

VILLAGE PRESIDENT
Seth Speiser

VILLAGE CLERK
Jerry Menard

VILLAGE TRUSTEES
Ray Matchett, Jr.
Lisa Meehling
Mike Blaies
Tom Carpenter
Michael Heap
Robert Kaiser

VILLAGE TREASURER
Bryan A. Vogel

VILLAGE OF FREEBURG

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**INTERIM
VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR**
Matt Trout

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
John Tolan

POLICE CHIEF
Michael J. Schutzenhofer

ESDA COORDINATOR
Eugene Kramer

VILLAGE ATTORNEY
Weilmuenster Keck Brown, P.C.

VILLAGE OF FREEBURG, ILLINOIS BOARD MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2023 @ 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 2, 2023, 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 James (Mike) Blaies – here; Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – here; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – here; Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap – here; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – here; Trustee Tom Carpenter – here; Mayor Seth Speiser – here; Mayor Seth Speiser (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 Tuesday, September 5, 2023 for approval.

Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling motioned to accept the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting Tuesday, September 5, 2023, and Trustee James (Mike) Blaies seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.

EXHIBIT B:

Mayor Speiser stated we have the minutes of the Public Hearing Meeting Tuesday, September 18, 2023 for approval.

Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling motioned to accept the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting Tuesday, September 5, 2023, and Trustee James (Mike) Blaies seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.

EXHIBIT C:

Mayor Speiser stated we have the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Monday, September 18, 2023 for approval.

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Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. motioned to accept the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting Monday, September 18, 2023, and Michael (Mike) Heap seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.

EXHIBIT D:

FINANCE:

Trustee Tom Carpenter (Chairperson) reported on the Finance Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, September 27, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

1. **REVISE OF BOARD LISTS:** Trustee Carpenter said we Reviewed the Board Lists and discussed specific listings: High Tide Technologies; Whitecap.

2. **REVIEW OF INVESTMENTS:** Trustee Carpenter stated Interim Village Administrator Matt Trout advised the committee we are making over 5% in our IPTIP accounts and doesn't see anything that needs to be moved at this point. Treasurer Vogel said our money market fund has approximately \$2,000,000 in it, and you can get a 7-month CD at 5% for 7 months. Treasurer Vogel recommend moving \$1,000,000 into a 7-month CD.

Trustee Tom Carpenter motioned to the purchase of a \$1,000,000 CD at 5% for seven month, and Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; (6 ayes 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, motion carried.**

3. **INCOME STATEMENT:** Trustee Carpenter said Trustee Blaies commented our revenues continue to be low.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Trustee Carpenter stated we have the Treasurer's Reports for June 30, 2023 and July 31,2023

Trustee Tom Carpenter motioned the Approval of the Treasurer Report's for June 30, 2023, and July 31, 2023, and Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap – aye; (6 ayes 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, motion carried.**

FUND AND ACCOUNT BALANCE REPORT:

Trustee Carpenter said the water fund is at a negative balance of \$48,941.70.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Attorney Invoices: The invoice was reviewed by the committee.

2. Newsletter: Trustee Carpenter stated Office Manager Julie Polson said the newsletter went out.

3. Ordinances #1774: Trustee Carpenter stated Ordinance #1774 Water Rate Increase will be taken care under Ordinances on the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Haier Plumbing's Change Order #7 for a VFD: Trustee Carpenter stated we have a Change Order #7 for a VFD at the plant for a motor control and extending the final completion to December 15th.

Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser motioned the approval of Hier Plumbing & Heating Change order #7 and Trustee James (Mike) Blaies seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – nay; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap – aye; (5 ayes 1 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, motion carried.**

Interim Village Administrator Matt Trout advised the committee the final TIF report has been submitted, so this should be the end of the TIF. He commented Scott from TWM will be in attendance at the next Water/Sewer committee meeting on October 11th to give us an update on our water system projects. Chad Rice from IEPA said there are about 15 more items he needs, and Scott will be here to discuss that.

TREASURER'S REPORT: This was taken care of on the agenda under Finance.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: None.

EXHIBIT G:

ESDA REPORT: Mayor Speiser called on ESDA Coordinator Gene Kramer. Gene was not present. Mayor Speiser said if you have any questions on Gene's ESDA Report please call him.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Zoning Administrator Report: None.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: None.

CONTRACTS, RELEASES, AGREEMENTS & ANNEXATIONS:

BIDS: None.

EXHIBIT H:

RESOLUTIONS: Mayor Speiser stated we have Resolution #23-15 A Resolution in Support of the St. Clair County Parks Grant.

Trustee Tom Carpenter motion to adopt Resolution #23-15 by title only, and Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye, Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap – aye; (6 ayes 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, motion carried.**

EXHIBIT I:

ORDINANCE: Mayor Speiser stated we have Ordinance #1774. An Ordinance Amending Water Rates.

Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap motion to adopt Ordinance #1774 by title only, and Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; (6 ayes 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, motion carried.**

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

APPOINTMENTS: None.

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS:

EXHIBIT J:

Electric Committee Meeting: Mayor Speiser stated Electric Committee Meeting was held on Wednesday, September 13, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. minutes

The following item or items were talked about or discussed:

1. Customer Issues: Trustee Blaies said Head Lineman Shane Krauss reported a limb down in the S. Edison/S. Cherry area and had to shut down the line for safety remove it. Shane would like to start focusing on replacing the streetlights with LED light out in the Timberwolf and Lone Oak Subdivisions.
2. IMEA Energy Efficiency Grant: Trustee Blaies said nothing new to report.
3. Cemetery Road Line Extension: Head Lineman Shane Krauss is aware properties are selling but has not received any requests for power yet. He is waiting in the temporary loop cabinet, and it should be here in early October.

4. South substation Switchgear Preventative Maintenance: Trustee Blaies said this was previously approved, and Shane is looking at an October-November timeframe for the maintenance to be done.

One of the trees that fell down in the park took out a service that we use for the Fall Festival.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Tatum Solar Request: Interim Village Administrator Matt Trout advised the committee request is not above the 10kw, but they currently have a system installed at 7.1kw. This request is for a 7.6kw, so they would be over the limit when combined. Public Works Director John Tolan gave us an update on this issue.

Head Lineman Shane Krauss said on the Versalift truck had a leak and took it to Equipment Services. They had an issue with obtaining parts and can't put it back together. He has since found out we can get the parts from Versalift and will get it fixed as soon as their schedule allows. The truck is 24 years old but we keep it parked inside.

EXHIBIT k

Public Works Committee Meeting: (Trash/Water/Sewer) Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser (Chairperson) reported on the Trash/Water/Sewer Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, August 10, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

The following item or items were talked about or discussed:

1. New Sewer Plant/Sewer Loan: Trustee Kaiser said Public Works Director John Tolan stated the punch list meeting with Burns & McDonnell was very thorough. He and Matt received the punch list yesterday with 286 items on it. Public Works Director John Tolan said this was needed as it gives everyone involved a list of the items that need to be addressed. Interim Matt Trout said there are substantial items on that list like the HVAC system for the admin building. Public Works Director John Tolan said they are still operating manually but hopes the punch list will get us closer to operating automatically. He also advised we have run into some issues. The influent screen was working for 3-4 weeks and has since quit. Adam has been talking to the manufacturer on getting the fixed. The admin floors are being installed.

*Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser motioned to the approval of Haier Plumbing & Contracting Pay Request #21 in the amount of \$215,592.20, and Trustee James (Mike) Blaies seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL:** Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – aye; Trustee Denise Albers – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, the motion carried.***

2. Sewer Issues: None.

3. FSH Minutes: Public Works Director John Tolan advised the committee we switched over the Gass property and installed a fire hydrant there. We also relocated a fire hydrant in Saturn Terrace to a better location. SLM has switched over to free chlorine residual, and we have started flushing hydrants. website. Public Works Director John Tolan also provide information to be published in the Tribune.

4. Water System Study: Trustee Kaiser said this was taking early on the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Works John Tolan received the THM samples back and they were very good results. Eric and Trevor are flushing and performing maintenance on the hydrants. Lead inventory letters are going back out. He attended the IEPA conference today, and 75% of it was on lead inventory and replacement. We will continue to work to have something ready in order to try to receive funds to replace them.

EXHIBIT :

Public Property Committee Meeting: (Streets/Municipal Center/Pool/Parks & Recreation)
Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. reported on the Streets/Municipal Center/Pool/Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, September 13, 2022 at 6:38 p.m.

The following items were talked about or discussed:

POOL:

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Matchett said Public Works Director John Tolan advised the committee the ice machine has been winterized and Pepsi has been out. The pool will be winterized and the pool cover on shortly. The street crew power washed the pavilion and gazebo.

STREETS:

OLD BUSINESS:

1. East Drainage Problem Areas/Stormwater Run-Off: Public Works Director John Tolan advised the committee we worked on the culverts at St. Clair/Alton/Phillips and both were repaired to oil and chipping. We had a crew on West Street ditching

2. Customer Issues: Trustee Matchett said Village Crew Worker Bob Jenkins said the residents are happy with the stop sign installed by Market Place.

3. Wolf Road Project: Interim Village Administrator Matt Trout stated we will meet with Oates at the IML Conference.

4. MFT: Trustee Matchett said Public Works Director John Tolan advised the 2023 oil and chipping has been completed. Our guys did a great job, and the police were very helpful. Mr. Feder's compliment on the alley work done.

