



City Council
City Council Chambers ♦ 314 West Stephenson Street ♦ Freeport, IL 61032

MINUTES
COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 17, 2017 AT 6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Freeport, Illinois, City Council was called to order in council chambers by Mayor Jodi Miller with a quorum being present at 6:03 p.m. on Monday, July 17, 2017.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call: Mayor Miller and Council members Alderperson Art Ross, Patrick Busker, Sally Brashaw, Mike Koester, Andrew Chesney, Tom Klemm, and Peter McClanathan (7). Alderperson Bob Smith was absent.

Staff members present: City Manager Lowell Crow, Director of Community & Economic Development Nancy McDonald, Public Works Director Tom Dole, Fire Chief Scott Miller, Chief of Police Todd Barkalow, City Engineer/Interim Water & Sewer Director Shaun Gallagher, Library Director Carole Dickerson, and City Clerk Dovie Anderson.

Others Present: City Legal Counsel Aaron Szeto, Esq.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderperson Busker.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Miller asked for motion to approve the July 17, 2017 Agenda. Alderperson Koester moved and Alderperson Klemm seconded. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Alderperson Brashaw moved for approval of the minutes from the meeting held on July 3, 2017, seconded by Alderperson Koester. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Debbie Leininger, State Director for Concerned Women for American and Northwest Illinois Coordinator for National Day of Prayer, spoke in favor of the Committee of the Whole's unanimous support of the "In God We Trust" Resolution. She believes it solidifies the beliefs of our founding fathers that Americans have certain inalienable rights.

Ms. Linda Johnson from East Gate Church also spoke in favor of the "In God We Trust" Resolution. In support, she referenced the "Appeal to Heaven" flag flown over Washington's troops fight against the British armada.

CONSENT AGENDA

All items on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member so requests, in which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered as the first item after approval of the Consent Agenda. [Consent Agenda PDF](#)

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- A. Approval to receive and place on file the correction of expiration date of two (2) appointments:
 - 1) Alderperson Peter McClanathan to the Stephenson County Convention and Visitors Bureau through December 31, 2017.
 - 2) Nicole Bauer to the Planning Commission through October 31, 2020.
- B. Approval to receive and place on file: City of Freeport Community Development Department Report of Activities – June 2017
- C. Approval to receive and place on file: City of Freeport Fire Department Report of Activities – June 2017
- D. Approval to receive and place on file: City Treasurer’s Report for Investment for June 30, 2017
- E. Approval to receive and place on file: City Treasurer’s Report on Cash for June 30, 2017
- F. Approval of Water & Sewer Bills Payable (Registers #801, 804, 805, 807, and 808) --- \$434,052.31
- G. Approval of Finance Bills Payable (Registers #806, 809, 810, 811, and TBA) --- \$301,027.25
- H. Approval of Payroll for pay period ending July 8, 2017 --- \$422,063.58 with fringe benefit payments in the amount of \$35,361.36 for a total of \$457,424.94

Upon no further discussion, Alderperson Koester moved for approval of the consent agenda, seconded by Alderperson Ross. Motion prevailed by omnibus roll call vote:

Yeas: Ross, Busker, Brashaw, Koester, Chesney, Klemm, McClanathan (7)

Nays: None

Consent Agenda was approved.

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

2nd READING OF ORDINANCE #2017-55

Appropriation Ordinance, Fiscal Year 2017-2018 for the City of Freeport, Illinois

On July 3, 2017, a motion was made by Alderperson Brashaw to move this Ordinance forward, seconded by Alderperson Klemm, and this Ordinance was automatically laid over to tonight’s meeting. A Notice of Public Hearing was published in the Journal Standard and the Appropriation Ordinance was available for public viewing ten (10) days prior to tonight’s Public Hearing which was held at 5:45 p.m.

City Manager Crow stated that considering (1) this balanced budget with no contingencies was approved at the June 26, 2017, Finance Committee of the Whole; (2) there were no comments at tonight’s Public Hearing at 5:45 p.m.; and (3) there being minimal comments received during the ten days for public review, he is recommending Appropriation Ordinance #2017-55 be approved.

The motion for passage of Ordinance #2017-55 prevailed by a roll call vote:

Yeas: Ross, Busker, Brashaw, Koester, Chesney, Klemm, McClanathan (7)

Nays: None

Ordinance #2017-55 was passed.

2nd READING OF ORDINANCE #2017-56

An Ordinance of the City of Freeport, Illinois Amending Various Provisions of the City Code of Ordinances to Reflect City Manager Form of Government

Alderperson Klemm moved and Alderperson Brashaw seconded at the July 3, 2017, regular Council meeting, that this Ordinance be forwarded to the July 10, 2017, Committee of the Whole meeting for discussion. At the aforementioned meeting, Alderperson McClanathan moved, Alderperson Busker seconded, and by unanimous vote the Committee of the Whole recommended the authority remain with the City Council for Section 2011.10. Alderperson McClanathan also moved and Alderperson Busker seconded that the Committee of the Whole

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recommend the wording of 1060.17(d) remain "subject to City Council's authorization". And that motion carried unanimously.

