

CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS
MONDAY EVENING
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 17, 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 Boldt, Urban, Dawson, Gaulrapp, Bush, Moore-Howard, Goley, and Jones. Alderwoman Veer entered the meeting at 7:02am and Alderwoman Steele entered at 7:05am. Absent were Aldermen Jenkins, Rinehart, and Bender.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Journal of the Minutes of the regular meeting held on June 3, 2002, were presented for approval. Alderman Goley moved, seconded by Alderwoman Jones the approval of the minutes. The motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval to Receive and Place on File:
 - 1. Treasurer's Monthly Investment Report for period ending May 31, 2002
 - 2. Fire Department Monthly Activity Report for May 2002
 - 3. Police Department Monthly Activity Report for May 2002
 - 4. Treasurer's Report for period ending May 31, 2002
- B. Approval of Water & Sewer Disbursements for June 2002 - \$205,539.77
- C. Approval of Bills Payable for June 2002
- D. Approval of Payroll for Pay Period May 19, 2002 – June 1, 2002 - \$311,143.07

Alderman Gaulrapp moved, seconded by Alderman Goley for approval of the consent agenda. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Boldt, Urban, Dawson, Gaulrapp, Bush, Moore-Howard, Goley, Veer, and Jones voted yea. The motion carried.

1ST READING

ORDINANCE #2002-40

AN ORDINANCE TO ASCERTAIN THE PREVAILING RATE OF WAGES FOR LABORERS, WORKMEN AND MECHANICS EMPLOYED ON PUBLIC WORKS OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS

Alderwoman Veer, Vice Chair, Public Works Committee stated that the committee held a meeting on June 10, 2002. Public Works Director, Craig LeBaron presented an ordinance to ascertain the prevailing wage for workers employed on contracted public works projects. This ordinance is approved every year and is absolutely necessary to receive any State or Federal money for public works projects. The committee voted unanimously to approve this ordinance and Alderwoman Veer so moved, seconded by Alderman Dawson. Alderwoman Veer moved, seconded by Alderman Dawson to suspend the rules. On the roll call of yeas and nays to suspend the rules, Aldermen Boldt, Urban, Dawson, Gaulrapp, Steele, Bush, Moore-Howard, Goley, Veer, and Jones voted yea. On the roll call of yeas and nays to approve this ordinance, Aldermen Boldt,

Urban, Dawson, Gaulrapp, Steele, Bush, Moore-Howard, Goley, Veer, and Jones voted yea. The ordinance was approved.

1ST READING

ORINANCE #2002-41

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE, FISCAL YEAR 2002-03, FOR THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS

Alderman Bush, Finance Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on June 11, 2002. Jim Leitzinger, Finance Director, gave the committee a list of cuts that were made at the previous Finance meeting on May 21, 2002. He also added \$25,000 for NHS, \$15,000 for Stephenson County Health Department, a 1.5% wage increase for non-bargaining employees, and \$100,000 for a TIF Feasibility Study. There will additional revenue of \$20,000 from liquor licenses. With the state taking the photo taxes, the city will loose \$55,500. The Finance Director stated that the budget would be balanced, even with the cuts and additions, by the Health and Environment Fund and Motor Vehicle Fund.

NHS Director, Deb Elzinga had some questions in regards to how the money appropriated would be split between operations and development.

The committee voted unanimously to approve this ordinance and Alderman Bush so moved, seconded by Alderman Goley. This ordinance was automatically laid over to the next regular meeting.

REPORT

The regular meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals was held on Thursday, June 6, 2002. A public hearing was held on a petition by Miriam Huseman, 622 N. Brick Avenue, Freeport, requesting a variance to Section 1268.02(e)(1) of the City of Freeport Codified Ordinances, to allow construction of a fence in the front yard. Mrs. Huseman was present for the hearing, and the request meets all requirements of the Codified Ordinances. There were no objectors present.

Alderwoman Steele moved, seconded by Alderman Dawson that this report be received and placed on file. The motion carried.

REPORT

The regular meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals was held on Thursday, June 6, 2002. A public hearing was held on a petition by Bob and Pat Kubatzke, 1514 S. Float Avenue, Freeport, requesting a 17-foot front yard variance in order to construct a deck. Mrs. Kubatzke was present for the hearing, and the request meets all requirements of the City of Freeport Codified Ordinances. There were no objectors present. Mrs. Kubatzke stated that the Contractor had misunderstood the instructions about getting a variance and a permit. The Zoning Board discussed the malfeasance of the contractor.

