

VILLAGE PRESIDENT
Seth Speiser

VILLAGE CLERK
Jerry Menard

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

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
Weilmuenster Keck Brown, P.C.

VILLAGE OF FREEBURG, ILLINOIS BOARD MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025 @ 7:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Seth Speiser called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., on Tuesday, January 21, 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 Dana Miller – here; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – here; Trustee Tom Carpenter – here; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – here; Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – here; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – 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, January, 6, 2025 for approval.

Trustee James (Mike) Blaies motioned to accept the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting Monday, January 6, 2025 and Trustee Dana Miller seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.

EXHIBIT B:

ESDA REPORT: Mayor Speiser called on ESDA Coordinator Gene Kramer. Gene was not present to give his ESDA Report for January 21, 2025. Mayor Speiser said everyone should have his report in their packet. If you have any questions, please call Gene.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

EXHIBIT C:

VILLAGE ENGINEER REPORT FOR JANUARY 21, 2025.

Mayor Speiser called on Village Engineer Tim Pruett. Tim was not present to give his Engineer Report for January 21, 2025. Mayor Speiser said everyone should have his report in their packet. If you have any questions, please call Tim.

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**EXHIBIT D:
COMBINED PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD REPORT.**

Village Administrator Matt Trout said Bill Vollmar, developer of Lone Oak Trails attended the meeting to discuss his comical lots along the Freeburg Douglas Road. He stated these lots have not been for sale for 20 years and he has had little to no interest in them. They are currently zoned B-2. Bill asked if he could get these lots rezoning to MR-1 or SR-1. The Board discussed this and the consensus of the Board was they would prefer allowing SR-1. Mr. Vollmar state he would file zoning amendment to rezone these lots in the future.

Village Administrator Matt Trout said the improvement plans for the Murphy Development have been reviewed and approved by the Engineering and Public Works Departments. Village Engineer Tim Pruett recommended to the Combined Board to approve the improvement plans for the subdivision. Member had questions about the private road in the Townhome portion of the project. Engineer reminded the Board that the layout was approved during the Preliminary Plat process. Board decided to table the approval until the next meeting.

The Coffee Pot is looking for a new location. The location they have pick out is not going to work with a drive though window.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: None.
CONTRACTS, RELEASES, AGREEMENTS & ANNEXATIONS: None.
BIDS: None.
RESOLUTIONS: None.
ORDINANCES: None.
OLD BUSINESS: None.
NEW BUSINESS: None.

EXHIBIT E:

APPOINTMENTS: Mayor Speiser stated we have Mark White Resignation from the Combined Planning and Zoning Board.

Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling motioned to accept Mark White's Resignation from the Combined Planning and Zoning Board, and Trustee Dana Miller seconded the motion. All voting aye, motion carried.

EXHIBIT E:

APPOINTMENTS: Mayor Speiser stated he would like to Appoint Dale Lickenbrock to the Combined Planning and Zoning Board.

Trustee Dana Miller motioned to accept the Appointed position of Dale Lickenbrock to the Combined Planning and Zoning Board, and Trustee James (Mike) Blaies seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Trustee Dana Miller – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, the motion carried.**

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

EXHIBIT D:

Electric Committee Meeting: Trustee James (Mike) Blaies (Chairperson) reported on the Electric Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, January 15, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

The following item or items were talked about or discussed:

1. Customer Issues: Trustee Blaies said Head Lineman Shan Krauss said there is nothing to report. He added that he did an overview of 2024 and we had a total of 28 outages for the year.
2. IMEA Energy Efficiency Grant: Trustee Blaies said Head Lineman Shane said, we previously discussed the lighting at the Village Hall We got a count of the fluorescent lights left in all of our buildings and with that, we would be eligible for \$7,500. Materials estimate is roughly \$2,500. If the board approves, he said he will move forward.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Combined Planning & Zoning Board Vacancy: Trustee Blaies stated this was taking care of under Appointments
2. Mary Downen End of Probation: Trustee Blaies said at this time he would like to make a motion.

Trustee James (Mike) Blaies motioned to recommend Mary Downen be taken off probation, 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 Ramon Matchett, Jr. – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, the motion carried.**

Trustee Blaies said Head Lineman Shane Krauss said everyone has a list of the transformers that have failed throughout the years. There is a total 27, 7 will be repaired , 17 scrapped and purchase 4 reconditioned ones. Trustee Blaies said at this time he would like to make a motion.

