

**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

FREEBURG MUNICIPAL CENTER  
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PHONE: (618) 539-5545 • FAX: (618) 539-5590  
Web Site: www.freeburg.com

**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.

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

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Seth Speiser called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., on Monday, August 7, 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, July 17, 2023 for approval.

*Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling to accept the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting Monday, July 17, 2023, and Trustee James (Mike) Blaies motioned 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, July 26, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

1. **REVISE OF BOARD LISTS:** Trustee Carpenter said we Reviewed the Board Lists and discussed specific listings: Interface Security System; Freeburg Printing & Publishing.

2. **REVIEW OF INVESTMENTS:** Trustee Carpenter said we have no CD's maturing until June of 2024. We talked about cashing in one of our CD's early. We do have one CD coming due December 3, 2024 with interest rate of 2.15%. Village Treasurer Bryan Vogel would like to cash that in early and put it into a 7-month CD at Citizens with a 5% interest rate. Trustee Carpenter said he would like to make a motion.

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*Trustee Tom Carpenter motioned to Table cashing in the CD #51335017 until further notice and Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr. seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: All voting aye, motion carried.*

**3. INCOME STATEMENT:** Trustee Carpenter said Interim Village Administrator Matt Trout said that he and Laura reviewed the statement. We would be around 32-33% right now They do not see anything of issues at this time

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** None.

**FUND AND ACCOUNT BALANCE REPORT:**

Interim Village Administrator Matt Trout said Tony had mentioned the need to look at the water fund and raising rates in the next three months. Matt said everyone has been working on this, and thinks the main reason we are seeing this deficit is due to 100% of the money going into the insurance stability fund. We cannot wait for a rate study from the water project. We are meeting with TWM next week, and Jon has reached out to Illinois Rural Water. John said the goal for the meeting with TWM is to get a better idea of the rate increase for the project and if can be tied into a water rate increase at the same time.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Veteran's Property Tax Relief Reimbursement Program: Interim Village Administrator Matt Trout said that is a state pilot program that St. Clair County is included in. The veteran's tax has to make up 2.5% of our EAV. He has reached out to Dina at the county clerk's office. They are handling everything and are working with the state's attorney and treasurer's office. The first year will be reimbursed at 45% and 90% after that. We will receive additional information once the county has it figured out.

2. Trustee Carpenter stated we have received St. Clair County's Park Grant Application for this year. Normally, the grants awarded amount to \$25,000 and this year's grant is \$50,000. We discussed items needed with John and Scott. We are liking for a shed structure over the playground and an ADA sidewalk around the back side where the bleacher is.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** None.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT:** None.

**EXHIBIT C:**

**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:** None

**REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE:**

**EXHIBIT C:**

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT FOR JULY 17, 2023: None.**

2. Mayor Speiser read the Black Knights Drum & Bugle Corps Proclamation.

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

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

**BIDS: None.**

**RESOLUTIONS: None.**

**ORDINANCE: None.**

**OLD BUSINESS: None.**

**NEW BUSINESS: None.**

**APPOINTMENTS: None.**

**COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS:**

**EXHIBIT D:**

**Legal/Ordinance Committee Meeting:**

Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap reported on the Legal/Ordinance Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, July 26, 2023 at 5:55 p.m.

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Zoning Report/Nuisance Properties: Trustee Heap said Interim Village Administrator Matt Trout reported 8 building permits, 2 sheds, 1 sign, 2 decks/patio, 1 fence, 1 new home. With regard to nuisance properties, he has a list of properties that need to be addressed. The demolition on Cardinal Court has started.
2. Meadow Pines/Edison Estates Subdivisions: Trustee Heap said Matt has nothing new to report. John advised the committee the detention area at Meadow Pines has been cleaned out.
3. Despain Property: Trustee Heap said we have not heard anything just yet.
2. Sunset Ridge/Phil Sheets Detention Area: Trustee Heap said Attorney Keck is working on this.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Riess/Murphy Preliminary Plat: Trustee Heap said we talked about the Preliminary Plat. The Combined Planning and Zoning Board will discuss the preliminary plat at their next meeting on Tuesday, August 8<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee Heap advised we will have an Area Bulk Variance hearing on August 8<sup>th</sup> for the resident's shed to encroach on the 25-foot road setback.

