

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

FREEBURG MUNICIPAL CENTER  
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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

## FREEBURG REGULAR BOARD MEETING Monday, December 16, 2013 at 7:30 P.M. Board Meeting Minutes

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Seth Speiser called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., on Monday, December 16, 2013 in the Freeburg Municipal Board Room.

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

**ROLL CALL:** Trustee Steve Smith – here; Trustee Mike Blaies – here; Trustee Matt Trout - here; Trustee Dean Pruett – here; Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – here; Trustee Elizabeth Niebruegge – here; Mayor Seth Speiser – here; (7 present, 0 absent). Mayor Speiser announced there is a quorum.

Mayor Speiser asked for a motion to amend the agenda for the approval of the Public Hearing Meeting Minutes of December 2, 2013 and Regular Board Meeting Minutes of December 2, 2013.

*Trustee Matt Trout motioned to amend the agenda to vote upon Public Hearing minutes of December 2, 2013 and the Regular Board meeting minutes for Monday, December 2, 2013 and Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. seconded the motion.*

Mayor Speiser said could we have a motion for the Public Hearing minutes of the December 2, 2013.

*Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. motioned to accept the minutes from the Public Hearing minutes of December 2, 2013 and Trustee Dean Pruett seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.*

Mayor Speiser said we have the Minutes of Previous Meeting December 2, 2013.

*Trustee Elizabeth Niebruegge motioned to accept the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting December 2, 2013 and Trustee Matt Trout seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.*

**FINANCE:** None

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Bryan Vogel said everyone should have a copy of the Village of Freeburg Treasurer's Report for the month of April 30, 2013, May 31, 2013 and June 30, 2013 to be review and hopefully approve at the next board meeting.

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**ATTORNEY'S REPORT:** No your honor.

**ESDA REPORT:** None

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Janet Baechle said she would like to thank the Board for recognizing all the good and hard work our ESDA Coordinator Gene Kramer does. Mayor Speiser said that award was well deserved.

**EXHIBIT A:**

**REPORTS AND CORESPONDENCE:** Mayor Speiser said everyone should have a Zoning Report from Gary. Mayor Speiser asked is there any questions or concerns.

Trustee Smith said on the second page number 2 under Nuisance Complaints. Trustee Smith asked on 924 Promatory Pines; how long does someone get for a builders permit this is eight years old. Mayor Speiser said he/she is supposed to get it renewed every year until the project is completed. Trustee Smith asked is that indefinitely you can have it renewed? Mayor Speiser said he does not know that for sure, but he does know it is good for up to one year. Village Administrator Funderburg said the county has been working with Gary on this one. Mayor Speiser said we can have Gary contact Danny at the county and find out if it has been renewed every year and find out what our options are.

Trustee Smith said the other question is on number 3 the Ernest Building. What happens if it is not torn done by January 31, 2014? Village Administrator Funderburg said the contactor is ready to tear it down. Trustee Trout said the weather has played a big part of it. Mayor Speiser said if it is not down by January 31, 2014, we will take it to Legal Ordinance Committee.

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

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

**BIDS:** None.

**RESOLUTIONS:** None.

**EXHIBIT B:**

**ORDINANCES:**

Mayor Speiser stated we have Ordinance #1480, An Ordinance Authorizing the Levy and Collection of Taxes for the Corporate and Municipal Purposes of the Village of Freeburg, Illinois, for the Fiscal Year Commencing April 1, 2013, and ending March 31, 2014.

*Trustee Matt Trout motioned to adopt Ordinance #1480 by title only and Trustee Elizabeth Niebruegge seconded the motion. ROLL CALL:* Trustee Matt Trout – aye; Trustee Elizabeth Niebruegge – aye; Trustee Mike Blaies – aye; Trustee Dean Pruett – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – aye; Trustee Steve Smith – nay; (5 ayes, 1 nay, 0 absent). 5 voting aye, motion carried.

