



## *City Council*

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

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### **MINUTES REGULAR MEETING Monday, June 1, 2015**

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#### **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 6:08 p.m. on June 1, 2015.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Present on roll call: Mayor Gitz and council members Tom Klemm, Peter McClanathan, Art Ross, Jodi Miller, Patrick Busker, Sally Brashaw, Michael Koester, and Andrew Chesney (8). Corporation Counsel Sarah Griffin was also present.

Mayor Gitz introduced Dixie Ditsworth as a representative of the leaders of local area churches. She provided an invocation.

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderperson Miller.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Prior to a motion for approval of the agenda, request was made for leave of council to move item 13 (resolution for fireworks) immediately following the communications to council (agenda item number 6). Council members nodded their agreement with the request. Alderperson Miller moved for approval of the agenda as amended, seconded by Alderperson Koester. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

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Alderperson Koester moved for approval of the Minutes from May 18, 2015, seconded by Alderperson Ross. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS**

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

#### **PRESENTATIONS OF PROMOTION AND RETIREMENT - FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Fire Chief Scott Miller provided a certificate as a presentation for retirement of Lt. John Schubert of the Freeport Fire Department. City Clerk Zuravel read aloud an honorary resolution for Lt. John Schubert which recognized his twenty-seven years of dedicated service as firefighter, assistant mechanic, and lieutenant. Chief Miller thanked Lt. Schubert as being a major contributor and source of technical expertise. Alderperson Koester made a motion for approval of the honorary resolution, seconded by Alderperson Chesney. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent. Lt. Schubert thanked his family and the members of the Freeport Fire Department who he has worked with throughout the years.

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Fire Chief Scott Miller introduced Joseph Radford and stated he has been promoted to lieutenant. Chief Miller stated Lt. Radford has been with the Freeport Fire Department since 1997 and has completed specialist certifications as a paramedic and fire service instructor.

**PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STATE FISCAL YEAR SECTION 5311 RURAL/DOWNSTATE OPERATING ASSISTANCE**

*As posted on the agenda; "NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a draft copy of the City of Freeport's application to the Illinois Department of Transportation's Section 5311 Rural/Downstate Operating Assistance Programs for the State of Illinois fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2016, is on file and conveniently available to public inspection at the Office of the City Clerk, Freeport City Hall, 524 West Stephenson Street, Suite 310, Freeport, Illinois, until Wednesday, June 3, 2015. The application seeks continued grant funding for the City of Freeport's demand-response transit service provided to the general public in and around Stephenson County. NOTICE IS FURTHER HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing on said Application will be held at 6:00 P.M. on June 1, 2015, at the Freeport City Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor City Council Chambers, 524 West Stephenson Street, Freeport, Illinois."*

At 6:25 p.m. Alderperson Koester moved to open the public hearing, seconded by Alderperson Klemm. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

Shelly R. Griswold, Community Development Consultant for the City of Freeport, Illinois, presented a summary of the City of Freeport's plans for its public transportation program for the period of July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016. She stated the City of Freeport ("the City") currently provides demand-response public transportation services for the general public in and around Freeport and Stephenson County. This service includes service for the general public and accessible para-transit services for the elderly and those with disabilities. Ms. Griswold read aloud the following information is an overview of the City's plans for the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

The City seeks to continue its services, providing high-quality and affordable demand-response public transportation services for the general public throughout all of Stephenson County. The services will continue to include accessible para-transit services for the elderly as well as those with disabilities. This transition will fulfill commitments established by Resolution 2012-56, an intergovernmental agreement between the City and Stephenson County.

The City intends to renew a pass-through agreement for provision of public transportation services with the Senior Resource Center. Senior Resource Center operational, managerial, and human-resources staffing is anticipated to meet the demands of the County-wide transportation system with some assistance from the City's Transit Coordinator. While the City's Program Compliance Oversight Monitor will provide monitoring and compliance oversight for the project, staff will continue to be hired and managed by the Senior Resource Center. At their own discretion, they would retain their current transportation staff.

The City expects continued gradual and steady increases in ridership from the rural areas of Stephenson County. As ridership demand dictates, the Senior Resource Center will make adjustments to staff levels as necessary. The typical service will remain door-to-door demand-response public transportation, as outlined below.

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The Senior Resource Center will dispatch and provide demand-response public transportation rides for the general public, the elderly, and persons with disabilities throughout Stephenson County for the period of July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016. All public transportation services will be provided in vehicles open to the public without discrimination and as outlined below.

All rides will originate or end within the Stephenson County limits.

The primary service will be door-to-door demand-response service for the general public, the elderly, and persons with disabilities in and around Stephenson County.

For reservations, riders will call central dispatch at a designated phone number during the normal hours of operation. Reservations must be scheduled prior to 6:00 pm the previous day in order to be considered regular fare rides. Same-day requests may be possible on a call-by-call basis if both space and scheduling permit; however, same-day service shall not be guaranteed on a regular basis. Rides scheduled after the aforementioned 6:00 pm deadline will be treated as same-day requests.

The public transportation system hours of operation will be Monday-Friday, 5:00 am – 12:00 am, and Saturday, 5:00 am – 1:00 pm. To maintain efficiency, rides between towns may be limited to particular days of the week. As ridership demand and system expenses dictate, services hours may be expanded or reduced. The public transportation system will not operate on the following holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

Fares will be as follows:

1. Senior citizens, ages 55 and older, would access public transportation service on a voluntary donation basis. The suggested donation will be \$2.00 per ride for all rides beginning and ending within the same township or city limits within Stephenson County and \$2.00 plus \$0.35 per mile per ride for rides between townships or cities within Stephenson County.
2. Children under 6, accompanied by a paying adult, would ride without a set fare.
3. Children 7-11, accompanied by a paying adult, would ride for \$1.00, which is a reduced fare.
4. Discounted punch cards will be made available to frequent riders.

Regular fares for riders ages 12-54 will remain \$3.00 for all rides beginning and ending within the same township or city limits within Stephenson County; for rides between townships or cities in Stephenson County fares will remain \$3.00 plus \$0.35 per mile per ride. The public transportation system will work to accommodate same-day rides; however, same-day rides will not be guaranteed under any circumstances.

The City will earnestly endeavor to keep fares as low as possible while simultaneously ensuring that the public transportation program is self-sustained. Fares collected will be used directly towards the City's local match obligation. City-owned public transportation vehicles will be leased to the provider. The provider will be encouraged to also utilize its own approved vehicles in the project. All vehicles used in the operation will be in compliance with City, Illinois Department of Transportation, or Federal Transit Administration regulations, whichever is the strictest.

