

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

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
Keck Brown, P.C.

VILLAGE OF FREEBURG, ILLINOIS BOARD MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2026 @ 7:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Seth Speiser called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., on Monday, February 2, 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 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 Tuesday, January 20, 2026.

Trustee Dana Miller Trustee motioned to accept the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting Tuesday, January 20, 2026 and Ramon Matchett, Jr. seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.

EXHIBIT B: FINANCE

Finance Committee Meeting: Trustee Tom Carpenter (Chairperson) reported on the Finance Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, February 28, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

1. **REVIEW OF BOARD LISTS:** Trustee Blaies questioned the following expense: Fletcher Reinhardt Co.; Axon Enterprise; Taser cartridges; Truck Centers Inc.; McCoy Construction & Forestry and Mascoutah Plumbing

Village of Freeburg Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 2, 2026
Page 1 of 7

2. **REVIEW OF INVESTMENTS:** Trustee Carpenter said Treasurer Bryan Vogel spoke with Village Administrator and confirmed these rates are still current and recommended going 6 months with the two CD's maturing in February. Trustee Carpenter said at this time he would like to make a motion.

*Trustee Tom Carpenter motioned to reinvesting the Electric CD maturing on 2/9/26 for \$59,310.30 and the Sewer CE maturing on 2/3/26 for \$548,605.60 at Citizens Community Bank for 6 months at 3.75%, and Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL:** Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Dana Miller – aye (6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent 0 abstain). **All voting aye, motion carried.***

3. **INCOME STATEMENT:** Trustee Carpenter said Administrator Matt Trout said we should be around 83%. He said we received 100% of the property tax this year. He talked about infrastructure money in electric and how it will need to be a priority with Public Works Director Chris Remick and Head Lineman Max Sallman to use for infrastructure improvements.

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

5. **FUND AND ACCOUNT BALANCE REPORT:** Village Administrator Matt Trout said we are doing well in most funds,

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Attorney Invoices: Attorney Invoices were reviewed by the committee.
2. Attorney Rates: Village Attorney Fred Keck explained the reason for the increase.
3. Newsletter: Trustee Carpenter said the Newsletter will go out in March.
3. IDOT Invoice: Nothing new.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. C.J. Schlosser & Company, L.L.C. Agreement:

Trustee Carpenter said we have been using this company for the least 3 years and our agreement has expired. Trustee Carpenter

GENERAL CONCERNS: None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Janet thanked the Public Works Department on a well-done job on the streets.

TREASURER'S REPORT: None.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: None.

EXHIBIT D:

ESDA REPORT: Mayor Speiser called on ESDA Coordinator Gene Kramer. Gene updated us on his February, 2, 2026 ESDA Report.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

EXHIBIT E:

1. Village Engineer Report February 2, 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.

EXHIBIT F:

ORDINANCES: Mayor Speiser stated we have Ordinance #1811 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 33 of the Revised Code of the Village of Freeburg.

Trustee Dana Miller motioned to adopt Ordinance #1811 by title only, and Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Trustee Dana Miller – aye
Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye
Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent 0 abstain). **All voting aye, motion carried.**

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Meehling said she would like to make a motion at this time.

Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling motioned a 5% pay increase for Village Administrator Matt Trout, and Trustee James (Mike) Blaies second the motion.

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

Village of Freeburg Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 2, 2026

Page 3 of 7

APPOINTMENTS: None.

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

EXHIBIT G:

Legal/Ordinance Committee Meeting:

Trustee Dana Miller reported on the Legal/Ordinance Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, January 28, 2026 at 5:57 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 said he had 3 occupancy permits and there were no building permits. Tim and Public Works Director Chris Remick made some process with the nuisance property on N. Richland St.

2. Development Updates: Trustee Miller said, Village Engineer Tim said the new owners of the old Murphy Development north of the Dollar General reached out to the Mayor and he told them to contact us but not heard from them. The Murphy's are looking at another property. He has not heard from the Phillips Development on Adele Street in the last couple of months. The Phillips Co. is looking to build another storage building on their lot in the Industrial Park. Tim said according to Adams Auction, 5 Commerce Drive is under contract but he doesn't know the name of the buyer. Tim is still waiting on full plans from The Coffee Pot.