**EXHIBIT C:**

**ORDINANCES:**

Mayor Speiser stated we have Ordinance #1481, An Ordinance of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Freeburg, Illinois, Authorizing the Village to Enter Into and the Mayor to Execute An Agreement Between the Village of Freeburg, Illinois and the Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, Incorporation

*Trustee Steve Smith motioned to adopt Ordinance #1481 by title only and Trustee Matt Trout seconded the motion. ROLL CALL:* Trustee Steve Smith – aye; Trustee Matt Trout – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – aye; Trustee Elizabeth Niebruegge – aye; Trustee Dean Pruett – aye; Trustee Mike Blaies – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent). All voting aye, motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** Mayor Speiser said that Mr. Kapp has someone interested in buying Burgards. Mayor Spiser said we are working with ILC to see what steps they would have to take to get a license for the business. From what we understand it can no longer be a tavern. It would have to be a restaurant. Trustee Blaies said if it is a restaurant they can serve liquor. Mayor Speiser said fifty percent of their business has to be food in order for them to serve liquor.

**APPOINTMENTS:** None.

**COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT:**

**EXHIBIT D:**

**Economic Development Committee Meeting:**

Trustee Steve Smith said there are no changes since last meeting.

**EXHIBIT E:**

**Community Development Committee Meeting:**

Chairperson Elizabeth Niebruegge called the meeting of the Community Development Committee to order at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 12, 2013.

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

1. Welcome to Freeburg Sign: Chairperson Niebruegge said most of the meeting was focused on the Welcome to Freeburg Sign for the North entrance. Mr. Pete Vogel was in attendance representing the Chamber of Commerce in the collaborative efforts to create a new Welcome to Freeburg sign on the North end of town.

Chairperson Niebruegge stated Mr. Vogel said that the Chamber has been concerned over the current state of the welcome signs and they are interested in an electronic sign to help communicate information to the residents of Freeburg. Mr. Vogel also inquired into the Village's budget for the sign. Chairperson Niebruegge said to her knowledge the Village had budgeted so much per year over the next three years in order to replace each sign coming into town. Chairperson Niebruegge said she expected that the North sign would clearly cost more as the main sign of Freeburg, with the remaining signs fitting into the budget. Mr. Vogel said he believed that the Chamber had agreed to fund some of the cost of an electronic sign that would represent the opportunity for all organizations to show their events. Chairperson Niebruegge said one location that was mentioned was the island by Daumbachers, but any location will be dependent on IDOT and property owners. Chairperson Niebruegge said the group created a list of information needed to move forward with the sign before the group can actually start making and decisions. Chairperson Niebruegge said that she would pull together all the information and bring it to the next meeting in order for the group to begin to move forward.

**Mayor Speiser stated there was a Community Development Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, November 20, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.**

#### **EXHIBIT F**

##### **Community Development Committee Meeting:**

Chairperson Elizabeth Niebruegge called the meeting of the Community Development Committee Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 20, 2013.

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

1. Memorial Day Event: Chairperson Niebruegge said that she had reached out to Vic Rose from the American Legion to discuss some of the groups' ideas for that day as well as try and find a time for him to meet with group. Chairperson Niebruegge said in the end it was decided that the group could pull together some ideas and thoughts and email them to Vic and he would act as a liaison with the Legion and we can start moving forward with planning.
2. Gazebo grants: Chairperson Niebruegge brought up the gazebo grants saying they are in motion. With the special timeline involved with grants would most likely keep the gazebo project from being completed for the next Memorial Day Celebration.
3. Flag poles: Chairperson Niebruegge said there is new piece in the works for the Village Park which would be a memorial that would consist of 7 flag poles circling behind the soldier statue that would display the flags for each branch of military, POW, MIA and the American Flag.
4. Event ideas: Chairperson Niebruegge said that Frank Koskosky brought up the idea that maybe the Boy scouts could teach the group how to properly fold an American flag. He also said there is a poem about the American Flag that tells about what each stripe and star represents and could be spoken at the event.

Other ideas were as followed:

1. Air Force Honor Guard:
2. Crosses in the Park.
3. Active duty and who have served to wear their uniform that day.
4. Photo Wall of military who have served or serving as present.

