



City Council

City Council Chambers ♦ 524 West Stephenson Street ♦ Freeport, IL 61032

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING Monday, May 7, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Freeport, Illinois, City Council was called to order by Mayor George Gaulrapp with a quorum being present at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, May 7, 2012, in Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call were Mayor Gaulrapp and council members Tom Klemm, Shawn Boldt, Ronnie Bush, Jennie DeVine, Dennis Endress, Scott Helms, Michael Koester, and Andrew Crutchfield (8). Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderperson DeVine.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Alderperson Endress moved for approval of the agenda, seconded by Alderperson DeVine. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

MINUTES

Alderperson Koester moved for approval of the minutes of the meeting held on April 16, 2012, seconded by Alderperson Crutchfield. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

Alderperson Endress moved for approval of the minutes of the meeting held on April 23, 2012, seconded by Alderperson Crutchfield. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS

Bernie Mrugala, 1310 S. Galena Avenue, Freeport Illinois, spoke in regard to the Appropriation Ordinance. He stated that he had received his property tax bill from the Stephenson County Treasurer. He stated he was glad to look at his property tax bill and see that each taxing body's share of the overall taxes went down from last year, including the City of Freeport's portion. Mr. Mrugala provided information from the employment labor force.

PRESENTATION

Alderperson Michael Koester read a proclamation for motorcycle awareness month in the City of Freeport for May 2012 through the A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois Inc. (A Brotherhood Aimed Toward Education) who promotes motorcycle safety, education and awareness in high school driver's education programs and the public.

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Mayor Gaulrapp was presented a 1st place team trophy by Heath Robbins for WABDL World Cup Bench Press and Deadlift Championship. The Freeport team competed for the trophy in the Wisconsin Dells and is qualified for an upcoming competition in Las Vegas. Mr. Robbins thanked the mayor and council for the sponsorship of the team.

Andy Dvorak provided an update of the progress by Downtown Historic Building Reuse/Preservation Study Group who will meet next week. They have a goal of analyzing needs for City offices to determine short and long term needs. They will also discuss the appropriate location for government in terms of economics and tourism.

Dave Young of Northwest Illinois Development Alliance provided a hand-out to the council in regard to the 2012-2013 budget request of \$50,000 from the general fund and \$50,000 from the TIF districts. NIDA is in need of long-term funding in order to complete vision, strategy and operating plans; develop performance metrics and budgets tied to activities, and they have a three year capital campaign in the public and private sector. Mr. Young presented a case for support stating that by working together and focusing on primary employer recruitment, retention and expansion, we can expand our population, increase our disposable income, stimulate demand and create wealth. It can happen in Stephenson County but only if we commit to making it so. Through Prospering Together vision which states that Stephenson County is a great place to live, work and grow; we work together to build a strong community by leveraging our local talents and resources to develop successful enterprises and maintain jobs that pay people well. Mr. Young's presentation included mission and roles to produce value-added goods and services for people and businesses around the world with an emphasis on business retention and expansion, business friendly environment, workforce development, local infrastructure, business finance and business attraction. Mayor Gaulrapp asked Mr. Young to provide summaries as to expansion of businesses at Snak King and Tri-Star Metals.

PUBLIC HEARING - CITY OF FREEPORT ELECTRIC AGGREGATION PLAN

At 6:29 pm, Mayor Gaulrapp opened the public hearing. City Clerk Meg Zuravel read notice of public hearing that had been published on April 24, 2012 and May 1, 2012, regarding Regarding Freeport Electric Aggregation Plan. It read; notice is hereby given pursuant to Chapter 20, Act 3855k, Illinois Compiled Statutes, that the City of Freeport, Illinois will hold two separate public hearings for public comment on the Freeport Electric Power Aggregation Plan of Operation and Governance for the Municipal Electrical Aggregation Program to be held on May 7, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. and May 10, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. at City Council Chambers, 524 West Stephenson Street, Third Floor, Freeport, Illinois. The Freeport Electric Power Aggregation Plan of Operation and Governance describes the policies and procedures by which the City of Freeport will carry out its Municipal Electric Aggregation Program, including those policies and procedures which relate to rates and customer service. The Plan includes information on member education, opt-out procedures, billing, obligations of an electric supplier solicitation of bids, changes and termination of service and selection of an electric supplier. A copy of the proposed plan is available for inspection in the City Clerk's Office, 524 West Stephenson Street, Third Floor, during normal business hours.

