

**VILLAGE PRESIDENT**  
Seth Speiser

**VILLAGE CLERK**  
Jerry Menard

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

**VILLAGE TREASURER**  
Bryan A. Vogel

# VILLAGE OF FREEBURG

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## VILLAGE OF FREEBURG, ILLINOIS BOARD MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2026 @ 7:30 P.M.

**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**  
Keck Brown, P.C.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Seth Speiser called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., on Monday, January 5, 2026 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 Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – here; Trustee Tom Carpenter – 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 Board Meeting Monday, December 15, 2025.

*Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling motioned to accept the minutes from the Special Board Meeting Monday, December 15, 2025 and Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.*

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** None.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT:** None.

### **EXHIBIT B:**

#### **FINANCE**

**Finance Committee Meeting:** Trustee Tom Carpenter (Chairperson) reported on the Finance Committee Meeting held on Monday, December 15, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

**1. REVIEW OF BOARD LISTS:** Trustee Blaies questioned the following expense: Computron, Active Internet Technologies, Jerry Auto Body.

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2. **REVIEW OF INVESTMENTS:** Trustee Carpenter said a couple are coming due in February 2026.

3. **INCOME STATEMENT:** Trustee Carpenter said Administrator Matt Trout said we should be around 70%. He went through the various taxes and mentioned we have not yet received anything regarding the Veterans Tax pilot program. He highlighted a few items and said overall we are doing well.

4. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Nothing at this time.

5. **FUND AND ACCOUNT BALANCE REPORT:** Village Administrator Matt Trout said comparing with the same time as last year, overall, we are doing well in most funds,

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Attorney Invoices: Attorney Invoices were reviewed by the committee.

2. Newsletter: Trustee Carpenter said it is in production and should be mailed out this week.

3. IDOT Invoice: Village Administrator Matt Trout said he spoke with someone and was told we have until April 2026 to pay the invoice.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Trustee Carpenter stated Matt will be starting working on the budget.

**GENERAL CONCERNS:** None.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None.

**EXHIBIT C :**

**ESDA REPORT:** Mayor Speiser called on ESDA Coordinator Gene Kramer. Gene updated us in his January 5, 2026 ESDA Report.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None.

**REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE:**

**EXHIBIT D:**

1. Village Engineer Report January 5, 2026.

Mayor Speiser called on Village Engineer Tim Pruett. There were no questions.

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

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

**BIDS:** None.

**RESOLUTIONS:** None.

**ORDINANCES:** None.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

Mayor Speiser stated we have Socket Fiber presentation.

**APPOINTMENTS:** None.

**COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**EXHIBIT F:**

**Legal /Ordinance Committee Meeting:**

Trustee Dana Miller report on Lega/ Ordinance Committee Meeting held on Monday, December 15, 2025 at 6:16 p.m..

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Zoning Report/Nuisance Properties: Village Engineer Tim Pruett issued 2 occupancy permits and 1 building permit; demo permit for house on North Vine St. He was able to meet with the owner regarding nuisance property on North Richland St.
2. Development Updates: Trustee Miller said Village Engineer Tim Pruett said he has revised plans and is working with The Coffee Pot. He is still waiting on the creation of the lot. Tim said 5 Commerce Drive is up for auction, final date of January 15<sup>th</sup> . We have had some questions on some properties that are privately owned.
3. FOIA Requests: Trustee Miller said, the FOIA Requests were reviewed by the committee.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. St Clair County Board Review Hearing: Trustee Miller said Village Administrator Matt Trout said there are a couple commercial properties up for review.

Trustee Meehling said we might want to consider our fees for ATV & golf carts and extending the hours. We seem considerably higher than other communities.

**GENERAL CONCERNS:** None.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None.

**EXHIBIT G:**

**Personnel/Police Committee Meeting:**

Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling report on Personnel/Police Committee Meeting held on Monday, December 15r, 2025 at 6:30 p.m..

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

**POLICE:**

**OLD BUSIENSS:**

1.K-9: Chief Mike Schutzenhofer said the wiring to the kennel should be done Wednesday and that is the last piece.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Chief Report: Chief Mike Schutzenhofer summarized the 107 calls since our last committee meeting.

Chief Schutzenhofer said Andrew Hassel will be back the day before Christmas. He has been on military leave.

**PERSONNEL:**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Crew Worker Position : Matt stated nothing new but we need to get going on it.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Max Sallman's Request to Cash Out 20 Hours of Compensatory Time: Trustee Meehling said we have a request from Max Sallman to cash out 20 hours of compensatory time. Trustee Meehling said at this time she would like to make a motion.

*Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling motioned to accept Max Sallmans Request to Cash Out 20 Hours of Compensatory Time, and Trustee James (Mike) Blaies seconded the motion. ROLL*

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

**GENERAL CONERNS:** None

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

Combined Planning and Zoning Board Meeting – Tuesday , January 13, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.

Electric Committee Meeting – Wednesday, January 14, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.

Water/Sewer Committee Meeting – Wednesday, January 14, 2026 – 5:45 p.m.

Streets Committee Meeting – Wednesday, January 14, 2026 6:00 p.m.

CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF MARTIN LUTHER KING , JR. DAY– Monday, January 19, 2026

Board Meeting – Tuesday, January 20, 2026 – 7:30 p.m.

**VILLAGE MAYOR, VILLAGE CLERK & TRUSTEES' COMMENTS:**

**Trustee Tom Carpenter** – No thank you.

**Trustee Elizabeth Meehling** – Congratulations to John Tolan and Tony McDonald on their retirement.

**Trustee Dana Miller** – Congratulations to John Tolan and Tony McDonald on their retirement.

**Village Clerk Jerry Menard** – Congratulations to John Tolan and Tony McDonald on their retirement. And Happy Birthday to Dana & Gene.

**Trustee James (Mike) Blaies** – Congratulations to John Tolan and Tony McDonald on their retirement.

**Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr.** – Congratulations to John Tolan and Tony McDonald on their retirement.

**Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser** – Congratulations to John Tolan and Tony McDonald on their retirement.

**STAFF COMMENTS:**

**Village Engineer Tim Pruett** – Congratulations to John Tolan and Tony McDonald on their retirement.

**Public Works Director Chris** – Congratulations to John Tolan and Tony McDonald on their retirement.


**Village Administrator Matt Trout** – Congratulations to John Tolan and Tony McDonald on their retirement.

**Chief of Police Mike Schutzenhofer** – Congratulations to John Tolan and Tony McDonald on their retirement.

**ESDA Coordinator Gene Kramer** –  
Congratulations to John Tolan and Tony McDonald on their retirement.

**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, January 5, 2026 at 8:03 p.m. and Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.*

  
Jerry Lynn Ménard  
Village Clerk