



City Council

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

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING Monday, October 20, 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 6:00 p.m. on October 20, 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 Michael Koester (7). Alderperson Andrew Crutchfield was absent (1). Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderperson Bush.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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Alderperson DeVine moved for approval of the regular meeting minutes of October 6, 2014, seconded by Alderperson Brashaw. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS

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

PRESENTATIONS

Proclamation for Judy Barney, Freeport Public Library Board of Trustees

A proclamation for Judy Barney, Freeport Public Library Board of Trustees was read into the record for her service to the board from March, 1997 until October, 2014. She served two terms as president of the board and assumed a leadership role during the discussion and planning for a new library facility. The proclamation thanked Ms. Barney for her years of dedicated service to the residents of Freeport and attest to the significance and continuing impact that her service and leadership will have on the City of Freeport for years to come. Mayor Gitz requested leave of council to hear from Ms. Barney. Ms. Barney provided the history of the Freeport Public Library now housed in the building located at 100 E. Douglas since 2003 and about her tenure of serving on the Library Board.

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Red Ribbon Week

An Honorary Resolution to Recognize October 23-31, 2014 as Red Ribbon Week was read into the record; "Whereas, Alcohol and drug abuse in this Nation have reached epidemic stages; and
Whereas, It is imperative that visible, unified prevention education efforts by community members be launched to eliminate the demand for drugs; and
Whereas, The National Red Ribbon Campaign offers citizens the opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to drug-free lifestyles (no use of illegal drugs, no illegal use of legal drugs); and
Whereas, The National Red Ribbon Campaign will be celebrated in every community in America during Red Ribbon Week, October 23-31; and
Whereas, business, Government, parents, law enforcement, media, medical institutions, religious institutions, schools, senior citizens, service organizations, and youth will demonstrate their commitment to healthy, drug-free lifestyles by wearing and displaying red ribbons during this week-long campaign; and
Whereas, the community of Freeport, Illinois further commits its resources to ensure the success of the Red Ribbon Campaign;
Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, by the City Council and the Mayor of the City of Freeport, Illinois that we hereby recognize October 23-31, as RED RIBBON WEEK, and encourage its citizens to participate in drug prevention education activities, not only during Red Ribbon Week, but all year long, making a visible statement that we are strongly committed to a drug-free Freeport, Illinois."

Aldersperson Bush moved for approval of the honorary resolution, seconded by Aldersperson Koester. The motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing will be held on Monday, October 20, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. by the City of Freeport City Council in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 524 West Stephenson Street, 3rd Floor, Freeport, Illinois, regarding the vacation of a street/alley. The real estate that is the subject matter of the pending action is described as follows: Vacation by the City of Freeport: Part of Lot 12 of the Plat of Lands of Section 25, Township 27 North, Range 7 East of the Fourth Principal Meridian, situated in the City of Freeport, Stephenson County, Illinois as described below: Beginning at the intersection of the Northerly line of West Galena Avenue and the East line of said Lot 12; thence South 88 degrees 23 minutes 51 seconds West on and along the Northerly line of West Galena Avenue, a distance of 23 feet; thence North 01 degrees 36 minutes 09 seconds West parallel to the East line of said Lot 12, a distance of 163.35 feet; thence North 06 degrees 55 minutes 01 seconds West, a distance of 126 feet, more or less; thence North 88 degrees 23 minutes 51 seconds East, a distance of 35 feet to the East line of said Lot 12; thence South 01 degrees 36 minutes 09 seconds East on and along the East line of said Lot 12, a distance of 288 feet, more or less, to the Point of Beginning. ([view memo and vacation plat](#))

Sign- in sheets were provided for the public hearing. Aldersperson Klemm moved to open the public hearing, seconded by Aldersperson Endress. At 6:15 p.m., Mayor Gitz opened the public hearing.

