City of Freeport

Managerial Form of Government Transition Committee

Conference Area of Council Chambers ◊ 314 West Stephenson Street ◊ Freeport, IL 61032

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 13, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the City of Freeport Managerial Form of Government Transition Committee was called to order by Chairman Chesney with a quorum being present at 5:00 pm on March 13, 2017 in Council Chambers at the conference table.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call by Vice Chairman Sally Brashaw were committee members Mayor Jim Gitz, Alderpersons Tom Klemm, Peter McClanathan, Art Ross, Jodi Miller, Sally Brashaw, and Andrew Chesney. Public members Todd Weegens, Chris Schneiderman and Gary Quinn were present. Alderpersons Patrick Busker & Mike Koester were absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 27, 2017

Alderperson Miller moved for approval of the minutes. Alderperson Ross seconded the motion. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS (LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES PER PERSON)

Jon Staben referring to Item number 7 on the agenda: Creating a Finance Committee, stated that he thought it was important and that he was in support of it.

DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL-APPOINTMENT OF POLICE CHIEF TODD BARKALOW AS INTERIM CITY MANAGER

Chairman Chesney stated that the appointment, if necessary, would be placed on the May 15, 2017 agenda.

Alderperson Klemm moved for approval. Alderperson Miller seconded the motion. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL-SERVICES AGREEMENT TO HIRE POLICE CHIEF TODD BARKALOW AS INTERIM CITY MANAGER

Chairman Chesney stated that he had tasked Roxanne Sosnowski with the task of creating the document/agreement.

Alderperson Miller asked if Chief Barkalow had been in agreement with the document outlining the terms of his possible interim hire.

Chairman Chesney stated that he had met with Chief Barkalow and that the chief had stated that he was agreeable. He stated that he was hoping to possibly put this on the May 15th agenda if a City Manager wasn't hired by then.

Alderperson Klemm made a motion to recommend the Services Agreement to City Council. Alderperson Ross seconded the motion. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL-CREATING A FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (PRESENTED BY ALDERPERSON JODI MILLER)

Chairman Chesney made sure that everyone had paper copy of the draft.

Alderperson Miller stated the importance of creating the Finance Committee. She stated that she believed that one of the most important jobs of the City Council is to balance the budget. This draft lists many of the items that are deemed important.

Mayor Gitz voiced concerns regarding the mayoral role in balancing the budget. He asked: "What is the role of the (new) Mayor"? He stated that with this committee, the mayor does not prepare the budget and will have only minimal participation. He stated that the City Manager will prepare the budget and work with the finance committee. He said: "They will take all the hits without being able to take an active role in participation".

Alderperson Ross asked if any other city with a City Manager has this Committee of the Whole?

Mayor Gitz stated that most cities with a City Manager have Committee of the Whole. He went on to state that we need to continue to sort out the subtleties.

Public Member Quinn stated that he believes the Mayoral roll is just as substantial as any of the Aldermen. The Mayor's roll is to include the necessary function of "breaking the tie" if necessary.

Chairman Chesney stated that he doesn't believe the Mayors role is compromised.

Alderperson McClanathan asked about the number of Aldermen on the Committee and frequency of meetings.

Alderperson Miller suggested during budget season they (Finance Committee members) could meet more often, at other times, less often.

Alderperson Koester stated that he believes the Finance Committee should meet at least bi-monthly.

Alderperson Miller made a motion to bring to the City Council an amendatory ordinance creating a Finance Committee of the Whole. Alderperson Ross seconded the motion. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

DETERMINATION OF DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT MEETING

The date of Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at 2:30 was chosen for the next meeting of the Transition Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENTS-AGENDA OR NON AGENDA ITEMS (LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES PER PERSON)

There were no public comments at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Alderperson Koester and seconded by Ross, the meeting was adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

s/ Sally Brashaw
Sally Brashaw, Vice Chairman