

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
14 SOUTHGATE CENTER, FREEBURG, IL 62243
PHONE: (618) 539-5545 • FAX: (618) 539-5590
Web Site: www.freeburg.com

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 2, 2024 @ 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 2, 2024 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, November 18, 2024.

Trustee Dana Miller motioned to accept the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting Monday, November 18, 2024, and Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.

EXHIBIT B:

FINANCE

Trustee Tom Carpenter (Chairperson) reported on the Finance Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, November 18, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

1. **REVISE OF BOARD LISTS:** No questions.

2. **REVIEW OF INVESTMENTS:** Trustee Carpenter said, we have 2 CD's due on December 3rd and December 10th. Current rates at Citizens are 4.1% for 6 months. We would like to reinvest the Insurance Stability Fund CD and the Sewer Fund CD for 6 months. At this time, he would like to make a motion.

Village of Freeburg Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 2, 2024
Page 1 of 6

Trustee Tom Carpenter motioned the Insurance Stability Fund CD and Sewer Fund CD at Citizens for 6 months at the rate of 4.1% , and Trustee James (Mike) Blaies seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. – aye; Trustee Dana Miller – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nay, 0 absent 0 abstain). **All voting ayes, motion carried.**

3. **INCOME STATEMENT:** Trustee Carpenter said, we should be at 62 ½%. Village Administrator Matt Trout highlighted a few items and said we are trending very good.

4. **TREASURER’S REPORT:** Nothing to report.

5. **FUND AND ACCOUNT BALANCE REPORT:** Trustee Carpenter said, we are looking good over all.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Attorney Invoices: Attorney Invoices were reviewed by the committee.
2. Newsletter: The next newsletter is being worked on.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

GENERAL CONCERNS: None.

EXHIBIT C:

ESDA REPORT: Mayor Speiser called on ESDA Coordinator Gene Kramer. Gene was not present to give his report. Mayor Speiser stated everyone should have Genes report in their packet. If there are any questions please call give him a call.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Janet asked about the employee’s Christmas Bonus.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

EXHIBIT D:

VILLAGE ENGINEER REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2, 2024.

Mayor Speiser called on Village Engineer Tim Pruett. Tim was not present to give his report. Mayor Speiser stated everyone should have Tim’s report in their packet. If there are any questions please call give him a call.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: None.

CONTRACTS, RELEASES, AGREEMENTS & ANNEXATIONS: None.

BIDS: None.

EXHIBIT E:

OLD BUSINESS: Mayor Speiser stated we have Haier Plumbing invoice #1696FCR in the amount of \$318,683.89 for the Culvert Replacement Project. Village Administrator Matt said he did email it out to everyone to take a look at it. Matt went through an explained to everyone.

Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. motioned to pay Haier Plumbing Invoice #1696FCR in the amount of \$318,683.89 for the Culvert Replacement Project, and Trustee Tom Carpenter seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: ; Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee Dana Miller – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nay, 0 absent 0 abstain). 6 voting ayes, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Speiser said we have the hiring of a new Police Officer Andrew Hassel. Village Administrator Matt Trout said the committee was Trustee Meehling, Trustee Matchett, Chief Schutzenhofer, Sergeant Ruhmann and himself. We interview two candidates for the position. The committee did agree that Andrew was the best choice.

Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling motioned to hire Andrew Hassell as a Police Officer for the Freeburg Police Department, and Ramon Matchett, Jr. seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: ; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Dana Miller – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nay, 0 absent 0 abstain). 6 voting ayes, motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS: None.

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

EXHIBIT F:

Legal/Ordinance Committee Meeting:

Trustee Dana Miller reported on the Legal/Ordinance Committee Meeting held on Monday, November 18, 2024 at 5:45p.m.

