



City Council
City Council Chambers ♦ 314 West Stephenson Street ♦ Freeport, IL 61032

MINUTES
COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 2017 AT 6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Freeport, Illinois, City Council was called to order in council chambers by Mayor Jodi Miller with a quorum being present at 6:03 p.m. on Monday, August 7, 2017.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call: Mayor Miller and Council members Alderpersons Art Ross, Bob Smith, Patrick Busker, Sally Brashaw, Mike Koester, Andrew Chesney, Tom Klemm, and Peter McClanathan (8).

Staff members present: City Manager Lowell Crow, Director of Community & Economic Development Nancy McDonald, Public Works Director Tom Dole, Fire Chief Scott Miller, Police Chief Todd Barkalow, and City Clerk Dovie Anderson.

Others Present: City Legal Counsel Roxanne Sosnowski, Esq.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderperson Busker.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Miller asked for a motion for approval of the August 7, 2017 Agenda. Alderperson Koester moved and Alderperson McClanathan seconded. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Alderperson Brashaw moved to approve the minutes from the Public Hearing held on July 27, 2017, and the regular Council meeting held on July 17, 2017, seconded by Alderperson Koester. Motion prevailed by voice vote without dissent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

All items on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member so requests, in which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered as the first item after approval of the Consent Agenda. [Consent Agenda PDF](#)

- A. Approval of minutes of the June 26, 2017, Finance Committee of the Whole.
- B. Approval of Water & Sewer Bills Payable (Registers #815 and 819) --- \$451,831.83
- C. Approval of Finance Bills Payable (Registers #813, 814, 816, 817, 818, 820 and TBA) --- \$773,032.85
- D. Approval of Payroll for pay period ending July 22, 2017 --- \$433,746.11 with fringe benefit payments in the amount of \$35,866.15 for a total of \$469,612.26

**MINUTES-COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 2017, AT 6:00 P.M.**

Upon no further discussion, Alderperson Brashaw moved for approval of the consent agenda, seconded by Alderperson Busker. Motion prevailed by omnibus vote of:

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

Nays: None

The Consent Agenda was approved.

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

2nd READING OF ORDINANCE #2017-60

An Ordinance Amending Part Six General Offenses Code, Chapter 692 Weapons and Explosives, Section 692.02 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Freeport, Illinois Regarding Concealed Weapons

At the July 27, 2017, Council meeting, Alderperson Koester moved and Alderperson Chesney seconded to move this Ordinance forward for approval.

Mayor Miller stated that there being no further discussion, the motion for passage of Ordinance #2017-60 prevailed by a roll call vote:

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

Nays: None

Ordinance #2017-60 was passed.

2nd READING OF ORDINANCE #2017-61

An Ordinance of the City of Freeport, Illinois to Establish Reserve Funds

Originally in resolution form, this went before the July 10, 2017 Committee of the Whole. Alderperson McClanathan moved and Alderperson Busker seconded that this Ordinance move forward for approval with amendments, which carried unanimously. At the July 27, 2017, Council meeting, Alderperson Koester moved and Alderperson Klemm seconded to move this Ordinance forward for approval.

There being no further discussion, the motion for passage of Ordinance #2017-61 prevailed by a roll call vote:

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

Nays: None

Ordinance #2017-61 was passed.

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

1st READING OF ORDINANCE #2017-63:

An Ordinance Granting A Variance From Section 1268.02 Pertaining To Lot Coverage And Permitted Obstructions For Property Located At 2080 Cherokee Court, Freeport, Illinois

Community and Economic Development Director Nancy McDonald stated that Larry and Linda Donmeyer requested a variance to convert their deck to a four-season room at 2080 Cherokee Court. They petitioned the Cherokee Court Association Board for permission. The Donmeyers filed a petition with the Community and Economic Development Department on June 30, 2017, seeking approval of the Variance to allow conversion of the deck to a permanently roofed-over four-season porch in an R-6 Residential District. The Board of Zoning Appeals unanimously approved the Donmeyers' petition on July 24, 2017. There were no objections to the petition during or after the July 24, 2017, meeting.

Alderperson Koester made a motion to move Ordinance #2017-63 forward for approval; seconded by Alderperson Klemm.

**MINUTES-COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 2017, AT 6:00 P.M.**

Aldersperson Smith moved for suspension of the rules, which is non-debatable and requires a 2/3 majority vote. Aldersperson Chesney seconded and the motion for suspension prevailed by a roll call vote of:
Yeas: Klemm, McClanathan, Ross, Smith, Busker, Brashaw, Koester and Chesney (8)
Nays: None

The motion for passage of Ordinance #2017-63 prevailed by a roll call vote of:
Yeas: Klemm, McClanathan, Ross, Smith, Busker, Brashaw, Koester and Chesney (8)
Nays: None
Ordinance #2017-63 was passed.

APPROVAL OF BIDS

Demolition of Residential Properties CD-004-17, Bid Opening: August 2, 2017 – Community Development

City Manager Crow explained that based upon the closed bids which were received, JMP Trucking is being recommended at their aggregate bid of \$46,200 for six (6) properties. The next bid packet will show an option to accept individual bids by location.

