

**CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS**  
**MONDAY EVENING**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**AUGUST 18, 2003 AT 7:00PM**  
**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**QUORUM**

At 7:00pm, a quorum being present, Mayor Gitz called the meeting to order.

**RECORD**

Present were Aldermen Wright, Gaulrapp, Bender, Varner, Clark, Dawson, Boldt, and O'Neill.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

At this time, the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderman Wright.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Alderman Boldt requested that Ordinance #2003-67 be removed from the agenda. Alderman Clark moved, seconded by Alderwoman O'Neill for approval of the agenda with that exception. The motion carried.

**PRESENTATION**

There was a presentation on Environmental Partnerships by Steve Collantino, from Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and Jim Bower from Bower & Associates.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Journal of the Minutes of the regular meeting held on August 4, 2003 was presented for approval. Alderwoman Bender moved, seconded by Alderman Gaulrapp for approval of the minutes. The motion carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Approval to Receive and Place on File:

1. Fire Department Monthly Activities for July 2003
2. Zoning Board of Appeals Report, 858 E. Shawnee St
3. Planning Commission Report, 1774 Hance Dr
4. Police Department Monthly Activities for July 2003
5. Treasurer's Monthly Investment Report for period ending July 31, 2003
6. Treasurer's Report Cash on Deposit for period ending July 31, 2003
7. Treasurer's Schedule of Tax Receipts for period ending July 31, 2003

B. Approval of Water & Sewer Disbursements for August 2003 - \$378,124.73

C. Approval of Bills Payable for July & August 2003 - \$187,815.90

D. Approval of Payroll of Period ending August 9, 2003 - \$330,930.62

Alderwoman Bender requested that item C be removed from the Consent Agenda. Alderman Gaulrapp moved, seconded by Alderman Dawson for approval of the consent agenda, with the exception of item C. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Wright, Gaulrapp, Bender, Varner, Clark, Dawson, Boldt, and O'Neill voted yea. The motion carried.

Alderman Clark moved, seconded by Alderwoman O'Neill approval of item. On the roll call of yeas and nays to approve item C, Aldermen Wright, Gaulrapp, Varner, Clark, Dawson, Boldt, and Wright voted yea.

**2<sup>nd</sup> READING**

**ORDINANCE #2003-63**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 290 (COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS**

This ordinance was laid over from the meeting from August 4, 2003, when it was moved by Alderman Clark, seconded by Alderman Boldt for approval. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Wright, Gaulrapp, Bender, Varner, Clark, Dawson, Boldt, and O'Neill voted yea. The ordinance was approved.

**1<sup>ST</sup> READING**

**ORDINANCE #2003-62**

**ORDINANCE MANDATING ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION OF SURPLUES TO AFFECTED TAXING DISTRICTS**

Alderman Clark, Finance Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on August 4, 2003. This item was laid over from the prior meeting. The proposed ordinance would create an automatic 25% set aside of any new tax increment from future TIFs that would be passed through to the various taxing bodies. This should increase the general support from various taxing bodies for new TIFs. The committee voted unanimously to approve this ordinance and Alderman Clark so moved, seconded by Alderman Wright. This ordinance was automatically laid over to the next regular meeting.

**1<sup>ST</sup> READING**

**ORDINANCE #2003-64**

**SPECIAL ORDINANCE FOR VARIATION, PERMIT OR AMENDMENT OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS (Special Use Permit, 1130 S Galena Ave)**

Alderman Gaulrapp, Community Development Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on August 11, 2003. George and Rami Khoury, managers of Horizon Market presented and eleven-point agenda and site improvement plan for the facility. The plan has an Entrance Only off of Galena Ave. and an Exit Only on Float Street. There also will be improve lighting and No Loitering Signs added. Alderman Gaulrapp has made a site visit, as well as Alderman Varner. There were no objections. The committee voted unanimously to approve this ordinance and Alderman Gaulrapp moved, seconded by Alderwoman Bender. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Wright, Gaulrapp, Bender, Varner, Clark, Dawson, Boldt, and O'Neill voted yea. The ordinance was approved.