The Zoning Board unanimously recommends the request be granted.

Alderwoman Steele moved, seconded by Alderman Dawson that this report be received and placed on file. The motion carried.

1ST READING

ORDINANCE #2002-43

SPECIAL ORDINANCE FOR VARIATION, PERMIT OR AMENDMENT OF CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS (VARIANCE, 1514 S FLOAT AVE)

Alderswoman Steele, Community Development Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on June 13, 2002. The committee voted unanimously to concur with the Zoning Board of Appeals and Alderswoman Steele so moved, seconded by Alderman Veer. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Boldt, Urban, Dawson, Gaulrapp, Steele, Bush, Moore-Howard, Goley, Veer, and Jones voted yea. The ordinance was approved.

REPORT

The regular meeting of the Freeport Planning Commission was held on Thursday, June 6, 2002. A public hearing was held on a petition by Malcolm Eaton Foundation, owner, and Malcolm Eaton Enterprises, contract vendee. Petitioners are requesting a Special Use Permit under Section 1250.01(b)(10) of the City of Freeport Codified Ordinances, to allow the property at 2002 Bedford Road to be a large residential care home. Present representing Malcolm Eaton were Harold Anderson, Sue Swanson, and Patsy Cook. Also present was Alderman George Gaulrapp and neighborhood residents.

Sue Swanson, Harold Anderson, and Patsy Cook addressed the Commission on behalf of Malcolm Eaton Enterprises, stating the following: MEE currently has four care homes, which serve residents of Stephenson County who have conditions like cerebral palsy, epilepsy or, in most cases retardation. For economic reasons, they would like to close one home and increase the number of residents in the Bedford Road home from three to five permanent residents, and have the ability to occasionally house a sixth for brief periods of time. The pattern for the industry is five to eight per home – State licensing limits these facilities to a maximum of eight. The home is monitored by trained staff 24/7 on an on-call basis. A floor plan of the proposed remodeling as presented (on file). Three bedrooms and one bathroom will be added. Since the garage space will be used for most of the project, only 240 square feet will be added to the footprint of the building. Because the residents do not drive, the garage space is not needed.

Cindy Martin, 1949 Bedford Road, asked, “Will there be an increase in staff because of the increase in residents?” Swanson answered, “No.”

Melissa Geiser, 2005 Bedford Road: “I have observed staff hanging out, talking loudly in the driveway. They are young people and often off-duty staff will visit those who are on duty. Sometimes there are five cars. I talked to an appraiser who said this project will lower the property values in the area.”

Commissioner Krogull stated that there is one of these homes in his neighborhood, and it hasn't affected his property value.

Sue Swanson referred to a State of Illinois commissioned study (on file) that demonstrated no decrease in values of property because of homes like this.

Vick Shields, 2009 Bedford Road, stated that he had never been bothered by the present three residents, but is worried about the increase in numbers.

Helen Raders, 2020 Bedford Road, said she didn't think there was room to make the proposed addition.

Brent Raders expressed concern with the effect on his property value.

Jan Shields said she thought the neighbors would be happy if the Special Use Permit limited the number of residents to six or fewer.

A legal petition from Allan Winter, 2008 Bedford Road, was presented to the Commission.

A motion was made by Mark Winter, second by Dr. Ahmed Rasheed; to recommend approval of the Special Use Permit only with a limitation of six or fewer residents if such a limitation was legally possible; if such a limitation is not possible, his motion is to deny the petition.

Bill Worster moved to amend the motion by adding a condition that would end the Special Use Permit when there is a change of ownership if such a condition is legally possible; if such a condition is not permissible, he wishes his amendment to be dropped and the question to revert to the original motion. The amendment was seconded by Dr. Rasheed.

The commission voted unanimously to accept the amendment and the main motion.

Alderman Steele moved, seconded by Alderman Gaulrapp that this report be received and placed on file. The motion carried.

1ST READING

ORDINANCE #2002-44

SPECIAL ORDINANCE FOR VARIATION, PERMIT OR AMENDMENT OF CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS (SPECIAL USE PERMIT, 2002 BEDFORD ROAD)

Alderman Steele, Community Development Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on June 13, 2002. Malcolm Eaton Enterprises seeks a Special Use Permit to increase their facility at 2002 Bedford Road from three residents to five, with the possibility of a sixth resident on a temporary emergency basis. The State of Illinois allows a maximum of eight residents per location. Representatives from MEE were heard along with the objectors present.

