for approval of the Appropriation Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2014-2015, seconded by Aldersperson Bush. The ordinance was automatically laid over to the next meeting.

**1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2014-25:**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS, TO CONSIDER DESIGNATING CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY AS A REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA, APPROVING A REDEVELOPMENT PLAN AND**

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**PROJECT AND ADOPTING TAX INCREMENT ALLOCATION FINANCING – MEADOWS TIF REDEVELOPMENT (SETTING DATES FOR JOINT REVIEW BOARD AND PUBLIC HEARING)**

Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin provided a memorandum dated May 16, 2014 which stated; “Ordinance No. 2014-25 is one in a series allowing for creation of the Meadows TIF District. This particular ordinance is the formal way of calling for a Public Hearing to be held on July 7, 2014 and calling for a meeting of the Joint Review Board on June 16, 2014. The Joint Review Board is the opportunity for all taxing districts in the area to be briefed on the TIF plan and for them to understand the effect, if any, on their particular district. As you know there are a lot of moving parts in the creation of this district and these public input issues are time sensitive. As such, we are looking for suspension of the rules for this Ordinance in order to meet our deadlines. The Ordinances finalizing the actual TIF District are not slated to come before the City Council until July after all procedural requisites have been met. We are also planning a full presentation to the City Council at the June Committee of the Whole meeting.” Corporation Counsel Griffin provided a brief summary of her memorandum to present the ordinance.

Aldersperson Brashaw moved for approval of Ordinance #2014-25 as presented, seconded by Aldersperson Bush. The administration requested suspension of rules for passage of the ordinance this evening. Aldersperson Brashaw moved to suspend the rules for final passage this evening, seconded by Aldersperson Endress. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of:

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

Nays: none

The motion to approve the ordinance prevailed by a roll call vote of:

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

Nays: none

Ordinance #2014-25 was passed.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION #R-2014-38:**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH ANTHONY V. COON TO PROVIDE PROSECUTORIAL SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS**

Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin provided a memorandum addressed to Mayor Gitz and was dated May 16, 2014. The memorandum stated; “As you know, our long-term Prosecutor John Mitchell will be retiring at the end of this month. I went out for RFQ’s for a new Prosecutor and am pleased to submit Anthony Coon as the new Prosecutor. Although this is typically not done through City Council action, we are entering into a one year contract which will be at a monthly rate instead of an hourly rate, bringing the dollar amount to the threshold brought to council. Anthony is a local practitioner who has a vast amount of litigation experience. I have attached his resume for your review. I am excited to have someone with Anthony’s credentials joining our legal team.” Corporation Counsel Griffin provided a brief summary of her memorandum. Aldersperson Endress moved for approval of Resolution #R-2014-38 as presented, seconded by Aldersperson Bush. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of:

Yeas: Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Brashaw, and Crutchfield (6)

Nays: Klemm

Resolution #R-2014-38 was adopted.

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**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.

**Finance Department**

City Accountant Duane Price had no further report.

**Public Works**

Public Works Director Tom Dole stated the crew has been working on projects with the pavement grinder.

**Library**

Freeport Public Library Director Carole Dickerson provided a summary of the summer reading program and the theme this year will be "Paws to Read." She also provided the summer Freeport Public Library hours which will be Monday through Thursday from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm, Friday from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm and Saturday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

**Fire**

Fire Inspector Bob Bush provided that the Freeport Fire Department will present Building Safety information on May 31, 2014 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm at Cub Foods and Shopko.

**Police**

Deputy Chief of Police Jim Drehoble presented that the third graduation of the Civilian Police Academy will be held next week at the Freeport Public Library.

**City Engineer**

City Engineer Gallagher presented that work is continuing on the landscaping in the area of the Kiwanis Drive and Pearl City Road roundabout. City Engineer Gallagher stated the Motor Fuel Tax fund has slated projects involving 105 city blocks.

**Water and Sewer**

Water and Sewer Director Tom Glendenning provided an update on the hydraulic modeling.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Gitz provided information regarding Tri-State Alliance and the US 20 expansion project, an update on the Capital Improvement Fund, and bond financing. He stated the administration is currently working on the Rental Property Registration and how it will be enforced. Mayor Gitz provided an update on demolitions including the IOCO station which is waiting for an asbestos report and the Okey Dokey convenience store which is undecided as to which party will pay for what.

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**NEW BUSINESS/COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

- Alderperson Klemm provided an update on a DCEO energy conference.
- Alderperson Boldt spoke about budget discussions held at previous meetings.
- Alderperson DeVine reminded citizens about the upcoming Memorial Day Parade which will be held on Monday, May 26, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. in downtown Freeport.
- Alderperson Endress provided a reminder for a 5<sup>th</sup> Ward Neighborhood Watch meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2014 at the First Church of the Nazarene.
- Alderperson Brashaw spoke about the hospital water pressure.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Steve Carroll, 811 Oak Avenue, discussed the building inspector job responsibilities.

Lee Butler, 1550 Woodside Drive, asked about the boat dock project and the anticipated installation at Tutty's Crossing.

Tom Teich, 653 Jefferson Street, spoke about Bidwell Park and an upcoming ice cream social.

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 7:30 p.m.

s/ Meg Zuravel

Meg Zuravel, City Clerk