

**CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS**  
**MONDAY EVENING**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**JANUARY 5, 2004 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 Clark, Dawson, Boldt, O'Neill, Wright, Gaulrapp, and Bender.  
Absent was Alderman Varner due to an illness.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Alderswoman Bender moved, seconded by Alderman Gaulrapp for approval of the agenda. The motion carried.

**DO THE RIGHT THING PRESENTATION**

Officer Michelle Countryman acknowledged all the sponsors for the Do the Right Thing Program. Police Chief, Jerry Whitmore then read the nominees for the month of December and announced the top winner.

**RECOGNITION**

Sue & Jeremy Wornicke were recognized from the Military Unit 333 Police Department.

**HONORARY RESOLUTIONS**

Mayor Gitz presented Honorary Resolutions the winners of the City of Freeport Christmas Decoration Contest:

**HONORARY RESOLUTION #R-2004-01**

**HONORARY RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING VAUGHN & ROSEMARY KLOEPPING  
BEST CHRISTMAS RESIDENTIAL DISPLAY**

**HONORARY RESOLUTION #R-2004-02**

**HONORARY RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING COO COO STUDIO BEST CHRISTMAS  
BUSINESS DISPLAY**

**HONORARY RESOLUTION #R-2004-03**

**HONORARY RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING SCOTT MANN, BRAD HUSSER, AND  
RANDY SKEENS FOR BEST CHRISTMAS DISPLAY OVERALL**

**HONORARY RESOLUTION #R-2004-04**

**HONORARY RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING BETHANY UNITED CHURCH OF  
CHRIST FOR BEST CHRISTMAS DISPLAY, "PEOPLE'S CHOICE"**

**HONORARY RESOLUTION #R-2004-05**

**HONORARY RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JOHNNIE & DEBORAH WESTMORELAND FOR MOST UNIQUE/CREATIVE CHRISTMAS DISPLAY**

Alderman Wright moved, seconded by Alderwoman Bender to accept these resolutions. The motion carried.

**PRESENTATION OF FDD'S WINDOW DECORATIONS CONTEST**

On behalf of FDD, Marty Vanags presented awards for the best window decorations.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Journal of the Minutes of the regular meeting held on December 15, 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. Community Development Report
  - 2. Request for excused absence – Alderman Gaulrapp
  - 3. Department of Community Development Cash Receipts, December 2003
  - 4. Department of Community Development Building Permits
  - 5. Treasurer’s Monthly Investment Report for ending November 30, 2003
  - 6. Treasurer’s Report for period ending November 30, 2003
- B. Approval of Water & Sewer Disbursements for December 2003 - \$690,310.18
- C. Approval of Bills Payable for December 2003 - \$1,462,515.95
- D. Approval of Payroll of Period ending November 29, 2003 - \$282,523.77

Alderman Gaulrapp moved, seconded by Alderman Bender for approval of the consent agenda. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Clark, Boldt, O’Neill, Wright, Gaulrapp, and Bender voted yea. The motion carried.

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

**ORDINANCE #2003-86**

**SPECIAL ORDINANCE FOR VARIATION, PERMIT, OR AMENDMENT OF CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS (Variance, 615 S Harlem Ave- Recommendation Denial)**

This ordinance was laid over from the meeting of December 15, 2003, when it was moved by Alderman Wright, seconded by Alderman Dawson to concur with the Zoning Board of Appeals to deny this ordinance. On the roll call of yeas and nays to deny this ordinance, Aldermen Clark, Dawson, Boldt, O’Neill, Wright, Gaulrapp, and Bender voted yea. The motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Alderman Clark moved, seconded by Alderwoman Bender to go into executive session according to according to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(5) in order to discuss the purchase or lease of real estate. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Clark, Dawson, Boldt, O’Neill, Wright, Gaulrapp, and Bender voted yea. The motion carried.

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

**1<sup>st</sup> READING**

**ORDINANCE #2004-01**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN PROPERTY FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE HOMER DISTRICT STORM SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS**

Alderman Clark, Finance Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on December 29, 2003. The committee voted unanimously to approve this ordinance, subject to the Administration amending the ordinance to include that regular council updates regarding the purchase transaction that will include appraised values, and purchase prices, and Alderman Clark so moved, seconded by Alderwoman Bender. Alderman Clark moved, seconded by Alderwoman Bender to waive second reading. On the roll call of yeas and nays to suspend the rules and consider this ordinance at this meeting, Aldermen Clark, Dawson, Boldt, O'Neill, Wright, Gaulrapp, and Bender voted yea.