City Manager Crow stated that five committees were also compared to State statute. Attorney Szeto found that the only committee required by State law is the ADA Commission so that one will remain. The City Engineer is designated as the ADA Officer. All others have had the language changed to reflect that Council has the authority to stand them up as they see necessary. This comprehensive ordinance may need further revisions as need arises.

The motion for passage of the Ordinance #2017-56 prevailed by a roll call vote:

Yeas: Klemm, Ross, Busker, Brashaw, Koester, Chesney, McClanathan (7)

Nays: None

Ordinance #2017-56 was passed.

2nd READING OF ORDINANCE #2017-57

An Ordinance Amending Title Six-Administration of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Freeport, Illinois to Create a New Chapter 254 Providing For the Position of Director of Information Technology/GIS Specialist

At the July 3, 2017, Council meeting, Alderperson Klemm moved and Alderperson Koester seconded that this Ordinance be forwarded for approval and it was automatically laid over to tonight's meeting.

City Manager Crow stated that because there is no established Assistant City Manager, that language has been stricken. Otherwise, this Ordinance establishes an IT Department which has been very busy recently.

The motion for passage of Ordinance #2017-57 prevailed by a roll call vote:

Yeas: Klemm, Ross, Busker, Brashaw, Koester, Chesney, McClanathan (7)

Nays: None

Ordinance #2017-57 was passed.

2nd READING OF ORDINANCE #2017-58

An Ordinance Amending Section 694.05(B) and Section 1060.13(G) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Freeport, Illinois Regarding the Timeframe to Record Mowing Liens and Garbage Clean-Up Liens

At the July 3, 2017, Council meeting, Alderperson Klemm moved and Alderperson Smith seconded to move this Ordinance forward and it was automatically laid over to tonight's meeting.

City Manager Crow stated that he and Attorney Cox are moving very aggressively to go after grass liens.

Upon no further discussion, the motion for passage of the Ordinance #2017-58 prevailed by a roll call vote:

Yeas: Klemm, Ross, Busker, Brashaw, Koester, Chesney, McClanathan (7)

Nays: None

Ordinance #2017-58 was passed.

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

1st READING OF ORDINANCE #2017-60

An Ordinance Amending Part Six General Offenses Code, Chapter 692 Weapons and Explosives, Section 692.02 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Freeport, Illinois Regarding Concealed Weapons

Alderperson Chesney stated that Ordinance #2017-60 is to align with State statute regarding Concealed Carry.

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Upon no further discussion, Alderperson Koester made a motion to move Ordinance #2017-60 forward for approval at the next City Council meeting and Alderperson Chesney seconded. The ordinance was automatically laid over to the next meeting.

1st READING OF ORDINANCE #2017-61

An Ordinance of the City of Freeport, Illinois to Establish Reserve Funds

Originally in resolution form, this went before the July 10, 2017 Committee of the Whole. Alderperson McClanathan moved that (1) rather than a Resolution, this Ordinance will be moved forward with amendments (2) to allow distribution of the funds outside of natural disaster and acts of war “as determined by Council”, (3) to require approval of Council to release any funds from this reserve, and (4) to authorize Council to waive the amount of the \$250,000 annual contribution. Alderperson Busker seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

City Manager Crow stated that this Ordinance moves the City towards the recommendations of the Government Financial Officers Association (GFOA) of establishing three month’s general operating revenue as a strategic reserve. The City currently has the funds in an account and moving forward those funds will be placed in a separate investment account. In subsequent years, the City will invest \$250,000 annually unless the Council advises to change that amount. Guidelines are established in the case of natural disaster to tap into this Reserve Fund. These measures will increase our current bond rating and enhance loan procurement from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA).

Alderperson Koester made a motion to move Ordinance #2017-61 forward for approval at the next City Council meeting and Alderperson Klemm seconded.

RESOLUTIONS

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION #R-2017-43

Resolution of the City of Freeport, Illinois Authorizing and Approving a Revised Investment Policy

At the July 10, 2017, Committee of the Whole meeting, Alderperson Klemm moved and Alderperson Ross seconded to recommend approval as amended; motion carried unanimously.

City Manager Crow stated that the last Investment Policy was established in 1998. This one includes recommendations from GFOA. This Resolution is in conjunction with the Ordinance to establish Reserve Funds.