Jack Martin, 1949 Bedford Road, was concerned about an increase in staff and an increase of traffic in that area.

Patsy Cook, 1539 W Harrison, representing MEE stated that their would not be an increase in the number of staff and stressed that the 6th resident would be on an emergency situation basis only.

Melissa Geiser, 2005 Bedford, stated that living across the street she has witnessed staff members being visited during their working hours and that there have been 3-5 cars parked along the street as well as parked in her yard. She also states that her kids cannot play in her yard because of this. She acknowledged that she has not addressed this problem previously, and the MEE representatives were not aware of this situation, and agreed that they would handle this situation immediately.

Mike Schnierla, 2015 Bedford, has lived at his location for 24 years. He admitted that MEE has improved that property but loud music and people hanging around is a nuisance. He was concerned that the small ranch house would be too small and too crowded for six residents and staff.

Vick Shields, 2009 Bedford, inquired as to when MEE purchased the property and if it is currently zoned residential. MEE representatives confirmed that it is currently zoned residential and that the home was purchased in 1997.

Alderwoman Steele recommended that the staff of MEE (Sue Swanson, Executive Director) meet the neighbors to create a line of communication and that Human Resource type problems that need to be handled by MEE could be discussed and handled by MEE staff. Both the MEE representatives and the objectors agreed to these meetings and thought that they would be helpful.

Rose Donaldson, chairman of the Residential Committee for MEE, stated that her goal is to create a neighborhood inclusion. MEE wants input from the neighborhood.

Brett Raiders, 2020 Bedford was also present.

Dick Almasy, 1240 Carroll questioned if there was a legal number of cars that could be parked at this residence. He was informed that there was not, as long as the cars were moved every 24 hours.

Harold Anderson, 7006 N Oak Rd, representing MEE, stated that the MEE is aware that the septic system is too small for six residents and that they would be upgrading to the city's sewer system. He also stated that a garage may be added on to help the house look more residential, but they are not going to add it at this point. If and when they did, it would be within the lot limits.

During the Planning Commission meeting, amendments were added to limit the number of residents at this location to six if this type of limitation was legal. Corporation Counsel, Sarah Griffin, informed the committee that this was okay. Also the Planning Commission suggested that if the property would be sold that the Special Use Permit would expire. Corporation Counsel informed the committee through written transcript that this could not be feasible since the zoning remains with the property.

The committee voted unanimously to concur with the Planning Commission and to include the amendment to limit the number of residents to six, but omit the expiration of the Special Use Permit and Alderwoman Steele so moved, seconded by Alderman Dawson. This ordinance was automatically laid over to the next regular meeting.

RESOLUTION #R-2002-40

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ENGINEERING FOR A FEASIBILITY STUDY CONCERNING THE REDEVELOPMENT OF CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS

WHEREAS, on April 15, 2002 the City Council of the City of Freeport, through the passage of Resolution R2002-20, authorized certain actions pertaining to development and redevelopment activities pertaining to certain property generally described in Exhibit "A" (the "site") attached hereto and made a part hereof; and

WHEREAS, in that Resolution the City stated its belief that it is not economically feasible to conduct a feasibility study for a Tax Increment Finance District for that property without public assistance; and

WHEREAS, Illinois law provides for creation of a Tax Increment Finance (TIF) District to provide such assistance, intervention, redevelopment planning and overview of TIF as described in Exhibit B, attached hereto and incorporated herein; and

WHEREAS, the cost of the feasibility study is reimbursable if the Tax Increment Financing District is created; and

WHEREAS, the Corporate Authorities believe it is in the best interests of the citizens to cause such a feasibility study to be completed; and

WHEREAS, the City has requested financial assistance for the feasibility study from Stephenson County because part of the necessary study will include the Yellow Creek watershed from West Street all the way to the Pecatonica River, most of which is in rural Stephenson County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS as follows:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals shall be and are hereby incorporated in this Section 1 as if said recitals were fully set forth.

Section 2. The Corporate Authorities hereby authorize the Mayor to negotiate and enter into a contract with Fehr-Graham to conduct certain engineering services in relation to the flood plain in that area in order to assist the City in its determination of whether development/redevelopment project costs would qualify for Tax Increment Financing.

Section 3. The Corporate Authorities hereby further authorize the Mayor to negotiate and enter into such other contract(s) as necessary in order to complete such a feasibility study.

Section 4. The Corporate Authorities hereby authorize and direct the Mayor to formally request financial assistance from the Stephenson County Board and the County Engineer for the feasibility study since the feasibility study will benefit Stephenson County as well as the City of Freeport.