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City Engineer Gallagher provided a written memorandum and he read from it which stated the City staff was approached this summer by Anne's Landscape Supply located at 944 W. Galena Avenue about vacating the remaining portion of Fairview Road that runs along their westerly property line. The vacation plat shows the continuation of Fairview Road on the north side of Galena Avenue to the south lot line of the City Yards. This public hearing pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/11-91-1 will be followed by a City Ordinance in November, in order to put this abandoned roadway back on the tax rolls for private use. The platted roadway had been partially vacated previously in order to build the adjacent Subway restaurant years back, leaving a 23' segment between Subway and Anne's and a 35' pie shaped segment between Sparkle Carwash and Anne's. Although Anne's requested to obtain ownership of the entire vacated roadway, we are coordinating with Sparkle Carwash and Subway on their legal interest, prior to bringing a final Ordinance to Council. The attached legal description has been published in the Journal Standard for the required 15 days prior to this hearing. Mayor Gitz stated we need to vote on the motion to open the public hearing. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent. City Engineer Gallagher stated the property under consideration for vacation is .2 acres. Discussion was held on parking lots in the Anne's Garden Center lots which are gravel and whether they meet code. Alderperson Boldt requested that City Engineer Gallagher inquire about Anne's Garden Center paving their parking lot in exchange for this piece of property. Mayor Gitz asked if there was a council member who had questions or comments in regard to this vacation of street. There were no comments or questions from the council. Mayor Gitz asked if there was anyone else who wished to be heard. There were no comments or public wishing to be heard.

At 6:20 p.m., Alderperson Koester moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Alderperson Klemm. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

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 Monthly Investment Report for period ended September 30, 2014
 - 2) City Treasurer's Report of Cash and Fund Balances through September 30, 2014
- B. Approval of Motor Fuel Bills Payable (Registers #0049) ---\$522,607.61
- C. Approval of Water and Sewer Bills Payable (Registers #232, 233, 236) ---\$834,291.99
- D. Approval of Payroll for pay period ending October 15, 2014 --- \$403,052.80
- E. Approval of Finance Bills Payable (Registers #231, 234, 235, 237) --- \$406,699.61

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, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Brashaw, and Koester (7)

Nays: none

APPOINTMENTS

Approval of Appointments to the Transit Advisory Council ([view appt](#))

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Mayor Gitz stated the following individuals have accepted a position on the Transit Advisory Council, as approved by Resolution 2014-72. The memorandum stated an invitation has been extended to additional members, and their acceptance will be shared at a later date. The following names were read aloud: Patrick Sellers, Chairperson, Ryan Becker, Dave Young, Jane Hendrickson, Marcia Derrer, Tiffany Nieman, Tyson Terhune, Nickee Bender, Sue Lambert, and Cassie Murray. Alderperson Brashaw moved to accept the appointments, seconded by Alderperson Endress. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of; Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Brashaw, and Koester (7)
Nays: none

Approval of Appointments to the Brownfield Area-Wide Planning Grant Advisory Committee
[\(view appt\)](#)

City Clerk Zuravel read the following appointment memorandum from Mayor Gitz; “The following individuals have accepted a position on the Brownfield Area-Wide Planning Grant Advisory Committee. An invitation has been extended to additional members, and their acceptance will be shared at a later date. The list includes; Ronnie Bush, Craig Beintema, Larry Williams, Brian Borger, Joy Sellers, Steve Harrell, Cindy Shenberger, Dean Wright, Brenda Myers, Randy Skeens, Bob Nickels, Jim Brown, and Jim Gitz. Mayor Gitz explained these appointments are to satisfy the requirements of the grant the persons selected are a wide array of backgrounds and disciplines and there are also members of the 3rd Ward recommended to be on the committee. Alderperson Koester moved to accept the appointments, seconded by Alderperson Endress. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of;
Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Brashaw, and Koester (7)
Nays: none

ORDINANCES –SECOND READING

2nd READING OF ORDINANCE #2014-44:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE JOINT CITY OF FREEPORT–COUNTY OF STEPHENSON CERTIFIED ENTERPRISE ZONE (PEARL VALLEY FARMS) [\(view memo #077-14\)](#)