All vehicles must be adequate to provide public transportation services for the general public, persons with disabilities, and the elderly in and around Stephenson County. The provider must cooperate with the Program Compliance Oversight Monitor to follow the manufacturer's, City's, Department's, or FTA's

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prescribed vehicle maintenance guidelines, whichever is strictest. All vehicles are to be kept in safe and presentable conditions at all times. Vehicles and vehicle operators will be regularly and randomly inspected by the Program Compliance Oversight Monitor to ensure compliance with project guidelines. The provider will serve as a non-profit independent contractor. Project personnel will be hired, employed and compensated by the provider through project funds. In no event shall the provider or any of its employees, agents or sub-providers be considered agents or employees of the City, the Illinois Department of Transportation or the Federal Transit Administration. All personnel that operate project vehicles must have a current valid driver's license with the proper endorsements. All supervisors and drivers must receive training in defensive driving, passenger assistance, emergency procedures and drug and alcohol misuse. Personnel will also receive training on all other applicable policies and procedures of the public transportation program.

The provider must abide by the Federal Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988 and the Federal Transit Administration's rules and regulations relative to drug and alcohol testing as stated in 49 CFR Part 655 (Prevention of Alcohol Misuse and Prohibited Drug use in Transit Operations) and 49 CFR Part 40 (Procedures for Transportation Workplace Drug and Alcohol Testing Programs). All safety-sensitive employees are subject to pre-employment, post-accident, random, reasonable suspicion, return-to-duty and follow-up drug and alcohol testing.

The Senior Resource Center will perform the primary managerial and supervisory functions over the provider's staff and personnel.

The provider will provide qualified management to cooperate with the City in the operation of the public transportation system. The Provider's level of management will be sufficient to ensure that administrative and personnel management issues are resolved efficiently.

Project personnel employed by the provider will report to the provider concerning all employment matters.

The City of Freeport pleased to continue its public transportation program for the upcoming year. The draft application to the Illinois Department of Public Transportation for Federal Section 5311 and Illinois Downstate Operating Assistance Funding has been on file at the Office of the Freeport City Clerk since Tuesday, May 26, 2015, and will remain on file for public inspection and comment until 5:00 pm on Wednesday, June 3, 2015. Ms. Griswold noted the City welcomes public comments on the application.

Alderson Brashaw stated she understands that this program is funded 100% by grant funds, fares and donations and asked Ms. Griswold if that was correct. Ms. Griswold stated that is correct. Alderson Brashaw stated she was greatly troubled to hear that someone leaked to the media that our transportation system was being shut down and she asked Ms. Griswold if she was aware of that rumor. Ms. Griswold stated yes. Alderson Brashaw stated as far as she was aware that was not true and asked Ms. Griswold to clarify. Ms. Griswold stated that is not true and the City's intention has never been to discontinue this transportation system.

Alderson Chesney asked Ms. Griswold when she heard of the rumor. Ms. Griswold stated it would have been a week before last but she does not know that date certain.

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Alderson Miller stated since the City has no funding into the transportation system is there a reason it comes under the heading of the City instead of the County. Ms. Griswold stated that many times a program such as this comes under the County but in our case, the City had been the transit grantee for more than 20 years now and has the administrative knowledge and capacity to run the program and it made sense for the City to continue on. She explained that it is done both ways with some cities having the grant and some counties having the grant.

Mayor Gitz asked for further questions from the council or the public. He stated there was no further testimony. Alderson Brashaw stated it is her understanding that the Senior Resource Center and the City of Freeport have come to an agreement and asked if that was correct. Mayor Gitz stated that they have agreed in principal but the current contract is still being finalized. Alderson Brashaw asked if that will be done shortly. Corporation Counsel Griffin stated the contract ends at the end of the month so the anticipation is to present it to council on this agenda later this evening although we don't have a completed contract, the council has before them a draft contract with comments so as soon as the administration has a finalized contract the document will be sent directly out to council.

Alderson Busker asked whether there will be any lapse in service or rides for the coverage area. Mayor Gitz stated no.

Mayor Gitz asked the record to show there were no further questions from the council or the public.

At 6:32 p.m., Alderson Klemm made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Alderson Miller. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent. Mayor Gitz stated the public hearing regarding the 5311 public transportation grant is hereby closed.

**COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL**

**Financial Report Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Ending April 30, 2015**

Finance Director Cynthia Haggard provided a summary of the Financial Report Fiscal Year 2014-2015 ending April 30, 2015 (unaudited financials). She stated the report is a financial highlight capturing the large numbers changes that were predominant. The report noted Food and Beverage taxes came in \$24,000 over budget. Natural Gas Tax was \$39,000 over budget and \$31,000 less than prior year. Telephone Utility Tax came in \$72,000 under budget and \$52,000 less than prior year. Income Tax came in \$20,000 under budget and \$41,000 higher than prior year. Special Use Tax is \$37,000 over budget and \$52,000 over prior year. Video Gaming Tax is about \$56,000 over budget and \$86,000 over prior year. Video Gaming Tax is roughly \$56,000 over budget and \$86,000 over prior year. Liquor Licenses are roughly \$49,000 over budget because of new applications. The current year is \$23,000 over prior year.

Director Haggard stated the Health Care Fund is roughly \$265,000 in deficit due to claims exceeding total contributions and noted the corporate fund will transfer funds to cover it. She asked council members to watch the reports on health care funds and the comparisons from last year. She explained the modified accrual of the health care costs and how the claims payable number is included and then explained how she coded the accrual for payroll.

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Council was provided an opportunity to ask questions. Alderperson Chesney asked about a health care proposal for retirees that was adopted for the non-bargaining employees and stated it was on a Committee of the Whole agenda and asked if this was passed. Mayor Gitz and Director Haggard did not recall this item and stated they will look into this further. Director Haggard stated she does have COBRA rates that will be presented in the next couple of weeks for August 1, 2015 COBRA rates. Alderperson Chesney stated he will find the reference and come back to it.

Alderperson McClanathan asked about health care costs and whether Director Haggard takes into consideration the long-term historical averages from previous years in the next year's budget. Director Haggard stated the budget for health care is at prior year actual. She stated they give us a worst-case scenario, which is considered the max and that may be too aggressive to budget for so the administration decided to budget on the actual claims. She stated that is a little break to the budget because we are not budgeting at the max dollars and it is historical for the most recent years.