Richard Montgomery of Rock River Energy Services, Co. provided a brief overview of the Freeport Electrical Aggregation Plan and stated that he is here to answer any questions regarding the Electrical Aggregation Plan. Mr. Montgomery stated that the citizens of the City of Freeport voted at the

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Consolidated Election held on Tuesday, March 20, 2012, in favor of such proposition and for the City to go out for bids for suppliers to compete with ComEd. The plan states that the City Council believes that it is in the best interests of the citizens of the City of Freeport to obtain a consultant to assist the City in implementing the program and made the choice in the last city council meeting to choose Rock River Energy Services (RRES). Rock River Energy Services is experienced in providing consulting services to municipalities in arranging for the supply of electricity. Mr. Montgomery provided time line and a sheet with frequently asked questions and answers regarding municipal aggregation. He stated they would like to have this in place and have the bids done before the August meter reading.

Mr. Montgomery stated that if a municipality undergoes aggregation, all residents will be switched to a new supplier (an ARES – Alternate Retail Electric Supplier) except for certain exceptions which he listed on his hand-out. The ComEd rate is currently 7.733 cents per kWh. It is expected to change in June 2012 and their new rate will be announced in May. It is not known exactly when or what the new rate will be. Electric bills typically break down to 30% delivery cost and 70% electric supply cost. Morris, Illinois was the last city to enter into municipal aggregation contract around September 2011. They contracted a rate of 5.43 cent per kWh. Since then, electric prices have fallen because electricity is a market commodity and prices can change daily. Recent supplier bid quotes are coming in around \$.03 (three cents) lower than the current ComEd rate. Mr. Montgomery estimated that Freeport residents can save about \$250,000.00 per year if you add all their savings which could be money pushed back into the community that was usually spent on electrical bills.

Mr. Montgomery stated on the summary guide sheet that when residents are switched to a new Retail Electric Supplier (for which it was stated that citizens would not need to sign up or do anything to be included) there are several things that will stay the same 1) they will still get one bill from ComEd 2) they will still have to pay the same delivery rate charged by ComEd this is regulated by Illinois Commerce Commission 3) taxes don't change because municipalities tax usage of kWh, not the dollar amount spent on supply 4) if a resident is receiving assistance through ComEd's low-income home energy assistance program, they will continue to receive the assistance.

Aldersperson Bush asked what the process is moving forward. Mr. Montgomery stated it will be like going out for bid for trash haulers. The Illinois Power Agency will set a new rate. The municipality will (or should) most likely enter into a contract such that a new supplier must either match that lower IPA rate or release all accounts back to IPA. Mr. Montgomery stated that the citizens of Freeport do not have to sign up for anything and to beware of people soliciting them to sign up. People have the opportunity to opt out of the program. Mr. Montgomery stated that there are a number of fliers being sent out to customers and they should wait because the better deal would be with the City of Freeport rate since volume gets that better rate. There are a number of brokers trying to get people to believe they have lower rates, but with the number of customers in the City, the City's rate should be the lower rate.

Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin stated that there are two public hearings scheduled – tonight and on Thursday, so at the next City council meeting the plan will be on council agenda and it will need to pass by ordinance and that will be the council's next action.

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Rock River Energy is currently serving communities of Stockton, Fulton, Milledgeville, Erie, Mt. Morris and Polo and explained that a majority of communities have chosen their company for consultant services. Mr. Montgomery stated that ComEd will continue to maintain the distribution.

With 12,000 households combining together to get the lowest rate in Freeport, Mr. Montgomery projected that they will be able obtain pricing about \$.03 (three cents) per kwh less than the current ComEd rate.