The first reading was held on October 6, 2014. A motion to adopt was given by Alderperson Bush, seconded by Alderperson Koester. The ordinance was automatically laid over to tonight’s meeting. Community Development Director Jim Brown placed a memorandum with the ordinance which stated that Pearl Valley Farms (PVF), located in Kent Township near Pearl City, is a major producer of fresh eggs for the conventional and specialty egg markets. PVF has quadrupled in size in less than twenty-five years and now has 106 employees. Larger and more efficient farms have been the trend in the egg industry, and to remain competitive the owners of PVF feel it is necessary to expand. Moreover, consumers are increasingly looking for eggs from hens raised in cage-free environments. PVF currently has fifty-one acres in the City of Freeport-County of Stephenson Joint Enterprise Zone. The owners desire to add thirty-five more acres and construct new barns and increase their number of egg-laying hens from 1.0 million to 1.6 – 1.8 million. The new barns will be equipped to allow PVF to raise chickens in cage-free or enriched-colony caged environments. The proposed expansion will create 20-30 new jobs and stimulate a \$20 million dollar capital investment in machinery, technology and buildings. The City of Freeport-County of Stephenson Joint Enterprise Zone was established in 1989. The zone was subsequently expanded to include the Village of Hanover and Jo Daviess County, and later expanded to

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include the City of East Dubuque. The City of Freeport-Stephenson County Enterprise Zone Committee has now requested that the City of Freeport and the other units of government in the Zone approve an expansion of the Zone by thirty-five acres of contiguous territory. This expansion would accommodate Pearl Valley Farms and its expansion plans as detailed above. A public hearing for the expansion was held on October 6. There were no comments in opposition to the expansion. The Council had its first reading of this ordinance on October 6. An accompanying resolution is on the agenda as well. The other units of government within the Zone must approve the expansion as well.

Upon no discussion, Mayor Gitz directed that the roll be called for a vote upon the motion to adopt the ordinance as presented. The motion to adopt prevailed by a roll call vote of:

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

Nays: none

Ordinance # 2014-44 was passed.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION #R-2014-73:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AN AMENDMENT TO INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR THE OPERATION OF AN ENTERPRISE ZONE (PEARL VALLEY FARMS) ([view memo #077-14](#))

Community Development Director Jim Brown placed a memorandum in the council packet and it stated this resolution goes along with Ordinance #2014-44. Alderperson Brashaw moved for approval of the resolution as presented, seconded by Alderperson Klemm. The motion for passage prevailed by a roll call vote of:

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

Nays: none

Resolution R-2014-73 was adopted.

RESOLUTION #R-2014-74:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AN AMENDMENT TO VEHICLE LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN STEPHENSON COUNTY SENIOR CENTER AND CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS ([view memo #075-14](#))

Community Development Director Jim Brown stated the City's grant-funded public transit program recently took delivery of an additional van. The delivery of this vehicle follows the delivery of two large buses in July. The vehicles for the program are acquired through the Consolidated Vehicle Procurement Grant administered by the State of Illinois. Funding is from the Section 5311 grant. Insurance and licensing documentation had been completed prior to the delivery. The attached resolution adds the new vehicle (underlined in the document) to the City's lease agreement with the City's contract service provider, the Senior Resource Center. This will bring the total number of leased vehicles currently in the program to eleven.

Vehicles Leased

Lessor hereby leases to Lessee, on the terms and conditions herein contained, the following motor vehicles:

Van 1 1GBDV13W58D115940 2008 Chevrolet Uplander Minivan

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Van 2	1GBDV13W18D212164	2008	Chevrolet	Uplander	Minivan
Van 3	1GBDV13W48D211932	2008	Chevrolet	Uplander	Minivan
Bus 4	1FDEE35L89DA55034	2009	Ford	El Dorado	12 Passenger Light Duty
Van 5	2C7WDGCG8ER422078	2014	Dodge	Entervan	5/2 Passenger Van
Bus 6	1FDEE35L79DA92348	2009	Ford	El Dorado	12 Passenger Light Duty
Bus 7	1FDAF5GT4DEB78482	2013	Ford	El Dorado	26 Passenger Super Medium
Bus 8	1FDAF5GT6DEB78483	2013	Ford	El Dorado	26 Passenger Super Medium
Bus 10	1FDWE35L97DB47402	2008	Ford	El Dorado	12 Passenger Light Duty
Bus 11	1FDEE3FL7ADB01505	2010	Ford	El Dorado	12 Passenger Light Duty
Bus 12	1FDEE3FL0ADB01491	2010	Ford	El Dorado	12 Passenger Light Duty

Aldersperson DeVine moved for approval of the resolution as presented, seconded by Aldersperson Koester. The motion for passage prevailed by a roll call vote of:

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

Nays: none

Resolution R-2014-74 was adopted.