3. FOIA Request: Trustee Dana Miller stated the FOIA Requests were review by the committee. Village Attorney Fred Keck discussed recent initiatives regarding FOIA requests. Village Administrator Matt Trout said we are going to start working with Laura Gavin into this process on the police side.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Side By Side Permits: Trustee Miller said this was brought up at one of the meetings. Trustee Meehling said she has been approached regarding our fees and hours. The board discussed and agreed to keep the inspection fee the same, lower the non-resident fee to \$50, extend the hours to midnight and remove the inclement weather clause. This was done under Ordinance earlier on the agenda.

Mayor Speiser said he talked to the Phillips Company, and they are going to contact Tim. They are ready to move forward.

GENERAL CONCERNS: None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

EXHIBIT H:

Personnel/Police Committee Meeting:

Trustee James (Mike) Blaies reported on the Personnel/Police Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, January 28, 2026 at 6:21 p.m.

The following item or items were talked about or discussed:

POLICE:

OLD BUSIENSS:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Chief Report: Chief Mike Schutzenhofer summarized the 154 calls since our last committee meeting.
2. Patrol Hire: Trustee Meehling said we went through the in-house process and will post in the Freeburg Tribune this week and next week.

OLD BUSINESS:

Village Administrator Matt Trout said the new crew worker, Ryan Schmidt, will start February 10th.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. John Tolan's request to be paid out for 14.5 days of vacation: Village Administrator said this is what he had at the time of his retirement. Trustee Meehling said she would like to make a motion.

*Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling motioned to accept the request of John Tolan's to be paid out for 14.5 days of vacation, and Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser seconded the motion, **ROLL CALL:** Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; Trustee Dana Miller – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent 0 abstain). **All voting aye, motion carried.***

2. Stan Ruhmann's request to be paid out for 348.75 compensatory hours and 348 vacation hours: Trustee Meehling said we also have a request from Stan Ruhmann to be paid out for 348.75 compensatory hours and 348 vacation hours. Village Administrator Matt Trout this is what he had at the time of his retirement.

*Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling motioned to accept the request of Stan Ruhmann to be paid out for 14.5 days of vacation, and Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. seconded the motion, **ROLL CALL:** Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; Trustee Dana Miller – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent 0 abstain). **All voting aye, motion carried.***

Village Administrator Matt Trout said Nolan Toennies has put in his notice and his last day will be February 10th. Matt asked the board if we can post the open lineman position in-house starting tomorrow. He would like to review the original application from 6 months ago since we had such a large pool of applicants.

GENERAL CONCERNS: Trustee Meehling said Mayor Speiser received a letter from Mayor Mike Todd from Millstadt thanking us for reaching out when they had the recent fire.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Combined Planning and Zoning Board Meeting – CANCELLED Tuesday, February 10, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.

Electric Committee Meeting – Wednesday, February 11, 2026 – 5:30 p.m.

Water/Sewer Committee Meeting – Wednesday, February 10, 2026 – 5:45 p.m.

Streets Committee Meeting – Wednesday, February 10, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.

CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF PRESIDENTS’ DAY– Monday, February 16, 2026

Board Meeting – Monday, February 17, 2026 – 7:30 p.m.

VILLAGE MAYOR, VILLAGE CLERK & TRUSTEES’ COMMENTS:

Trustee Tom Carpenter – No thank you.

Trustee Elizabeth Meehling – Again she like to thank Stan for his services on the police department and to the Public works department for a job well done with all the bad weather.

Trustee Dana Miller – She like to thank Stan for his services on the police department and to the Public works department for a job well done.

Village Clerk Jerry Menard – She would like to thank Chief Schutzenhofer and Village Administrator Matt Trout on a nice job on Stan retirement luncheon. The both of presented a very nice speech. Also, Chris she would like to thank your crew on job well done on the streets.

Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – Thanks to the Public works department for a job well done.

Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – He would like to thank Stan for his services on the police department the Public works department for a job well done.

Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – Same here.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Village Engineer Tim Pruett – No thank you.

Public Works Director Chris Remick–

Village Administrator Matt Trout- He said he has met with Attorney Keck and reached out to the police department union, public works department and the office staff union to set-up a meeting.

Chief of Police Mike Schutzenhofer – We will miss Stan.

ESDA Coordinator Gene Kramer – We will miss Stan. We are still waiting for the County for a final decision.

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, February 2, 2026 at 7:57 p.m. and Trustee Dana Miller seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.


Jerry Lynn Menard
Village Clerk