

**THE PUBLIC CAN PARTICIPATE THROUGH THE ZOOM CLOUD MEETING
APPLICATION AND CLICKING ON THE FOLLOWING LINK:**

Meeting ID: **447 872 7673**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4478727673>

We ask the public to mute their phone or mic until Public Participation
If you have any questions, please contact Matt Trout at mtrout@freeburg.com

REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA – January 20, 2026 - 7:30 P.M.

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Minutes of Previous Meeting
 - 4 – 1. January 5, 2026 - Board Meeting Minutes – **Exhibit A**
5. Finance
6. Treasurer’s Report
7. Attorney’s Report
8. ESDA Report – ESDA Report for January 5, 2026 – **Exhibit B**
9. Public Participation
10. Reports and Correspondence
 - 10 – 1. Village Engineer’s Report – **Exhibit C**
 - 10 – 2. Combined Planning and Zoning Board Report – **Exhibit D**
11. Recommendations of Boards and Commissions
12. Contracts, Releases, Agreements and Annexations
13. Bids
14. Resolutions
15. Ordinances
16. Old Business
17. New Business
18. Appointments
19. Committee Meeting Minutes/Recommendations
 - 19 – 1. Electric Committee Meeting – Wednesday, January 14, 2026 – 5:30 p.m. – **Exhibit E**
 - 19 – 2. Water/Sewer Committee Meeting – Wednesday, January 14, 2026 - 5:45 p.m. – **Exhibit F**
 - 19 – 3. Streets Committee Meeting – Wednesday, January 14, 2026 – 6:00 p.m. – **Exhibit G**
 - 19 – 3a. Recommend Andrew Hassel be taken off Probation
 - 19 – 3b. Recommend Ryan Schmidt be hired as Crew Worker
20. Upcoming Meetings
 - 20 – 1. Finance Committee Meeting – Wednesday, January 28, 2026 – 5:30 p.m.
 - 20 – 2. Legal/Ordinance Committee Meeting – Wednesday, January 28, 2026 – 5:45 p.m.
 - 20 – 3. Personnel/Police Committee Meeting – Wednesday, January 28, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.
 - 20 – 4. Board Meeting – Monday, February 2, 2026 – 7:30 p.m.
21. Village President’s and Trustees’ Comments
22. Staff Comments
23. Adjournment

At said Board Meeting, the Village Board of Trustees may vote on whether or not to hold an Executive Session to discuss the selection of a person to fill a public office [5 ILCS, 120/2 - (c)(3)]; personnel [5 ILCS, 120/2 - (c)(1)]; litigation [5 ILCS, 120/2 - (c)(11)]; real estate transactions [5 ILCS, 120/2 - (c)(5)]; collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives [5 ILCS 120/2 (C)(2)].

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

EXHIBIT A

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.

Village of Freeburg Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 5, 2026
Page 1 of 6

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 15th . 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.

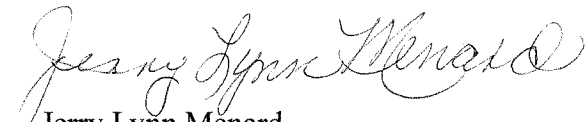
Village Administrator Matt Trout – Congratulations to John Tolan and Tony McDonald on their retirement.

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 Menard
Village Clerk



Freeburg ESDA-OHS Report January 20, 2026

Jan.6, 2026 - First Tuesday of the month ESDA outdoor tornado siren tests: Freeburg School Communications VHF radio tests, local emergency departments (Fire Dept. on VHF and Starcom, Police Dept. Starcom system only. and the IEMA Region 8 Starcom radio communication net tests.

National Weather Service Webinar scheduled Jan. 21, 2026, scheduled time 6:30 pm to 8:30 PM, concerning "Storm Anxiety".

NWS webinar scheduled "Skywarn Spotter" training class scheduled Jan. 27, 2026 starting at 6:30 pm and ending at 8:30 pm.

