

CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS
MONDAY EVENING
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 4, 2002, 7:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

QUORUM

At 7:00 p.m., a quorum being present, Mayor James L. Gitz called the meeting to order.

RECORD

Present were Aldermen Rinehart, Bender, Steele, Moore-Howard, Leitzen Fye, Goley, Veer, Boldt, and Dawson. Absent were Aldermen Jones and Gaulrapp.

Aldermen Bush and Jenkins entered the meeting at 7:05pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

HONORARY RESOLUTION #R-2002-10

HONORARY RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE NEW YORK FIREFIGHTER, ARSEN KASPARIAN & HIS COLLEAGUES FOR THEIR DEDICATION

WHEREAS, on September 11, 2001 the United States of America was brutally attacked by terrorists on our own soil; and

WHEREAS, the World Trade Center in New York City was destroyed by this unprovoked attack, causing untold loss of life, property, and well-being; and

WHEREAS, many public safety personnel put themselves in harm's way, with many firefighters, police officers, security officers, and office workers making the ultimate sacrifice to protect, save, and defend other citizens at risk; and

WHEREAS, more than 150 firefighters are visiting cities throughout the United States this weekend in commemoration of the unity and assistance demonstrated throughout the nation in the wake of September 11, 2001; and

WHEREAS, Arsen Kasparian, of Ladder Company 156, based in Brooklyn, New York, is visiting Freeport as a representative of FDNY through the U.S. Conference of Mayors' outreach program to thank all those who supported the City of New York at this time of tragedy; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kasparian stands as a symbol and representative of the strength and fortitude of both the people of New York and the United States of America,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS, that we applaud the FDNY and the City of New York on their unity, strength, and dedication to our country, and we pledge ourselves to support their continuing recovery efforts in New York City.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we support the United States of America in its resolve to protect our nation and our citizens from acts of terrorism, terrorism networks, and nations and organizations which support and fund terrorism - - all of which pose a continuing threat to the security of freedom loving people everywhere in the world.

Alderwoman Steele moved, seconded by Alderman Rinehart that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried.

Mayor Gitz and Fire Chief, Jim Blackburn presented New York Firefighter, Arsen Kasparian with a key to the city. Sally Miller also presented Mr. Kasparian with a gift bag.

DO THE RIGHT THING PRESENTATION

Police Deputy Chief, Bob Smith announced the winners of the Do The Right Thing Program for the month of February 2002.

CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION

Certificates of Recognition were given to the individuals that assisted in the rescue of Brian Meyers, who was buried alive.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Journal of the Minutes of the regular meeting held on February 19, 2002 was presented for approval. Alderwoman Bender moved, seconded by Alderman Rinehart the approval of the minutes. The motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval to Receive and Place on File:
 - 1. Department of Community Development Cash Receipts, February 2002
 - 2. Department of Community Development Building Permits, February 2002
 - 3. Department of Community Development Report
 - 4. Treasurer's Tax Receipts, February 2002
 - 5. City's Audit Report for FY May 1, 2000 to April 30, 2001
- B. Approval of Water & Sewer Disbursements for February 2002 - \$180,477.90
- C. Approval of Bills Payable for February 2002
- D. Approval of Payroll for Pay Period February 10, 2002 – February 23, 200

Alderwoman Bender moved, seconded by Alderman Bush to approve the consent agenda. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Rinehart, Bender, Steele, Bush, Moore-Howard, Leitzen Fye, Goley, Veer, Boldt, Dawson, and Jenkins voted yea. The motion carried.

2nd READING ORDINANCE #2002-03
(AS AMENDED) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 482 (OFF-STREET PARKING LOTS) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS

This Ordinance was laid over from the meeting of February 19, 2002, when it was moved by Alderman Jenkins, seconded by Alderman Rinehart for approval. On the roll call of yeas and nays to approve this ordinance, Aldermen Rinehart, Bender, Steele, Bush, Moore-Howard, Veer, Boldt, and Jenkins voted yea. Aldermen Leitzen Fye, Goley, and Dawson voted nay. There were eight yeas and three nays. The Ordinance was approved.

2nd READING ORDINANCE #2002-07
SPECIAL ORDINANCE FOR VARIATION, PERMIT OR AMENDMENT OF CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS (Special Use Permit, 610 W South St)

This Ordinance was laid over from the meeting of February 19, 2002, when it was moved by Alderman Boldt, seconded by Alderman Gaulrapp for approval. On the roll

call of yeas and nays to approve this ordinance, Aldermen Rinehart, Bender, Steele, Leitzen Fye, Goley, Veer, Boldt, Dawson, and Jenkins voted yea. Aldermen Bush and Moore-Howard voted nay. There were nine yeas and two nays. The Ordinance was approved.

