

CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS
MONDAY EVENING
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 3, 2005 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 Griswold, Boldt, O'Neill, Wright, Gaulrapp, Varner, and Clark. Absent was Alderwoman Bender due to being ill.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

At this time, the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderwoman Griswold.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Alderman Clark moved, seconded by Alderwoman O'Neill to approve the agenda, adding a presentation of the Convention & Visitors 2005 Marketing Plan and Budget. The motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

There was a public hearing on the Cherry Avenue CDAP Grant. Alice Ohrtmann and Ellen Burgeson explained the details of the grant and answered all questions from the council and public.

PRESENTATION

Connie Sorn from the Stephenson County Convention & Visitor's Bureau summarized the 2005 Marketing Plan and Budget and answered all questions from the council.

PRESENTATION

There was a presentation to the Christmas Decoration Award winners. There was a representative from Luecke's present to receive the Best Business Display award.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Journal of the Minutes of the regular meeting held on December 20, 2004 was presented for approval. Alderwoman O'Neill moved, seconded by Alderman Varner for approval. The motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval to Receive and Place on File:

- A. Approval to Receive and Place on File:
 - 1. Community Development Report
 - 2. Community Development Building Permits for December 2004
 - 3. Community Development Building Permit Summary for 2004
 - 4. Community Development Cash Receipts for December 2004
 - 5. Stephenson County Convention and Visitors Bureau 2005 Marketing Plan
- B. Approval of Water & Sewer Disbursements for January 2005 - \$225,619.26
- C. Approval of Bills Payable for December 2004 - \$208,958.19
- D. Approval of Payroll for period ending December 25, 2004 - \$302,753.76

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

1ST READING

ORDINANCE #2004-71

AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING CERTAIN TERRITORY INTO THE CITY OF FREEPORT, STEPHENSON COUNTY, ILLINOIS AND ASSIGNING A ZONING CLASSIFICATION AND ELECTION WARD TO THE PROPERTY

Alderman Gaulrapp, Community Development Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on January 3, 2005. The Committee voted unanimously to approve this ordinance and Alderman Gaulrapp so moved, seconded by Alderman Varner. This ordinance was automatically laid over to the next regular meeting.

RESOLUTION #R-2004-88

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PRELIMINARY PLAT FOR COUNTRYSIDE ESTATES

WHEREAS, Section 1224.03 of Chapter 1224 (Subdivision Regulations) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Freeport and Section 205/2 of the Illinois Plat Act (765 ILCS 205/2) and Section 5/11-15-1 of the Illinois Municipal Code (65 ILCS 5/11-15/1) all authorize a city council to approve preliminary and final plats for all subdivisions located inside of the corporate boundaries of the city or within one-and-a-half miles outside of the corporate boundaries of the city; and

WHEREAS, at a meeting held on December 9, 2004, and subsequent to a public hearing, the Freeport Planning Commission by a majority vote recommended that this City Council approve the Preliminary Plat for Countryside Estates, which is located within the city limits of the City of Freeport, Illinois.

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

Section 1: That the Preliminary Plat for Countryside Estates, a copy of which is attached hereto and made part hereof and marked as “Exhibit A”, is hereby accepted.

Section 2: That this approval is tentative only, involving merely the general acceptability of the layout as submitted, and shall be valid for a maximum period of one (1) year, unless the developer applies for, and this City Council grants, an extension thereof.

Section 3: This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage by the City Council and its approval by the Mayor.

Section 4: 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

Section 5: That all Resolutions or motions or parts of resolutions or motions in conflict with this Resolution are repealed insofar as they conflict.

Section 6: If any section, clause or provision of this Resolution be declared by a Court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the Resolution as a whole or any part thereof, other than the part so declared to be invalid, and this City Council expressly declares that it would have enacted this Resolution even with the invalid portion deleted.