NWS advised all EMA/ESDA and public safety departments that Mr. Kevin Deitsch will be leaving the NWS St. Louis, Mo. office, to accept a promotion to Meteorologist in Charge at the Louisville, Ky NWS office. After March 2, 2026. Kevin was an ACTING MIC until he was replaced by Mr. Jim Sieveking. Kevin returned to his W.I.C. position at the St. Louis office. The W.I.C. position is the Warning Coordination Meteorologist. There is no announcement as to who or when the St. Louis NWS office will have a replacement W.C. M.

Monday evening, I had received several calls at home and discovered on the Facebook Platform, citizens of Freeburg, that the outdoor warning sirens were activated but that the sound of the tone was different from our standard siren tests. I received a call from the County EMA [OHS Coordinator Simmons, also stating their communication center was receiving calls about a Freeburg outdoor siren activation. I made a telephone call to the Freeburg Fire Chief who acknowledged an accidental sounding of the older controller for the "curfew" alert sounding siren. I reported to the ESDA office and confirmed NO identification of our local siren activations. I responded to the citizens on

Facebook to reduce any further concerns and advised the County EMA-OHS Coordinator of the situation.

On Jan. 14, 2026, I notified our Admin. Matt Trout, concerning the entry door to the ESDA office access from the outside requires repairs as it requires both the hard lock/unlock with a key AND the use of the FOB. Requested the recommendation on the correction to this issue as soon as possible.

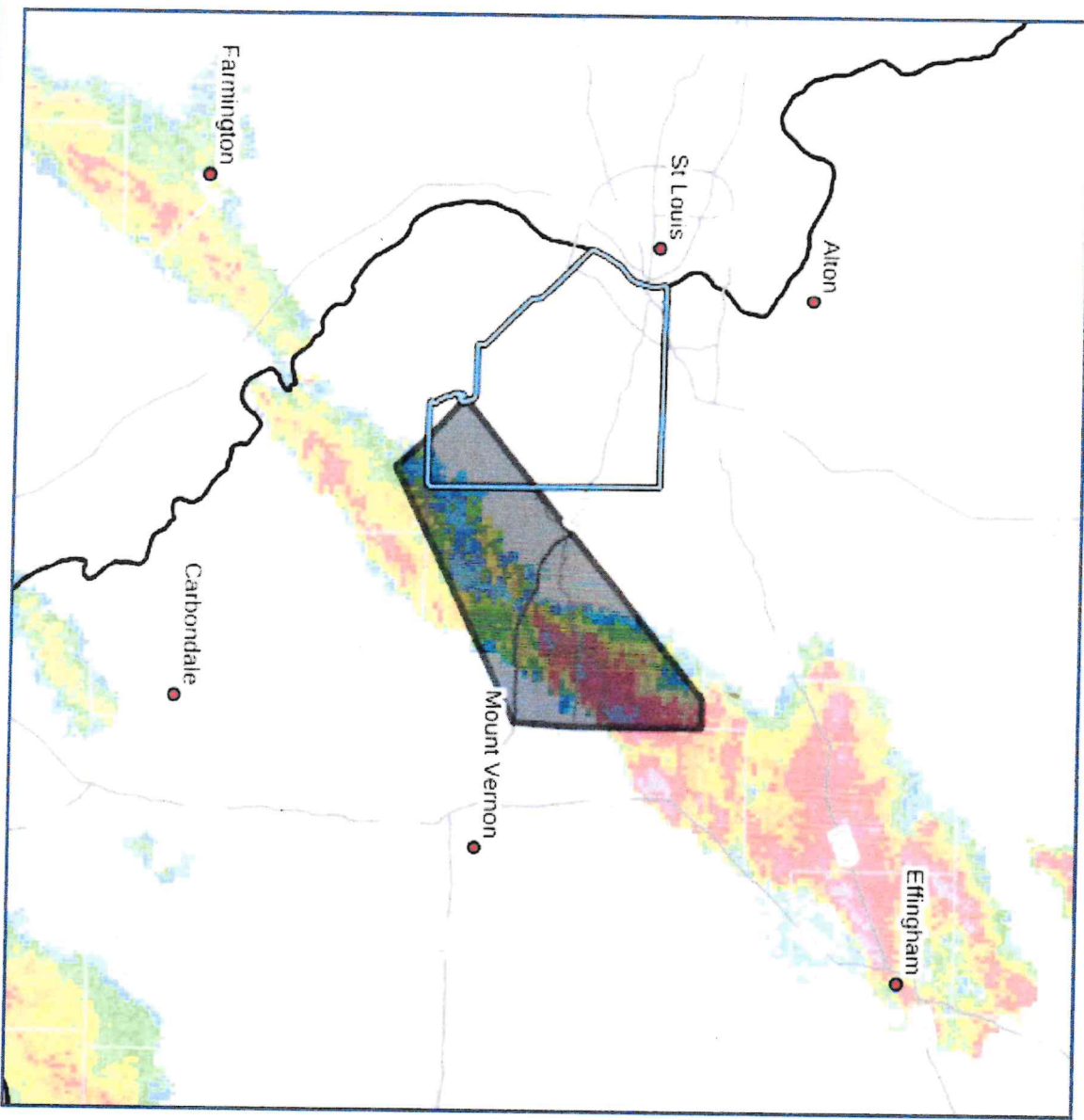
Freeburg ESDA-OHS office/EOC activated on Jan.8, 2026 as a Severe Thunderstorm Warning was issued for the SSE portion of St. Clair County from 9:42 PM until 10:30 PM. The ARES® communications net was activated from the office with direct contact from operators in the warned area. Fortunately, no major damage was reported from this line of storms. I secured the Freeburg ESDA office/EOC at 10:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Eugene Kramer, Coordinator
Freeburg ESDA-OHS