Aldersperson Koester moved and Aldersperson Klemm seconded to award the contract to JMP Trucking. The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of:
Yeas: Klemm, McClanathan, Ross, Smith, Busker, Brashaw, Koester and Chesney (8)
Nays: None

OTHER

Approval of and authorization to enter into lease of Pelican Street Sweeper from Standard Equipment Co.

City Manager Crow stated that based upon specifications given by the Public Works Department, the City went out for bids for the lease of a street sweeper. He is recommending the Standard street sweeper lease program. The recommended model is a demo which includes the specified self-oiling feature. Lease includes tracked hours and maintenance agreement. In seven years, the City will have the option to sell the sweeper, which will be handled by the leasing company. The return on sales will go towards the next leased street sweeper. Going forward, most City vehicles will be integrated into this leasing program. The cost is \$33,953.89 which was initially in the Capital Improvement Budget of \$200,000. For the street sweeper, Geneva Capital is being recommended because it backs their retail lease and maintenance program. The remaining funds will help us get into our proposed fleet leasing program with Enterprise. In the future, local banks will have an opportunity to bid on leased vehicles.

Aldersperson Klemm made a motion to approve the lease of Pelican Street Sweeper and Aldersperson Koester seconded.

Aldersperson Smith pointed out that seven (7) years at \$33,953.89 equals \$237,677 for total cost of lease. To purchase outright is nearly \$200,000. He inquired as to the value going forward with our next lease. Manager Crow responded that the estimated resale value of this vehicle could be \$120,000 with proper maintenance including the brushes. The \$33,953.89 includes maintenance which will be performed quarterly. The only thing not covered is damage to the vehicle. There will be tracking devices on the vehicle. If the City is operating the vehicle according to specifications, the maintenance will be included by the lessor. If damage is caused due to operation not according to specifications, those repairs will be the responsibility of the City.

The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of:
Yeas: Klemm, McClanathan, Ross, Smith, Busker, Brashaw, Koester and Chesney (8)

**MINUTES-COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 2017, AT 6:00 P.M.**

Nays: None

Approval of and authorization to enter into Municipal Advisor Relationship with Speer Financial, Inc.

City Manager Crow stated that with investigation into forming the Galena Corridor TIF District, the consulting firm of Ehlers has requested (and other entities with which the City will form large developmental agreements will request) a bonding advisor be hired for financial negotiates on the City's behalf. Ehlers noted that our bond rating has dropped over the last two (2) years and are recommending that the City review what we are doing from a financial standpoint.

Speer was the lowest of three solicited bidders and Manager Crow has worked with Speer in the past. Their fee is \$7,500 per year plus one-quarter of one percent (1/4%) of the amount of the bonds over \$2 million. The other two were also one-quarter of one percent (1/4%) but were in excess of \$10,000. Speer was the City's financial advisor up until 2012. Since the City went with a straight bond sale, the underwriter incorrectly filed our paperwork creating a drop in rating from A+ to A. The last filing with the SCC failed to list the City's three largest employers correctly. Snak King and Titan were omitted and the number of employees at Newell Jarden was underreported by nearly half. This oversight gave the appearance of loss of jobs in the community which was the reason for the drop to A rating.

Aldersperson Koester made a motion to approve entering into a Municipal Advisor Relationship with Speer Financial and Aldersperson Brashaw seconded.

Aldersperson Smith asked if there is potential to restore our rating back to A+. Manager Crow stated that when filing the report, the largest ten (10) employers are to be listed. Snak King will be included on the next submittal, Titan Tire is adding fifty (50) new jobs with the addition of the ATV tire line, Newell Jarden projects adding seventy-five (75) jobs, Modern Plating will be adding twenty-five (25) jobs, and MetLife is relocating back to Freeport. The fact that the City now has a professional manager adds to the rating. The Ordinance establishing a Reserve Fund is favorable. The projection is that our rating will increase to A+.

The motion prevailed by a roll call vote of:

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

Nays: None

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS

Community and Economic Development

Director McDonald confirmed that the next round of demolition bids will go out in approximately two (2) months and the demolition of the latest six (6) properties should be completed within the next three (3) weeks.

Public Works

Director Dole had nothing further to report.

Fire

Fire Chief Miller reported that in addition to cleaning up from the wind and flood damage, there were six (6) structure fires with one (1) unconscious victim rescue. ISO will be coming to evaluate the City's fire protection rating. ISO used to be on a 10-year visitation schedule, but will occasionally visit when they are in the area, which they have been in neighboring municipalities. It has been seven (7) years since the last ISO visit.

Police

**MINUTES-COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 2017, AT 6:00 P.M.**

Chief of Police Barkalow reported that there was a shooting near Grove and Cottonwood four (4) days ago. He applauded his uniformed officers and detectives in developing suspects and building the ongoing case. He feels the “code of silence” is the biggest deterrent in closing the case.

Security will be the focus at Cruise Night this Saturday. The flood three weeks ago proved to be a city-wide effort including the Police and Fire Departments, City Manager Crow, and City Engineer Gallagher. He especially recognized Alderperson Ross for his tireless efforts in the 3rd Ward. Fall Police Academy is quickly filling up with Manager Crow being one of the participants. It begins Wednesday, September 13, 2017 for ten (10) weeks, one night a week.