Terry Brashaw, Freeport Illinois asked, if when you sign up, will this be a one, two or three year contract. Mr. Montgomery stated that typically there is a lower rate for the one year contract and a little higher for the two year contract and a little higher than that for the three year contract, based on risk because you don't know what the market will be years from now. Most of the communities are going with a two year contract but some have gone with one year or three year contract but it depends on when the bids start coming in. Finance/Water and Sewer Director Craig Joesten stated that the Water and Sewer went out for bids on electricity a couple of years ago for the pumping stations and were able to obtain costs savings.

Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin stated that these are bids that come back and in one day must be accepted by the municipality so that this is something that will be granted the authority to the Mayor and Finance Director so that it will not come back to council prior to the bid award because there is a turn-around time.

At 6:47 pm, having no further questions from the council or public, Mayor Gaulrapp closed the public hearing.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval to receive and place on file:
 - 1) City Treasurer's Monthly Investment Report for period ended March 31, 2012
 - 2) City Treasurer's Report of Cash and Fund Balances for period ended March 31, 2012
- B. Approval of Motor Fuel Tax Fund (Register #MFT – 0014) --- \$53,764.31
- C. Approval of Water and Sewer Bills Payable (Register #702, 705, 706, 710) --- \$1,321,858.09
- D. Approval of Payroll for pay period ending April 21, 2012 --- \$404,948.43
- E. Approval of Finance Bills Payable (Registers #698, 700, 701, 703, 704, 708, 709, 711, 712) --- \$967,678.37

Aldersperson Endress moved for approval of the Consent Agenda items as presented, seconded by Aldersperson Crutchfield. Motion prevailed by a roll call vote of;

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, Koester, and Crutchfield (8)

Nays: None

The consent agenda items were approved.

APPOINTMENTS/RE-APPOINTMENTS

Aldersperson Klemm made a motion to accept Mayor Gaulrapp's recommendation of the appointment of Aldersperson Shawn Boldt, Aldersperson Scott Helms, and Aldersperson Michael Koester to the City of Freeport City Council Redistricting Subcommittee naming. This motion was seconded by Aldersperson Endress. Motion prevailed by voice vote with Aldersperson Helms having the only dissenting vote.

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Mayor Gaulrapp requested leave of council to read the following together; reappointment of Scott Haugh to the Library Board effective immediately through May 31, 2015 and the reappointment of Judith Barney to the Library Board effective immediately through May 31, 2015. Alderperson Klemm moved to accept the above stated reappointments, seconded by Alderperson Endress. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

Alderperson Klemm moved to accept the appointment of Betty DeMichele to the Historic Preservation Commission effective immediately through February 28, 2015 seconded by Alderperson Endress. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

Mayor Gaulrapp stated there are openings on the Planning Commission, the Ethics Commission and the Airport Commission and if there is anyone interested in serving on these commissions, they should contact his office.

COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL

A memorandum from the Finance Department dated May 1, 2012 regarding budget amendment and amendment to Exhibit A of the Appropriation Ordinance was read into the record. The memorandum states; "The administration is recommending that the budget/appropriation ordinance be amended to add \$7,500.00 into the Cemetery Department for temporary help. This amendment will require a change to attachment A of the resolution for the spending plan. On page 7, line 01-45-421 Temporary Non-Bargaining will change from zero to \$7,500.00. It will also increase the Total City Cemetery Expenses from \$45,852.00 to \$53,352.00. The Total Corporate Fund Expenses on page 13 will increase from \$17,083,170.00 to \$17,090,670.00. Revised copies of Pages 7 and 13 are attached. This amendment will also require a change to Exhibit A of the Appropriation Ordinance. On page 3 in the City Cemetery line 01-45-499 Personnel Expenses will increase from \$40,352.00 to \$47,852.00 and the Total City Cemetery Expenses will increase from \$49,352.00 to \$56,852.00. The Total General Corporate Fund Expenses on page 5 will increase from \$18,494,668.00 to \$18,502,168.00. Revised copies of pages 3 and 5 are attached.