OTHER

Reports of Department Heads

Community Development

Council members were provided an update on Freeport Downtown Development Plan/Contract by Community Development Director Jim Brown. On council desks and referred to in the update was a “draft FDDF 2014 Accomplishment and Goals as prepared by the Community Development Department and Freeport Downtown Development Foundation” dated October 14, 2014. FDDF will be working in October 2014 to conduct a vacant building inventory in downtown Freeport. The inventory started October 2014, and it is anticipated that data collection will continue throughout the winter and spring. A brief documents will be submitted to the City upon completion of the project and worksheets will be submitted to NIDA for inclusion on their website of available properties in Stephenson County. FDDF will also conduct a parking lot use study in downtown Freeport. These efforts will be concluded by December 31, 2014. FDDF will create an introductory plan of what the committee perceived as first steps to redevelopment. The Riverfront Business District committee shall create a plan that focuses on being bike friendly community. This report will include suggestions from the committee about first steps toward that goal. These efforts shall be completed by December 31, 2014. A copy of the plan shall be presented to the City upon completion. The report included a listing of 2014 events, other downtown events and news worthy items including development of a new website: freeportdowntown.com.

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Mayor Gitz asked council if there were any directives to let him know.

Finance

Finance Director Cynthia Haggard stated the auditors are continuing their work this week. She is continuing to work on the Spending Plan analysis. The 2014B Bond will be settled this week. She noted that the 2014B Bonds are the refunding of the 2005 Bonds and they are settling this week.

Public Works

Public Works Director Tom Dole stated leaf pick up began October 20, 2014. He reminded residents to place leaves to the curb and that no sticks, brush, or trash should be included in the piles. He has placed a map of the proposed leaf pick-up routes on the website. The Public Works Department is working on sidewalk removal in front of the Masonic Temple so the contractor can put in new steps and sidewalks. They are also working on curb cut repairs and service cut patch work.

Library

Director Carole Dickerson thanked Mayor Gitz and the council for the well-deserved recognition of board member, Judy Barney. She provided the latest copy of their newsletter, "Off the Shelf" and spoke about an upcoming event at the Freeport Public Library for a pajama story time in the evening on October 21 and November 18, 2014.

Fire

Fire Chief Scott Miller stated the department personnel visited about ten elementary schools in honor of Fire Prevention. The firefighters shared information regarding fire safety by working with the children in the traveling "Smoke House". There will delivery to the dealer tomorrow the new ambulance this week and it will need to go through their prep work before it can be delivered and he is hoping it will be on the road in a couple of weeks. Alderperson Koester thanked those personnel who assisted with Fire Prevention Week and perform their other work duties as well. He stated it is a worthwhile project teaching young children about fire safety.

Police

Chief of Police Todd Barkalow stated a press release went out from the City announcing the suggested hours for Halloween trick or treating. The suggested hours are 5:00 p.m. through 7:00 p.m. on Friday, October 31, 2014. These hours are advisory and children can legally trick or treat beyond these hours. Chief Barkalow cautioned Freeport motorists to use special care on Halloween night, and to be on the look-out for children walking on roadways, medians and curbs, or darting out from between parked cars and asked adults to supervise children. He will have a couple speed bumps in high traffic areas and will be assisted by the Fire Department. He encouraged the use of light colored and reflective clothing.