2nd READING ORDINANCE #2002-09

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 899 (ENTERPRISE ZONES) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS

This Ordinance was laid over from the meeting of February 19, 2002, when it was moved by Alderman Boldt, seconded by Alderwoman Veer for approval. On the roll call of yeas and nays to approve this ordinance, Aldermen Rinehart, Bender, Steele, Bush, Moore-Howard, Leitzen Fye, Goley, Veer, Boldt, Dawson, and Jenkins voted yea. The Ordinance was approved.

2nd READING ORDINANCE #2002-10

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 65-71, A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF A FREE STANDING CANOPY FOR GREATER DOWNTOWN FREEPORT, INC.

This Ordinance was laid over from the meeting of February 19, 2002, when it was moved by Alderman Boldt, seconded by Alderwoman Bender. On the roll call of yeas and nays to approve this ordinance, Aldermen Rinehart, Bender, Steele, Bush, Moore-Howard, Leitzen Fye, Goley, Veer, Boldt, Dawson, and Jenkins voted yea. The Ordinance was approved.

APPOINTMENT

Effective immediately, James L. Gitz hereby appoints Kenneth Urban as an Alderman for the 6th Ward for the City of Freeport. Mr. Urban will fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Jeff Williams.

Alderman Rinehart moved, seconded by Alderwoman Leitzen Fye to accept this appointment. On the roll call of yeas and nays to accept this appointment, Aldermen Rinehart, Bender, Steele, Bush, Moore-Howard, Leitzen Fye, Goley, Veer, Boldt, Dawson, and Jenkins voted yea. The motion carried.

SWEARING IN OF CITY OFFICIAL

City Clerk, Latacia Ishmon, swore in newly appointed 6th Ward Alderman, Ken Urban. Alderman Urban then took his seat.

REAPPOINTMENT

Effective immediately, James L. Gitz hereby reappoints Duane (Duke) Herrling, a Freeport Area Chamber of Commerce representative, to the Stephenson County Convention and Visitors Bureau. This appointment shall be effective until December 31, 2004.

Alderwoman Bender moved, seconded by Alderwoman Leitzen Fye to accept this appointment. On the roll call of yeas and nays to accept this appointment, Aldermen Rinehart, Bender, Steele, Bush, Moore-Howard, Leitzen Fye, Goley, Veer, Jones, Urban, Boldt, Dawson, and Jenkins voted yea. The motion carried.

1st READING ORDINANCE #2002-11

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE JOINING CITY OF FREEPORT-COUNTY OF STEPHENSON CERTIFIED ENTERPRISE ZONE

Alderman Boldt stated that Community Development committee held a meeting on February 11, 2002. The committee voted unanimously to approve this ordinance and Alderman Boldt so moved, seconded by Alderwoman Leitzen Fye. This Ordinance was automatically laid over to the next regular meeting.

RESOLUTION #R-2002-09

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AN AMENDMENT TO INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR THE OPERATION OF AN ENTERPRISE ZONE

WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Agreement for the Operation of an Enterprise Zone, (hereinafter referred to as the "Agreement") between the City of Freeport, a Municipal Corporation and a home rule unit of local government of the State of Illinois, (hereinafter referred to as the "City"), and the County of Stephenson, a body politic and corporate and a unit of government of the State of Illinois, (hereinafter referred to as the "County"), was executed on December 18, 1989; and

WHEREAS, Section 3 of the Agreement includes a Description of the Zone; and

WHEREAS, the City and County wish to add 62.68 acres (more or less) to the City of Freeport-Stephenson County Enterprise Zone; and

WHEREAS, the expansion of the Enterprise Zone will allow and assist Interactive Teleservices in establishing an outbound call center, which will create an estimated 100 new full time jobs and 150 new part-time jobs, and will assist Thompson's Pearl Valley Eggs, Inc. in locating an egg processing facility, which will employ an estimated 15 – 20 skilled laborers and will indirectly create an additional 10 – 20 jobs; and

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois' Department of Commerce and Community Affairs (hereinafter referred to as "DCCA") requires that the Section 3 of the Agreement must be amended to include the description of the 62.68 acres more or less be added to the City of Freeport-Stephenson County Enterprise Zone in addition to both the City and the County adopting ordinances amending the boundaries of the joint City of Freeport-County of Stephenson Certified Enterprise Zone.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS THAT:

1. Section 3 of the Agreement is hereby amended to add the proposed expansion of the Enterprise Zone as described on the attached map, which is marked as "Exhibit A" and as described on the attached map, which is marked as "Exhibit B", attached hereto and incorporated by reference herein.
2. All Resolutions or motions in conflict with the Resolution are repealed insofar as they conflict.
3. If any section, clause or provision of this Resolution be declared by a Court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, said decision shall both affect the validity of the Resolution as a whole or any part thereof, other than the part declared invalid, and the City of Freeport hereby expressly declares that it would have enacted this Resolution even with the invalid portion deleted.