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

2nd READING OF ORDINANCE #2012-26:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 802 (LICENSING IN GENERAL); CHAPTER 812 (BOWLING AND BILLIARD ESTABLISHMENTS); CHAPTER 826 (DANCES AND DANCE HALLS); CHAPTER 858 (ROLLER RINKS); AND CHAPTER 870 (THEATERS AND SHOWS) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS

The first reading was held on April 16, 2012. A motion to adopt was given by Alderperson Klemm, seconded by Alderperson Endress and the ordinance was automatically laid over to tonight's meeting.

Upon the second reading and no discussion, motion prevailed by a roll call vote of;

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, Koester, and Crutchfield (8)

Nays: None

Ordinance #2012-26 passage was approved by council.

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2nd READING OF ORDINANCE #2012-28:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1044 (WATER RATES AND REVENUES) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS

The first reading was held on April 16, 2012. A motion to adopt was given by Alderperson Koester, seconded by Alderperson Klemm and the ordinance was automatically laid over to tonight's meeting.

Upon the second reading and no discussion, motion prevailed by a roll call vote of;

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, Koester, and Crutchfield (8)

Nays: None

Ordinance #2012-28 passage was approved by council.

2ND READING OF ORDINANCE #2012-31:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PART 14 – BUILDING AND HOUSING CODE, TITLE TWO – BUILDING STANDARDS OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS TO ADD CHAPTER 1429, INTERNATIONAL EXISTING BUILDING CODE

The first reading was held at the special meeting held on April 23, 2012. A motion to adopt was given by Alderperson Bush, seconded by Alderperson Koester and the ordinance was automatically laid over to tonight's meeting. Upon the second reading, Fire Chief Kevin Countryman stated that Community Development Director Shelly Griswold had stated that he had endorsed the adoption of this code. Chief Countryman stated that he feels that this code has some merit, but he was not real familiar with it until today. Upon review of the code just today, both he and the Fire Inspector are more comfortable with it. Fire Chief Countryman stated that Director Griswold had provided written communication to each council member. He concurred with the proposed amendments with a slight wording change and suggested the following: 104.1.1 Fire Official Approval - The Fire Chief for the City of Freeport and/or-his/her designee shall have the authority to issue orders based on requirements of this code for matters pertaining to design, materials or equipment when related to fire protection and then add section 106.3 - The Fire Department may review all plans for issuance of building, fire suppression and fire alarm (electrical) permits. Copies of the plans will be provided to the Fire Department Administration Offices. If the plans do not conform to the requirements set forth by this code, they may be rejected by the Fire Department pursuant to Section 112 of this code.

Corporation Counsel Griffin stated she would need to incorporate the amended wording into the ordinance based on the support of the council.

Alderperson Koester made a motion to hold Ordinance #2012-31 and its amendment in order to send to the Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled on May 14, 2012 for further discussion, seconded by Alderperson Klemm. Corporation Counsel Griffin stated that she will need to incorporate the wording into the ordinance. Council requested to be able to review the International Existing Building Code and Mayor Gaulrapp stated that it would be available. Alderperson Klemm asked if this ordinance was recommended to council by the Building Commission. Mayor Gaulrapp stated that no the ordinance did not go before the Building Commission that he had asked to have this ordinance placed on council agenda along with the recommendation of Director Griswold. Mayor Gaulrapp stated that this is for existing buildings and there is another code for new buildings when a building requires renovations.

Fire Chief Kevin Countryman stated that now that he and the Fire Inspector have had a chance to review the wording in the existing building code they understand that there is a score card and the items to be

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reviewed in terms of general safety including fire, general safety, and means of egress. Based on the score card, then improvements would need to be enforced in existing buildings.