Interactive NWS Alert

New event: Severe Thunderstorm Warning for St. Clair County, IL
Sent via email and SMS at 9:43 pm CST, Jan 8th 2026



Radar valid at 10:30 pm CST, Jan 8th 2026

**FREEBURG VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
ENGINEER'S REPORT
Jan. 16, 2026
Tim Pruett, Village Engineer**

WATER PROJECTS: We have discussed with IEPA submitting everything they need to get on the By-Pass funding list. We have put together everything they requested and submitted to IEPA. Now we wait until funding can be secured to start the project.

Sewer and Manhole Lining Project: 2025 Project complete. Will do another similar project in 2026.

The Coffee Pot has submitted revised architectural plans for review. No building permit application yet.

Working on the plans for the 2024 IGD project. Construct handicap ramps at the sidewalks at Belleville & Washington Streets and Belleville & High Street.

Culvert on Country Side Lane needs replaced. Order the pipe thru MFT budget.

Saturn Terrace: Nothing new at this time.

Our grant application for the 2025 St Clair County Park Grant was selected and the Village needs to execute the agreement. This is \$40,000 grant. We requested shade structures for the swimming pool, a new ventilation system for the dressing rooms, basketball hoop and new swings for the playground.

ZONING REPORT

We continue to send letters and make calls on complaints for unmaintained properties. We have contacted numerous property owners about their properties. We continue to receive complaints about various issues, and we are dealing with them as they come in.

The Combined Planning and Zoning Board: Meeting on Jan. 13, 2026. Special use permit for additional storage units at 550 W Phillips St. approved by the Combined Board. No meeting for February.

Jan. 3rd through Jan. 16th

4 -- Occupancy Permit

3 -- Building Permit
(3) Electrical

**VILLAGE OF FREEBURG
MEMORANDUM**

DATE: Jan. 15, 2026
TO: Village of Freeburg Board
FROM: Tim Pruett, Village Engineer
RE: Combined Planning and Zoning Board Meeting Jan. 13, 2026

On Tuesday Jan. 13, 2026, the above board held their monthly meeting.

At 6:00 pm the Combined Planning and Zoning Board opened the meeting with two items on the agenda.

