

VILLAGE PRESIDENT
Seth Speiser

VILLAGE CLERK
Jerry Menard

VILLAGE TRUSTEES
Ray Matchett, Jr.
Lisa Meehling
Mike Blaies
Tom Carpenter
Michael Heap
Robert Kaiser

VILLAGE TREASURER
Bryan A. Vogel

VILLAGE OF FREEBURG

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VILLAGE OF FREEBURG, ILLINOIS BOARD MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2023 @ 7:30 P.M.

INTERIM
VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR
Matt Trout

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
John Tolan

POLICE CHIEF
Michael J. Schutzenhofer

ESDA COORDINATOR
Eugene Kramer

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, August 21, 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 Robert (Bob) Kaiser – here; Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – here; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – here; Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap – 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, August 7, 2023 for approval.

Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling motioned to accept the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting Monday, August 7, 2023, and Trustee James (Mike) Blaies seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.

FINANCE: None.

TREASURER'S REPORT: None.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: None.

EXHIBIT B:

ESDA REPORT: Mayor Speiser called on ESDA Coordinator Gene Kramer. Gene was not present. Mayor Speiser said if you have any questions on Gene's ESDA Report call him.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Stan McDonald talked about some property. Stan asked to bring back the recycling bends.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Zoning Administrator Report: None.

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EXHIBIT C:

2. Combined Planning and Zoning Board Report: Mayor Speiser stated everyone should have the Combined Planning and Zoning Board Report in their packet.

EXHIBIT D:

2. Mayor Speiser stated National Rail Safety Week Proclamation will be in September.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: None.

CONTRACTS, RELEASES, AGREEMENTS & ANNEXATIONS: None.

BIDS: None.

EXHIBIT E:

RESOLUTIONS: Mayor Speiser stated we have Resolution #23-14 A Resolution Authorizing a Representative to Sign Loan Documents.

Trustee James (Mike) Blaies motion to adopt Resolution #23-14 by title only, and Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; (6 ayes 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, motion carried.**

EXHIBIT F:

ORDINANCE: Mayor Speiser stated we have Ordinance #1768. An Ordinance Amending the Traffic Schedule (Stop Sign)

Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. motion to adopt Ordinance #1768 by title only and Trustee Tom Carpenter seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; (6 ayes 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, motion carried.**

EXHIBIT G:

ORDINANCE: Mayor Speiser stated we have Ordinance #1769. An Ordinance Amending Chapter 1 of the Revised Code (Village Engineer)

Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling motion to adopt Ordinance #1769 by title only and Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett Jr. – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – nay; (5 ayes 1 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, motion carried.**

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

APPOINTMENTS: None.

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS:

EXHIBIT H:

Electric Committee Meeting: Trustee James (Mike) Blaies (Chairperson) reported on the Electric Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, August 16, 2023 at 5:31 p.m.

The following item or items were talked about or discussed:

1. Customer Issues: Trustee Blaies said Public Works Director John Tolan reported the electric crew have been dealing with limbs falling on our wires from previous storms.
2. IMEA Energy Efficiency Grant: Trustee Blaies said nothing new to report.
3. Cemetery Road Line Extension: Trustee Blaies said nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Storm Update -Tub Grinder Quote: Public Works Director John Tolan recommends to go with option 3 where AgriCycle will handle everything. Trustee Blaies said he would like to make a motion.

Trustee James (Mike) Blaies motioned to recommend to hire AgriCycle Option #3 to remove the storm debris, and Trustee Tom Carpenter seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, the motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Project Request #23-09: Substation Switchgear Replacement: Trustee Blaies said Head Lineman Shane Krauss met with a vendor at an IMEA conference who suggested looking into a retrofit situation for the breaker. Instead, Head Lineman Shane Krauss is proposing a maintenance inspection at a cost of \$6,550 in this year's budget.

Trustee James (Mike) Blaies motioned to recommend the approval of Fletcher Reinhardt's Quote in the amount of \$6,550 for the preventative maintenance, and Trustee Tom Carpenter seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, the motion carried.**

Trustee Blaies said Treasurer Bryan Vogel advised the committee we have options on the CD that amounts to \$181,000 that renews on 12/31/27 at 2.42%. We can leave it as is, are we can withdraw it and reinvest for 60 months at 3.19% and have a net increase of \$1,660.

Trustee James Blaies motioned to recommend to cash in the CD #51335017 of \$181,000 and reinvest it at 3.19% for 60 months, and Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – aye; Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap – aye; Trustee Tom Carpenter – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent). All voting aye, the motion carried.

EXHIBIT K

Public Works Committee Meeting: (Trash/Water/Sewer) Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser (Chairperson) reported on the Trash/Water/Sewer Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, August 16, 2023 at 6:08 p.m.

The following item or items were talked about or discussed:

OLD BUSINESS:

1. New Sewer Plant/Sewer Loan: Trustee Kaiser said, Interim Village Administrator Matt Trout advised the committee all of the old tanks are down, and they have started moving dirt and clearing the area for the new fence. Public Works Director John Tolan stated Jeff Barnhard conducted training on the actual process of the plant. He and his crew were very prepared and explained everything. John commented it was very worthwhile. We are in need of the SCADA personnel, and the punch list will be addressed next Thursday. Burns & McDonnell will have a computer technology specialist to explain all the programs. Currently, everything is being done manually, and John is pushing them to get this automated.
2. Sewer Issues: Nothing to report.
3. FSH Minutes: Public Works Director John Tolan reported two more customers switched over from the cast iron line to the FSH line.
4. Water System Study- TWM Invoices #80402 in the amount of \$1,200.00 and Invoice #80403 in the amount of \$2,000: Trustee Kaiser stated he would like to make a motion.

Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser motioned to pay TWM Invoice #80402 in the amount of \$1,200, and Invoice #80403 in the amount of \$2,000, 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 Michael (Mike) Heap – aye; Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent). All voting aye, the motion carried.

Trustee Kaiser said Matt advised he and John met with Scott 2 weeks ago and provided TWMS's proposed water rate increase. Matt and John will meet with Illinois Rural Water tomorrow morning regarding their water study. Matt advised this is his best guess on a new water rate that is projected out 10 years. Matt doesn't think it is realistic to believe that we will get all the projects done within 5 years. He wants to compare the numbers from Illinois Rural Water to see if we are where we need to be. The water fund is broke and needs to be addressed. We will take the discussion to the next Finance committee meeting.

5. Elevated Storage Tank Cleaning: Trustee Kaiser said, Public Works Director John Tolan said we are waiting to be placed on the schedule.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Certificate of Deposit #51335017 Maturing December 3, 2027: Trustee Kaiser stated this has already been done.

2. Resolution #23-14: A Resolution Authorizing a Representative to Sign Loan Documents: Trustee Kaiser stated this has already been taken care of earlier on the agenda.

EXHIBIT M :

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, August 16, 2023 at 6:23 p.m.

The following items were talked about or discussed:

POOL:

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Swimming Facility Inspection Report: Trustee Matchett said, Public Works Director John Tolan said overall, the inspection went well with a few items noted on the report. The inspector wanted the drinking fountain fixed. The gate to the baby pool has been repaired. John complimented all of the pool managers for a job well done! The pool will be shut down after the homecoming.

STREETS:

OLD BUSINESS:

1. E. Drainage Problem Areas/Stormwater Run-Off: Public Works Director John Tolan advised the committee we had a culvert collapse on High Street/Railroad, and N. Alton by St. Joe's. Both will be taken care of before the Homecoming.

2. Customer Issues: Trustee Matchett said we continue to pick up limbs. We had quite a few broken limbs hanging from trees.
3. Wolf Road Project: Interim Village Administrator Matt Trout stated we continue to be denied for the collector street status. He advised the committee it is time to go back to the drawing board.
4. MFT: Trustee Matchett said, Public Works Director John Tolan advised the committee the oil and chipping dates are August 25th, September 1st and September 12th as a rain date. We will be spreading 16,000 gallons and have mapped out what areas are going to be addressed. Our crews have been preparing the streets.

NEW BUSINESSW:

1. Resident Request for Additional Stop Signs on N. Edison/Marketplace: Trustee Matchett said we had a request for additional stop signs, this was done earlier on the agenda under Ordinances.
2. Knights of Columbus Collection Request for September 16, 2023: Trustee Matchett said this is a yearly request from the Knights of Columbus. The committee agreed with the request.
3. Village Liability Insurance Renewal: Trustee Matchett said we are nearing renewal time. The committee agreed to remain with Gallagher.
4. Riess/Murphy Preliminary Plat: Trustee Matchett said, Matt commented at the last Combined Planning and Zoning Board meeting, the preliminary plat was present. Trustee Matchett said, we will have the proclamation for National Rail Safety Week at a later date. Our police vehicles will be ready in approximately a week. The previous rate quote for 3 years at 5.78% is still good. We will pay the first installment out of the budget.

Trustee Matchett, said Interim Village Administrator Matt Trout said we received a letter from the police union approving the use of the body cameras. They do want to meet prior to implementation of the cameras regarding the discipline issue. Chief Schutzenhofer has talked to several departments, and Swansea had implemented them. Chief Schutzenhofer said the officers will be trained.

Trustee Matchett said we did talk about the Sergeant position. At this time, he would like to make a motion.

*Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. motioned to recommend Stan Ruhmann be promoted to the Sergeant position, 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 Michael (Mike) Heap – aye; Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – aye; (6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent). **All voting aye, the motion carried.***

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Finance Committee Meeting – Wednesday, August 30, 2023 – 5:30 p.m.
Legal/Ordinance Committee Meeting – Wednesday, August 30, 2023 – 5:45 p.m.
Personnel/Police Committee Meeting – Wednesday, August 30, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.
Board Meeting – Tuesday, September 5, 2023 – 7:30 p.m.

VILLAGE MAYOR, VILLAGE CLERK & TRUSTEES' COMMENTS:

Trustee Tom Carpenter – Congratulations to you Stan. Tom explained why he voted against position for a full-time engineer.

Trustee Elizabeth Meehling – Congratulations Stan.

Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap – Congratulations Stan.

Village Clerk Jerry Menard – Congratulations Stan.

Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – Congratulations Stan.

Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. – Congratulations Stan.

Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser – Congratulations Stan.

Mayor Seth Speiser – He explained why we should have an engineer position. Letting us know how it will pay off in the next 5 years. He thinks the village needs to look into the position for an engineer for the village.

STAFF COMMENTS:


Public Works Director John Tolan – Congratulations Stan.

Interim Administrator Matt Trout – Congratulations Stan, and thank you for everything you have done for police department.

Chief of Police Mike Schutzenhofer – Congratulations Stan.

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, August 21, 2023 at 7:47 p.m. and Trustee James (Mike) Blaies seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.


Jerry Lynn Menard
Village Clerk