**1<sup>ST</sup> READING**

**ORDINANCE #2003-65**

**SPECIAL ORDINANCE FOR VARIATION, PERMIT OR AMENDMENT OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS (Special Use Permit, 1774 Hance Dr)**

Alderman Gaulrapp, Community Development Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on August 11, 2003. Kathleen Eulitz and Marnett Phillips presented a site plan for a group home at Lot 8, 1774 Hance Drive. The request meets all the requirements of the Codified Ordinances. Fehr-Graham has provided a plan for drainage that meets the Water & Sewer Department's approval. The committee voted unanimously to concur with the Planning Commission and Alderman Gaulrapp so moved, seconded by

Alderwoman Bender. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Wright, Gaulrapp, Bender, Varner, Clark, Dawson, Boldt, and O'Neill voted yea. The ordinance was approved.

**1<sup>ST</sup> READING**

**ORDINANCE #2003-66**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1050 (STORM SEWERS) TO FORMALLY ADD SECTION 1050.08 (STORM WATER FEES) TO THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS**

Alderman Boldt, Public Works Chair, stated that the committee held a special meeting on August 18, 2003. This ordinance will remove the sunset clause that is due to expire in October. There will be an amendment to replace the sunset clause to expire at the end of the bond payments. The storm sewer fees will increase from \$2 to \$4 for residents in order to pay for the bond for construction projects. The committee voted unanimously to approve this ordinance and Alderman Boldt so moved, seconded by Alderwoman O'Neill. This ordinance was automatically laid over to the next regular meeting.

**RESOLUTION #R-2003-51**

**RESOLUTION TO CREATE A COMMUNITY TASK FORCE REGARDING HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN THE TAYLOR**

Alderman Gaulrapp moved, seconded by Alderwoman Bender that this resolution be laid over to the next regular meeting. The motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #R-2003-52**

**RESOLUTION TO REQUEST ASSISTANCE FROM STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES IN RELATION TO ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN THE TAYLOR PARK AREA**

Alderman Gaulrapp, Community Development Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on August 11, 2003. Mayor Gitz spoke on the importance of using IEPA to confirm any findings of soil contamination. The mayor will also appoint a diverse task force to move the issue forward. Alderwoman Bender recommended several people, including Stephenson County Health Department Director, Jeff Todd. Quentin Davis of Fehr-Graham and Associates recommended a second opinion on the soil testing. The committee voted unanimously to adopt this resolution for further testing and Alderman Gaulrapp so moved. Alderman Varner moved, seconded by Alderman Wright that this resolution be laid over to the next regular meeting. The motion carried.

**APPOINTMENT**

Effective immediately, James Gitz, hereby appoints Charles Wertsching to the Enterprise Zone Committee pursuant the recently enacted Enterprise Zone reorganization. This appointment shall be effective until October 1, 2004.

Alderwoman Bender moved, seconded by Alderman Wright that this appointment be accepted. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Wright, Gaulrapp, Bender, Varner, Clark, Dawson, Boldt, and O'Neill voted yea. The motion carried.

**APPOINTMENT**

Effective immediately, James Gitz, hereby appoints James Rhyne to the Board or Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Freeport. This appointment shall be effective until October 31, 2007.

Alderwoman Bender moved, seconded by Alderman Varner that this appointment be accepted. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Wright, Gaulrapp, Bender, Varner, Clark, Dawson, Boldt, and O'Neill voted yea. The motion carried.

### **REAPPOINTMENTS**

There was leave granted to hear all reappointments together. Effective immediately James Gtiz hereby reappoints:

- Joanne Schamberger to the Liquor Commission- expires May 5, 2005
- Joseph Crawford to the Liquor Commission – expires May 31, 2005
- Lloyd Smith to the Zoning Board of Appeals – expires April 30, 2004
- Arnetta McGee to the Library Board – expires May 31, 2004
- Peggy Althoff to the Stephenson County Convention & Visitors Bureau – expires December 31, 2005

Alderman Wright moved, seconded by Alderwoman Bender that these appointments be approved. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Wright, Gaulrapp, Bender, Varner, Clark, Dawson, Boldt, and O'Neill voted yea. The motion carried.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Alderman Clark moved, seconded by Alderwoman Bender to go into executive session in order to discuss Collective Bargaining. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Wright, Gaulrapp, Bender, Varner, Clark, Dawson, Boldt, and O'Neill voted yea. The motion carried.