Alderperson Chesney stated on April 13, 2015 there was on an agenda a presentation by Mr. Lafferty regarding a total of 46 retirees and pensioners. He explained this item was about bringing them in line with current health care package and the savings would come out to significant dollars and it was never adopted. Mayor Gitz stated that was discussed in the Committee of the Whole for retirees and it was felt by the council to leave it to future budget discussions. He explained that retirees now retire under the old plan and whether there are changes it will be the will of this council to go to the new plan. Alderperson Chesney asked if perhaps this can be put on the council agenda for further discussion since it does offer significant savings to the City.

Alderperson Brashaw moved to place the document on file, seconded by Alderperson Klemm. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

**Memorandum From Connie Sorn Regarding Freeport Stephenson County Visitors And Convention Bureau Firework Co-Sponsorship**

Council members had been provided by Ms. Sorn a memorandum regarding Freeport Stephenson County Visitors and Convention Bureau firework co-sponsorship for the upcoming July 4th holiday. Ms. Sorn stated the CVB board has determined that they are unable to co-sponsor this year's fireworks and she was asked to come tonight to discuss that how we got to that point. She stated both she and the board had concerns about the wisdom of spending hotel motel tax dollars on a non-tourism event, they accepted that the City needed assistance to have the fireworks this year. She stated the board, despite their reservations voted to co-sponsor them with the City. Due to the fact that the cost of the fireworks was not part of the CVB budget for 2015, she explained that there is also an issue with the State and not knowing what if any grants they may receive this year. It was their intention as a co-sponsor of the fireworks this year to solicit sponsors for it, to set out donations jars, and to ask local organizations for help in collecting donations at the event to help with the funding for both the City and the CVB. She explained that the first critical step was to meet with Mayor Gitz to find out what had been done in the past, who may or may not have assisted, determine a budget, determine the role of city personnel including police and fire, and to determine the location of the event, since the mayor had suggested holding them downtown. She stated that to her is the definition of co-sponsorship. She explained that despite repeated requests to both Mayor Gitz and his administrative assistant she was not able to schedule a meeting. She did not hear from the mayor and that is what generated the letter. Ms. Sorn stated she did hear from the mayor today and she

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said he did accept their concerns about the lack of time to plan a significant event. She stated she did urge Mayor Gitz to work cooperatively with organizations such as the CVB and they want the City to be successful. She stated in order to have that happen, the mayor must communicate with us. She stated the CVB believes that the City deserves and needs a fireworks show and she will leave it up to the council to determine what that means in 2015. Council members were provided an opportunity to ask questions of Ms. Sorn.

Alderson Miller asked Ms. Sorn how long ago she was asked to head up the fireworks. Ms. Sorn stated it was in the end of January when the mayor presented his economic development goals and she and one of her board members attended a meeting the first week of February. Discussion was held on the timing of booking fireworks and Ms. Sorn stated she wanted to know previous vendors and what has happened in years past. Not knowing what the city has done in the past, Ms. Sorn solicited a couple of bids and forwarded this information to Alderson Miller and Mayor Gitz.

Alderson Miller asked Ms. Sorn if she was given the responsibility but not the authority to get this done. Ms. Sorn stated that is accurate. Alderson Miller stated as an event planner she can understand her frustration with that and then she apologized on behalf of the City. She explained that the City needs to do better with our communication and working with people.

Alderson Chesney asked whether fireworks were put into the CVB budget. Ms. Sorn stated no this came up after the 2015 budget was passed and she added that you would have ask the mayor that because it was part of his goals.

Alderson Koester asked whether the CVB would be willing to work with the City to come up with a fireworks program for next year. Ms. Sorn explained fireworks don't really attract tourists who stay in hotels and our local event is impacted by other municipalities hosting their own show. She noted the CVB is willing to consider it and talk about it for 2016. Alderson Koester recommended beginning to make plans now and work together. Ms. Sorn stated the board will have to make that decision and noted that the planning process has to start now but the CVB is here to help with that.

Alderson Chesney stated in light of what has transpired predating this new council, would the CVB entertain co-sponsorship of the fireworks (while we recognized this is not something you did agree to or budget for) knowing that the City's budget is tight. Alderson Chesney suggested a 50-50 split so that each partner share would an amount not to exceed \$7,500. Ms. Sorn said she expected that she might be asked that question so she did solicit a vote from her board of directors and, although it is not unanimous, they have agreed that they will assist the City. Alderson stated his appreciation and spoke about the timing being embarrassing. He asked Ms. Sorn for her assistance as an event planner. Ms. Sorn stated yes and explained her concerns about not knowing who has been worked with in the past and steps taken to complete the event so that she has the tools to work with.

Alderson Miller stated she contacted a fireworks contractor and obtained a bid because she had personally hired them last year for an event at the Union Dairy. She stated she obtained a quote have the fireworks on July 3 but that date is no longer available so they wrote a new proposal for July 5<sup>th</sup>. She provided a copy to each council member and mayor. Alderson Miller stated the proposal is for July 5<sup>th</sup> for \$12,000 at the Stephenson County Fairgrounds for roughly 1,300 shells from 3" to 8" shell. She also

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provided another estimate for a smaller show such as downtown in an amount of \$6,000 with 1,200 shells with 3" shell. She noted the resolution on the agenda did not have any specifics so she called Melrose and asked for a copy of their proposal and they provided that their proposal is \$15,000 for an eighteen minute show with low-level pyrotechnic with up to 5" shells with approximately 800 shells being used. She stated there is a fair to significant difference in the size of shells and the dollar amount and recommended going with Zambelli Fireworks.

Alderson Brashaw asked Mayor Gitz about entering into an agreement with Melrose Fireworks for July 3, 2015. Mayor Gitz stated he thinks that Melrose will provide a larger display and when he talked to Zambelli the 3<sup>rd</sup> was available but they would be look into local contractors to administer. Mayor Gitz stated he knows the Stephenson County Fairgrounds is available on the July 3<sup>rd</sup> but has no knowledge if it is available on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July. He stated he had a conversation with Dean Coon of Zambelli and they are available on July 3<sup>rd</sup> and there is a difference in the number of shells to be used to close the show. He stated he does not care which way the council wants to go he just needs to make arrangements with a vendor.

