



City Council
City Council Chambers 230 West Stephenson Street Freeport, Illinois 61032

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, December 17, 2007**

Call to Order at 5:15 p.m.

Roll Call by Mayor Gaulrapp

Present: Chairman Helms, Klemm, Boldt, DeVine, O'Neill and Corbin (6).

Not present: Bush and Endress (2).

Public Comments

There were no public comments on this evening.

Committee of the Whole Report

A motion to approve of Committee of the Whole Report from the regular meeting on December 3, 2007, was made by Alderman Corbin, seconded by Alderwoman O'Neill. Vote to approve 6-0.

Community Development

1. Resolution #R-2007-102: Resolution Authorizing Submittal of Illinois Department of Agriculture Agri-First Grant Application was presented by Community Development Director Shelly Griswold. Director Griswold stated that this resolution authorizes the City to apply for a \$25,000 grant to fund a feasibility study for a Northwest Illinois Agricultural Entrepreneurship Center at the Rawleigh Complex. The grant requires a fifty percent (50%) local match, forty percent (40%) of which may be in-kind contributions. Ms. Margaret Larson also presented information to the committee regarding the University of Illinois Extension office located in Stephenson County. For the past three years, the University of Illinois Extension-Stephenson County has been engaged in local foods-related activities including programming, community facilitation, education and public awareness. With this grant, they will determine the feasibility of a community kitchen and public market in the Rawleigh building. Ms. Larson introduced a recently developed local foods symbol which will be used by restaurants, grocers, caterers, and market vendors as a way to promote "home-grown" and local producers.

Alderman Bush entered the meeting at 5:20 p.m. bringing the committee members present to seven (7).

A motion was made by Alderwoman O'Neill, seconded by Alderman Corbin to approve the Resolution R2007-102 as presented. Vote to approve 7-0. A motion to move to council floor this evening was given by Alderwoman O'Neill, seconded by Alderman Klemm. Vote to send to council was approved 7-0.

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Other

1. An Ordinance amending chapter 220 "Council", Section 220.10 "Rules of Council", Subsection (2) "Time and Place of Meetings"; Chapter 220 "Council", Section 220.11 "Council Committees"; Chapter 222 "Ordinances and Resolutions", Section 222.01 "Presentation" and Section 222.02 "Committee Approval" of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Freeport – Committee of the Whole Elimination was presented by Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin. Alderman Corbin stated that the elimination of the committee is a prudent and practical suggestion and it is a move that makes sense for the council.

Alderman Boldt motioned to further discuss the elimination of the Committee of the Whole at the retreat scheduled in January, seconded by Alderman Bush. Vote to approve the motion 7-0.

Public Works

1. Resolution #R-2007-101: Resolution to Authorize Letter of Intent With IDOT (Illinois Department of Transportation) and IDA (Illinois Division of Aeronautics) for Fiscal Year 2009 Airport Improvement Program for Freeport – Albertus Airport was presented by Public Works Director Craig LeBaron. Director LeBaron referred to the information presented in the committee packets and his memorandum dated December 12, 2007 stating that this was a letter of intent and there was no money involved in signing the agreement. The letters of intent attached to the resolution correspond to the Federal, State, and Local projects planned for the Albertus Airport in Fiscal Year 2008 and 2009.

A motion to approve the resolution as presented was made by Alderman Klemm, seconded by Alderwoman DeVine. Vote to approve the resolution 7-0. The administration asked to have Resolution R-2007-101 move forward to this evening's City Council Meeting due to a filing deadline of December 31, 2007. A motion was made by Alderman Klemm, seconded by Alderwoman O'Neill to move this resolution to council this evening. Vote to approve 7-0.

2. An Ordinance Repealing Portions of Chapter 460, Operation Generally, Section 460.02, Arterial Streets To Delete Certain Streets (Sioux at Country Court) was presented by Alderman Tom Klemm. As the committee learned in the meeting on November 19, 2007, state law requires a stop at this t-intersection when coming from Country Court. If the city removed the stop sign and replaced it with a yield sign, it would lessen state law.

A motion to approve the resolution as written, removing Sioux at Country Court as an arterial street and replacing it with a yield sign was made by Alderman Corbin, seconded by Alderman Boldt. Further discussion ensued on the pros and cons of taking out the stop sign. On a roll call of ayes and nays, Alderman Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, O'Neill and Helms voted nay and Alderman Corbin voted aye. Vote to approve the motion 1-6. The motion failed.

Adjournment of the meeting was made at 5:45 p.m.