The first hearing was a Special Use Permit for Alex and Todd Erbs, owners of Freeburg Self Storage at 550 W. Phillips. The owners are asking to add (2) storage unit buildings at the site. The site currently has (2) storage unit buildings and the new cell tower. There was discussion amongst the Board about security, lighting and fencing at the site and the Erbs told the Board they are going to address all these issues with the construction of the new units. No visitors attended the meeting for or against the addition of storage units.

Terry Gamblin motioned to approve the Special Use as presented and Gary Henning Seconded the motion.
ROLL CALL VOTE: Terry Gamblin (via zoom) – yes, Gary Henning – yes, Rita Green – yes, Dale Lickenbrock – yes, Lee Smith – yes, Gary Mack - yes, Steve Woodward – yes. With 7 yes votes and 0 no votes, the motion to approve the Special Use was approved by the Board. This vote is final action.

The second item on the agenda was for an Area Bulk Variance to allow the new storage units to be within the required setbacks for the I-1 District (25 feet). The existing buildings are 16.3 feet from the west property line and 18.6 feet from the east property line. The owners were requesting a variance to allow the new buildings to be located in the same general layout. There was discussion about why the variance was needed and the owners stated it made sense based on the layout of the other buildings. A motion was made to allow the variance with the condition as part of the variance the owners would include the site 100% fenced as part of the permits for the new buildings.

Gary Henning motioned to approve the Area Bulk Variance and Dale Lickenbrock Seconded the motion.
ROLL CALL VOTE: Gary Henning – yes, Lee Smith – yes, Rita Green – yes, Steve Woodward – yes, Gary Mack - yes, Terry Gamblin (via zoom) – yes, Dale Lickenbrock – yes. With 7 yes votes and 0 no vote, the motion to approve the Variance was approved by the Board. This vote is final action.

The owners ask the Board if the Board would consider splitting off the building lot in the future. The Erbs stated they are in the storage unit business and not commercial/residential rental business. They stated they would like to sell off the building. There was discussion both for and against the split. No consensus was reached and the meeting was adjourned.

cc: Seth Speiser, Mayor of Freeburg

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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ELECTRIC COMMITTEE MEETING
(Blaies/Carpenter/Kaiser/Meehling)
Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at 5:30 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.

The meeting of the Electric Committee was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 14, 2026 by Chairperson Mike Blaies. Committee members present were Chairperson Mike Blaies, Trustee Tom Carpenter, Trustee Bob Kaiser, Trustee Lisa Meehling, Mayor Seth Speiser, Village Clerk Jerry Menard, Trustee Ray Matchett, Trustee Dana Miller, Public Works Director Chris Remick, Head Lineman Max Sallman, Police Chief Mike Schutzenhofer, Village Attorney Fred Keck, Village Administrator Matt Trout, Village Engineer Tim Pruett, Office Manager Mary Downen. Guest present: Janet Baechle and Bill May. There were no guests present via Zoom.

A. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Approval of December 10, 2025 Minutes: Trustee Lisa Meehling motioned to recommend to the full Board approval of the December 10, 2025 minutes, and Trustee Bob Kaiser seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.
2. Customer Issues: Head Lineman Max Sallman said a dead tree fell and knocked down a pole on St. Clair Court. They replaced the pole and one customer was out of service for a couple of hours. Village Administrator Matt Trout said there were a couple of blips of power on Christmas Eve that were an Ameren issue.
3. IMEA Energy Efficiency Grant: Matt said they had a webinar/training on solar today. He discussed the information and said essentially, we cannot prohibit people from having solar. He added that we have a 10kw limit on our net metering now and it will go to 25kw June 1, 2026. We cannot limit anyone under 25kw. He will work on revising that ordinance. He also explained how we handle solar.
4. Socket Fiber: Matt said they were here at the last meeting. There was a discussion on what is involved with bringing in fiber. The Board agreed to start discussions with them.

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Breaker Replacement: Matt said we had talked about this before. It will be a planned outage. He said he wanted it to stay on everyone's radar so we can be sure to get out the proper notification. Max has been in communication with them but doesn't have an exact date.