Alderson Koester asked if there was money in the budget. Mayor Gitz stated based on last year's budget there was \$15,000 so the answer is yes providing that everyone understands that if you make the commitment it has to be accounted for in the budget in its final approval. Alderson Chesney asked about the part of the contract which shows the shell and number. Mayor Gitz stated he was not aware that it was not included as part of the resolution. Alderson Chesney recommended that the council move forward with the contract brought forth by Alderson Miller for Zambelli Fireworks contingent upon securing the Sunday date not only because it is less expensive but it seems like the fireworks display is greater. He stated without seeing Melrose Pyrotechnic proposal, which we were not given as a council, he does not see how any of us can approve this.

Alderson Klemm stated he attended a meeting with Connie Sorn and a member of the board discussed in January 2015 about doing the fireworks and at that time he volunteered to be on a committee to do this. He stated he did not hear anything from anybody. Alderson Klemm stated Melrose Pyrotechnics has done our show for several years and even provided fireworks show one summer with Mayor Gaulrapp and now this is being brought forward with the introduction of another vendor at the last minute and he does not have a lot of respect for that kind of business.

Alderson Miller pointed out the integrity of this contractor in that the original proposal Ms. Sorn got from them was supposed to have taken place for July 3<sup>rd</sup> and they said they are sorry they cannot do the 3<sup>rd</sup> because they another event for \$2,500, a very small show that they are going to do and they won't cancel on that.

Alderson McClanathan asked to see a copy of the Melrose Pyrotechnic contract.

Alderson Koester stated he recommends using a vendor that we have used in the past (Melrose) because they have done a good job. Alderson Ross stated we should go with where we get the best bang for the buck.



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Mayor Gitz provided to the council a figure from a proposal from Melrose of 1167 shells for \$15,000 from Melrose and it was quoted by Alderperson Miller for Zambelli Fireworks to use 1300 shells for \$12,000.

The date had to be determined whether the Stephenson County Fairgrounds could accommodate the City so at this time it was determined it was best to contact the fair board to determine the availability. Alderperson Brashaw asked for leave of council to hear from Susie Dvorak a member of the fair board in the audience. Ms. Dvorak stated she could contact the groundskeeper. Alderperson Miller stated the fair set up date is scheduled for July 11, 2015. Mayor Gitz corrected the number of shells for Melrose to be 1367 and not the 1167 that he quoted previously.

Alderperson Klemm suggested the council move on to other business while waiting for a call back on the fairgrounds. He noted it is always easier to put in a second bid when the first bid is known. Alderperson Chesney stated it is the responsibility of the council to get the best bang for the buck and the goal is to save the taxpayer dollars. Mayor Gitz asked for leave of council to move on to item seven and council agreed.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The following remaining items were presented on the Consent Agenda in the council packet and Mayor Gitz read the listed items into the record [Consent Agenda PDF](#)

A. Approval to receive and place on file:

1) Building Permit Report of Activities for April 2015

B. Approval of Motor Fuel Register #0062 --- \$4,795.25

C. Approval of Water and Sewer Bills Payable (Registers #354, 355, 356) --- \$345,264.73

D. Approval of Payroll for pay period ending May 16, 2015 --- \$421,968.09

E. Approval of Finance Bills Payable (Registers #349, 350, 351, 352, 353) --- \$277,331.29

F. Approval of Resolution R-2015-24: Resolution to Request Temporary Closure of Streets for Cruise Night – August 1, 2015

Alderperson Brashaw moved for approval of the consent agenda item as presented, seconded by Alderperson McClanathan. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of;

Yeas: Klemm, McClanathan, Ross, Miller, Busker, Brashaw, Koester, and Chesney (8)

Nays: none

The consent agenda items were approved.

**ORDINANCES – FIRST READING**

**1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF ORDINANCE #2015-29:**

**AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN THE CITY OF FREEPORT AND THROUGHOUT STEPHENSON COUNTY (FISCAL YEAR 2016)**

Shelly R. Griswold, Community Development Consultant for the City of Freeport, Illinois, presented a summary of the City of Freeport's plans for its public transportation program for the period of July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016 in the public hearing held at the beginning of the meeting. She stated the City of Freeport ("the City") currently provides demand-response public transportation services for the general public in and around Freeport and Stephenson County. This service includes service for the

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general public and accessible para-transit services for the elderly and those with disabilities. Ms. Griswold provided an overview of the City's plans for the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 and stated this is an ordinance the City needs to pass each year to coincide with the State's fiscal year so the City may apply for the next round of funding for the transportation program. She stated as the first reading we are not asking for any action on this evening it will come up for your approval at the third Monday in June. She explained this ordinance talks about your commitment to provide public transportation through the 5311 and the Downstate Operating Assistance Program and in accordance with the intergovernmental agreement the City has with Stephenson County. There were no questions from the council.

Alderspersion Koester made a motion to move forward for approval Ordinance #2015-29 as presented, seconded by Alderspersion Klemm. The ordinance was automatically laid over to the next meeting.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION #R-2015-25:**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF A COMBINED APPLICATION FOR SECTION 5311 NON-METRO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION CAPITAL/OPERATING ASSISTANCE AND DOWNSTATE OPERATING ASSISTANCE GRANT FUNDING (FY 2016)**

Shelly R. Griswold, Community Development Consultant for the City of Freeport, Illinois, presented a summary of the City of Freeport's plans for its public transportation program for the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. She stated for the next four resolutions, they would typically only come to the council once, but at this time since there are a number of new City Council members they want to make sure council has plenty of information so they have them on the agenda for tonight and for the next Committee of the Whole and then to the City Council meeting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in June. She stated in addition the council received further information on last year's contract, the application and some of the pay requests. She stated this resolution is here for council's information tonight. As she mentioned at the Public Hearing, the application is on file in the office of the City Clerk and will be available for public comment until Wednesday, so that application will be provided to the council with the next reading.

