

VILLAGE PRESIDENT
Seth Speiser

VILLAGE CLERK
Jerry Menard

VILLAGE TRUSTEES
Mathew Trout
Dean Pruett
Elizabeth Niebruegge
Lisa Meehling
Ray Matchett, Jr.
Mike Blaies

VILLAGE OF FREEBURG

FREEBURG MUNICIPAL CENTER

14 SOUTHGATE CENTER, FREEBURG, IL 62243

PHONE: (618) 539-5545 • FAX: (618) 539-5590

Legal and Ordinance Committee Meeting

(Annexation; Building; Zoning; Subdivision)
(Meehling/Blaies/Pruett/Trout)

Wednesday, September 30, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR
Tony Funderburg

VILLAGE TREASURER
Bryan A. Vogel

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
John Tolan

POLICE CHIEF
Stanley Donald

VILLAGE ATTORNEY
Weilmuenster Law Group, P.C

The meeting of the Legal and Ordinance Committee was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairperson Lisa Meehling on Wednesday, September 30, 2015, in the Freeburg Municipal Center. Members attending were Chairperson Lisa Meehling, Trustee Mike Blaies, Trustee Dean Pruett, Trustee Matt Trout, Mayor Seth Speiser, Village Clerk Jerry Menard, Trustee Ray Matchett, Trustee Elizabeth Niebruegge, Zoning Administrator Gary Henning, Public Works Director John Tolan, Village Administrator Tony Funderburg and Office Manager Julie Polson. Guest present: Janet Baechle.

A. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Approval of August 26, 2015 Minutes: Trustee Matt Trout motioned to approve the August 26, 2015 minutes and Trustee Dean Pruett seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.
2. Zoning Report/Nuisance Properties: Zoning Administrator Henning received a call from St. Clair County advising there is a company from Springfield putting up garages without a permit. They do not meet our code, so if you see any go up, please let him know.
3. Occupancy permits inspections: Administrator Funderburg said he and John are going to discuss the issues for the inspections. He said the program needs to be driven by this committee, and we need to have a meeting outside of this one to create that program. We need to understand what we are looking at before we move forward. Trustee Trout thinks it's better for us to meet first before we have anyone else come in. He is looking at safety issues rather than cosmetic ones. Mayor Speiser will be part of it as well as Lisa. We will start with the county checklist and go from there. Julie will get copies of the other municipal checklists to them.
4. St. Clair County Update of Building and Property Maintenance Code: Nothing new.
5. Combination of Plan Commission and Board of Appeals: Tony said we have two options. We can combine both the Plan Commission and Board of Appeals which would consist of seven members. Or, we could eliminate the Board of Appeals and replace the board with a Hearing Officer. Attorney Manion believes this is a fairer way of handling the variances and special use requests because the hearing officer would be impartial and looks at the laws and Village code. The Board of Appeals would be eliminated. If there were appointments opening up on the Plan Commission, you could appoint someone from the Board of Appeals. Seth has asked Brian to have this done by the end of the year.
6. Comprehensive Plan: We will check with Steve Woodward to see if he is able to conduct hearings. We will move forward as soon as we can.

Legal and Ordinance Committee Meeting
Wednesday, September 30, 2015

7. Local Debt Recovery Program: Brian said the holdup is his time. He needs to amend the code to have a procedure that requires a separate hearing to fight the bill. Tony sent a suggested code to Brian today. Our goal is to have something before the next meeting. This will go along with occupancy permit inspections in helping the landlord. We may also increase renter deposits.

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Charter Franchise Agreement: Tony said in the franchise agreement we signed last year, the provision states 3 years before the end of the agreement you can renew for an extra five years. We have no issues with the pole agreement and he has no objections to renewing additional five years. Tony doesn't see the need to ask for the 5% from our residents and believes 3% is sufficient. The main advantage to renewing now is eliminating the need to negotiate another contract.

Trustee Matt Trout motioned to the full Board the Charter Franchise Agreement be extended an additional five years to September 17, 2023 and Trustee Dean Pruett seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.

2. Illinois Home Weatherization Assistance Program: We received a request from St. Clair County Intergovernmental Grants Department asking us to waive our building permit fees when work is being done under this program. St. Clair County will inspect the work and they are waiving their fees as well.

Trustee Matt Trout motioned to the full Board the Village of Freeburg waive their permit fees under the Illinois Home Weatherization Assistance Program and Trustee Dean Pruett seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.

3. Liquor Code Regarding 2:00 a.m. Close: Tony advised the deadline is coming up and we need to decide whether or not to take this to the Plan Commission for a revision of the code. The committee agreed to extend the 2:00 a.m. close until the board votes on the Plan Commission's recommendation.

Trustee Matt Trout motioned to recommend to the full Board to have the Plan Commission consider an amendment in the Liquor License Code to change the closing time on Friday and Saturday to 2:00 a.m. for retail liquor licenses, and also to extend the 2:00 a.m. close until the Village Board votes on the Plan Commission's recommendation and Trustee Dean Pruett seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.

- B. GENERAL CONCERNS:** Trustee Blaies asked about all the boxes out at Dollar General and Gary will take a look at it.

C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: none.

- D. ADJOURN:** Trustee Matt Trout motioned to adjourn at 5:53 p.m. and Trustee Dean Pruett seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.



Julie Polson
Office Manager