Alderman Gaulrapp moved, seconded by Alderman Varner to lay this resolution over to the next regular meeting. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION #R-2004-89

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT AND COMMITMENT OF LOCAL FUNDS FOR CHERRY AVENUE CDAP GRANT

WHEREAS, the City of Freeport, is applying to the State of Illinois for a Community Development Assistance Program (CDAP) Public Facilities grant,

WHEREAS, it is necessary that an application be made and agreements be entered into with the State of Illinois, and

WHEREAS, receipt of CDAP grant assistance is essential to allow the City of Freeport to undertake the project to improve public infrastructure in the Cherry Avenue target area, and

WHEREAS, criteria of the CDAP Public Facilities program are such that financial participation by the grantee is required in conjunction with CDAP funds.

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. That the City of Freeport apply for a grant under the terms and conditions of the State of Illinois and shall enter into and agree to the understandings and assurances contained in said application.

Section 3. That the Mayor and City Clerk on behalf of the City of Freeport execute such documents and all other documents necessary for the carrying out of said application.

Section 4. That the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to provide such additional information as may be required to accomplish the obtaining of such grant.

Section 5. That the City of Freeport does hereby commit funds for use in conjunction with an Illinois Community Development Assistance Program grant, such funds to equal 25% of the estimated non-administrative project cost of \$447,000 or \$111,750, which shall be paid from Water & Sewer Commission Capital Funds.

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.

Alderman Boldt, Public Works Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on December 2, 2004. Denise Blakely presented a resolution of support for the Cherry Avenue Grant, and explained that it includes work to be done on the Sanitary as well as Storm Sewer in order to better our chance of receiving the grant. The committee voted unanimously to adopt this resolution and Alderman Boldt so moved, seconded by Alderwoman O'Neill.

There was leave granted to hear from Water & Sewer Director, Alice Ohrtmann. Alderman Boldt asked how much city money would be used to complete this project. Director Ohrtmann replied that the Water & Sewer Commission would be paying the remaining costs on the project. Alderman Clark moved, seconded by Alderman Wright to amend the resolution to stated that the remaining funds be paid from the Water & Sewer Commission. The motion carried. On the roll call of yeas and nays to adopt this resolution as amended, Aldermen Griswold, Boldt, O'Neill, Wright, Gaulrapp, Varner, and Clark voted yea. The resolution was adopted.

REAPPOINTMENT

Effective immediately, Mayor Gitz hereby reappoints Becky Coon and Mark Podemski to the Human Relations Commission. These reappointments shall be effective until December 31, 2007.

Leave was granted to approve both reappointments with one vote and Alderman Clark so moved, seconded by Alderman Wright. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Griswold, Boldt, O'Neill, Wright, Gaulrapp, Varner, and Clark voted yea. The motion carried.

APPOINTMENT

Effective immediately, Mayor Gitz hereby appoints Scott Helms to the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Freeport to fill a vacancy.

Alderman Varner moved, seconded by Alderman Boldt to accept this appointment. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Griswold, Boldt, O'Neill, Wright, Gaulrapp, Varner, and Clark voted yea. The motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Alderman Clark, Chair, stated that the committee held a meeting on December 27, 2004. The Township Assessor's Office requested that the taxing bodies participate in getting an appraisal done on a property. The city's portion would be \$675.49. If an appraisal is not done, there could be a substantial loss in tax dollars. The committee voted unanimously to approve this request and Alderman Clark so moved, seconded by Alderman Boldt. On the roll call of yeas and nays, Aldermen Griswold, Boldt, O'Neill, Wright, Gaulrapp, Varner, and Clark voted yea. The motion carried.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Alderman Gaulrapp, Chair, stated that the next meeting would be January 11, 2005, at 5:30pm in City Council Chambers.

PUBLIC WORKS

Alderman Boldt, Chair, stated that the next meeting would be January 18, 2005, at 5:30pm in City Council Chambers.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

PUBLIC WORKS

Craig LeBaron, Director informed the public that in the case of a snow emergency, vehicles need to be parked on the even side of the streets on even days and on the odd side of the streets on odd days.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The mayor then discussed the following items:

- Fire Chief hiring process
- Phase I Analysis
- Snow emergency

NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Clark asked when a copy of the Land Use Plan would be presented to the council. The mayor responded that the Community Development Committee has a draft copy.

As there was no other business to be transacted by the City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:49pm.

LATACIA M. ISHMON, CMC