Section 5. It is intended that should a Tax Increment Financing District be created that the costs attendant to the creation thereof be reimbursed to the City through tax incremental financing.

Section 6. If any section, paragraph, clause or provisions of the Resolution shall be held invalid, said invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this Resolution.

Section 7. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval in the manner provided by law. The City Clerk is directed to publish this Resolution in a newspaper of general circulation within the City.

Alderwoman Veer, Public Works Vice Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on June 10, 2002. The resolution for a feasibility study of Yellow Creek flood plain and watershed area from IL 26 to Pecatonica River was presented. The purpose is to determine how much area can be built on from the shopping center between West Avenue and Walnut. The study will also include information about the south end of the Industrial Park where the Economic Development Foundation has an option to purchase additional land.

Since much of the studied area will be of benefit to the county, it is expected that they will cover about ½ of the cost. Reportedly, the Public Works committee has approved up

to \$50,000. When the TIF is formed for the shopping center, all of the city's cost will be reimbursed.

This study will determine exactly how much buildable area there is for the purpose of marketing the property for development. The committee voted unanimously to adopt this resolution and Alderwoman Veer so moved, seconded by Alderman Urban. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Alderman Boldt, Urban, Dawson, Gaulrapp, Steele, Bush, Goley, Veer, and Jones voted yea. Alderwoman Moore-Howard voted nay. There were nine yeas and one nay. The resolution was adopted.

RESOLUTION #R-2002-41

**SUPPLEMENTAL RESOLUTION FOR CITY OF FREEPORT STREET PROGRAM
(MFT SEC 02-00000-00-M)**

WHEREAS, the Resolution adopted by the City Council on November 19, 2001 appropriating \$600,000.00 of Motor Fuel Tax Funds for maintenance during the period from January 1, 2002 to December 31, 2002 was approved by IDOT as Section 02-00000-00-GM; and

WHEREAS, the city has taken bids on materials for said Section in the amount of \$69,350.00 which also has been approved by IDOT; and

WHEREAS, the city has a cost estimate for the resurfacing program under this same Section in an amount over \$680,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Freeport, Illinois that there is hereby appropriated the additional sum of TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$200,000.00), or so much thereof as may be necessary, from any money now or hereafter allotted to the City under the provisions of the Motor Fuel Tax Law, to pay its share of the cost of this portion of the improvement as provided in the agreement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the State of Illinois Department of Transportation, Division of Highways, District Engineer.

Alderwoman Veer, Public Works Vice Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on June 10, 2002. The committee discussed the needs for a supplemental appropriation of Motor Fuel Tax Funds for an increased amount of paving this year in the amount not to exceed \$200,000. We already approve \$600,000 in November 2001 as approved by IDOT. The actual cost of paving this year is \$680,000 and an additional \$69,350 is needed for more materials. These are funds from MFT and any amount not used will be available for next year's paving. The committee voted unanimously to adopt this resolution and Alderwoman Veer so moved, seconded by Alderman Dawson. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Alderman Boldt, Urban, Dawson, Gaulrapp, Steele, Bush, Moore-Howard, Goley, Veer and Jones voted yea. The resolution was adopted.

RESOLUTION #R-2002-42

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY OF FREEPORT TO ENTER INTO A
CONTRACT FOR AIRPORT CONSULTING SERVICES**

WHEREAS, RISSA VENTURE, LLC has expressed an interest in purchasing the property located at 4 E. Linden, Freeport; and

WHEREAS, the City of Freeport is the current owner of said property and is desirous of selling such property; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to ILCS 5/11-76-2 requires that the City solicit and accept bids for a period of thirty (30) days prior to the sale of municipally owned property; and

WHEREAS, RISSA VENTURE, LLC, in order to proceed with their tenant, which is Government Services Administration, needs the City to begin the process under which an eventual sale can be made.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS that the Mayor of the City of Freeport, Illinois, is hereby authorized to execute an Agreement between the City of Freeport, Illinois and RISSA VENTURE, LLC for the purpose of securing an option on such real estate, subject to the prerequisites of Illinois Statutes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this Resolution is expressly adopted pursuant to the Home Rule authority of the City of Freeport under Section 6(a) of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, and all Resolutions or motions in conflict with this Resolution are repealed insofar as they conflict.