Max said he has been talking to IMEA to schedule the 2 new guys for schooling. He thinks it will be May and they will go together.

C. GENERAL CONCERNS: None.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

E. ADJOURN: *Trustee Lisa Meehling motioned to adjourn at 5:54 p.m. and Trustee Bob Kaiser seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Downen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Downen
Office Manager

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
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PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING
Trash/Water/Sewer
(Kaiser/Blaies/Meehling/Miller)
Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at 5:45 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.

The Public Works Committee Meeting was called to order at 5:55 p.m. on Wednesday, January 14, 2026, by Chairman Bob Kaiser. Members present were Chairman Bob Kaiser, Trustee Mike Blaies, Trustee Lisa Meehling, Trustee Dana Miller, Mayor Seth Speiser, Village Clerk Jerry Menard, Trustee Tom Carpenter, Trustee Ray Matchett, Village Attorney Fred Keck, Public Works Director Chris Remick, Head Lineman Max Sallman, Crew Leader Bob Jenkins, Police Chief Mike Schutzenhofer, Village Administrator Matt Trout, Village Engineer Tim Pruett, and Office Manager Mary Downen. Guest present: Janet Baechle and Bill May. There were no guests present via Zoom.

A. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Approval of December 10, 2025 Minutes: Trustee Mike Blaies motioned to recommend to the full Board approval of the December 10, 2025 minutes, Trustee Lisa Meehling seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.
2. Sewer issues: Nothing to report.
3. FSH Minutes: Village Engineer Tim Pruett said they are working on extending the agreement with FSH for the loan.
4. Water System Upgrades: Tim said we have had conversations with the EPA. We are going to submit our package tomorrow for the by-pass funding so we are ready if money becomes available.

B. NEW BUSINESS:

Public Works Director Chris Remick said there were 2 more service lines added to the FSH line leaving around 11 more to be added. A blower was repaired at the sewer plant today. Buddy got all the lead and copper samples back and will get that paperwork turned in. He and Buddy met with Scott Tozier from IRWA and toured the sewer plant. He said Scott does a lot of different classes and asked if we would be interested in hosting a few classes at the sewer plant. Mayor Seth Speiser said he thinks it is a great idea.

C. GENERAL CONCERNS: None.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

E. ADJOURN: Trustee Dana Miller motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 p.m. and Trustee Mike Blaies seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.



Mary Downen
Office Manager

VILLAGE PRESIDENT
Seth Speiser

VILLAGE CLERK
Jerry Menard

VILLAGE TRUSTEES
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Public Property Committee Meeting
Streets/Municipal Center/Pool/Parks & Recreation
(Matchett/Carpenter/Kaiser/Miller)
Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at 6:00 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.

The meeting of the Public Property Committee was called to order at 6:03 p.m., on Wednesday, January 14, 2026, by Chairman Ray Matchett. Members present were Chairman Ray Matchett, Trustee Tom Carpenter, Trustee Bob Kaiser, Trustee Dana Miller, Mayor Seth Speiser, Village Clerk Jerry Menard (left at 6:28), Trustee Mike Blaies, Trustee Lisa Meehling, Village Attorney Fred Keck, Public Works Director Chris Remick, Head Lineman Max Sallman, Crew Leader Bob Jenkins, Police Chief Mike Schutzenhofer, Village Administrator Matt Trout, Village Engineer Tim Pruett, and Office Manager Mary Downen. Guest present: Janet Baechle and Bill May. Guests present via Zoom: None.

POOL:

A. OLD BUSINESS: None.

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Freeburg High School Post Prom Donation Request: The committee agreed to donate a 10-use pool pass.
2. Freeburg FFA Alumni Pork Chop Dinner and Auction Donation Request: The committee agreed to donate a 10-use pool pass.
3. Freeburg Area Library Trivia Night Donation Request: The committee agreed to donate a 10-use pool pass.
4. Pool Lifeguards: Village Administrator Matt Trout said Scott has reached out to lifeguards and concession workers and a good amount plan to return this season. He said Mascoutah's pool will not be opening this year. We would like to go ahead and advertise for lifeguards. There was a discussion on pricing, passes and pool parties.