**GENERAL CONCERNS:** None.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None.

**EXHIBIT S:**

**Personnel/Police Committee Meeting:**

Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling (Chairperson) reported on the Personnel/Police Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, July 26, 2023 at 6:09 p.m.

**POLICE:**

**OLD BUSIENSS:**

1. Project "Request #23-06 In Car and Body Cameras": Trustee Meehling said the labor was not included. Trustee Meehling stated at this time she would like to make a motion.

*Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling motion to approve Defender Project Solutions Quote #DPS-Q-22-132 in the amount of \$6,600 for labor, and Trustee James (Mike) Blaies seconded the motion.* **ROLL CALL:** Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – 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.**

Trustee Meehling said Chief Schutzenhofer summarized the calls since last meeting. Calls regarding the recent solicitors not following our code have been received and addressed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Sergeant Position Update: Trustee Meehling said Matt advised the committee we are going to interview all the applicants and will have something at the next committee meeting.

Chief Schutzenhofer advised the committee he and Matt met with Dr. Brink regarding the upcoming school year. It will be a part-time position this year. Dr. Brink would like a schedule of what officer will be there each day. Officer Brittney and Officer Scott will rotate the shift with one working 3 days a week and the other 2, and then switching the following week.

**PERSONNEL:**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1: CDL: Trustee Meehling said Interim Village Administrator Matt Trout said he and Public Works Director John Tolan and Attorney Keck. They do not see a way around having to do this. They will start working on this issue.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Stop Sign at Market Place and N. Edison: Trustee Meehling said those with private property do not require an ordinance. We will talk to Country Mart. Our public workers crew can put one up. Mayor Speiser asked to have them sign off on it.

Trustee Meehling said we discussed hiring a public work employee. At this time, she would like to make a motion.

*Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling motioned to the hire of Bill May as crew worker, and Trustee James (Mike) Blaies seconded the motion. ROLL CALL:* Trustee Elizabeth (Lisa) Meehling – aye; Trustee James (Mike) Blaies – 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.**

**GENERAL CONCERNS:** None

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

Combined Planning/Zoning Board – Tuesday, August 8, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.

Electric Committee Meeting – Wednesday, August 16, 2023 – 5:30 p.m.

Water/Sewer Committee Meeting – Wednesday, August 16, 2023 – 5:45 p.m.

Streets Committee Meeting – Wednesday, August 16, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.

Board Meeting – Monday, August 21, 2023 – 7:30 p.m.

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

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

**Trustee Elizabeth Meehling** – Welcome Bill and congratulations to the Black Knights on their Proclamation.

**Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap** – Welcome Bill.

**Village Clerk Jerry Menard** – Welcome Bill.

**Trustee James (Mike) Blaies** – Welcome Bill to the village.

**Trustee Ramon Matchett, Jr.** – Welcome Bill.

**Trustee Robert (Bob) Kaiser** – Welcome Bill.

**Mayor Seth Speiser** –

**STAFF COMMENTS:**

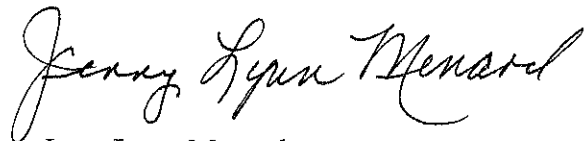
**Public Works Director John Tolan** – Welcome Bill. Just to let everyone know Bill starts the week-end of the homecoming.

**Interim Administrator Matt Trout** – If anyone would like to go to the IML, let him know.

**Chief of Police Mike Schutzenhofer** – Welcome Bill.

**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 7, 2023 at 7:45 p.m. and Trustee Michael (Mike) Heap seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.*



Jerry Lynn Menard  
Village Clerk