Trustee James (Mike) Blaies motioned to purchase the reconditioned transformers after including the scrap not to exceed \$20,000, and Trustee Tom Carpenter seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee Dana Miller – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, the motion carried.**

GENERAL CONCERNS: None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

EXHIBIT E:

Public Works Committee Meeting: (Trash/Water/Sewer) Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser (Chairperson) reported on the Trash/Water/Sewer Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, January 15, 2025 at 5:46 p.m.

The following items were talked about or discussed:

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Sewer Issues: Trustee Kaiser said Public Works Director John Tolan said there was an issue on E. Hill Street, with water in the basement. There was no issue on our end when we checked the lines. Suggested they get a camera to find the issue.

2. FSH Minutes: Nothing to report.

3. Water System Upgrades.: Trustee Kaiser said Public Works Director John Tolan said TWM has set-up SCI Engineer to do soil borings on the railroad crossing on West Apple and Phillips. Village Engineer Tim Pruett added it is part of the railroad permits that require soil borings. John said he, “Tim, Buddy and Trevor will go with TWM to visit Coulterville’s water plant to look at their chemical feed operation. This comparable to what we use, this is for the ammonia chlorine feed at the new water tower.

Village Administrator Matt Trout brought up water/sewer rates for high commercial users. The group discussed the situation with other large users. No further recommendations were made by the committee.

NEW BUSINESS: Public Works Director John Tolan said, we hosted a JULIE locating training. There is a new JULIE locating law as of January 1st.

Village Administrator Matt Trout said we received a call from the Director of St. Clair County Health Department asking questions about SAVE Site. He advised that we are not the regulator group over their sanitation system.

GENERAL CONCERNS: None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

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EXHIBIT F :

Public Property Committee Meeting: (Streets/Municipal Center/Pool/Parks & Recreation)
Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr.(Chairperson) reported on the Streets/Municipal Center/Pool/Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, January 15, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

The following items were talked about or discussed:

POOL:

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. St. John's Auction Donation Request: Trustee Matchett said the committee agreed to donate a 10-visit pool pass also to the Freeburg Area Library Triva.

Village Administrator Matt Trout said we will advertise for lifeguards if the Board is okay with that. He discussed a change to pool party reservations to allow Freeburg residents the month of April to reserve parties. He said he received a list from Scott, and he and John will go through it.

STREETS:

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Drainage Problem Areas/Stormwater Run-Off: Trustee Matchett said nothing to report.
2. Customer Issues: Public Works Director John Tolan said they are still working on clearing the snow, widening things out as it melts.
3. MFT: Nothing to report

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Resident Request for Stop Sign at the Intersection of High Street & Edison Street: Trustee Matchett said typically we have the police take a look and report back. The committee looked at a map of the area.
2. Request Village of Freeburg to Vacate Janus Drive and Titan Drive: Trustee Matchett said Mr. Threlkeld was present. He is requesting the Village to consider vacation in their interest. If the village would consider vacating, there would need to be easements for the water/sewer. Matt said we will get the legal description and determine what utilities are there and possible easement to require and work with Mr. Threlkeld them bring the Board to vacate.

Village Engineer Tim Pruett discussed agreement we received the grant application he submitted the handicap accessible sidewalks. The project needs to be completed by June 2026.

GENERAL CONCERNS: None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

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UPCOMING MEETINGS:

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

VILLAGE MAYOR, VILLAGE CLERK & TRUSTEES' COMMENTS:


Trustee Tom Carpenter – Not tonight.
Trustee Elizabeth Meehling – Thank you John and your crew.
Trustee Dana Miller – Thank you John and your crew for being out in this kind of weather fixing water breakages.
Village Clerk Jerry Menard – Not tonight
Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – Thank you John and your crew.
Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – Thank you John and your crew.
Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – Thank you John and your crew
Mayor Seth Speiser –

STAFF COMMENTS:

Village Engineer Tim Pruett –
Public Works Director John Tolan -
Village Administrator Matt Trout – Thank you for taking Mary off Probation. She doing a great job. John and he met again today on the budget. He hopes by the end of the week he will have a draft for us.
Chief of Police Mike Schutzenhofer –
ESDA Coordinator Gene Kramer – Not present.

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

Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling motioned to adjourn the Regular Board meeting of Tuesday, January 21 at 7:43 p.m. and Trustee Dana Miller seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.


Jerry Lynn Menard
Village Clerk