Upon no further discussion a roll call vote was taken to approve the motion sending the ordinance and its amendment to the May 14, 2012 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, Koester, and Crutchfield (8)

Nays: None

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

1st READING OF ORDINANCE #2012-27:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 694 (WEEDS AND GRASS) TO INCREASE THE MINIMUM ALLOWABLE FINES FOR CERTAIN VIOLATIONS OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS

Aldersperson Boldt made a motion to send Ordinance #2012-27 to the Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled on May 14, 2012, seconded by Aldersperson Klemm. A roll call vote was taken to approve the motion sending the ordinance to the May 14, 2012 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, Koester, and Crutchfield (8)

Nays: None

Corporation Counsel Griffin stated that she will be presenting an ordinance for local debt recovery through the State of Illinois at the Committee of the Whole meeting. This draft ordinance would provide a way to recovery debts from people through being a State of Illinois vendor, pay from the State, as an employee of the State have it come out of your paycheck with certain restrictions of the limitation, through a State income tax refund.

1st READING OF ORDINANCE #2012-30:

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE, FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013 FOR THE CITY OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS

This ordinance was presented at the meeting held on April 16, 2012. A motion was given by Aldersperson Helms, seconded by Aldersperson Klemm to lay it over to the May 7, 2012 meeting. There were no motions to place the ordinance on the floor for approval.

A memorandum from the Finance Department dated May 1, 2012 regarding budget amendment and amendment to Exhibit A of the Appropriation Ordinance was presented. The memorandum states; “The administration is recommending that the budget/appropriation ordinance be amended to add \$7,500.00 into the Cemetery Department for temporary help. This amendment will require a change to attachment A of the resolution for the spending plan. On page 7, line 01-45-421 Temporary Non-Bargaining will change from zero to \$7,500.00. It will also increase the Total City Cemetery Expenses from \$45,852.00 to \$53,352.00. The Total Corporate Fund Expenses on page 13 will increase from \$17,083,170.00 to \$17,090,670.00. Revised copies of Pages 7 and 13 are attached. This amendment will also require a change to Exhibit A of the Appropriation Ordinance. On page 3 in the City Cemetery line 01-45-499 Personnel Expenses will increase from \$40,352.00 to \$47,852.00 and the Total City Cemetery Expenses will increase from \$49,352.00 to \$56,852.00. The Total General Corporate Fund Expenses on page 5 will increase from \$18,494,668.00 to \$18,502,168.00. Revised copies of pages 3 and 5 are attached.

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Aldersperson Koester asked if the salary for a manager for the City Cemetery could be placed in contingency. Mayor Gaulrapp stated it could be put into contingency or we could pass the Appropriation Ordinance as it stands then we still have the spending plan which would come back through the council.

Aldersperson Klemm made a motion to place Ordinance #2012-30 on the floor for adoption including the communications to council amendments for pages 3 and 5, seconded by Aldersperson Koester.

Discussion was held regarding the cemetery position and the amount appropriated \$7,500.00 for hiring part-time workers, preferable college students. Director Dole stated that this was the amount for the part-time workers who did mowing last year. Accountant Price stated there was temporary help but it was not budgeted last year and some of it was paid through Motor Fuel Tax funds for filling of pot holes and he stated that it was adjusted in the supplemental appropriation ordinance.

Discussion was held as to whether the \$7,500.00 should be charged to the City Cemetery or whether it should stay with the Street Department. In addition to the mowing at the cemetery there are lots around the City which needs to be mowed. Aldersperson Crutchfield stated that we have not come to a resolution as to the extra position for the Cemetery Manager. Accountant Price stated that in the Appropriation Ordinance there is a position added. Discussion was held regarding the condition of the cemetery and the complaints received by the City because of the mowing, weeding and the street disrepair. Director Dole stated that he felt that they maintained it fairly well although sometimes, they got behind.