The council then convened in the mayor's office. After returning to council chambers, Alderman Clark moved, seconded by Alderman Gaulrapp to come out of executive session. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Wright, Gaulrapp, Bender, Varner, Clark, Dawson, Boldt, and O'Neill voted yea. The motion carried.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

Alderman Bolt, Chair, stated that there was a bid opening on August 18, 2003 for the Street Program. There was one bid received from Civil Construction in the amount of \$548,590.65, which is 1.5% below the engineer's estimate. The committee voted to accept this bid and Alderman Boldt moved, seconded by Alderwoman O'Neill. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Wright, Gaulrapp, Bender, Clark, Dawson, Boldt, and O'Neill voted yea. Alderman Varner voted nay. There were seven yeas and one abstention. The motion carried.

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Alderman Gaulrapp, Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on August 11, 2003. Bob Skurla presented a preliminary draft on Business Incentives and Policy Guidelines. There will be a checklist available within the next two weeks from Michelle Miller McKinstra, from the HCC Small Business Development Center.

The committee discussed 5311 Grant Funding. Interim Community Development Director, Reggie Taylor provided the committee with suggested the following funding levels for the grant:

Malcom Eaton	\$10,000
MLK	\$10,000
Senior Center	\$30,000
City Service	\$30,000

Michelle Richter provided the committee with a breakdown of ridership. Frank McGee, from City Service was also present. There was no representation from MLK or Malcolm Eaton. All parties were notified of the meeting. Alderwoman requested a breakdown of ridership for all participants.

Reggie Taylor presented a memo for the Hearing Administration Department. This memo includes the hiring of a Planning Technician. Alderwoman Bender rejected this plan, noting the city's financial concerns. Further review will be made by the Finance Committee.

**FINANCE**

Alderman Clark, Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on August 4, 2003. Former Alderman Ronnie Bush presented a draft ordinance that would update the city's affirmative action policies. The proposal would require contractors doing business on city projects to disclose their affirmative action policies and procedures before bidding any city business. This item was laid over to the next meeting.

The committee discussed whether or not to release contingency money to allow the Hearing Administration Department to continue as part of the Community Development Department. The Committee was unable to reach consensus, but general concerns continued about the viability of the proposal. This was laid over to the next meeting and to the Community Development Committee, with the request for Reggie Taylor to attend the next Finance Committee meeting.

At the request of Alderwoman Bender, the committee discussed amending its procedures to approve the bills payable before checks are actually sent out. The chair advised committee members that he had changed his earlier position and now supports the idea, due to comments in the annual audit reports. Alderman Wright and Interim Finance Director, Duane Price agreed to review other cities practices and report back next month.

Administration advised the committee that garbage pick-up rates would increase from \$7.20 to \$8.20 per month. This increase is partly a catch up from not increasing as planned last year. The rates can be annually adjusted based on changes in out cost without council action.

**EXECUTIVE**

Alderwoman Bender, Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on August 13, 2003. The committee discussed timing/method of delivery of City Council packets. After some discussion, the committee decided that council packets be available on Wednesday by 5:00pm. Binders that are not picked up on Wednesdays will be delivered on Thursday morning. The committee also discussed having information available for committee members on the Wednesday prior to the committee meeting.

The committee also discussed timing of committee action items for committees that meet on the same night as the council meeting. The committee decided that items

presented on those nights should be sent to the following meeting. Exceptions will be allowed.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

Deputy Police Chief, Bob Smith, announced that the next Civilian Police Academy begins September 18, 2003.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Gitz discussed the following:

- FDD- Jazz on Chicago was a success
- Meeting with IDOT Secretary – need to lobby for funding for US 20
- 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan
- Leaf Pickup-will have cost recommendations by next meeting

**NEW BUSINESS**

Aldерwoman Bender stated that there would be an Executive Committee meeting on September 6, 2003.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Don Hull, President of AFSCME Local #337, stated his concerns with Union negotiations.

Marty Vanags, FDD Director, thanked the city for their support of the Downtown on Chicago series. He announced that Cajun on Chicago would be September 12, 2003.

As there was no other business to be transacted by the City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20pm.

**LATACIA M. ISHMON, CITY CLERK**