

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  
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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.

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VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE FIRST AND THIRD MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH

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