Mayor Gaulrapp stated the he had walked through the cemetery with different people and did not feel that it was maintained well and recommended hiring a manager for the City Cemetery. Aldersperson Bush stated that we need to take control of the cemetery and do a better job of maintenance. City Treasurer Linda Buss was called to the podium and asked her opinion. Ms. Buss stated that prior to Memorial Day, the cemetery was maintained. After Memorial Day it was horrible. There were many grave sites that lost dirt and she brought in two dump truck loads of dirt to fill in and plant grass. Ms. Buss stated that on the weekends she would go to the cemetery with a weed-wacker around the grave sites. Ms. Buss stated that we may not be in the cemetery business but we are in the cemetery business and we owe it to everyone who has family buried there. Discussion was held regarding hiring an outside firm to do the duties of the mowing.

Discussion was held regarding the money in the appropriation ordinance for Northwest Illinois Development Alliance. Mayor Gaulrapp stated that NIDA is included in the appropriation ordinance. Accountant Price was asked to state its location in which line items. Accountant Price stated that in the Spending Plan it is listed in Community Development in the amount of \$50,000 under line item for economic development. Mayor Gaulrapp stated there is also listing the TIF Budgets for marketing an amount of \$50,000. Mayor Gaulrapp stated that for each of the TIF districts that we have we have appropriated marketing funds and this may be used for organizations such as NIDA. Mayor Gaulrapp stated that this is an investment retention and expansion work that NIDA will need to make to the City. Mayor Gaulrapp stated that he has brought this up and communicated it at the last three NIDA meetings.

Discussion was held regarding the duties and powers of the legal department. Discussion was held regarding the additional equipment in the budget for sign making and a hot box to be used on a bed of a truck in the Street Department. Discussion was held regarding contingencies for salaries and Accountant

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Price stated that this is typically done to off-set turn-over in case vacation pay is paid out during the time period a replacement is hired. Accountant Price stated he looks at the different departments and tries to determine what could happen and projects it that way.

Discussion was held regarding the soon to be expiring agreement for the Fixed Base Operator and the Airport Manager at the Airport. Mayor Gaulrapp stated that he is going out for proposal for the fixed base operator and manager at the Albertus Airport and information is due in the next couple of weeks. Corporation Counsel stated that the two jobs could be separated as the specifications were written.

Discussion was held regarding the expiration of the leaf disposal contract and it was asked of Director Dole what his plans were. Director Dole stated that the contract has expired. He has made contact with the person who may take over the property so hopefully nothing will have to change at that point.

Upon no further discussion, the Ordinance #2012-30 was laid over to the next meeting.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION #R-2012-48:

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT CITY OF FREEPORT SPENDING PLAN

This resolution was presented at the meeting held on April 16, 2012. A motion was given by Alderperson Helms, seconded by Alderperson Bush to lay it over to the May 7, 2012 meeting. There were no motions in the meeting to place the resolution on the floor for passage. The council was referred to the amendment provided in the communications to council presented this evening.

In the amendment presented in the communications to council, the administration is recommending that the budget/appropriation ordinance be amended to add \$7,500.00 into the Cemetery Department for temporary help. This amendment will require a change to attachment A of the resolution for the spending plan. On page 7, line 01-45-421 Temporary Non-Bargaining will change from zero to \$7,500.00. It will also increase the Total City Cemetery Expenses from \$45,852.00 to \$53,352.00. The Total Corporate Fund Expenses on page 13 will increase from \$17,083,170.00 to \$17,090,670.00. Revised copies of Pages 7 and 13 are attached.

Finance Director Craig Joesten stated that this is the spending plan which goes along with the Appropriation Ordinance for fiscal year 2012-2013 for the City of Freeport and we are asking council this evening to place on the floor for adoption. Director Joesten stated the spending plan is considered the budget or what we determine to be the actual expenditures and is the first part of the appropriation without the contingencies. This is presented this evening for the council's review and consideration to ask how you would like to move it forward with the Appropriation Ordinance.

Alderperson Helms made a motion to incorporate the amendments presented in the communications to council this evening into the Resolution #R-2012-48 and to layover the spending plan to the council meeting on May 14, 2012, seconded by Alderperson Klemm. Motion to layover the resolution prevailed by a roll call vote of;

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, Koester, and Crutchfield (8)

Nays: None

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Resolution #R-2012-48 was laid over to the May 14, 2012, council meeting.