Public Works Director John Tolan advised the committee the storm damage grinding has been completed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Legal/Ordinance Committee Meeting:

Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap reported on the Legal/Ordinance Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, September 27, 2023 at 6:10 p.m.

The following item or items were talked about or discussed:

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Zoning Report/Nuisance Properties: Trustee Heap said Interim Village Administrator Matt Trout issued 4 building permits, 1 pool, 1 home addition, 1 fence, 1 wrecking. Matt advised the committee we are going to be dealing with the home on Torrey Lane for a while. He will review the issues with Attorney Keck and how we are going to handle them. Chief Schutzenhofer has made several attempts to serve ordinance violations regarding the overgrown grass, but no-one around to serve. We are going to have a company maintain the grass and we will file a lien against them.
2. Development Updates: Trustee Heap said the Murphy's are working on the engineering plans
3. Despain Property: Trustee Heap said our Attorney Fred Keck said this has become a legal matter. Our insurance company has 30 days to advise if they are going to defend us.
4. Sunset Ridge/Phil Sheets Detention Area: Nothing on this.
5. Vacation of Village Easement on Regions Bank Property: Trustee Heap said we held a discussion on this issue.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Vacant Property Purchase: Trustee Matchett said Andy Bittle contacted us saying g there is a parcel for sale abutting our property behind the street shed. Our options are to conduct a title search that t would cost \$400-\$500 or purchase the parcel for \$786. The committee agreed to pay the \$786 and be done with it.

2. Resolution #23-15: Trustee Heap said this was taken care of earlier on the agenda under Resolutions.

GENERAL CONCERNS: None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

EXHIBIT S:

Personnel/Police Committee Meeting:

Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling (Chairperson) reported on the Personnel/Police Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, September 27, 2023 at 6:28 p.m.

POLICE:

OLD BUSIENSS:

Trustee Meehling said Matt said he and Chief Schutzenhofer summarized the 100 calls received since last meeting. The remain SUVs have been received and place in service. The body cameras and in-car cameras arrived. The company will install then November 6th. Interim Village Administrator Matt Trout and Attorney Keck will meet with Buddy Parker regarding the discipline issue. The process is about training our officers so they will be knowledgeable and comfortable using the equipment before they go live. Chief Schutzenhofer advised the committee the no cash bail went into effect on the 18th.

NEW BUSINESS:

1: Mike Borkowski End of Probation: Trustee Meehling said Chief Schutzenhofer advised the committee both Mike Borkowski is doing outstanding work, and he recommends the end of probation.

Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling motioned Mike Borkowski be taken off probation, and Trustee James (Mike) Blaies seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap – aye; (6 ayes 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, motion carried.**

PERSONNEL:
OLD BUSINESS:

1. CDL: Attorney Keck spoke with several lawyer at the IML Conference, and all of them are following the statute and sending employees to junior college. Matt said we need to start budgeting for this program. Once we get some employees trained, they can do so in the future. We will send one employee each from public works and electric.
2. Office Staff and Public Works Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Vacation: Trustee Meehling said Attorney Keck will have this done at the next committee meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

GENERAL CONERNS: Public Works Director John Tolan advised the committee Jeff Moh's official retirement date is Monday, and his party will be held at noon at the electric shed.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Combined Planning and Zoning Board Meeting – Tuesday, October 10, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.
Electric Committee Meeting – Wednesday, October 11, 2023 – 5:30 p.m.
Water/Sewer Committee Meeting – Wednesday, October 11, 2023 – 5:45 p.m.
Streets Committee Meeting – Wednesday, October 11, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.
Board Meeting – Monday, October 16, 2023 – 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Speiser said we will be changing the October Committee Meetings to November 1st.

VILLAGE MAYOR, VILLAGE CLERK & TRUSTEES' COMMENTS:

Trustee Tom Carpenter – Welcome Tim

Trustee Elizabeth Meehling – She would like to thank of everyone who help out at the Chili Cook Off, and Matt did an outstanding job on the Chili Cook Off.

Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap – No thank you.

Village Clerk Jerry Menard – Welcome Tim.

Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – He thank Matt and Lisa for a great job on the Chili Cook Off.

Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – Welcome Tim

Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – Welcome Tim

Mayor Seth Speiser –

STAFF COMMENTS:

Public Works Director John Tolan –

Interim Administrator Matt Trout – He would like to thank everyone who helped out on the Chili Cook Off and who were sponsors for it.

Engineer Tim Pruett – He thanked the board for his new position at the village.
Chief of Police Mike Schutzenhofer – Welcome Tim

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

Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling motioned to adjourn the Regular Board meeting of Monday, October 2, 2023 at 7:59 p.m. and Trustee Tom Carpenter seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.



Jerry Lynn Menard
Village Clerk