There being no further discussion, Alderperson Koester moved for Adoption of Resolution #R-2017-43, seconded by Alderperson Busker. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of:

Yeas: Ross, Busker, Brashaw, Koester, Chesney, Klemm, McClanathan (7)

Nays: None

Adoption of Resolution #2017-43 was passed.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION #R-2017-44

Resolution of the City of Freeport, Illinois Authorizing the Public Display of the Official Motto of the United States of America, “In God We Trust”, at City Hall

At the July 10, 2017, Committee of the Whole meeting, Alderperson Busker moved to recommend approval, Alderperson Ross seconded, and the motion carried unanimously

Alderperson Klemm and Mayor Miller mentioned other City-owned buildings such as the Library and Freeport Art Museum. Attorney Szeto stated that a conversation should be held with the Library Board since they govern the library building; however, the Resolution is all-encompassing so that the library building can be included. Alderperson Brashaw asked and Manager Crow confirmed that the same non-profit group that worked with the

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courthouse has come forward to do the fundraising. Alderperson Busker confirmed that no City funds are being expended.

Alderperson Chesney made a motion to make an amendment to include wording regarding vehicles. Alderperson Klemm seconded and the motion prevailed by a roll call vote of:

Yeas: Ross, Busker, Brashaw, Koester, Chesney, Klemm, McClanathan (7)

Nays: None

Mayor Miller stated that there was a motion on the floor made by Alderperson Koester to adopt Resolution #R-2017-44 as amended, seconded by Alderperson Ross. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of:

Yeas: Ross, Busker, Brashaw, Koester, Chesney, Klemm, McClanathan (7)

Nays: None

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION #R-2017-45

Resolution of the City Of Freeport, Illinois Providing for a Feasibility Study on the Designation of a Portion of the City Of Freeport as the Park Plaza Redevelopment Project Area and to Induce Development Interest Within Such Area

At 6:39 p.m. Alderperson Chesney exited Council chambers.

City Manager Crow stated that this Resolution establishes the ability for him to move forward with a Feasibility Study with the Park Plaza Redevelopment Study which includes Lincoln Mall, Park Plaza, Freeport Lanes Bowling Center, Eagle's Club, gas station across from Park Plaza, and motel across from Lincoln Mall. Three separate businesses (manager of Lincoln Mall, owner of motel, and potential developer of Park Plaza) have approached the City regarding establishing a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District in this area. The City first needs to have a Feasibility Study completed to determine the City's return on investment and the potential for growth in this area. This Resolution authorizes Manager Crow to have a Redevelopment Agreement drafted which will go before Council for approval. The cost of the study is \$17,000 and the work for the redevelopment is \$18,000 for a total cost of \$35,000. Hopefully Ehlers will begin the initial work by the end of next week. The City Manager, Director of Community and Economic Development, and Dave Young met to discuss the plan moving forward. It was established that Manager Crow's limit for authorization of expenditures is \$20,000, so this will require Council approval. Alderperson Brashaw asked and Manager Crow confirmed that if the TIF District is not developed, there is a possibility of Sullivan's leaving Park Plaza. She then pointed out that there are many residents who live in this area who do not have cars that rely on access to Sullivan's Foods.

At 6:40 p.m., Alderperson Chesney re-entered Council chambers.

Alderperson Koester made a motion for adoption of Resolution R-2017-45 and Alderperson Brashaw seconded. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of:

Yeas: Ross, Busker, Brashaw, Koester, Chesney, Klemm, McClanathan (7)

Nays: None

APPROVAL OF BIDS

City Hall Janitorial Services, Bid Opening: July 13, 2017

City Manager Crow stated that five bids were placed with the low bidder being the current cleaning contractor, Crystal Image Cleaning, Inc. Alderperson Brashaw moved and Alderperson Koester seconded to award the contract to Crystal Image Cleaning, Inc. Alderperson Chesney inquired about the cleaning contract at the Police

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Department. Manager Crow stated that the long-term plan is to bid both at same time under one contract. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of:

Yeas: Ross, Busker, Brashaw, Koester, Chesney, Klemm, McClanathan (7)

Nays: None

OTHER

Consideration of Purchase of a Blade Server – IT Department

Director of IT Curt Suttman stated that the largest concern is a refresh of hardware because we are unable to buy software until that happens. Manager Crow recommended that the lease-to-own option gives us up to 36 months to pay. The life expectancy of the Dell Blade Server is four to six years. Manager Crow confirmed that there is money in the budget for this expense and the server is a precursor to purchasing new financial software and alleviating some of the vulnerability posed with our outdated equipment and software.

Aldersperson Koester made a motion to approve lease option of the Dell Blade Server and Aldersperson Chesney seconded. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of:

Yeas: Ross, Busker, Brashaw, Koester, Chesney, Klemm, McClanathan (7)

Nays: None

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS

Community Development

Director McDonald had nothing additional to report.

Public Works

Director Dole had nothing further to report.

IT Technology

Director Suttman had nothing additional to report.

