

VILLAGE PRESIDENT
Seth Speiser

VILLAGE CLERK
Jerry Menard

VILLAGE TRUSTEES
Ray Matchett, Jr.
Steve Smith
Mike Blaies
Mathew Trout
Dean Pruett
Elizabeth Niebruegge

VILLAGE OF FREEBURG

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VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR
Tony Funderburg

VILLAGE TREASURER
Bryan A. Vogel

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
John Tolan

POLICE CHIEF
Stanley Donald

VILLAGE ATTORNEY
Weilmuenster Law Group, P.C

COMMITTEE AS A WHOLE MEETING

Monday, March 30, 2015
6:00 p.m.

The Committee as a Whole Meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. on Monday, March 30, 2015, by Mayor Seth Speiser. Members present were Mayor Seth Speiser, Trustee Mike Blaies, Trustee Steve Smith, Trustee Ray Matchett, Trustee Matt Trout, Trustee Elizabeth Niebruegge, Trustee Dean Pruett, Public Works Director John Tolan, Head Lineman Shane Krauss, Village Clerk Jerry Menard and Village Administrator Tony Funderburg.

A. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Approval of January 20, 2015 Minutes: Trustee Matt Trout motioned to approve the January 20, 2015 minutes and Trustee Steve Smith seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.

B. NEW BUSINESS: Tony said we are low in the simplified telecommunications tax and other communities are as well. As of today, we are up to \$108,713, so it has increased a little bit. Last year, we were at \$129,000. Trustee Trout asked if we wanted to reduce the number of liquor license extensions from six to three and further asked if that should be included on the ordinance or wait until after the six months is over. Trustee Niebruegge would like the bars to have a heads up on what our plan is. We will eliminate the extensions to zero during the trial basis.

1. FY2016 Budget: Tony advised he has increased revenues in the utility funds. We have had over \$1,000,000 in building the past few months and thinks that trend is going to continue. Tony believes we are going to receive some freezes in the Admin fund. He has been receiving information about how our revenues are going to be cut by the state and we estimate ours to be approximately \$218,000. There will be a resolution in the board packet that addresses this. On top of that is the issue of unfunded mandates. We are compiling a list of mandates that affect the Village of Freeburg and the costs expended to meet the mandates. The resolution will highlight the issue of how these required mandates and potential cut in funding from the state affects the local municipality. Tony is still trying to determine what funds will be affected by the loss of the \$218,000 in revenue but believes sales tax is going to be the big one. Trustee Smith thinks it's going to be the income tax.

Trustee Smith asked if the admin revenues should be projected at an increase since we may be receiving a decrease in revenue from the state. Tony believes we won't see any hits this year but should proceed with caution. Tony will be meeting with other administrators at a meeting in Springfield which should cover what is going on.

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Tony has added a line item in the electric department. We would like to enter into an agreement with BHM&G which would cover all of our engineering services for the IEPA reports and also meetings, telephone and email support. The cost for this is \$1050 per month. We have a permit that needs to be renewed and will need to hire LaDonna Driver to complete the application. Those costs will run around \$17,000 and have been included in the budget.

Admin Dept.: Steve questioned the \$125,000 in reserves on the revenue side, and Tony said the bulk of this amount is for the pool upgrades. Tony reminded the committee we have three options on how to pay for the upgrades – by financing it, spreading the cost over a couple of years of the budget or take it out of reserves. Trustee Blaies asked about the salaries and Tony advised the union employees receive a 2.5% raise per the contract. He said the board will decide if the non-union employees receive that raise but it has been budgeted. He also reminded the committee that we had a payroll audit last year after the budget was passed. The auditor decides how to code where each employee's time goes. Trustee Niebruegge questioned the \$6,000 in banners under Community Relations and asked if you have a specific project in mind and Tony said no.

Police Dept.: We are working to purchase an exchange server for approximately \$18,000 which will host all of our emails and make it more secure and more easily accessible. At the current time, we back up our data and store the tapes in a fireproof safe in the vault. Steve thinks we should have a separate safe away from this office to keep our backed up data. Tony said Brian advised we should not take anything off site and Village clerk Jerry Menard believes legally it should not leave here.

Zoning Dept.: Tony would like to add in a line item that addresses nuisance properties if we have to go tear down a house, cut down a tree or mow grass. He would to be able to appropriate it so it gives us the ability to do it.

Streets Dept.: Mike asked if we used any snowbirds this past winter and John said no. Tony said that salary is included in the budget. Steve asked why salaries are increasing from \$143,900 to \$173,735 and Tony advised this is one area we have budgeted to add one employee by the request of the Mayor and John. We are hoping to use more full-time employee so we can cut down on the part-time employees. Steve believes that could be a risk with all the budget concerns coming up in the next year or so. John believes you could spread some of the salary into other departments. He would also like to see this person handle light vehicle maintenance and save on some service costs.

ESDA: Tony will work with Gene on getting ID badges for his volunteers.

Garbage: Matt questioned the high bills on the recycling center. Tony said we are coming up for a renewal on our Waste Management contract and we will ask for a break on our cost. He said we are also going to set up arrow direction signs and also what do to with the cardboard once those dumpsters are full.

MFT: We've done our best for now. Tony said any increases are frozen.

Water: Steve asked about the \$131,000 in reserves and Tony said we've had some projects that haven't been finished and previously budgeted but need to keep in next year's budget like the Countryside Lane annexations, the water tower painting and also a water line that has broken 8 times that needs to be replaced. We had to add in additional costs for the water tower painting/repair and also need to think about building up reserves for the other water tower to

be painted. Steve asked why there was a high jump in water salaries and Tony will verify the amount with Debbie. She is the one that prepares the salary and insurance numbers. Steve also asked if we are getting close with the radio read meters and John advised we are a couple of years out.

Sewer Dept.: Tony has budgeted \$50,000 from reserves and said we might pull a little bit from reserves this year. We are going to talk about the future of sewer in the next committee meeting and a possible rate increase in the near future. John said when we were looking at the line with Helms, we knew we were going to need an increase. Tony is bringing a proposed rate increase spread out over several years. Under services, infrastructure, John said some of the costs for the VFDs or variable frequency drives will come out of the IMEA energy efficiency money.

Electric Dept.: Matt asked about the \$10,000 in street lights and Tony said we have \$20,000 to spend from IMEA. Tony can't answer how we are going to choose how to spend the money. This way, we are still covered under the budget.

Pool: Jerry asked why we have two different line items for pass sales. Tony said we need to decide what we are going to do as far as upgrades. We need to do the bath house floor, add hot water and fixtures. He also thinks we should do the concrete and be prepared to make a decision at the next committee meeting. Elizabeth said the pool is moving in the right direction.

2. Executive Session to Discuss Personnel, 5 ILCS 120/2-(C)(1):

EXECUTIVE SESSION

7:08 P.M.

Trustee Elizabeth Niebruegge motioned to enter Executive Session to discuss executive session minutes, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) and Trustee Steve Smith seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ENDED

7:36 P.M.

Trustee Matt Trout motioned to end Executive Session at 7:07 p.m. and Trustee Dean Pruett seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried. Trustee Matt Trout motioned to reconvene the regular session of the Committee as a Whole meeting at 7:37 p.m. and Trustee Steve Smith seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.

C. GENERAL CONCERNS: None.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

E. ADJOURN: *Trustee Elizabeth Niebruegge motioned to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. and Trustee Matt Trout seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.*



Transcribed from tape by
Julie Polson
Office Manager