Alderspersion McClanathan asked if this 5311 program was the main vehicle through which the City receives funding. Ms. Griswold stated that is correct. He asked about section 2 and the local matching funds and he asked what we are looking at on an annual basis. Ms. Griswold explained that the City meets its local matching fund obligations through donations and fares. She stated there is no general fund revenue that gets pledged or used so it is all from transportation system use so it varies from year to year and she estimated that figure to be \$70,000. She stated there are two small grants of the Senior Resource Center that run about \$50,000 to \$60,000 per year and they commit those to the program. She stated the SRC receives dollars from a couple of fundraisers per year and reiterated that there is not any City general fund dollars used. Alderspersion McClanathan when we talk about 5311 funding we apply on an annual basis if there were a situation whereby this source of funding down the road were to be discontinued or compromised, then how long in advance would the City get noticed that kind of change would happen. Ms. Griswold stated the State of Illinois when they administer the state funding which is the DOAP funding which is a large portion of the funding. She stated the 5311 is less than \$200,000 and the state funding is much greater. She explained they are spending last year's funding this year so they have a pipeline. She stated there is a long period of time that we would know if something is happening. She

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stated an additional safeguard the City has in the agreement with our transportation provider is that if that funding were to stop, there would be no City dollars that would be committed to fund them. It is only the grant money the City commits to paying the provider. So if the funding stops from the State and the Federal, we do not pay the provider. She explained we would have a year's notice if that were to happen. Ms. Griswold stated if there is a very large budget change at the State level that would totally change the way public transit is funded in rural areas then that may be different but we do not know that yet. She stated when we provide council with the grant application we have prepared two budgets because we are not certain where the governor is going to come down as far as funding rural transit.

There were no motions at this time.

Aldersperson Klemm added that the vehicles for the transportation program are leased on that same basis and if the grant stops the vehicles are not there so there is not a whole lot of funding that is due to anybody. Ms. Griswold stated that is correct.

**RESOLUTION #R-2015-26:**

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE SPECIAL WARRANTY FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FUNDING (FY 2016)**

Shelly R. Griswold, Community Development Consultant for the City of Freeport, Illinois, stated this resolution is another resolution the City of Freeport must pass each year of the federal transportation funding. Ms. Griswold stated the special warranty outlines the requirements that the City's transportation system has for employees of the transportation system, so in our case that would be employees of the Senior Resource Center that are engaged in driving the busses and dispatch. She noted there are a number of requirements if you read the special warranty and a lot have to do with collective bargaining and none of the transit employees are in collective bargaining units so those do not apply in our case but they have to do with providing notice or making changes that would leave people without jobs so that if you are going to change providers you give people the opportunity to apply for the new positions. Aldersperson Koester stated his understanding is that we do not have to act on this tonight but we can. Ms. Griswold stated that is correct. Corporation Counsel Griffin explained that some of the resolutions on council agenda have attachments that you could vote on tonight but for example the one previous to this you could not vote on tonight because of the document still on file and the SRC agreement you need the documentation.

Aldersperson Koester moved for approval resolution #2015-26 as presented, seconded by Aldersperson Klemm. Aldersperson McClanathan asked for information on the timing and Mayor Gitz stated the timing on this one does not matter because it is a boiler plate language contained within the resolution. Upon no further discussion, the motion prevailed by a roll call vote of;

Yeas: Klemm, McClanathan, Ross, Miller, Busker, Brashaw, Koester, and Chesney (8)

Nays: none

Resolution R-2015-26 was adopted.

**RESOLUTION #R-2015-27:**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE STEPHENSON COUNTY RESOURCE CENTER AND THE CITY OF FREEPORT**

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Shelly R. Griswold, Community Development Consultant for the City of Freeport, Illinois, stated this resolution is for a one year contract extension with Senior Resource Center. Ms. Griswold stated there were some philosophical differences in the operational issues that were becoming a barrier and the parties thought the most successful route to go after a one year extension and the Senior Resource Center agreed with the concept of that. She explained last week we received a draft of the one year agreement from the Senior Resource Center's attorney and the council received a copy of that. She stated there is still work to do so it is in draft form. The draft contained Corporation Counsel Griffin's comments.

Corporation Counsel Griffin stated the draft from the Senior Resource Center attorney has not been approved by their board and it is in draft form and they are reviewing it simultaneously. She stated for that reason it has been shared only with the council members.

Aldersperson Chesney asked about the term of the contract and verified it was for one year. Aldersperson McClanathan asked with a status quo with both parties signaling their intent that there will not be any disruption in service and that is why we are pursuing a one year agreement with the understanding that there are issues to work out over the next year. Ms. Griswold stated she has had conversations with the chairman of the board and the executive director and they are just as committed as the City to insuring we have continuity of services and not any interruptions in service.

Aldersperson Chesney made a motion to amend Resolution #2015-27 to insert language that the mayor and the City of Freeport are directed to provide notice to the city council 120 prior to the expiration of this contract. This motion was seconded by Aldersperson Miller. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

Aldersperson Koester asked to have the contract at the Committee of the Whole. Mayor Gitz agreed and stated the council will see this resolution on the Committee of the Whole agenda for the administration to provide an update and hopefully the contract will be in final form.

**RESOLUTION #R-2015-28:**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE EXTENSION OF PUBLIC TRANSIT VEHICLE LEASE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE CITY OF FREEPORT AND THE STEPHENSON COUNTY SENIOR RESOURCE CENTER**

Shelly R. Griswold, Community Development Consultant for the City of Freeport, Illinois, stated this resolution has an attachment which is the vehicle lease agreement to run concurrent with the proposed contract extension for July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. Ms. Griswold recommended waiting until the SRC contract is presented again and so Mayor Gitz stated we will see this on the next council agenda.

**RESOLUTION #R-2015-29:**

**RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH MELROSE PYROTECHNICS FOR THE 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY WEEKEND 2015 FIREWORKS DISPLAY TO BE HELD ON JULY 3, 2015 - SEE AMENDMENTS ON FLOOR**

Mayor Gitz requested Ms. Susie Dvorak to come to the podium to provide clarification as to whether the Stephenson County Fairgrounds will be available on a date other than July 3, 2015. Ms. Dvorak stated she talked to the daughter of the groundskeeper for the fairgrounds and it was confirmed that the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and the 5<sup>th</sup> are open dates for use of the Stephenson County Fairgrounds. The title for the resolution was read into the record.

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Aldersperson Chesney made a motion to amend Resolution R-2015-29 and to adopt the proposal to take place on July 5, 2015 as presented by Aldersperson Miller in an amount of \$12,000. In that amendment he also adds that the Freeport Stephenson County Visitors Bureau will be sharing that cost with the City in a 50-50 split. Mayor Gitz stated Aldersperson Chesney has made a motion to modify or amend Resolution 2015-29 to change the vendor to Zambelli Fireworks and also to change the date to July 5, 2015 and to add a cost split with the Visitors Bureau. This motion was seconded by Aldersperson Miller.

