

VILLAGE PRESIDENT  
Seth Speiser

VILLAGE CLERK  
Jerry Menard

VILLAGE TRUSTEES  
Tom Carpenter  
Robert Kaiser  
Dana Miller  
Ray Matchett, Jr.  
Lisa Meehling  
Mike Blaies

VILLAGE TREASURER  
Bryan A. Vogel

# VILLAGE OF FREEBURG

FREEBURG MUNICIPAL CENTER  
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VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR  
Matt Trout

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR  
John Tolan

POLICE CHIEF  
Michael J. Schutzenhofer

ESDA COORDINATOR  
Eugene Kramer

VILLAGE ENGINEER  
Tim Pruett, P.E.

VILLAGE ATTORNEY  
Keck Brown, P.C.

## VILLAGE OF FREEBURG, ILLINOIS BOARD MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2025 @ 7:30 P.M.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Seth Speiser called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., on Monday, October 20, 2025 in the Freeburg Municipal Board Room. Presentation of the meeting was also conducted by Zoom video conferencing. Village Hall was open to the public.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Those present and the Board Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – here; Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – here; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – here; Trustee Dana Miller – here; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – here; Trustee Tom Carpenter – here; Mayor Seth Speiser – here; (7 present, 0 absent) Mayor Seth Speiser announced there is a quorum.

### **EXHIBIT A:**

Mayor Speiser stated we have the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Monday, October 6, 2025.

*Trustee Dana Miller motioned to accept the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting Monday, October 6, 2025 and Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.*

**FINANCE:** None.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** None.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT:** None.

### **EXHIBIT B :**

**ESDA REPORT:** Mayor Speiser called on ESDA Coordinator Gene Kramer. Gene update us on his ESDA Report Monday, October 20, 2025.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None.

### **REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE:**

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**EXHIBIT C:**

**VILLAGE ENGINEER REPORT FOR OCTOBER 20, 2025.**

Mayor Speiser called on Village Engineer Tim Pruett. Tim was not present to give us an update on his Village Engineer's Report for October 20, 2025.

**EXHIBIT D:**

**COMBINED PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD REPORT.**

Mayor Speiser calls on Trustee Blaies to update us on Planning & Zoning Report.

Trustee Blaies said the first hearing was for Gerald Williams requesting a zoning amendment to change the zoning on his property at 10 Southgate Drive to B-2 Highway Business. Trustee Blaies said the Zoning Board did not agree with Mr. Williams and wanted an attorney's opinion. Trustee Blaies said the Board agreed to continue this hearing at the November Combined Board meeting.

Trustee Blaies said the second item on the agenda was the exterior building materials for the proposed Coffee Pot. Mr. Brain Nickas with Nickas Architecture, Inc. was present representing The Coffee Pot. Mr. Nickas explained to the board all the materials that they would be using. The board motioned to approve the product for the exterior materials for The Coffee Pot. The motion passed with 4 yes.

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:** None.

**CONTRACTS, RELEASES, AGREEMENTS & ANNEXATIONS:** None.

**BIDS:** None.

**EXHIBIT E:**

**RESOLUTIONS:** Mayor Speiser stated we have Resolution #25-17 A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Accept the United Healthcare Insurance.

*Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. motioned to adopt Resolution #25-17 by title only, Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling seconded the motion. ROLL CALL:* Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; Trustee Dana Miller – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye, (6 ayes 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, motion carried.**

**EXHIBIT F:**

**RESOLUTIONS:** Mayor Speiser stated we have Resolution #25-18 A Resolution in Support of St. Clair County Park Grants.

*Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. motioned to adopt Resolution #25-18 by title only, and Trustee Dana Miller seconded the motion. ROLL CALL:* Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. – aye; Trustee Dana Miller – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye, Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; (6 ayes 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, motion carried.**

**EXHIBIT G:**

**ORDINANCES:** Mayor Speiser stated we have Ordinance #1805 An Ordinance Appointing Village Administrator Matt Trout to the Illinois Municipal Electric Agency Board of Director.

*Trustee James (Mike) Blaies motioned to adopt Ordinance #1805 by title only, and Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling seconded the motion. ROLL CALL:* Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee Dana Miller – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent 0 abstain). **All voting aye, motion carried.**

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**APPOINTMENTS:** Village Administrator Matt Trout was Appointed to the Illinois Municipal Electric Agency Board of Director.

**COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**EXHIBIT H:**

**Electric Committee Meeting:** Trustee James (Mike) Blaies (Chairperson) reported on the Electric Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, October 15, 2025 at 5:31 p.m.

**The following item or items were talked about or discussed:**

1. Customer Issues: Trustee Blaies said Public Works Director John Tolan stated there were 3 outages since last meeting. They replaced a transformer on Creek Ridge that shorted out due to an issue with a meter can. A primary wire burnt in two on South Belleville St., mostly likely from a squirrel. They had a blown fuse at SAVE site that goes to the cencom building.
2. IMEA Energy Efficiency Grant: None.

Village Administrator Matt Trout said the tax abatement ordinance is done and will go to finance and then to the first board meeting in November.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Wholesale Connection Agreement: Public Works Director John Tolan said that typically IMEA has one wholesale connection agreement with Ameren. Ameren has decided that they want to have an agreement with each individual community. Village Attorney Fred Keck said he went through the agreement and highlighted some items. They will set-up a call with IMEA to discuss.