Alderman Veer, Public Works Vice-Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on June 10, 2002. Mayor Gitz explained the need for someone to lobby in Washington for airport funds. The whole structure of distributing federal money to municipal airports has changed. Even before this change, it was very time consuming for any staff member to go to D.C. Given the history of grants made available to Freeport, the committee agreed that there is a need for someone who knows their way around the U.S. Capitol. Mayor Gitz recommended decreasing the current \$60,000 for our lobbyist to \$30,000. This would be discussed further at the special meeting on June 17, 2002.

Alderman Veer stated that the committee also held a special meeting on June 17, 2002. The resolution to enter into a contract for airport consulting services for Patty Dailey was presented. It was pointed out that the amount of \$30,000 was reduced from last year's amount of \$60,000 due to budget constraints. The committee voted unanimously to adopt this resolution and Alderman Veer so moved, seconded by Alderman Urban. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Alderman Boldt, Urban, Dawson, Gaulrapp, Steele, Bush, Moore-Howard, Goley, Veer and Jones voted yea. The resolution was adopted.

RESOLUTION #R-2002-43

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AGREEMENT WITH RISSA VENTURE, LLC FOR REAL ESTATE OPTION FOR 4 EAST LINDEN STREET IN THE CITY OF FREEPORT

WHEREAS, RISSA VENTURE, LLC has expressed an interest in purchasing the property located at 4 E. Linden, Freeport; and

WHEREAS, the City of Freeport is the current owner of said property and is desirous of selling such property; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to ILCS 5/11-76-2 requires that the City solicit and accept bids for a period of thirty (30) days prior to the sale of municipality owned property; and

WHEREAS, RISSA VENTURE, LLC, in order to proceed with their tenant, which is Government Services Administration, needs the City to begin the process under which an eventual sale can be made.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS that the Mayor of the City of Freeport, Illinois, is hereby authorized to execute an Agreement between the City of Freeport, Illinois and RISSA VENTURE, LLC for the purpose of securing an option of such real estate, subject to the prerequisites of Illinois Statutes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this Resolution is expressly adopted pursuant to the Home Rule authority of the City of Freeport under Section 6(a) of Article VII of the

Illinois Constitution of 1970, and all Resolutions or motions in conflict with this Resolution are repealed insofar as they conflict.

Alderwoman Steele, Community Development Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on June 13, 2002. The committee discussed this in executive session. After coming out of executive, the committee voted unanimously to adopt this resolution and Alderwoman Steele so moved, seconded by Alderman Dawson. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Boldt, Urban, Dawson, Gaulrapp, Steele, Bush, Moore-Howard, and Veer voted yea. Aldermen Goley and Jones abstained. There were eight yeas and two abstentions. The resolution was adopted.

BIDS

Alderwoman Veer, Public Works Vice-Chair, stated that the committee held a special meeting on June 17, 2002. Bids were presented for the 2002 Street Program. The only bid came from Civil Constructors in the amount of \$640,870.40, which was .5% over the engineer's estimate of \$634,931. The committee voted unanimously to accept this bid and Alderwoman Veer so moved, seconded by Alderman Urban.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC WORKS

Alderwoman Veer, Vice-Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on June 10, 2002. Denise Blakeley from Water & Sewer presented the revisions to the Water & Sewer budget to manage and maintain the Storm Sewers. The revenues were \$146,088 (generated from \$1 residential fee, \$5 commercial fee, and \$10 industrial). The expenses were \$49,000 for United Water and \$97,000 for Maintenance Outside contractors. The committee voted unanimously to approve these revisions.

Alderwoman Bender approached the committee about the responsibility of the Water & Sewer Commission to clean and disinfect all basements subject to sanitary back-up. She asked the committee to originate an ordinance requiring them to do the cleaning.

Russ Petta persisted that the Sanitary Sewers have not improved at all since United Water has been managing them. Denise Blakeley explained many of the improvements and stated that there has been approximately \$25 million dollars in improvements since 1996. Since United Water has been here, sewers are relined and replaced every year. We have spent around ½ million during many of those years.

Alderwoman Veer, Vice-Chair, stated that the committee also held a special meeting on June 17, 2002. Public Works Director, Craig LeBaron and Water & Sewer Director, Alice Orhtmann briefed the committee on relief efforts on basement flooding. Future formal plans will be presented in July.