Aldersperson Klemm asked if the amendment includes a downtown display. Aldersperson Chesney stated no it does not. Aldersperson Klemm stated this is a whole new form of doing business and this comes from Mr. Chesney who basically wants to sponsor an ordinance that is going to slow everything down and add another reading to everything and talk about our transparency. Aldersperson Klemm stated this is totally backwards from that. He stated he will not support this because it was brought forward once we had a bid in here and provided examples how the bid process works.

Corporation Counsel Griffin recommended to council because we have a lot of moving parts and time constraints that you add to the amendment that if this should fall through you have a back-up plan because otherwise you are out of time. Ms. Miller stated Zambelli state they would honor this as long as a decision was made before the 5<sup>th</sup> of June. Corporation Counsel Griffin recommended placing a rain date in the amendment and explained it has been done using the next holiday.

City Clerk Zuravel explained in years past, callers complained about the fireworks being scheduled on the first day of a three day weekend because relatives were not in town in order for families to go to the event together. In scheduling it on the 5<sup>th</sup>, people may be traveling. So you have to look at it that way too.

Aldersperson Chesney stated he would like to take Corporation Counsel's directive and add a contingency that in the event this date falls through that we have a backup plan on date and vendor. Corporation Counsel Griffin verified that if you could not get the vendor or fair for the 5<sup>th</sup> then you are talking about having Melrose on the July 3. Aldersperson Chesney stated that would be the amendment. She continued and to have the administration negotiate a rain date. Aldersperson Chesney stated that would be the amendment to have Melrose as the backup should something happen with the vendor. Mayor Gitz stated by consent we could incorporate that into the amendment. Mayor Gitz clarified that first we are changing the vendor to Zambelli, next we are changing the date to July 5, 2015, third we are changing the amount to the amount specified in the bid \$12,000, in addition we are adding language that would provide the ability to use Melrose in the event this vendor cannot do July 5, there is permission to negotiate a rain date and to add the 50-50 split with the CVB. Mayor Gitz asked for a roll call vote on the amendment. the motion prevailed by a roll call vote of;

Yeas: McClanathan, Ross, Miller, Busker, Brashaw, and Chesney (6)

Nays: Klemm and Koester (2)

Mayor Gitz stated the amendment is now part of Resolution R-2015-29.

Aldersperson Koester asked Ms. Sorn if she needs help or assistance from the City. Ms. Sorn stated she is in the same situation as we were in before you picked a vendor and she does not have time to do an event and listed off items that are still unknowns to her. She stated her concerns about how she can be expected to pull something off. Aldersperson Chesney asked Ms. Sorn to give the City a little latitude and any help she would be willing to give would be appreciated. Mayor Gitz this council has asked everyone but the

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person who has been involved that strikes him as peculiar. He stated we have done the fireworks in the past and he was not going to rely on the CVB to do this. He explained the hotel motel tax introduction and that the hotel motel tax is not the exclusive providence of the CVB. He stated the CVB does not have to give us a cent to the utilization of those funds to other purposes that are allowed under the statute. He stated he initiated the conversation with the CVB in January but at that time Ms. Sorn stated her concerns on the part of the CVB as part of their mission, it was not incorporated into their budget, and if the CVB was going to be directed or by persuasion included in the firework they did not have the wish to be a part of this year's fireworks event because they did not feel they had the time to do it. Mayor Gitz explained he came out of that meeting thinking why force the issue. He stated his intention was to oversee the details of the fireworks since his meeting with Ms. Sorn and that is what he did by contacting Melrose and the conversation with the CVB left to 2016. He further explained the events leading up to this evening and took the blame for the miscommunication.

Mayor Gitz stated there is an amended motion on the floor in the form of the resolution. Alderperson Miller asked what is on the floor. Mayor Gitz stated the resolution with all of Alderman Chesney's additional amendments is now the resolution. He explained you were amending the resolution and so now you take the vote to approve the resolution with an amendment.

Yeas: McClanathan, Ross, Miller, Busker, Brashaw, and Chesney (6)

Nays: Klemm and Koester (2)

Corporation Counsel Griffin noted for the record the resolution passed by a super majority so that any questions regarding any irregularity in the bidding is waived by two-thirds majority vote of City Council. Resolution #R-2015-29 as amended on the floor was passed.

**OTHER**

**Reports of Department Heads**

**Finance Department**

Finance Director Haggard spoke about the upcoming Appropriation Ordinance that will need passage and so preparing for that there have been special Committee of the Whole meetings to discuss the different department's budgets. Her intent is to have finalized Appropriation Ordinance ready for the first meeting in July so tonight she has provided to council a three page document and at the next Committee of the Whole she will provide to council the budget in its entirety. She noted the council has had presentations on some of the departments but there is quite a bit to discuss and asked council if they have specific presentations on a department to let the administration know. She is also available to answer any questions that you may have. She asked for guidance from the council as to how to proceed. Her intent is to give council the draft/final numbers for the next Committee of the Whole. She noted the numbers will be changed on a week to week basis as she analyzes and moves line items such as potential retirees and their payouts of vacation and sick time. She stated she welcomes any input. Alderperson McClanathan requested to have the departments and line items that Shaun Gallagher oversees for discussion at the next Committee of the Whole.

**Public Works**

Alderperson Koester asked about a stray dog on a Saturday night and asked what the protocol was for locking up a stray dog on the weekend when the Animal Control Officers is not available. He stated the

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dog was put in their backyard but no one showed up until 12-14 hours later. Public Works Director stated normal after hours procedures are for the Animal Control Officer to be the first call. There is one other person that is an employee that will sometimes will be available but there is not a sign-up sheet and the back-up plan is the Stephenson County Animal Control Officer. He stated they usually back-each other up. Alderperson Koester asked if this could be reviewed to streamline the process.

**Fire**

Fire Chief Miller reported the department responded to the 500 block of Marion Drive to a nearly fully engulfed trailer fire. He explained that fortunately the occupant was able to escape but due to the nature of the fire and how fast it spread, there were no smoke detectors in there. He stressed the importance of smoke detectors.

