

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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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.

Legal and Ordinance Committee Meeting
(Annexation; Building; Zoning; Subdivision)
(Miller/Carpenter/Matchett/Meehling)
Wednesday, January 28, 2026 at 5:45 p.m.

The meeting of the Legal and Ordinance Committee was called to order at 5:57 p.m., by Chairperson Dana Miller on Wednesday, January 28, 2026. Members present were Chairperson Dana Miller, Trustee Tom Carpenter, Trustee Ray Matchett, Trustee Lisa Meehling, Mayor Seth Speiser, Village Clerk Jerry Menard (absent), Trustee Mike Blaies, Trustee Bob Kaiser, Village Administrator Matt Trout, Village Engineer Tim Pruett, Police Chief Mike Schutzenhofer, Public Works Director Chris Remick, Village Attorney Fred Keck, and Office Manager Mary Downen. Guest present: Janet Baechle. There were no guests present via Zoom.

A. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Approval of December 15, 2025 Minutes: Trustee Tom Carpenter motioned to approve the December 15, 2025 minutes, and Trustee Lisa Meehling seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.
2. Zoning Report/Nuisance Properties: Village Engineer Tim Pruett said we had 3 occupancy permits and there were no building permits. He and Public Works Director Chris Remick made some progress with the nuisance property on N. Richland St.
3. Development Update: Tim said the new owners of the old Murphy Development north of Dollar General reached out to the mayor and he told them to contact us but have 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 Company is looking to build another storage building on their lot in the Industrial Park. He said according to Adams Auction, 5 commerce drive is under contract but he doesn't know the name of the buyer. He said he is waiting on full plans from The Coffee Pot.
4. FOIA Requests: Reviewed by the committee. Village Attorney Fred Keck discussed recent initiatives regarding FOIA requests. Village Administrator Matt Trout said we are going to start working Laura Gavin into this process on the police side.

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Side By Side Permits: Matt said this was brought up at one of the last meetings. Trustee Lisa Meehling said she has been approached regarding our fees and hours. Matt put together a list of other community's 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.

Trustee Lisa Meehling motioned to send to the full Board revisions to the Non-Highway Vehicle Ordinance to adjust the non-resident fee to \$50 annually, adjust the hours from 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. and remove the inclement weather clause, and Trustee Tom Carpenter seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.

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C. GENERAL CONCERNS: None.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

E. ADJOURN: *Trustee Lisa Meehling motioned to adjourn at 6:21 p.m., and Trustee Tom Carpenter seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.*



Mary Downen
Office Manager