Trustee Tom Carpenter motioned to start advertising for lifeguards, and Trustee Bob Kaiser seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.

STREETS:

A. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Approval of December 10, 2025 Minutes: *Trustee Bob Kaiser motioned to recommend to the full Board approval of the December 10, 2025 minutes, and Trustee Tom Carpenter seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.*
2. Drainage Problem Areas/Stormwater Run-Off: Nothing to report.
3. Customer Issues: Nothing to report.
4. MFT: Village Engineer Tim Pruett said Crew Leader Bob Jenkins is going to restock some culverts.
5. Saturn Terrace: Tim said the vacation has been recorded and when some time opens up, they will work on getting things fixed.

6. Leaf Truck: Bob said the truck is back and they have been using it. It will be going to Armour Equipment to make the adjustments needed. The salesman came out and took some pictures and videos to send to the manufacturer. He said they are finished picking leaves up. Trustee Mike Blaies asked if they are doing this at no cost to us and Bob responded yes. The Board had a discussion on how this effects the insurance claim.
7. Streets Crew Worker Hire – Possible Executive Session to Discuss Personnel 5 ILCS 120/2-(c)(1): Matt said you have the applications of the 3 candidates that were interviewed. The top one is the one we all agreed on.

Trustee Bob Kaiser motioned to amend the agenda to move public participation up, and Dana Miller seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

6:34 P.M.

Trustee Ray Matchett motioned to enter Executive Session citing Personnel, 5 ILCS 120/2-(c)1, and Trustee Bob Kaiser seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ENDED

6:45: P.M.

Trustee Ray Matchett motioned to reconvene the regular session of the Public Property Committee meeting at 6:46 p.m., and Trustee seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.

Trustee Bob Kaiser motioned to send the full Board approving the hiring of Ryan Schmidt for the crew worker position, and Tom Carpenter seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motioned carried.

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Cemetery Road Bridge Inspection: Tim said this is the bridge on Cemetery Road. He said he is not qualified to do the inspection and will find someone else to do it. He said it will probably be a \$4,000 - \$5,000 expense. He said they are typically every 4 years; however, our last inspection there was a deficiency or something requiring a 2-year inspection. Bob plans to put down some riprap and hopefully we can push the inspection back out to every 4 years.
2. Trash Contract: Matt said the trash contract expires in September. He asked if we want to go out for proposals or see where Waste Management's rates come in at. The Board was in agreement to reach out to Waste Management and get some numbers.
3. Andrew Hassel's End of Probation: Chief Mike Schutzenhofer said he is doing well and he recommends taking him off probation.

Trustee Bob Kaiser motioned to send to the full Board ending Andrew Hassel's probation, and Trustee Dana Miller seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion passed.

4. Police Patrol Opening: Matt said Sergeant Stan Ruhmann will be retiring at the end of January. Chief Schutzenhofer added his last shift date is January 29 so he would like to start the in-house posting and then advertise for the police patrol opening.

Trustee Dana Miller motioned to approve starting the in-house posting and then advertising for police patrol opening, and Bob Kaiser seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.

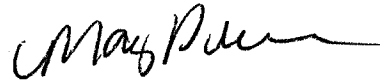
5. Executive Session to Discuss Collective Negotiating Matters between the Public Body and its Employees or their Representatives, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)5: Matt said we don't necessarily need to go into an executive session unless the Board would like to. He said we have received letters from both the police and public works & office staff unions to start negotiations. The Board agreed to wait to see what they bring to us.

Matt said Cory Schaefer will be starting the CDL training in February and he will be the last one.

C. GENERAL CONCERNS: None.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

E. ADJOURN: *Trustee Bob Kaiser motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:47 p.m., and Trustee Dana Miller seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.*



Mary Downen
Office Manager