



CITY OF FREEPORT

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July 26, 2016 – Meeting Minutes

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

Staff in attendance: Clerk-Treasurer Adrianna Hennen, Deputy Treasurer Joan Wall, City Attorney Scott Dymoke, City Engineer Dave Blommel, Public Works Director Loren Goebel, and Maintenance Assistant Vernon Fuchs

Others in attendance:

Andrea Ramacher (720 1st Ave N)
Al Williams (308 2nd Ave NW)

Thomas Czeck (121 1st Ave N)
Gene Glass (212 9th St SE)

Approve Agenda

Eveslage moved, seconded by K. Goebel to approve the agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Hearing – Freeport Veterinary Service Inc. Variance Request

Council began discussion trying to visualize where Czeck was hoping to place his sign. Atkinson finally stated that the business is just down the street, it might be easier to go look at it in person. The entire council, staff and attendants walked to Freeport Vet Service. Council members held up the sign while others looked from different angles to determine if it would visually impair any drivers. The meeting then moved back to the council chambers and resumed. Council stated they could agree to allow the sign to line up with the most North window on the East side of the building, or approximately 19 feet from the North sidewalk, and 6 feet from the East sidewalk. Czeck stated that he would be happy with that decision.

Open Public Forum

No comment was given

Consent Agenda

Ertle moved, seconded by T. Hennen to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

Reports

Deputy Treasurer Report

Public Works Report

L. Goebel stated that the lights in the Lions Park bathrooms are currently on sensors, but most of the sensors aren't working. L. Goebel asked if council wanted to have new sensors put in or light switches. Council agreed to replace the sensors.

Engineer Report

Before the council meeting, Blommel, T. Hennen, Atkinson, Neil Middendorf met on Industrial Dr. to assess the road and drainage issues. Blommel stated that it was evident there was a lot of overgrown vegetation that was preventing adequate water drainage from the area. Council asked Blommel if they should hold off on redoing the road until all of the vegetation was removed to see how that addresses the drainage, first. Blommel thought that would be a good idea since that may change how they plan to redo the road. T. Hennen moved to defer Industrial Park road project until drainage is resolved, seconded by Eveslage. Motion carried 5-0. Council gave L. Goebel direction to hire someone to remove the vegetation and dirt/sand from the ditches.

Attorney Report

No discussion was had.

Fire Department Report

No report was given.

Old Business

Water Tower Fee

Atkinson stated that to move forward with researching alternatives to the water tower fee, council has to determine if they want to remain with the first intended plan of paying the bond off early or to have the bond last its entire life until 2052. Atkinson stated there is no reason to have any more discussions regarding the water tower fee if the council decides they still intend to pay the bond off early. Atkinson stated he envisions the water tower fee being based off usage instead of a flat fee for everyone; that an elderly single person should not be paying the same as a family of five. K. Goebel stated that it was set up this way to so that people with wells would be paying a water tower fee for fire protection. Atkinson stated that wasn't what council was there to decide that night, but instead decided if they want to pay the bond off early or not, because if they do want to pay it off early, no more discussion needs to be had. T. Hennen moved to not pay off the bond early, but instead pay it off 2052 as the bond schedule shows, seconded by Ettle. A roll call vote was requested: Atkinson-yes, Ettle-yes, Eveslage-yes, K. Goebel-yes, and T. Hennen-yes. Motion carried 5-0. Motion carried 5-0.

New Business

Resolution 2016-07 – Freeport Veterinary Service Inc. Variance Request

K. Goebel moved to approve the variance request with the condition that the sign will be placed 19ft from the North sidewalk, or up to the edge of the window, and 6ft from the East sidewalk, seconded by Eveslage. A roll call vote was requested: Atkinson-yes, Ettle-yes, Eveslage-yes, K. Goebel-yes, and T. Hennen-yes.

Fleegal Property Abatement Options

Council asked if anyone knew what Fleegal's intentions were with the property in the future. A. Hennen stated she had sent a letter previously asking what Fleegal's intentions were and she had not heard back from Fleegal. Council agreed that staff should start by sending Fleegal a letter stating which maintenance ordinances lines he is in violation of and requesting his presence at the next Council meeting to ask him what his intentions are moving forward with the property. A. Hennen stated she would take care of that.

New Zoning Law

Dymoke explained that there was a new law passed by legislature that requires cities to allow temporary dwellings for sick family members. The City is allowed to pass an ordinance to opt out of the requirement. Eveslage moved to opt out of new law that requires cities to allow temporary dwellings for sick family

members, seconded by K. Goebel. A roll call vote was requested: Atkinson-yes, Eittle-yes, Eveslage-yes, K. Goebel-yes, and T. Hennen-yes.

Adjourn

Eittle moved to adjourn at 8:36pm seconded by T. Hennen. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor, Rodney Atkinson

City Clerk-Treasurer, Adrianna Hennen