2. Village Health Insurance Renewal: Village Administrator Matt Trout said going with an HAS, employees will be able to choose between the Renewal Choice + Plan and the CORE Plan. The difference between those premiums and their contracted amount will go into their HAS.

This agreement came under Resolutions earlier on the agenda. Village Administrator Matt Trout said it was brought up at the last meeting on how the retirees were handled. The Board discussed and agree that retirees would continue to have the option to choose between the UHC Renewal Choice + and CORE Plan along with the HAS, but the Village would no longer provide deductible reimbursements.

Village Administrator Matt Trout said he and Village Engineer Tim Pruett have a meeting with Socket Fiber Company. Village Attorney Fred Keck talked about it as he has had some experience with them.

Public Works Director John Tolan said Chad Murphy from Murphy development reached out regarding getting an updated price. Trustee Blaies said they have been working on Dairy Queen and should finish up soon. John stated they have had a lot of new services and service upgrades. He discussed generating their monthly exercising with IMEA. We discussed the OSHA inspection we had.

Trustee Blaies said Ordinance #1805 was passed earlier on the agenda under Ordinance.

**GENERAL CONCERNS:** None.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None.

**EXHIBIT I:**

**Public Works Committee Meeting: (Trash/Water/Sewer)** Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser (Chairperson) reported on the Trash/Water/Sewer Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, October 15, 2025 at 6:05 p.m.

**The following items were talked about or discussed:**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Sewer Issues: Nothing new.

2. FSH Minutes: Nothing new.

3. Water System Upgrades. : Trustee Kaiser said Village Engineer Tim Pruett said we received plans for the chlorination building at the SAVE Tower and he and John will look them over. He said we will be submitting a check to Canadian National/Illinois Central Railroad for that permits.

Village Engineer Tim Pruett said VisuSewer has been working on sewer lining and manhole lining.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Public Works Director John Tolan said they are still hydrant flushing. There has been some graffiti on the swimming pool lift station and transformer. He and Buddy are working on a response to the EPA inspection.

**GENERAL CONCERNS:** None.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Trustee Kaiser said residents Adam and Tricia Schwind asked where the Village was at regarding a stop sign at the intersection of North Belleville St. and Phillips St. Mayor Speiser said we can take it to the streets committee and have the police patrol the area and report back on whether or not they feel it is necessary.

Mayor Speiser mentioned there was a water break on Jacks Run and our public works crew took of it right away. We only had a boiled notice for a day for some parts of town.

**EXHIBIT J :**

**Public Property Committee Meeting: (Streets/Municipal Center/Pool/Parks & Recreation)**  
Trustee Carpenter reported on reported on the Streets/Municipal Center/Pool/Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, October 15, 2025 at 6:19 p.m.

**The following items were talked about or discussed:**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**POOL:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**STREETS:**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Drainage Problem Areas/Stormwater Run-Off: Crew Leader Bob Jenkins said they are working on the issue on Sleeping Indian. He, Village Administrator Matt Trout and Village Engineer Tim Pruett discussed.
2. Customer Issues: Crew Leader Bob Jenkins said they replaced a culvert on St. Clair St..
3. MFT: Nothing.
4. Saturn Terrace.: Village Administrator Matt Trout said Mr. Threlkeld sent him and Tim vacation plat and they spoke with him about the easements.

Crew Leader Bob Jenkins said they put up the stop sign on North Edison St. at Meadow Lake Fr. & Meadow Ridge Dr.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Freeburg Family Dental Benefit Walk: Village Administrator Matt Trout said they did this last year. They requested a police officer, if available, to assist. The committee approved.
2. Kids For Christ Open House: Trustee Matchett said they are having their Open House and will be going between the building and the park. They have asked for barricades to close off that section of South Monroe St. The committee approved.

Trustee Matchett said we passed Resolution #25-18 earlier on the agenda under Resolution.

**GENERAL CONCERNS:** None.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

- Finance Committee Meeting – Wednesday, October 29, 2025 – 5:30 p.m.
- Legal/ Ordinance Committee Meeting – Wednesday, October 29, 2025 – 5:45 p.m.
- Personnel/Police Committee Meeting – Wednesday, October 29, 2025 – 6:00 p.m.
- Board Meeting – Monday, November 3, 2025 – 7:30 p.m.

**VILLAGE MAYOR, VILLAGE CLERK & TRUSTEES' COMMENTS:**

**Trustee Tom Carpenter** – He thanked John and Public Works Crew.

**Trustee Elizabeth Meehling** – He thanked John and Public Works Crew.

**Trustee Dana Miller** – He thanked John and Public Works Crew.

**Village Clerk Jerry Menard** – No thank you.

**Trustee James (Mike) Blaies** – He thanked John and Public Works Crew.

**Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr.** – He thanked John and Public Works Crew.

**Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser** – He thanked John and Public Works Crew.

**STAFF COMMENTS:**

**Village Engineer Tim Pruett** – Absent

**Public Works Director John Tolan** – No thank you.


**Village Administrator Matt Trout** – Absent

**Chief of Police Mike Schutzenhofer** – No thank you.

**ESDA Coordinator Gene Kramer** – No thank you.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mayor Seth Speiser called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

*Trustee Dana Miller motioned to adjourn the Regular Board meeting of Monday, October 20, 2025 at 7:51 p.m. and Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.*

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jerry Lynn Menard".

Jerry Lynn Menard  
Village Clerk