RESOLUTION #R-2012-49:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE REPEAL AND REPLACEMENT OF THE BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS RULES AND REGULATIONS

Fire Chief Kevin Countryman presented the resolution stating that the Board of Fire and Police Commission recommended the changes to the rules and regulations based on new legislation passed in the State of Illinois for recruitment testing. The attached amendments to the Rules and Regulations incorporate recruitment and testing procedures for the Fire Department. The amendment also separates out the fire and the police. Chief Countryman stated that we used to give our own physical agility testing and that will now be done by an outside agency and will be done offsite. He stated that merit points are now given for credentials whether it is military, paramedic, fire science degree or firefighting certification. Fire Chief Countryman stated the application will pay the fee of about \$130.00 for the testing. Fire Chief Countryman answered a question regarding the probationary period and certification by stating that the amendment was recommended by the attorney who reviewed the rules and because wording was included in the collective bargaining contract. He reviewed the process if a firefighter was not able to obtain certification. Alderperson Koester made a motion to accept the resolution as presented, seconded by Alderperson Klemm. Motion prevailed by a roll call vote of;

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, Koester, and Crutchfield (8)

Nays: none

Resolution #R-2012-49 was adopted.

OTHER

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS

Community Development

Director Griswold provided written communication dated May 7, 2012 regarding Façade Improvement Grant Recommendations;

1. Casey and Brenda Myers have submitted an application for a Façade Improvement for the building located at 9 East Stephenson Street in downtown Freeport. The work being proposed is replacement of three upper-story windows with clad wood, double hung windows. Total estimated cost of this project is \$2,580.00. The recommended grant award amount is the lesser of \$1,290.00 or 50 percent of the actual project costs.
2. Ronnie London Jr and Lucrecia London have submitted an application for a Façade Improvement for the building located at 9-15 North Van Buren Avenue in downtown Freeport. The work being proposed is masonry repair and tuck-pointing. Total estimated cost of this project is \$15,000. Total recommended grant award is the lesser of \$7,500 or 50 percent of the actual project costs.
3. Lincoln-Douglas Center, LLC has submitted an application for a Façade Improvement for the building located at 12-16 North Galena Avenue in downtown Freeport. The work being proposed is part of a larger project that includes masonry repair and restoration and shutters/louvers on bricked-over windows on the façade facing south, made visible by the 2011 collapse of the adjacent building. The application has been made for the portion of the shutters/louvers portion of

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the project, which totals \$15,000. Total recommended grant award is the lesser of \$7,500 or 50 percent of actual project costs.

Corporation Counsel stated a note from Director Griswold that stated that in regard to the Lincoln-Douglas Center usually façade improvement grant are for front facing but due to the recent collapse of the building next door this is now visible to the corner and she and FDDF Director Quentin Davis make recommendation for its approval. Corporation Counsel stated these recommended expenditures will be spent in this budget for fiscal year 2012-2013.

Aldersperson Klemm made a motion to accept the Façade Improvements Grant Recommendations presented this evening, seconded by Aldersperson Endress. Aldersperson Helms asked if these above stated grants would be contingent upon an inspection by the City for the structural integrity of the building.

Corporation Counsel Griffin stated that Director Griswold provided a note grant dollars will be made contingent upon the structural integrity of the building and that the inspections would be performed prior to the grant award. Motion prevailed by a roll call vote of;

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt, Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, Koester, and Crutchfield (8)

Nays: none

The Façade Improvement Grant Recommendations dated May 7, 2012 were approved.

Finance/Water and Sewer Director

Finance Director Craig Joesten had no further report.

Public Works

The bids for the **City of Freeport – Cemetery Mowing Bids** were presented in the council packet. In the meeting held on April 9, 2012, the Committee of the Whole recommended rejection of bids for Grounds Maintenance Services at the City Cemetery located at 900 block of W. Lincoln Blvd. Upon further review of the bids, Aldersperson Koester moved to reject the bids for Cemetery Mowing, seconded by Aldersperson Bush. Motion prevailed by a roll call vote of;

Yeas: Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, Koester, and Crutchfield (6)

Nays: Klemm and Boldt

Motion passed to reject the bids by a vote of 6-2.