Alderperson Chesney asked about the budget and the replacement of parking lot #1 and whether that could be deferred to next year and whether we can shrink the size of the parking lot to save on maintenance. City Engineer Gallagher stated he has reviewed the parking lot last year and both the street and parking lot are in terrible shape because of the load of a fire truck. Both have fire trucks driven on them and moving forward he does not want to have happen what just happened with the new fire station with under-designed pavement that deteriorates to the point right after we took possession of it. He explained that the plans are for a top quality parking lot due to the probability from a load of a fire truck and the parking lot is currently in bad shape with no plans to get any better. As far as the size they typically use eight to ten stalls and that is what is addressed. Fire Chief Miller stated money was appropriated last year's budget but in working with Engineer Gallagher who did an in-depth study and analysis of the situation it was determined that it would be best to defer to this budget cycle. By deferring to this budget cycle they could take advantage of the most value out of the budget as possible by being included in the bid process for all the street work that is going on so therefor there is the large scale bulk bid process by lumping these projects together. As for the size he stated that parking lot can't be any smaller and it fact needs to be larger especially when the garbage trucks service the building to pick up the dumpster. Fire Chief Miller stated it is in horrible shape and the Alderman are invited to take a look. He stated it is dangerous to be getting in and out of vehicles with gear and should someone get hurt then you are looking at a worker's comp claim. He stated the time is right and the study is correct to repair the parking lot this budget cycle.

Alderperson Koester asked about the public service of installing smoke detectors and asked if this was still in the budget. Fire Chief Miller referred to his budget and stated under fire public safety that addresses donations to the Fire Department and in turn those donations are utilized for that function and activity. He noted obviously they can't provide a smoke detector for every household but if it is brought to our attention that there is an hardship there then they can assist to making them compliant with the law. He stated that is one of the things the ambulance crew is looking for when they enter houses.

Alderperson Klemm asked about the fire station and West Avenue. Mayor Gitz provided an update and noted that the equipment has been moved out and they need to complete a few more tasks but first Chief needs to acquire a location for the training facility located in the back of the station and the other item is movement of the MABAS equipment stored in that building. Chief Miller noted that the department does a lot of their own training and that reduces the cost of sending personnel to other facilities out of town.

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Discussion was held on the lots around the Central Fire Station but whether a residential neighborhood would be ideal for flowing large amounts of water from aerial apparatus, operating chain saws, etc.

Aldersperson Koester noted the testing equipment for testing the pumps and that would have a cost as well and explained about the two to three hundred gallons of water put out by the pumps.

Aldersperson Busker asked if there can be a joint training facility or testing facility for pumps and Chief Miller stated there is a MABAS meeting next week and that is one of the topics on the agenda based on the resources and revenues of the districts.

Aldersperson Chesney noted there is a desire to put that property back on the tax role and he encouraged closure of that facility.

**Police**

Chief of Police Todd Barkalow provided an update on an incident with an impaired driver on May 10, 2015 and the display of a large caliber fire arm. Chief Barkalow explained that the State Police conducted a detailed investigation and determined that the officer acted accordingly and his firing of his weapon was justified. He stated the officer has returned to active duty. Chief Barkalow provided an update on an incident on Van Buren last evening stemming from a domestic dispute.

Aldersperson Chesney spoke about the council entertaining the idea of adding officers to the department and asked for Chief Barkalow's opinion on the additional costs and the concerns. Chief Barkalow stated his department has decreased in numbers between retirements and other unforeseen situations. He explained that it takes about nine months for training and academy. He stated we have fallen behind in staffing. His comfort level will increase as the resources increase. As a department head it is his obligation to plan ahead and to look at different areas and community outreach is a big concern. Chief Barkalow explained about a grant they are actively pursuing for two officers for a Community Policing Grant. Chief Barkalow stated any resources would be welcomed and that comfort level would increase.

Aldersperson Koester asked about staffing levels. Chief Barkalow stated he currently has two officers in the academy and there is a staffing level of 43 officers that is counting the two that graduate this month. He stated there is a slot reserved for the July 6<sup>th</sup> police academy.

Aldersperson Klemm clarified that the previous council did not do anything with the reduction in the staffing counts. He commented that both councils are pro-police. Chief Barkalow stated that is correct.

**City Engineer**

**2015 Mill And Overlay Program**

City Engineer Gallagher provided a written memorandum for approval of Bids for the 2015 Mill and Overlay Program barring any bid protest as requested by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) in the eight calendar days following the bid opening. His memorandum stated on May 28, 2015, the City of Freeport held a bid opening for this year's Mill and Overlay Program. The three (3) bids received were submitted by Civil Constructors, Inc., Fischer Excavating, Inc., and Martin & Company Excavating. The apparent low bid was submitted by Civil Constructors, Inc. for the amount of



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\$517,704.00. The following was noted by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) prior to bidding: Due to the possibility of a bid complaint for your agency's project, as it relates to the "Apprentice or Training Program Certification," the department will not concur with the award of any contract until the eight calendar day following the letting; therefore, the local authority shall not proceed with the award for eight (8) calendar days. Based on this low bid, it is my recommendation to award contract 15-00000-01-GM to Civil Constructors, Inc. for \$517,704.00 barring any bid protest in the eight (8) calendar days following the bid opening, as allowed by IDOT. City Engineer Gallagher stated it includes materials bids for the paving programs for the Street Department, crack sealing, micro-surfacing, and where will mill and replace pavement in the City of Freeport. He explained that he works to leverage TIF funds and to work with the Freeport Park District to combine projects for quantity bidding. He explained adding a parking lot for one of the fire stations in this bid to take advantage of the quantity pricing. He explained that this is as much projects as economically feasible. City Engineer Gallagher recommended acceptance of the bid from Civil Constructors in the amount of \$517,704.00 from the three bids. Alderperson Klemm moved to accept the bid from Civil Constructors in the amount of \$517,704.00 contingent upon IDOT's acceptance of the bid, seconded by Alderperson Busker. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of;

Yeas: Klemm, McClanathan, Ross, Miller, Busker, Brashaw, Koester, and Chesney (8)

Nays: none

City Engineer Gallagher stated tomorrow he has pre-construction meetings set up for crack sealing contractor and that project will begin in the next week and cautioned to watch for workers.

City Engineer Gallagher provided an update on the Jane Addams Trail improvement and cautioned motorized vehicles to stay off the trail. They have added cautionary item and lanes markings. He will bring forward an ordinance for parking on Adams Avenue at the next meeting.