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

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

**ORDINANCE #2004-02**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 480 (PARKING GENERALLY) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT (*Prohibited Parking Streets*)**

Alderman Boldt, Public Works Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on December 15, 2003. This ordinance will make High Street one-sided parking due to new construction, and will create a no-parking area on either side of the t-intersection of Hance and Meadows, along the East side of Hance due to the congestion caused by the development of a new multi-family housing unit. 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.

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

**ORDINANCE #2004-03**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 480 (PARKING GENERALLY) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT (*Fifteen-Minute Parking Zones*)**

Alderman Boldt, Public Works Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on December 15, 2003. This ordinance will create two 15-minute parking spots along the redeveloped areas along Douglas, East of Galena. 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.

**APPOINTMENTS**

Alderman Wright moved, seconded by Alderman Clark that these appointments be laid over to the next regular council meeting pursuant to Chapter 220 of the Codified Ordinances. The motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #R-2004-06**

**RESOLUTION FOR MAINTENANCE OF STREETS AND HIGHWAYS BY MUNICIPALITY UNDER THE ILLINOIS HIGHWAY CODE**

Alderman Boldt, Public Works Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on December 15, 2004. This resolution to appropriate 600,000 of the Motor Fuel Tax is to be allocated for use from January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004. The committee voted unanimously to adopt this resolution and Alderman Boldt so moved, seconded by

Alderswoman O'Neill. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Clark, Dawson, Boldt, O'Neill, Wright, Gaulrapp, and Bender voted yea. The motion carried.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Alderman Gaulrapp, Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting December 8, 2003. The committee voted unanimously to approve up to \$500 for an appraisal on the Monterrey Street property. Mayor Gitz reported that the Administration was unable to obtain an appraiser under \$500. He stated he received two proposals, both being under \$1,000. Alderman Clark moved, seconded by Alderswoman Bender to increase the amount to \$1,000. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Clark, Dawson, Boldt, O'Neill, Wright, Gaulrapp, and Bender voted yea. The motion carried.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Alderswoman Bender, Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on January 5, 2003. The committee voted unanimously to approve the sell of a 1975 Fire Truck in the amount of \$6,500 and Alderswoman Bender so moved, seconded by Alderman Clark. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Clark, Dawson, Boldt, O'Neill, Wright, Gaulrapp, and Bender voted yea. The motion carried.

### **FINANCE**

Alderman Clark, Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on December 29, 2003. Chief Whitmore requested approval to purchase a fourth squad car, which was not in this year's budget. The Public Safety Committee previously approved the purchase of three budgeted cars at a cost of \$52,143.12, which was well below the budgeted amount of \$75,000. They subsequently authorized bidding out a fourth car and approved the low bid of \$16,468.00 from Bocker. The committee voted unanimously to approve this bid and Alderman Clark so moved, seconded by Alderswoman Bender. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Clark, Dawson, Boldt, O'Neill, Wright, Gaulrapp, and Bender voted yea. The motion carried.

Jim Ryan from the City of Rockford's Public Works Department gave a brief overview of Rockford's Annual Infrastructure Referendum.

Committee members discussed proposed resolution to formally contract with the Freeport Area Economic Development Foundation. Committee members were provided with a copy of a draft document. The committee did agree by consensus that the resolution to adopt the FAEDF plan was no longer necessary if the city formally contracts with FAEDF. This issue was laid over the next regular committee meeting.

Duane Price distributed copies of the recently completed fiscal audit. The auditors will be present at the next regular meeting to discuss the audit.

Mayor Gitz restated his desire to adopt the five-year Capital Improvement Plan as part of this year's budget.

Alderman Clark stated that there would be a joint committee meeting with Community Development on January 12, 2004 to discuss the Eastgate project and Stephenson Hotel renovations.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

Alderman Boldt, Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on December 15, 2003. Corporation Counsel, Sarah Griffin stated that the title search is nearing completing. The Mayor stated that the administration is almost done with the ADA issues and space needs study.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

The mayor discussed the following items:

- Taylor Park Environmental Task Force meeting on January 6, 2004 at 10:00am, at the Monroe Center
- Joint meetings with Community Development and Finance Committee regarding Stephenson Hotel & Eastgate Housing Initiative

**NEW BUSINESS**

Alderman Clark asked about the progress of the Land Use Plan. Reggie Taylor responded that the issue is the on the Planning Commission Agenda on January 8, 2004.

Alderman Wright referred the following issues: merger of Water & Sewer and Public Works, Street Lighting on Adams, Carroll, and Galena, and Public Works Capital Improvement Plan to the Public Works Committee; contract with Insight Communications, Department Head descriptions and surveys, and Infrastructure Referendum to the Finance Committee; term limits for Interim Department Heads, board vacancies, and city manager to the Executive Committee; and updating the BOCA Code, Developer's Guide, and the adjudication process to the Community Development Committee.

As there was no other business to be transacted by the City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.

**LATACIA M. ISHMON, CITY CLERK**