5. Community Service: Chairperson Niebruegge said the Community Service group talked about finding two community events, one in spring and one in the fall. Chairperson Niebruegge said the one in the spring will be called the Freeburg Spring Sweep or commonly called "The Sweep". That day the residents would go around their homes and "sweep up" the areas and can go help neighbors that are unable to do it themselves. Then everyone would be invited back to the Village Park where all of the Freeburg service groups could have tables set-up and inform people about what their organization does and how they serve others before themselves. There would be hot dogs, food and drinks also at the park. Chairperson Niebruegge said in the fall we will have a fall event called "Fall Fix It"

6. Beautification: Chairperson Niebruegge said that she will be meeting with the Grade and Middle School to discuss a potential community garden that would be housed on the school grounds, which the school could utilize during the year, and then in the summer it could be used by residents as well as a groups that could grow produce to be donated the local Food Bank. Chairperson Niebruegge said we talked about businesses and groups that could be reached out for donations of flowers and such for beautification projects.

**Mayor Speiser stated there was an Electric Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, December 11, 2013 at 5:30 p.m.**

**EXHIBIT G:**

**Electric Committee Meeting:**

Trustee Mike Blaies called the meeting of the Electric Committee Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 11, 2013.

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Portable Generator Replacement: Trustee Blaies said Shane ordered a 30-gallon tank for the portable generator which is in service. Trustee Blaies said we are going to hold off on the other generator until next year's budget. Trustee Blaies said Shane would like to look into purchasing a 100-gallon portable tank to transport fuel.
2. Wiegmann's project: Trustee Blaies said this project is still moving forward and everything is going smooth there.

3. Shed: Trustee Blaies said Shane is still working with the contractor getting the service square away with the voltage. We are working on getting some new lights up also. Trustee Blaies said we are currently parking the Village vehicles in the shed keeping them out of the bad weather. Trustee Blaies said the shed is not hooked up for heat yet.

4. Cost of electric materials: Trustee Blaies said the committee discussed establishing a set fee for an electric service. Trustee Blaies said we have approved St. Clair County Building and Zoning's agreement effective 1/1/2014 and this to be updated and included in the packet.

5. Rate Study: Trustee Blaies said we will be working with BHM&G on this.

Trustee Mike Blaies said at this time he would like to make a motion.

*Trustee Mike Blaies motioned we approve LED lighting for Village Hall, the old power plant and new shed not to exceed \$11,000 and Trustee Elizabeth Niebruegge seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Trustee Mike Blaies – aye; Trustee Elizabeth Niebruegge – aye; Trustee Steve Smith – aye; Trustee Matt Trout – aye; Trustee Dean Pruett – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – aye. All voting aye, motion carried.*

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

#### **EXHIBIT H:**

##### **Personnel/Police Committee Meeting:**

Trustee Ramon Matchett called the meeting of the Personnel/Police Committee Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 11, 2013.

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

##### **POLICE: OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Trustee Matchett said we went into Executive Session to discuss the arbitration decision on Blomenkamp and Burrows.

2. Trustee Matchett said Shane was present to advise the committee that Tyler Isaak has completed the requirements and he is eligible for promotion to Level 3 Apprentice Lineman with a pay increase to \$25.26/hour effective 12/1/2013.

Trustee Matchett said at this time he would like to make a motion.

*Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. motioned we approve Tyler Isaak be promoted to Level 3 Apprentice Lineman at the hourly rate of \$25.26 effective 12/1/2013 and Trustee Mike Blaies seconded the motion. All voting aye, motion carried.*

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

##### **PERSONNEL:**

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Trustee Matchett said we talked about earned comp time for Gregg Blomenkamp. Trustee Matchett said he would like to make a motion.

*Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. motioned to pay Gregg Blomenkamp for 64.75 hours of earned compensatory time and Trustee Matt Trout seconded the motion. All voting aye, motion carried.*

### **EXHIBIT I:**

Mayor Speiser called the meeting of the Committee As A Whole Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 11, 2013.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Tax Levy: Mayor Speiser said we talked about the tax levy which we passed this evening.

2. Village Liability Insurance Renewal: Mayor Speiser said we talked about the workers liability comp coverage which was voted on earlier on the agenda.