City Engineer Gallagher provided to council an update on the demolition projects and it showed twenty one demolitions for the fiscal year. He estimated this to average one demolition every other week. He offered reviewing the demolition information with the council. Alderperson Chesney asked about obtaining a list and whether there is a statute to keep an alderman from obtaining a list. Corporation Counsel Griffin stated that City Engineer Gallagher explained that there is no list and there is no statute that says a sitting alderperson can't look at any document. Alderperson Chesney asked if an upcoming demolition lists exists. City Engineer Gallagher stated only now do we have two potentially scheduled demolitions at this point. City Engineer Gallagher explained that none of them are really final until the time when Tom's guys are scheduled so we do not like to say until things fall into place and ownership can change so that is why we try to avoid that situation. He stated we do have two potential demos at this time and those should have been on the sheet and they were not completed. The total cost for those two will be about \$20,000. Alderperson Chesney spoke about having a copy of the list is an entitlement as an alderman. Mayor Gitz explained the demolitions of properties and the intent of dealing with the corridors, tax sale properties, citing properties owners or taking them to court. He provided an update of the Okie Dokie property and because of the court proceedings it is unlikely to be completed in the near future. He explained it is not on a list but in a file and the file contains the litigation history of the property. He stated the Stephenson County trustee will make a list of those people who have not paid their property taxes and if we have a property that is beyond in terms of renovation the tax sale properties we will ask not to be resold. He explained the kind of judgements we are making to try to make the move on as many

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properties and as fast as we can ideally outside the judicial system and with a minimum cost to the taxpayer. Alderperson Chesney asked City Engineer Gallagher to provide the sensitive information that they need to come to his office to obtain and to provide that in written form to the council.

Alderperson McClanathan asked about the mill and overlay project in regard to the micro surfacing and the economics of it. City Engineer Gallagher explained that he would recommend this program in every community to use the multi-faceted approach of crack sealing and micro-surfacing or some sort of surface over the top versus milling, grinding and pavement and he explained the pros and cons of the different methods and what he has tried to do to improve the streets throughout the City based on the MFT dollars he has available. He stated this round of crack sealing will complete just over 20% of the City and it started three years ago. With this program he has been able to hit pause instead of further deterioration.

Discussion was held on recycling of fixtures and demolition of properties. Mayor Gitz stated that is an additional issue that we need to find our way through to make it legally acceptable because under the grant program we will be acquiring properties and he explained the different grant requirements with het Home Start and IDNR grants and the property reclamation.

**Water and Sewer**

Water and Sewer Director Tom Glendenning was present and had no report.

**Library**

Public Library Director Carole Dickerson provided copies of their latest newsletter and provided an update of events at the library. She spoke about a book signing with a local resident and author, Mr. Ed Finch to be held on June 9, 2015.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Gitz provided a summary of events leading up to the Senior Resource Center agreement for transportation. He thanked council for the one year extension. Mayor Gitz stated there are people working on a grant both equipment grant and also for COP (community oriented policing) and the application submittal in June would allow us to take advantage of grant resources and to lower the costs to the City. That grant is not without costs and it would be 75% of everything including legacy costs in year one and 50% in year two. If successful we need to take into account the grant funds and the fact that is now an obligation to the City over time for the additional officers. He stated our proposal is to budget for an additional police officer and if it comes through we have the legacy cost and our grant match covered and it does not come through we have added an additional person and that is an option that the council will be able to consider when we take up this budget in final form.

Alderperson McClanathan asked about the timing on the grant. Corporation Counsel Griffin stated the grant has matching funds that will need to be approved by the council either at the time it is applied for or at the time it is accepted. She explained what we can do is at the time that it is applied for we authorize its acceptance knowing that the grant match would need matching funds so at some point it will come before council.

**COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEW BUSINESS**

Council members were provided an opportunity to give announcements and discuss items for their wards.

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Alderson Busker spoke of the tours he was given for the Carnegie Library and the old City Hall building. He spoke about the importance of maintenance funds for all the City buildings. He would like to have a scheduled inspection and budgeting years out for maintenance on City owned buildings. He would be interested in an ordinance which would require an inspection schedule on properties every five years such as used by the school districts and he is bringing this up for discussion over the next couple of months.

Alderson Brashaw thanked Ms. Dvorak for handling the dates with the fair board. She commended Alderson Miller for obtaining another proposal for the fireworks saving \$3,000. She thanked the constituents in the 6<sup>th</sup> Ward for the work they have done to adopt a street to pick up trash especially along the cemetery. She stated she is fielding complaints on garbage pick-up before 5:00 am. Mayor Gitz stated he had a discussion with Denny Pate this afternoon about that subject and he will convey that message to his drivers. He followed up with a letter to formalize it and it this continues the drivers will be cited for violations and nuisance for starting before 5:00 am.

Alderson Koester recommended forming a committee to work on fireworks so there is no delay as there was this year and he would like to see that started now to start the planning for next year's fireworks.

Alderson Chesney recognized Director Haggard for the work with him on the budget going through the documents. He stated tonight the City Council delivered \$9,000 in corporate fund savings in part because we reached out to the CVB and Alderson Miller found \$3,000 savings in another proposal. He recommended further review of all line items to turn over more cost savings items. He asked to have on the next agenda for further discussion a presentation by Dimond Brothers Insurance relating to retiree insurance changes.

Alderson Klemm thanked the council for their participation in the retreat on Saturday and he also thanked the former alderperson for attending as well. There was a lot of good discussion and we are on the road to do a lot of things. He also thanked his wife for her help with the council retreat.

Alderson McClanathan thanked Alderson Klemm and Brashaw for their work to put on the council orientation and to former Alderman Bush for his influence in making bringing it forward. He spoke about a rain wash out on Countryside and thanked the departments who handled in an expedited manner.

Alderson Ross thanked that community of Freeport as of June 1 the Ross Auto Glass has been in business for 15 years.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Tom Teich was wished a happy birthday. He thanked Chief of Police Todd Barkalow for the job he does. Mayor Gitz thanked Ms. Ditsworth for her attendance and invocation at the meetings.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION (CLOSED SESSION) PURSUANT TO 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)**

The following exceptions were read into the record:

- 1) The appointment, employment compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on

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a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.

2) Collective negotiation matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees.

11) Litigation when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting.

At 9:04 p.m., Alderperson Brashaw moved to enter executive session for the above stated exceptions, seconded by Alderperson Busker. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of;

Yeas: Klemm, McClanathan, Ross, Miller, Busker, Brashaw, Koester, and Chesney (8)

Nays: none

At 10:03 p.m., Alderperson Klemm moved to return from executive session, seconded by Alderperson Brashaw. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of;

Yeas: Klemm, McClanathan, Ross, Miller, Busker, Brashaw, Koester, and Chesney (8)

Nays: none

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 10:04 p.m.

s/ Meg Zuravel

Meg Zuravel  
City Clerk