



City Council

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

MINUTES SPECIAL MEETING Monday February 9, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Freeport, Illinois, City Council was called to order in council chambers by Mayor James L. Gitz with a quorum being present at 5:45 p.m. on February 9, 2015.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderperson Bush

ROLL CALL

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Gitz stated during the recognition of Deputy Chief Drehoble there will be an honorary resolution read aloud. Alderperson Endress moved for approval of the agenda with the amendment, seconded by Alderperson Koester. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS

There was no one signed on the sheet for public comments at this time.

RECOGNITION OF JIM DREHOBLE, DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE

An honorary resolution was read aloud to recognize Jim Drehoble for his dedication and service to the City of Freeport. Jim Drehoble has been a sworn officer in the Freeport Police Department for twenty-six years and has served as Deputy Chief since 2013. He will be retiring in February and the honorary resolution recognizes and commends Deputy Chief Drehoble for his dedication and years of service to the people of Freeport. Deputy Chief Drehoble was presented a plaque by Mayor Gitz. Alderperson Bush moved for approval of the honorary resolution as presented, seconded by Alderperson Brashaw. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

Deputy Chief Jim Drehoble spoke about the wonderful group of people he has served with on the Freeport Police Department. He thanked his wife and family for their support.

INTRODUCTION OF JEFFREY MASTROIANNI AS DEPUTY CHIEF

Mayor Gitz introduced Jeffrey Mastroianni who is currently ranked as Detective. Sergeant and will be fulfilling the duties and responsibilities as Deputy Chief for the Freeport Police Department.

ORDINANCES - SECOND READING

2nd READING OF ORDINANCE #2015-13:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE JOINT CITY OF FREEPORT – COUNTY OF STEPHENSON CERTIFIED ENTERPRISE ZONE

The first reading was held on February 2, 2015. Alderperson Koester moved for approval of the ordinance as presented, seconded by Alderperson Brashaw and it was laid over to a special meeting to be held on February 9, 2015. Provided in the council packet was a memorandum which explained this ordinance is to expand the Enterprise Zone to facilitate the Swift Hospitality Group's development of a Senior Residence for an area located at 1525 S. Forest Road, Freeport Illinois. Swift Hospitality Group is a family business headquartered in Citizens Plaza on Forest Road in Freeport, Illinois. Its corporate staff of ten is dedicated to the development and management of select hospitality properties across the country. Mayor Gitz provided a letter of support of the Swift Hospitality Group's request to expand the Enterprise Zone to facilitate their 3.38 acre development. This development will create 25-30 new jobs and stimulate \$12.0 million in new capital investment in the construction of a 53 unit Senior Residence. It will allow Swift Hospitality Group to enter an emerging market - this project will combine independent and assisted care units with memory care units within the same physical structure, which will allow its residents to "age in place" - and create an opportunity for this local company to develop a new product offering. These are all positive contributions to the sustainability of the region's economy. Mayor Gitz explained this ordinance was on council agenda for first reading on February 2, 2015 and council placed it on the floor and chose to wait until after the public hearing on February 6, 2015 for its passage. Director Brown explained that by being in the Enterprise Zone the developer will have a waiver of permit fees and tax break on building materials and after a brief public hearing there were no objectors to this expansion. Upon no further discussion, Mayor Gitz requested a roll call vote. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of;

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

Nays: none

Ordinance #2015-13 was passed.

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #R-2015-05:

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

Director Brown stated that this resolution amends the intergovernmental agreement for the expansion of the enterprise zone for an area located at 1525 S. Forest Road, Freeport Illinois. The committee has been asked to expand the Enterprise Zone to facilitate the Swift Hospitality Group's development of a Senior Residence in Freeport, IL. Mayor Gitz provided a letter of support of the Swift Hospitality Group's request to expand the Enterprise Zone to facilitate their 3.38 acre development. This development will create 25 – 30 new jobs and stimulate \$12.0 million in new capital investment in the construction of a 53 unit Senior Residence. Alderperson Brashaw moved to approve the resolution was presented, seconded by Alderperson Klemm. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of;

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

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Nays: none

PUBLIC COMMENTS AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments at this time and Mayor Gitz stated we will move to the Committee of the Whole meeting immediately upon adjournment.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

s/ Meg Zuravel

Meg Zuravel
City Clerk