Fire

Fire Chief Miller shared two noted calls last week. A dump truck caught an overhead power line and pulled the line on top of the truck. Commonwealth Edison responded quickly and removed the line which was carrying 7,000 volts. The driver was safely removed from the truck. The second call involved an industrial manufacturing injury of an individual with a crushed right arm. Aldersperson Klemm inquired into the use and success rate of Narcon. Chief Miller stated that while the number of overdoses is still high, the fatality rate has dropped due to the use of Narcon and quick response time of emergency medical teams and police. Aldersperson Chesney inquired about doing controlled burns on blighted properties for training purposes. Discussion ensued regarding burning prohibited within City limits by Ordinance, practices of other municipalities, and fire fighter safety versus learning opportunity. City Manager Crow said he would review Ordinances and look for options to take advantage of demolitions as a training opportunity.

Police

Chief of Police Barkalow had no report.

Aldersperson Chesney asked about a recent incident involving a Liquor Licensee. Chief Barkalow stated that he has no doubt that the police report was accurate, no reason to believe it was inaccurate, and he fully supports the officers. Aldersperson Klemm pointed out that what occurred at the Liquor Commission meeting was opposite of

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what appeared in social media shortly after the meeting. He commended the Liquor Commission on their thoroughness and fairness in questioning and sanctions delivered.

City Engineer/Water and Sewer

City Engineer Gallagher stated that Business US 20 will be open Friday evening, July 21, 2017. Mesa Drive reconstruction will begin the following Monday. IDNR boat dock not approved in State budget but they will keep open our request for funds. Pressure zone activation caused six water main breaks which is significantly less than anticipated. The project is 75 percent complete and residents should experience about 15 psi pressure difference throughout the new pressure zone. He and Tom Glendenning are trying to get 5 more psi from the system as tweaks are made to the initial design. He encouraged residents to call the Water and Sewer Department with reports of breaks, cloudy water, and any other issues. The County delivered funds for the Jurisdictional Transfer today. As a follow up on the increase in water and sewer rates, next week \$50,000 of the \$100,000 will be paid back to the Capital Improvement Fund (CIP) that was owed. Revenues have also increased on the Operations and Maintenance (O&M) side, so the remaining funds will be transferred in next couple weeks, bringing CIP and O&M back to where they should be operationally.

Aldersperson Klemm thanked all departments (Fire, Water and Sewer, Public Works) for their responsiveness and the considerable time expended through the nights to remedy the water main breaks, which were not all in one spot but required a lot of moving around. Aldersperson Brashaw shared an incidence on Lincoln Boulevard with a report of rusty water and the Water and Sewer's response of flushing sediment from a fire hydrant which benefitted the entire neighborhood.

Engineer Gallagher encouraged residents to contact the appropriate authorities in all cases, be it the City, ComEd, Nicor, etc., rather than Alderspersons to expedite troubleshooting. He added that "when in doubt, boil your water". Aldersperson McClanathan added Mosquito Abatement as another entity to contact directly.

Library

Director Dickerson had no report.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Crow stated that he will be soliciting quotes for property and health insurance from various agents to reduce costs, including a formal Request for Quotes (RFQ) for health insurance.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Miller applauded efforts of Manager Crow and Aldersperson McClanathan to produce a balanced budget expeditiously. She appreciated the support of Council on the "In God We Trust" Resolution. She challenged Council to think about where they would like to see the City in five years as they prepare for a strategic planning meeting to be held in late summer/early fall.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEW BUSINESS

Aldersperson Busker had no announcements.

Aldersperson Brashaw announced Neighborhood Watch Meeting on Tuesday, July 25, 2017, at Schwarz Funeral Home at 6:00 p.m. for 1st and 6th Wards. She stated that Mosquito Abatement would be spraying tomorrow night.

Aldersperson Koester thanked everyone for the thoughts and prayers on the passing of his wife. The Neighborhood Watch Meeting for 7th Ward will be July 26, 2017, at the Main Fire Station on South Street at 7:30

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p.m. Beech Nuts will be practicing their formation flying in Freeport on Friday, July 21, 2017. In support of the "In God We Trust" Resolution, he challenged the Council to donate at least a portion of their paychecks to this fund.

Aldersperson Chesney had no announcements.

Aldersperson Klemm had no announcements.

Aldersperson McClanathan looks forward to developing a five-year plan and how this affects our next budget to incorporate building up neighborhoods, infrastructure, work force, and public safety and how that all plays into our broader economic development plan.

Aldersperson Ross echoed Aldersperson McClanathan's statements regarding establishing a plan to move Freeport forward. Neighborhood Watch Meeting for 3rd Ward will be Thursday, July 20, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. at the VFW in the Arcade.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Tom Teich reminded everyone of the RAMP Wheel-a-Thon on July 27, 2017, where there will be plenty of food.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

s/ Dovie L. Anderson

Dovie L. Anderson
City Clerk