Water and Sewer

Water and Sewer Executive Director Tom stated the Water and Sewer crews will be out this week hydrant flushing this week. This is a city-wide flushing to flush iron residue due to the high iron concentration in our raw water and from the old piping. Director Glendenning stated he has placed a notice for bids for a

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service truck (small utility truck). The Water and Sewer Commission energy contracts are soon to expire and they requested bids. They will be reviewing these at the next monthly meeting of the Water and Sewer Commission for energy contracts for the utility company. They received in six bid documents and the current supplier had a 25% projected increase and another had a projected 19% increase in what the current rates being charged. They use about \$300,000 in electricity per year and may see it jump to \$375,000. He stated the energy contract will be for the next three years. Director Glendenning provided information on a line discharge extension at Landfill #4 off of Lamm Road. He has been working with the IEPA on loan assistance and once they give the go-ahead on the scope of the project, they will be looking for the Mayor to give the go-ahead to Springfield to maximize the loan and grant possibilities for the project for next year. He stated that will be coming up before the end of the year. Alderperson Koester and Brashaw spoke about the information provided by Director Glendenning during a tour of the water treatment plant and the sewer plant. Alderperson Brashaw spoke about a newscast which was shot and hopes that when it is televised it will bring awareness to the public about what needs to be done about the aging infrastructure and why it has to be dealt with the way it is.

City Engineer Gallagher

City Engineer Gallagher provided an updated on the the milling and paving project on Route 20. He stated they are working on putting the leveling binder and will be working on that project through the end of November. Engineer Gallagher provided an update on traffic control for the Adams and Clark project. The sanitary sewer has been completed from Exchange to the curve on Clark. That would allow for a bi-pass of the system in case there is an emergency at Tutty's Crossing area. They are completing the water main improvements. He is hoping the roadway will be opened around November 24, although there is still a lot of work to do. City Engineer Gallagher provided an update on the boat dock because there are ADA issues that need to be resolved. He also noted there is a large amount of tree debris collected in that area of the river and he will be working on a spring bid document for possible May construction. He explained the 2015 projects for the Tutty's Crossing area, including lighting and facilities. He received pavement boring sub-base testing results for his mill and overly projects and they came back with adequate results but the news was not the best. This will allow him to put together the street program for next year.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Gitz stated that we are now upon leaf season and it always seems to almost paralyze the work crews of the Public Works Department. There will be a scheduled rotation of area streets and they will publicize that, keeping in mind there will be rain dates and setbacks. He is hopeful that there will be a range of dates when crews will be in the different neighborhoods. He asked for council members to provide feedback, either positive or negative. They are working on patching service cuts from a long list of projects from NICOR, ComEd, and the Water Department. He is hoping that hot mix plant will continue to stay open in order for crews to complete patching.

Mayor Gitz stated that survey results from the community outreach are expected to be out soon and they are still completing phone work this week. He hopes to have a rough cut of that as soon as possible. He would like each council member to email him regarding the meeting location in their ward for meetings to

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discuss the N.I.U. survey results. Each council member should play a role in formulating the format of those.

Mayor Gitz spoke about the Brownfield Grants for the building property he called Modern Plating. The logistics of taking down the building per environmental cleanup of the grant is very formidable and so is the local match. There has been a lot of discussion going on between region five and the City as to which way to move forward with the demolition, whether there is testing that can be done to reduce the amount of material that has to be removed or other alternatives that are less expensive disposal.

NEW BUSINESS/COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

- Alderperson Bush stated there will be Neighborhood Watch meeting in the Arcade area on Thursday at the VFW. He spoke about the Freeport Middle School, 8th Grade Football team who finished the season 10-0 and won their conference championship with an overtime game this last weekend. He also recognized the 7th Grade football team for their record of 7-2-1. He congratulated both teams for a great season.
- Alderperson Endress stated there is a neighborhood watch meeting at the 1st Church of the Nazarene on Tuesday.
- Alderperson Boldt stated there will be a neighborhood watch meeting for the Farmdale area on Thursday.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- Tom Teich, 873 Jefferson, spoke about a Special Olympics Banquet to be held on Tuesday and asked if Mayor Gitz can attend. He spoke about a new bank opening on Meadows Drive.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

s/ Meg Zuravel

Meg Zuravel, City Clerk