Alderwoman Steele moved, seconded by Alderwoman Bender to adopt this Resolution.
Alderwoman Steele moved, seconded by Alderwoman Bender that this Resolution be

laid order to the next regular meeting so that it could be considered with Ordinance #2002-11. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION #R-2002-11

RESOLUTION DECLARING MARCH 2002 AS RED CROSS MONTH

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross' volunteers are among the many of Freeport men and women who serve their fellow citizens by giving unselfishly of themselves, and by fulfilling the Red Cross tenet of "HELP CAN'T WAIT"; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross was an instrumental force in gathering resources and dispensing assistance during and after the New York City Twin Towers' terrorist attack; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross provides relief from the devastation of large scale natural disasters such as tornadoes, floods and fires, including assistance to homeless families that have lost everything because "HELP CAN'T WAIT"; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross helps to make Freeport a safer community by providing training in CPR, First Aid, Water Safety and HIV/AIDS education because when our families are at risk, "HELP CAN'T WAIT"; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross has served our community faithfully since 1917 and renewed its commitment to "Helping, because HELP CAN'T WAIT",

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS, that the month of March 2002 is proclaimed by the Mayor and endorsed by the City Council as American Red Cross Month in the City of Freeport, and that the citizens of Freeport are hereby urged to give generously of their time and support to the humanitarian efforts of our own Northwest Illinois Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Alderman Leitzen Fye moved, seconded by Alderman Steele that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried.

Melanie Wahler, Director of Red Cross, explained Red Cross's accomplishments and also what programs the organization offers.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Alderman Bush, Chair, announced that the next meeting would be March 12, 2002 at 5:00 pm., in City Council Chambers.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Alderman Steele, Chair, announced that the next meeting would be a joint meeting with the Liquor Commission on March 14, 2002 at 5:30 pm, in City Council Chambers.

PUBLIC WORKS

Alderman Jenkins, Vice Chair, announced that the next meeting would be March 11, 2002 at 7:00 pm, in City Council Chambers.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Alderman Dawson, Chair, announced that the next meeting would be March 13, 2002 at 6:00 pm, in City Council Chambers.

TECHNOLOGY

Alderman Boldt announced that the next meeting would be March 5, 2002 at 6:00 pm, in City Council Chambers.

NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Rinehart thanked Fire Chief, Jim Blackburn and Scott Townsend for conducting a tour of Fire Station #1. He also welcomed Alderman Urban to the city council.

Alderwoman Bender questioned the city's handling of hotel/motel taxes. She asked if nominal administrative fees could be charged to offset some of the costs incurred by the city.

Alderwoman Steele thanked those that attended the reception for Congressman Manzullo.

Alderman Moore-Howard welcomed Alderman Urban to the council. She also thanked all that were involved in rescuing Brian Meyers.

Alderwoman Leitzen Fye welcomed Alderman Urban to the council.

Alderman Goley welcomed Alderman Urban to the council. He stated that he looked forward to working with him.

Alderwoman Veer welcomed Alderman Urban to the council.

Alderman Boldt welcomed Alderman Urban to the council. He stated that he has a problem with the wording on the library referendum question and wants the public to be very clear on what they are voting on.

Alderman Urban stated that he is honored to serve on the council and that he looks forward to working with everyone.

Alderman Dawson welcomed Alderman Urban to the council. In regards to the library referendum, he stated that he would like the public to be clear. He stated that this question is not against supporting the library; it is against the city spending \$2.5 on the project. He also stated his views on filtering the computers in the library.

Alderman Jenkins stated that the Street Department did a good job cleaning the streets after the blizzard.

Mayor Gitz stated that in order to build a new library, the city has to make a commitment. He stated that the State of Illinois, Newell Rubbermaid, and many private individuals and organizations have contributed to the new building, now it is time for the city to step forward.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Cheryl Hartman, Debbie Leininger, Sally Miller, Georgia Hunter, and Kay Yde presented their views on filtering computers at the Freeport Public Library.

Tom Tyke announced that Malcom Eaton will be having a winter ball on March 9, 2002 and invited everyone to attend. He also stated that candy bar sales would start March 5, 2002.

As there was no other business to be transacted by the City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

**LATACIA M. ISHMON
CITY CLERK**