

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 OF FREEBURG, ILLINOIS BOARD MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2025 @ 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
Weilmuenster 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 6, 2025 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 Dana Miller – here; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – here; Trustee Tom Carpenter – here; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – here; Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – here; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – 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, December 2, 2024 for approval.

Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling motioned to accept the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting Monday, December 2, 2024 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 Regular Board Meeting Monday, December 16, 2024 for approval.

Trustee James (Mike) Blaies motioned to accept the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting Monday, December 16, 2024 and Ramon Matchett, Jr. seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.

EXHIBIT C:

FINANCE

Trustee Tom Carpenter (Chairperson) reported on the Finance Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, December 16 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

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

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2. REVIEW OF INVESTMENTS:

Trustee Carpenter said, Village Administrator Matt Trout stated we have one coming due in February.

3. INCOME STATEMENT: Trustee Carpenter said, Village Administrator Matt Trout said we should be about 71%. He did highlight a few items. Water sales are doing well and are at 94%.

4. TREASURER’S REPORT: Nothing to report.

5. FUND AND ACCOUNT BALANCE REPORT: Village Administrator Matt Trout commented on the water numbers.

OLD BUSINESS:

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

2. Newsletter: Trustee Carpenter said the news letter will be sent out this week.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. ARPA: Trustee Carpenter said we had a Resolution that we passed last board meeting. This was the money from COVID for 2021-2022.

2. Budget (FY26): Trustee Carpenter said Village Administrator Matt Trout is starting to work on it.

EXHIBIT D:

ESDA REPORT: Mayor Speiser called on ESDA Coordinator Gene Kramer. Gene was not present to give his ESDA Report. Mayor Speiser said everyone should have his report in their packet. If you have any questions, please call Gene.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

EXHIBIT E:

VILLAGE ENGINEER REPORT FOR JANUARY 6, 2025.

1. Water Projects: Village Engineer Tim Pruett he is working to get plans and loan application completed to send to IEPA for permitting and the loan approval. Railroad permits and new water tower location at SAVE.

2. Saturn Terrance: Tim said owner wants to combine parcels and is asking to vacate some street rows. Village needs to determine what utilities are there and possible easements to require.

to an approval set of plans. The developer has asked that the mayor and clerk sign the IEPA Sewer Permit Application. This will allow the permit process which can take 60-75 days to get started.

4. St. Clair County Park Grant: Tim said the County has sent the Contract for the Grant to be executed by the Mayor.

ZONING REPORT: Tim said the Combined Planning and Zoning Board reviewed a Variance request for a computer business at the old doctor's building on West Washington. A Combined Board meeting is scheduled for January 14th.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: None.

CONTRACTS, RELEASES, AGREEMENTS & ANNEXATIONS: None.

BIDS: None.

RESOLUTIONS: None.

ORDINANCES: None.

OLD BUSINESS: Village Administrator Matt Trout said he asked our new police officer to be here tonight to introduce him. Matt introduced Officer Andrew Hessel.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

APPOINTMENTS: None.

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

EXHIBIT F:

Legal/Ordinance Committee Meeting:

Trustee Dana Miller reported on the Legal/Ordinance Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, December 16, 2024 at 6:23 p.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 stated we will have a Combined Planning and Zoning hearing on January 14th. Application is for a variance, the property is 302 Washington St., the old doctor's building. Tim continues to deal with nuisance properties as they come in.

2. Development Updates: Trustee Miller said, Village Engineer Tim said he did receive plans for the Murphy Development. He has a meeting with them last week and received and revised plans from the engineer. He will go through them and hopefully they have addressed all of our concerns. Trustee Miller asked Tim about Scooters. Tim responded that their next step will be applying for a building permit.

3. Despain Property: Trustee Miller said, Village Engineer Tim Pruett received a request from Village Attorney Fred Keck and the insurance attorney for a sketch of easements and utilities. He got together with Public Works Director John Tolan and Village Administrator Matt Trout and put together a sketch and sent to Attorney Keck.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. FOIA Request: Trustee Dana Miller stated the FOIA Requests were review by the committee.

GENERAL CONCERNS: None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

EXHIBIT G:

Personnel/Police Committee Meeting:

Trustee James (Mike) Blaies reported on the Personnel/Police Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, December 16, 2024 at 6:36 p.m.

The following item or items were talked about or discussed:

POLICE:

OLD BUSIENSS:

1. K9 Program: Trustee Meehling said Village Administrator Matt Trout spoke with the person that controls the trust. She confirmed that there is \$22,321 in the trust. She sent a list of what the money can and can't be use for. Matt let her know what our plan was and that this would probably utilize most of the money and she was fine with it.

2. Police Officer Hire: Trustee Meehling said we have our new police officer here tonight which Matt has already introduce Andrew Hessel. Lisa said we are glad to have you with us.

Chief Mike Schutzenhofer summarized the 124 calls since our last committee meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. SRO: Village Administrator Matt Trout stated there is no update on this.

PERSONNEL:

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

GENERAL CONERNS: None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Combined Planning and Zoning Board Meeting – Tuesday, January 14, 2025 – 6:00 p.m.

Electric Committee Meeting – Wednesday, January 15, 2025 – 5:30 p.m.

Water/Sewer Committee Meeting – Wednesday, January 15, 2025 – 5:45 p.m.

Streets Committee Meeting – Wednesday, January 15, 2025 – 6:00 p.m.

CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY– Monday, January 21, 2025

Board Meeting – Tuesday, January 21, 2025 – 7:30 p.m.

VILLAGE MAYOR, VILLAGE CLERK & TRUSTEES' COMMENTS:

Trustee Tom Carpenter – Welcome Andrew

Trustee Elizabeth Meehling – Welcome Andrew and thank to our public works department for all of their hard work through this snow we had.

Trustee Dana Miller – Welcome Andrew and thanks to our public works guys.

Village Clerk Jerry Menard – Again welcome Andrew and John thanks to you and your crew for a good job.

Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – Welcome Andrew and thanks to our public works guys.

Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – Welcome Andrew and John thanks to you and your crew for a good job.

Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – Welcome Andrew and John thanks to you and your crew for a good job.

Mayor Seth Speiser – He said Tim and Matt did work the office today answering the phones.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Village Engineer Tim Pruett –

Public Works Director John Tolan – Welcome Andrew. He said he does have a good group of guys working for the village. He said we did have a few break downs. We got everything up and running. They guys worked until 6:00 pm tonight.

Village Administrator Matt Trout – Waste Management will not be running tomorrow. He does not have an updated schedule for the rest of the week.

Chief of Police Mike Schutzenhofer – Not present.

ESDA Coordinator Gene Kramer – Not present.

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

Trustee Dana Miller Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling motioned to adjourn the Regular Board meeting of Monday, December 2, 2024 at 7:43 p.m. and Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.



Jerry Lynn Menard
Village Clerk