3. Refinancing of TIF Bonds: Mayor Speiser said we talked about moving forward with Edward Jones to refinance the TIF Bonds. Edward Jones' is projecting that we will save about \$88,000 over the life of the bonds. Mayor Speiser said in the long run will save the city \$55,000 per year because we won't have to pay Joe Koppeis. Mayor Speiser said he would like to have a motion at this time.

*Trustee Elizabeth Niebruegge motioned the Village Board move forward with Edward Jones to refinance the TIF Bonds and Trustee Mike Blaies seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL:** Trustee Elizabeth Niebruegge – aye; Trustee Mike Blaies – aye; Trustee Matt Trout – aye; Trustee Dean Pruett – aye; Trustee Steve Smith – abstain; Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – aye; (5 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstain, 0 absent). Five voting aye, motion carried.*

4. Committee meeting schedule: Mayor Speiser said we discussed rescheduling the committee meetings into two Wednesdays nights to streamline our meeting schedule. Mayor Speiser said starting in January we will have board meetings their normal nights and on January 15<sup>th</sup> we will have Electric, Water/Sewer and Streets Committee meetings, then January 29<sup>th</sup> we will have Legal/Ordinance, Finance and Personnel/Police committee meetings. Mayor Speiser said this way if we do need an extra meeting there will be two Wednesdays left opened for that. Mayor Speiser said if this doesn't work out we can always go back to the original dates.

Mayor Speiser said there was a Community Development Committee meeting at 6:00 p.m. tonight and the minutes are unavailable.

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

Legal/Ordinance Committee Meeting – Wednesday, December 18, 2013 – 4:45 p.m.

Water/Sewer Committee Meeting – Wednesday, December 18, 2013 – 5:30 p.m.

Streets Committee Meeting – Wednesday, December 18, 2013 – 6:30 p.m.

Finance Committee Meeting – Monday, December 18, 2013 – 7:30 p.m.  
CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF CHRISTMAS EVE/DAY – Tuesday, December 24, 2013  
and Wednesday, December 25, 2013  
CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF NEW YER’S DAY – Wednesday, January 1, 2014  
Board Meeting – Monday, January 6, 2014 – 7:30 p.m.

**VILLAGE MAYOR & TRUSTEES’ COMMENTS:**

**Trustee Dean Pruett** – He would like to thank John and the Public Works Department guys on a great job in cleaning the streets from the snow. We were a lot better than a lot of communities in the area. He said believe me he knows.

**Trustee Ramon Matchett** – He like to thank them also on a good job.

**Trustee Mike Blaies** – He also would like to thank the guys also for great job.

**Mayor Seth Speiser** – He said texted John to let him know that people commented to him how good the street was cleared and they could get around without any trouble. Seth said it is nice to hear things like that from the community.

**Village Clerk Jerry Menard**- She would like to thank them as well.

**Trustee Matt Trout** – He thank you John and the workers for taking care of streets and working longer hours to make sure the job got done.

**Trustee Steve Smith** – He would like to say ditto to everything that was said so far. Steve said he would like to explain why he voted to abstain on the TIF Bonds; he feels there is a conflict of interest. Steve also explained why he voted against the Tax Levy. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Trustee Elizabeth Niebruegge** – She said ditto to what everyone said and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**STAFF COMMENTS:**

**Village Administrator Tony Funderburg** – He said ditto to it all. He would just like to see everyone do better and work faster, just joking.

**Attorney Brian Manion** – He said he really enjoyed getting to know everyone at the Christmas party and it was a lot of fun. He felt it was good morale for the Village Board members, staff, and Village employees.

**Public Works Director John Tolan:**

**Shane Krauss:** He would like to thank everyone who showed up for the Christmas party. He heard only great things about it. He hopes to see us do it again next year. Everyone did comment on what a great time we all had at the Christmas party, before the meeting adjourned.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Speiser called for motion to adjourn the meeting.

*Trustee Matt Trout motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. and Trustee Elizabeth Niebruegge seconded the motion. All voting aye, motion carried.*



Jerry Lynn Menard  
Village Clerk