



CITY OF FREEPORT

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June 26, 2018 – Meeting Minutes

A regular meeting of the Freeport City Council was convened at 7:00pm by Mayor Rodney Atkinson with Councilmembers, Tim Hennen, Ben Eittle, Mike Eveslage and Jake Renneker, present.

Staff in attendance: Clerk-Treasurer Adrianna Hennen, Public Works Director Loren Goebel, City Engineer Dave Blommel, and City Attorney Scott Dymoke

Absent: None

Others in attendance:

Andrea Remacher (720 1st Ave N)
Ariel Gist (304 10th St SE)
Leah Ley (309 10th St SE)

Jennifer Beach (415 Main St E)
Janel Ryan (1009 3rd Ave SE)
Heather Koep & Jason Hoeschen (1020 2nd Ave SE)

Approve Agenda

A. Henne stated the only addition was to the consent agenda, adding a Centra Care Gambling Permit Application. Eveslage moved to approve the agenda with the proposed addition, seconded by Eittle. Motion carried 5-0.

TIF District Public Hearings

Todd Hagen, with Ehlers explained that there is a proposal for two TIF Districts within the City. One is located in the remaining Welle Addition that has yet to be developed. The second one is an area in the Industrial Park that, also, has yet to be developed. He explained that TIF Districts can help promote the land and can direct money to the developer and to the City to help with future projects. Other discussion was had. There were no questions or comments from the audience. A. Hennen and Dymoke both stated they would like Dymoke to look over the resolutions before the council approves them.

2017 Audit Presentation

Ryan Schmidt with Schlenner Wenner presented the 2017 Audit. Eittle moved to accept the audit, seconded by T. Hennen. Atkinson-yes, Eittle-yes, Eveslage-yes, T. Hennen-yes, Renneker-yes. Motion carried 5-0.

Open Public Forum

No comment was given.

Consent Agenda

Renneker moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Eittle. Motion carried 5-0.

Reports

Clerk Report

A. Hennen explained a letter that she had received about dogs running loose in the Welle Addition neighborhoods. A. Hennen explained that it is against City Code for all animals to leave the yard unattended.

Treasurer Report

No report was given.

Public Works Report

Goebel explained that he was able to fix all of the valves at the ponds. He stated that MNDOT cleaned their ditches and also stated that they are going to have Kotzer do the extension behind the red barn the same time MNDOT is out again. Goebel stated the rocks around the ponds are done and Kotzer cleaned out ditches around there at the same time. They will be finishing ditch cleaning by the ponds from the ponds to Getchel creek.

Engineer Report

Blommel explained that having MNDOT clean their ditches might be not seem like much, but it is very beneficial to the City.

In terms of the cul-de-sac on Industrial Drive, Blommel stated that Kotzer got the drain tile done, which has definitely helped the water levels. Blommel also stated that there is better construction of the cul-de-sac then he was expecting. Council asked for Blommel to put together new quotes for cement and asphalt. T. Hennen moved to gather quotes for both cement and asphalt, seconded by Etle. Motion carried 5-0.

Blommel also mentioned that Famo was insisting that curb had settled in the cul-de-sac and should be addressed. Blommel stated he went to look at it before the meeting and doesn't see a problem with it so he would have a hard time recommending to council to fix it. Blommel stated that when resurfacing is being done in the cul-de-sac they can look at it again at that time and see if it needs to be addressed.

Atkinson asked about chip sealing of city streets and if the City should be doing on that on any streets. Blommel stated some streets are in the age where it could be done. He did state there is a lot of conflicting information out there whether or not chip sealing is really that beneficial. Mainly roads that were done 10+ years ago seem to be worse, but roads done since then seem to be better. Blommel did mention that it is time to get the neighborhood by Swany White and the Maintenance Shop on the schedule to get redone.

Attorney Report

No report was given.

Fire Department Report

No report was given.

Old Business

Welle Addition Park

Comments that were received during the discussion of what should be developed in the Welle Addition park included: keeping a grassy area and putting up a playground on one side; something for older kids – Little Falls park is a good example since they have climbing things and bigger slides; basketball hoop – St. Mary's school park is good for older kids; sand volleyball; picnic tables. There was concern about parking. It was explained this would be more of a neighborhood park and we didn't expect people from all over coming to this park since there was still the North side and Lions Park. Renneker stated Albany just put a smaller park, but hadn't been able to see it too well yet. Residents thought about putting together a group to get something

going, maybe a fundraiser. The City encouraged any community involvement since park equipment is expensive.

Public Nuisance Properties

Loehrer

Loehrer was not present at the meeting. It was determined that he had not made any progress in cleaning up his property. Dymoke explained the city could now hold a public hearing at the July meeting. At that meeting the council will set a date that Loehrer has to clean up his property. If not done by that date then it gets handed over to the court system.

Beach

Jennifer Beach was present and stated it was scheduled to have the basement removed on this coming Friday, June 29th. A. Hennen told Loren and Beach to talk so Loren could schedule a time to inspect the water and sewer lines before the hole was filled in.

Atkinson stated that we needed to talk to Renneker and see when that house removal will be complete.

Solar Gardens

After further discussion regarding solar gardens in town it was expressed that Eveslage, Ertle, T. Hennen, and Renneker want to only see solar panels mounted to the house or building. They did not want to see any ground mounted solar panels in any zoning district. Atkinson wanted to see different rules for each zoning district. Dymoke stated that he would put something together for the July council meeting.

Treasurer Position

A. Hennen stated Kali Pohlman had withdrawn her application. There was no more discussion.

Adjourn

Ertle moved to adjourn at 9:30, seconded by Renneker. Motion carried 5-0.

Ajourn

Mayor, Rodney Atkinson

City Clerk-Treasurer, Adrianna Hennen