Director Tom Dole presented bids for the **City of Freeport – Mowing of Properties with Tall Grass and Weeds**. The bid tabulation was prepared by Director Griswold and included in the council packet. Bids were received from E-Z Care Services in the amount of \$42.50 per person per hour; C & C Mowing in the amount of \$12.00 per person per hour; Lucas Lawn and Landscaping in the amount of \$17.50 per person per hour; and Bruce's Lawn Care Service in the amount of \$32.00 per person per hour.

Director Griswold provided communication to Director Dole her recommendation that based on the analysis of property lot sizes and time to mow for a series of properties last year, that it was more economically feasible to hire Lucas Lawn and Landscaping at their bid per hour than to hire C & C Mowing who bid less per hour but took much longer per hour to mow properties. It is the recommendation of Director Griswold based on this information to reject the lowest bid from C & C Mowing and recommend the acceptance of the second lowest bid from Lucas Lawn and Landscaping.

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Aldersperson Klemm moved to accept the second lowest bid from Lucas Landscaping at \$17.50 per hour per person, seconded by Aldersperson Bush. Corporation Counsel Griffin noted for clarification purposes that the proof of insurance for worker's compensation was not included in the bid specifications so council is asked to waive the technicality that it wasn't given at the time as long as they provide prior to beginning the work. Aldersperson Klemm made a motion to alter the motion to include that as a technicality as long as they have it in time to start the work, seconded by Aldersperson Bush. Motion prevailed by a roll call vote of;

Yeas: Klemm, Boldt Bush, DeVine, Endress, Helms, Koester, and Crutchfield (8)

Nays: none

Motion passed to accept the bid from Lucas Lawn and Landscaping by a vote of 8-0.

Aldersperson Boldt asked if it would be necessary to accept two bids as has been done in the past. Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin stated it was the recommendation of Director Griswold to accept the one bid from Lucas Landscape this year since they were doing most of the jobs last year because of the cost expense of the other mowing contractor.

Public Works Director Dole noted that hot mix is not available so that any pot hole fill will need to be done with cold patch. The hot mix should not be open until mid-June since the road work is not there for the local provider.

City Engineer/Water and Sewer

City Engineer Denise Ihrig provided information in the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program proposed for Pearl City Road and Kiwanis Drive pedestrian and bicycle improvements to be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2012, at the Freeport Public Library. City Engineer Ihrig provided a report on the meeting held regarding the flooding issues with the Army Corp of Engineers for Flood Risk Management.

Police

Chief of Police Jerry Whitmore was present and had no report.

Fire

Fire Chief Kevin Countryman was present and had no report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Gaulrapp provided information on the National Day of Prayer and the events that he attended beginning in the morning, at noon and in the evening. Mayor Gaulrapp recognized the achievement of the Freeport Weight Lifters and acknowledged the trophy that they won and brought to the council meeting. Mayor Gaulrapp spoke about a meeting held to discuss flooding issues with the Army Corp of Engineers in which the mayor from Pearl City was invited to join along with Congressman Manzullo's staff member and Representative Bobby Schilling.

NEW BUSINESS/COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Each council member was provided the opportunity to publicly address significant items of interest.

- Aldersperson DeVine spoke about statues that will be donated to on May 21, 2012.
- Aldersperson Boldt discussed the pedestrian and bicycle improvements suggested at Kiwanis and Pearl City Road and asked to be kept informed.

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- Alderperson Bush spoke about the flood meeting that was held with the Army Corp of Engineers. He asked that if money is received for this project they be used to fix the problem and not to put a “Band-Aid” on the problem.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- Tom Teich, Freeport Illinois, provided an update on building expansion.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

s/ Meg Zuravel
Meg Zuravel, City Clerk