The following item or items were talked about or discussed:

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Zoning Report/Nuisance Properties: Trustee Miller said, Village Engineer Tim Pruett reported nothing new since last meeting.
2. Development Updates: Trustee Miller said, Tim did get the plans from Murphy/Reiss project and is looking them over.
3. Despain Property: Trustee Miller said, nothing new.
4. FOIA Requests: Trustee Miller said, the FOIA Requests were reviewed by the committee.

NEW BUSINESS:

GENERAL CONCERNS: None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

EXHIBIT H:

Personnel/Police Committee Meeting:

Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling reported on the Personnel/Police Committee Meeting held on Monday, November 18, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

The following item or items were talked about or discussed:

POLICE:

OLD BUSIENSS:

1. K9 Program: Trustee Meehling said Chief Schutzenhofer said he has done some more research and asked if it is something the board wants to proceed with before he goes any further. Village Administrator Matt Trout said he and Chief Schutzenhofer will put together a list of what is and isn't covered under the K9 fund. Trustee Meehling said she thinks the program gives more value to the Police Department. The board agreed to move forward.

2. Police Officer Hire: Trustee Meehling said Chief Schutzenhofer talked about the hiring of a new police officer which we talked about earlier on the agenda.

Chief Mike Schutzenhofer summarized the 90 calls since our last committee meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: None

PERSONNEL:

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Employee Christmas Bonus: Trustee Meehling said we talked about the employee's Christmas Bonus. At this time, she would like to make a motion.

Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling motioned all full-time employees receive a \$100 bonus and part-time employees receive \$50 bonus and, Trustee James (Mike) Blaies seconded the motion, ROLL CALL: ; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; Trustee Dana Miller – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nay, 0 absent 0 abstain). **6 voting ayes, motion carried.**

GENERAL CONERNS: None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Combined Planning and Zoning Board Meeting Canceled, Tuesday, December 10, 2024.
Electric Committee Meeting – Wednesday, December 11, 2024 – 5:30 p.m.
Water/Sewer Committee Meeting – Wednesday, December 11, 2024 – 5:45 p.m.
Finance Committee Meeting – Monday, December 16, – 6:00 p.m.
Legal/Ordinance Committee Meeting – Monday, December 16, 2024 – 6:15 p.m.
Personnel/Police Committee Meeting – Monday, December 16, 2024 – 6:30 p.m.
Board Meeting – Monday, December 16, 2024 – 7:30 p.m.

VILLAGE MAYOR, VILLAGE CLERK & TRUSTEES' COMMENTS:

Trustee Tom Carpenter – He appreciated the telephone call from Lisa on the interview of the new police officer.

Trustee Elizabeth Meehling – No thank you.

Trustee Dana Miller – Welcome to new officer Hassel.

Village Clerk Jerry Menard – No thank you.

Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – Welcome to Andrew Hassel to the police department. A big thank you to John and Tim and anyone else that was involved in the replacement of the culvert.

Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – Welcome to Andrew Hassel to the police department

Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – Welcome to Andrew Hassel to the police department

Mayor Seth Speiser –

STAFF COMMENTS:

Village Engineer Tim Pruett – Absent.

Public Works Director John Tolan – Fire testing will be tomorrow.

Village Administrator Matt Trout – We are close Thursday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. for Sexual Harassment training at the fire hall. We did put an announcement in the Freeburg Tribune.


Chamber Christmas Party is 2:00 on Friday at Next – Up anyone is invited. Please remember to bring a unwrap toy this is for the Optimist Club toy drive. Saturday is the Country Mart holiday event. We still have tickets if anyone wishes to go. Don't forget we have our Lighted Christmas Prade Sunday at 5:00. Last but not least our employee Christmas Party will 14th out at the Sport's Park.

Chief of Police Mike Schutzenhofer – Thank you for the approval of Andrew Hassel for the new police officer.

ESDA Coordinator Gene Kramer – Absent

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, December 2, 2024 at 7:47 p.m. and Trustee Dana Miller seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.


Jerry Lynn Menard
Village Clerk