FINANCE

Alderman Bush, Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on June 11, 2002. Water & Sewer Director, Alice Orhtmann, presented the Water & Sewer budget, which was approved by the Public Works committee. The Water & Sewer Commission has not yet approved the Storm Water portion of the budget. After some discussion, the committee voted unanimously to approve the Water & Sewer budget, with the exception of the Storm Sewer fund. Alderman Goley suggested that the committee wait until the Water & Sewer Commission approves that portion. The committee voted unanimously

to approve the Water & Sewer budget with the exception of the Storm Sewer fund and Alderman Bush so moved, seconded by Alderman Goley. Alderman Goley moved that this vote be laid over to the next regular meeting in order for the Water & Sewer Commission to approve this fund. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Boldt, Urban, Dawson, Gaulrapp, Steele, Bush, Moore-Howard, Goley, Veer, and Jones voted yea. The motion carried.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Alderwoman Steele, Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on June 13, 2002. Ms. Huseman was present and stated that she wished to construct a fence along the alley that runs along her house. She hopes to prevent dogs from using her front yard as a bathroom. She is unsure at this time what type of fence that she will install, but is looking at a plastic or resin type fence. Ms. Huseman is flexible as to whether or not she actually encloses her yard since there is an ordinance that prohibits fences from enclosing the front yard. The committee decided to lay this over until June 17, 2002, in order to consult Fire Chief, Jim Blackburn to see whether or not a safety issue would exist with the fire department if the front yard was enclosed with a fence.

The committee held a special meeting on June 17, 2002 to discuss this variance further. The vote was laid over in order to discuss some options with Ms. Huseman.

A brief presentation was heard from Larry Lyons, 735 Van Buren Rd, Freeport. Mr. Lyons was representing Gills Disposal and Moring Disposal. Also present during this presentation were Gary Marzorati and Neil Palmer, both from 4920 Forest Hills Rd, Loves Park, Il, representing Winnebago Reclamation (William Charles Ltd). Larry Moring, Kevin Morin, and Denny Pate from Moring Disposal in Forreaston were also present.

Mr. Lyons stated that there were many options to look at regarding the closing of the current landfill in Freeport. Alderwoman Steele thanked Mr. Lyons for addressing his concern and that this information would be taken under advisement.

Alderwoman Steele addressed the situation with NHS and their funding of \$75,000. This was discussed at the Finance meeting on June 11, 2002. Deb Elzinga, Executive Director of NHS, had requested that in lieu of dedicating \$50,000 toward administrative costs and \$25,000 toward redevelopment; could the allotment be changed to 75% for administrative and 25% for redevelopment. Her concern being that it would be easier to raise money from other sources for redevelopment, but it would be hard to raise money for administrative functions. The difference with this change would be \$6,250. Aldermen Boldt, Veer, and Steele recommended 75%/25% and Alderman Dawson had no opinion. This information is to be forwarded to the Finance Committee.

Alderwoman Steele stated that the next meeting would be July 11, 2002 at 5:30 p.m., in City Council Chambers.

TECHNOLOGY

Alderman Gaulrapp, Chair, stated that the next meeting would be July 9, 2002 at 6:00 p.m., in City Council Chambers. He stated that the committee would have a technology survey completed by June 21, 2002, to distribute to the department heads. He requested that the department heads complete and return to him so that the committee could review them at the next committee meeting.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Alderman Dawson, Chair, stated that the next meeting would be July 10, 2002, at 6:00pm, in City Council Chambers.

NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Boldt asked if there were plans being made for the reduction of the council in relation to committee structure, etc.

Alderman Gaulrapp stated that he is troubled to see a deficit and he is concerned about the future of the city.

Alderwoman Steele encouraged the aldermen to pick up their binders on Fridays.

Alderman Bush stated that there are tires on the 600 block of Orin and Lewis Street. He asked that this be referred to the appropriate department.

Alderwoman Moore-Howard stated that she has received complaints regarding grass and weeds on vacant property. She asked if the residents should continue to contact the city.

Alderwoman Jones stated that there was some concern about loud music from cars. She informed that public that she had spoken to a police officer and if an incident occurs where the car is parked on the street, the police should be contacted immediately. They do issue tickets.

Mayor Gitz responded to Alderman Boldt's concern regarding the reduction of the council. He stated that information would be accumulated from other cities and this information would be shared with the council. He said that he would also like some guidance from the council.

Mayor Gitz also stated that he attended the US Mayor's Conference in Madison, WI. He stated that he received a wealth of information and publications that he would be sharing with the council.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Diana Cox, Joyce Wilhems, and Tom Klem spoke on behalf of Malcolm Eaton Enterprises. They encouraged the council to approve the special use permit in order to add residents to the group home on Bedford Rd.

As there was no other business to be transacted by the City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

LATACIA M. ISHMON, CITY CLERK