City Engineer/Water and Sewer

City Engineer Gallagher brought everyone up to date on projects. Paving continues on Arapaho, Canyon and Mesa Drives. Water trucks will be keeping the dust down. Parking lot construction continues at City Hall as does patching and service cuts for Water & Sewer. Gladwood-Demeter bridge is closed to pedestrian traffic until structural inspection is completed and it is determined to be safe. The inspection will hopefully take place this week. A regular inspection was done in May, so any recent damage will be apparent. Regarding the Hancock bridge, alternatives are being explored including the possibility of replacing only the deck and then rerouting the remaining funds to provide an alternate route that does not flood.

IT Technology

Director Suttman had nothing additional to report.

Library

There was no report.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Crow stated that Dean Wright reported that clean-up efforts in 3rd Ward will end Wednesday, August 9, 2017. Dumpsters will then be removed from Taylor Park School. To date the City has spent \$24,000 in dumpster fees and transfer station fees. The total flooding cost to date to the City including overtime and repairs is estimated at \$483,000, which does not include the Gladwood bridge. An after-action meeting was held with Department Heads. Everyone did an outstanding job during the flood and provided good feedback, but we are always looking for ways to do things better. In the future, a central station for emergency action will be established at the City.

Randy Bukas, the new Financial Director, will be closing on his home in Effingham, Illinois, and begin here September 4, 2017. The Utility Director position has been offered to Tom Kopanski from Tinley Park and he will move within the next three (3) weeks. Tom Glendenning was involved in initial interviews. Mr. Kopanski previously worked in Atlanta where he gained experience in transferring Water and Sewer from a Commission to a City department. Three (3) Fire Chief interviews will be held Thursday and Friday.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Miller reported that the Council previously approved spending \$7,500 towards this year’s fireworks. Monies have been received and our final expense is closer to \$2,800. She thanked the committee for their hard work and saving the City money. Cruise Night will be Saturday, August 12, 2017. Volunteers are still needed. Contact Danielle Rogers at the Freeport Downtown Development Foundation (FDDF). Mayor Miller reminded constituents that no taxpayer money is being used to put “In God We Trust” on City Hall. It will be funded through donations.

**MINUTES-COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 2017, AT 6:00 P.M.**

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEW BUSINESS

Aldersperson Busker had nothing to report.

Aldersperson Brashaw thanked all of the heroes who helped in the aftermath of the flood including City Manager Crow especially in fielding complaints. She also thanked Aldersperson Ross for going out of the way, especially in transporting the overflow of extra bleach made available by Pearl City to the Salvation Army. She complimented Community and Economic Development Director for contacting businesses in her Ward offering the City's help.

Aldersperson Koester invited everyone to the celebration of life for his late wife on Sunday, August 13, 2017, at the Eagle's Club.

Aldersperson Chesney complimented City Manager Crow on the nice job of around-the-clock professional management during the flood including developing a Facebook page, updating the City's website, waived permitting fees, drop zone for sand, and exceptional communication. He also thanked Aldersperson Ross for his exceptional job in the 3rd Ward.

Aldersperson Klemm echoed everyone's sentiments on the handling of issues during the flood especially Manager Crow for providing immediate figures on costs to homeowners and businesses. He sympathized with residents who experienced flooded basements from Gladewood to the 3rd Ward.

Aldersperson McClanathan also echoed everyone's appreciation of the efforts in response to the flood.

Aldersperson Ross acknowledged everyone's offer of thanks. He included the efforts of communication from Manager Crow, Chief Barkalow's response to blocking streets and directing traffic, Street Department placing signs to close streets, and Chief Miller checking safety concerns. Bags of lime are still available.

Aldersperson Smith pointed out the lines of communication took on a military culture during the flood. He attended a meeting where it was obvious that the City of Freeport recognized the needs of our citizens and responded quickly and accordingly.

Discussion ensued regarding what can be done about future flooding. Manager Crow stated that the Comprehensive Plan needs to be updated because grant applications hinge on a plan being in place. City Engineer Gallagher took elevation measurements of flood levels on the Pecatonica River and Yellow Creek to provide data on flooding.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Tom Teich reported that there will be a bowling tournament on August 19 and 20, 2017, at the Four Seasons and invited Mayor Miller to speak.

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

The following exceptions were read into record to enter an Executive (Closed) Session:

- Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(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 a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.
- Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees.

**MINUTES-COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 2017, AT 6:00 P.M.**

At 7:14 p.m., Alderperson McClanathan made a motion to enter executive session, seconded by Alderperson Klemm. The motion prevailed by roll call vote of:

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

Nays: None

At 8:30 p.m., Alderperson McClanathan made a motion to return from executive session, seconded by Alderperson Ross. The motion prevailed by roll call vote of:

Yeas: Ross, Smith, Busker, Brashaw, Chesney, Klemm, McClanathan (7)

Nays: None

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

s/ Dovie L. Anderson

Dovie L. Anderson
City Clerk