



CITY OF FREEPORT

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April 23, 2019 – Meeting Minutes

A special meeting of the Freeport City Council was convened at 7:00pm by Mayor Mike Eveslage, and councilmembers Sarah Blake, Jake Renneker, Tim Hennen and Ben Ettle

Staff in attendance: Clerk-Treasurer Joan Wall, Public Works Director Loren Goebel

Others in attendance: Rodney Atkinson, Everett Scherping
Jeff Johnson, Kathy Korte, and Michelle Hinnenkamp (Stearns County Assessor's Office)

Local Board of Appeal and Equalization Meeting

Mayor Eveslage opened the meeting at 7:05pm. Johnson, Korte, and Hinnenkamp introduced themselves. Korte distributed their 2019 Assessment Report and explained the data.

Everett Scherping wanted to discuss the valuation for a sliver of land he owns along Rimcrest Road. He believes the valuation is too high because it is half ditch and half field. He would also like that parcel to be combined with the other property he owns so he just receives one property statement instead of two. Jeff Johnson explained that because this sliver of land is in the City of Freeport and his other parcel is in Oak Township, the parcels could not be combined. After the team from the Assessor's Office briefly looked into Scherping's parcel, Johnson said it would be worth having the Auditor/Treasurer's Office look further into it to see if the valuation could be adjusted because it looks like some of the parcel is actually in the roadway. Johnson recommended that Scherping appeal the valuation and that the Council vote to not change the valuation. That would cause the matter to be brought to the County Board level where it could be looked into further. Scherping appealed the valuation. Hennen moved to not change the valuation, seconded by Ettle. Motion carried 5-0.

Hennen moved to adjourn the Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting, seconded by Ettle. Motion carried 5-0.

Administrative Assistant

Eveslage explained that he learned from the League of Minnesota Cities that the City could keep the applicant names private until the final found if the City utilized a hiring committee to narrow down the applicants. To that end, Eveslage, Blake, and Wall met this morning to go over the applicants. Six applicants were called and four of them returned the calls. Wall also forwarded a few other applications that came in later in the day to the hiring committee. The hiring committee recommends asking three of the applicants to attend the April 30 regular City Council meeting for an interview. The rest of the Council agreed that these three candidates were the best ones to interview. Eveslage will call the three candidates to invite them to the April 30 meeting and to ask for references. Blake and Ettle will work on a list of interview questions.

Adjourn

Hennen moved to adjourn, seconded by Renneker. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor, Mike Eveslage

City Clerk-Treasurer, Joan Wall