

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

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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 MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 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, December 18, 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 Tom Carpenter – here; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – here; Trustee Dana Miller – 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, November 20, 2023 for approval.

Trustee James (Mike) Blaies motioned to accept the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting Monday, November 20, 2023, and Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.

EXHIBIT B:

Mayor Speiser stated we have the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Monday, December 4, 2023 for approval.

Trustee James (Mike) Blaies motioned to accept the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting Monday, December 4, 2023, and Trustee Dana Miller seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.

FINANCE: None.

TREASURER'S REPORT: None.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: None.

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EXHIBIT C:

ESDA REPORT: Mayor Speiser called on ESDA Coordinator Gene Kramer. Gene updated us on his December 18th ESDA Report.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

EXHIBIT D:

VILLAGE ENGINEER REPORT

1. Mayor Speiser said, everyone should have a print out of the Village Engineer's Reports. Village Engineer Tim Pruett updated the board on his December 18th Engineer Report.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: None.

CONTRACTS, RELEASES, AGREEMENTS & ANNEXATIONS: None.

BIDS: None.

EXHIBIT E:

RESOLUTIONS: Mayor Speiser stated we have Resolution #23-18 A Resolution Authorizing the Village to Accept and the Mayor to Executive an Agreement with Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services.

Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr, motioned to adopt Resolution #23-18 by title only, and Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee Dana Miller – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye, Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; (6 ayes 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, motion carried.**

EXHIBIT F:

RESOLUTIONS: Mayor Speiser stated we are going to table Resolutions #23-19 until the next board.

Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr, motioned to table Resolution #23-19 until next board meeting, and Trustee James (Mike) Blaies seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Dana Miller – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye, Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; (6 ayes 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, motion carried.**
meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

APPOINTMENTS: None.

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS:

EXHIBIT G:

Electric Committee Meeting: Trustee James (Mike) Blaies (Chairperson) reported on the Electric Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

The following item or items were talked about or discussed:

1. Customer Issues: Trustee Blaies said Head Lineman Shane Krauss advised the committee there were no outages.
2. IMEA Energy Efficiency Grant: Trustee Blaies said Public Works Director John Tolan stated there was nothing new to report. We will carry over about \$3,000 towards next year. Head Lineman Shane Krauss participated in a conference call concerning an emergence preparedness grant that IMEA will apply for. This grant will be used for mutual aid situations, and they sent out a questionnaire to all municipalities asking what we would need (transformers, poles).
3. Cemetery Road Line Extension: Trustee Blaies said Head Lineman Shane Krauss has not received any request for power.
4. South Substation Switchgear Preventative Maintenance: There were two engineers that inspected the breaker, and the test came back good. It is the oldest breaker we have and is a very significant part of the substation. We need to look at getting that in a future budget for replacement.
5. BHMG Cost of Service Study: Public Works Director John Tolan stated we don't have a timeline yet. Village Administrator Matt Trout said he feels there are close to providing us with some preliminary numbers.
6. Versalift and Worthington Turbo Charger Service Update: Public Works Director John Tolan advised the Versalift went to Springfield last week, and there are 3 trucks ahead of us. They are hoping to get to it within the next 2 weeks. The turbocharger quote came in \$2200 less than the original quote. We are hoping to get it shipped out in late December. Head Lineman Shane Krauss said we will get it back in service as quickly as we can.

NEW BUSINESS: Trustee Blaies said Public Works Director John Tolan attended IMEA's year end meeting. They are looking to extend all the member contracts starting in 2035-2055. There is a webinar on January 25th the Village Administrator Matt Trout and Attorney Fred Keck will attend. Public Works Director John Tolan commented the state is at 3% renewables and IMEA is at 11%.

Head Lineman Shane Krauss advised the committee the dielectric truck testing was done this week came back good. Trustee Blaies said Head Lineman Shane Krauss tracks our safety hours and we have reached 1,000 hours with no accidents. Trustee Blaies said he would like to commend them on that.

EXHIBIT H:

Public Works Committee Meeting: (Trash/Water/Sewer) Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser (Chairperson) reported on the Trash/Water/Sewer Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 5:56 p.m.

The following item or items were talked about or discussed:

OLD BUSINESS:

1. New Sewer Plant/Sewer Loan: Trustee Kaiser said, Public Works Director John Tolan advised the committee the electric crew installed fiber, and VIPower sliced everything together and now have internet. We have training on Friday for the equipment and SCADA. We will then get all the phones and alarms done. The substantial completion date is 12/15, and we have 4-5 big ticket items that need to be completed. The auger for the influent screen was replaced and appears to be working; the dissolved oxygen probers were replaced; the HVAC controllers are in and hopefully will have them in by Friday; they are replacing doors that were ordered wrong; and a vent needs to be moved. We do have an issue with the digester that controls the sludge. Burns is working on a solution. The IEPA sludge permit is up for renewal and Tim is working on that.
2. Sewer Issues: Village Engineer Tim Pruett is working on the sewer line project for next year. Village Engineer Tim Pruett and Public Works Director John Tolan chose the northwest quadrant and also a few areas on the east side of town that amount to 22,000 feet of sewer. The northwest quadrant is the one with the highest infiltration. Village Administrator Matt Trout confirmed there is \$300,00 in the budget that we have been collecting for the last 3 years for this type of work.
3. FSH Minutes:
4. Water System Study- TWM Invoices #82478 in the amount of \$1,000: Trustee Kaiser stated we have a TWM Invoice #82478 in the amount of \$1,000. He would like to make a motion at this time.

Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser motioned to pay TWM Invoice #82478 in the amount of \$1,000, 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 – aye; Trustee Dana Miller – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, the motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Volkert Invoice #1307346 in the amount of \$2,300: Trustee Kaiser stated we have Volkert Invoice #1307346 in the amount of \$2,300.00.

Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser motioned to pay Volkert Invoice #1307346 in the amount of \$2,300, 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 – aye; Trustee Dana Miller – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, the motion carried.**

Trustee Kaiser said also under new business Village Administrator Matt Trout advised the committee around 12 years ago covered bridge wanted our water. They have come back again asking for it. Matt doesn't know how many of those homes want our water.

EXHIBIT K :

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, December 13, 2023 at 6:20 p.m.

The following items were talked about or discussed:

POOL:

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. FCHS Donation Dinner, Dance and Auction Donation Request: Trustee Matchett said, the committee agreed to donate a 10-visit pool pass.

2. Smithton Athletic Association Triva Night Donation Request: Trustee Matchett said, the committee agreed to donate a 10-visit pool pass.

STREETS:

OLD BUSINESS:

1. E. Drainage Problem Areas/Stormwater Run-Off: Public Works Director John Tolan advised the committee there are no issues. Our crews have been replacing culverts on Peabody and Wolf Roads and will continue to do more.

2. Customer Issues: Nothing to report.

3. MFT: Trustee Matchett said, Public Works Director John Tolan advised the committee we will start to plan for next year. The overlay in Savanna Oaks will be the big project.

4. St. Clair County Parks Grant Update: Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESSW:

1. Village Insurance Renewal Update: Trustee Matchett said we took care of the renewal of village insurance earlier on the agenda under Resolutions.

2. Volkert Invoice #3511051 in the amount of \$956.25: Trustee Matchett stated we have Volkert Invoice #3511051 in the amount of \$956.25

Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. motioned to pay Volkert Invoice #3511051 in the amount of \$956.25, and Trustee Tom Carpenter seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Dana Miller – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, the motion carried.**

3. Solid Waste Collection Fee: Trustee Matchett said, we talked about the solid Waste Collections fees and this was tabled earlier on the agenda under Resolutions.

Trustee Matchett said, he has a couple hires, and at this time he would like to make a motion.

Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. motioned to recommend the hire of Brittney Borkowski as the Police Department Secretary, and Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; Trustee Dana Miller – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, the motion carried.**

Trustee Matchett said, he would like to make a motion.

Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. motioned to recommend the hire of Mary Downen as Office Manager, and 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 Tom Carpenter – aye; Trustee Dana Miller – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, the motion carried.**

Finance Committee Meeting – Monday, December 18, 2023 – 5:30 p.m. **Unavailable**
Legal/Ordinance Committee Meeting – Monday, December 18, 2023 – 5:45 p.m. **Unavailable**
Personnel/Police Committee Meeting – Monday, December 18, 2023 – 6:00 p.m. **Unavailable**

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF CHRISTMAS December 25th and 26th, 2023
CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF NEW YEAR'S DAY – January 1, 2024

Combined Planning and Zoning Meeting – Tuesday, January 9, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.
Electric Committee Meeting – Wednesday, January 10, 2024 – 5:30 p.m.
Water/Sewer Committee Meeting – Wednesday, January 10, 2024 – 5:45 p.m.
Streets Committee Meeting – Wednesday, January 10, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.
CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., DAY Wednesday, January 15, 2024.
Board Meeting – Tuesday, January 16, 2024 – 7:30 p.m.

VILLAGE MAYOR, VILLAGE CLERK & TRUSTEES' COMMENTS:

Trustee Tom Carpenter – No thank you.

Trustee Elizabeth Meehling – Welcome Mary to the Village of Freeburg, and Congratulations to Brittany on her new position. She would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

Trustee Dana Miller – Welcome Mary.

Village Clerk Jerry Menard – absent

Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – Welcome Mary to the Village of Freeburg, and Congratulations to Brittany on her new position. He would like to thank John and his crew for a good job keeping everyone safe from accidents. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – Congratulations to Brittany and Mary. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – Welcome Mary and Brittany. Everyone have a safe Holliday.
Mayor Seth Speiser –

STAFF COMMENTS:

Village Engineer Tim Pruett - Welcome Mary and Brittany.

Public Works Director John Tolan –


Interim Administrator Matt Trout – Welcome Mary and Brittany.

Chief of Police Mike Schutzenhofer – Welcome Mary and Brittany.

ESDA Coordinator Gene Kramer – Welcome Mary and Brittany.

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

Trustee James (Mike) Blaies motioned to adjourn the Regular Board meeting of Monday, December 18, 2023 at 7:49 p.m. and Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.


Jerry Lynn Menard
Village Clerk