



## CITY OF FREEPORT

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### May 25, 2015 – Meeting Minutes

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

Staff in attendance: Clerk-Treasurer Adrianna Hennen, Public Works Director Jon Stueve, Public Works Director Assistant Sam Eichers

Residents in attendance:

Andrea Ramacher & Vernon Fuchs (720 1<sup>st</sup> Ave N)  
Jerry Meyer (330 8<sup>th</sup> St)  
Craig Timp (213 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave NW)  
Mark Middendorf (711 Main St E)  
Steve Anderson, Franklin Properties (Clearwater)

Gary Pierskalla (324 8<sup>th</sup> St SE)  
Peg Hartung (310 Industrial Drive)  
Floyd Sand (208 7<sup>th</sup> St SW)  
Mary Hoppe (Freeport)  
Amy Hoeschen (St. Rosa)

### Public Hearing – Franklin Billboard Conditional Use Permit

Jerry Meyer voiced his concern about the height of the sign affecting his lot, and stated that if Franklin is allowed to put up a 40ft sign, J. Meyer wants to be able to put up a 45ft sign on his property. Floyd Sand discussed the frustration Franklin caused Quality Trailer when trying to erect their business in the Industrial Park in 1999-2000. F. Sand also stated how rude Franklin is about using his property to get to their billboard. Peg Hartung agreed with F. Sand about the property abuse by Franklin to get to their billboards and that she has yet to be paid by Franklin Properties for having a billboard on her property. Mark Middendorf stated that he thought that it was agreed upon in the past that if that billboard ever came down that Franklin wasn't allowed to put up a new billboard. M. Middendorf also stated that Franklin's other billboard in the Industrial Park is not in compliance as was agreed up previously.

### Public Forum

Jerry Meyer asked if something could be done to remedy the chunks of concrete breaking apart on the corner of County Road 11 and 7<sup>th</sup> St. Council asked Jon Stueve to address that corner.

Andrea Ramacher asked if the agenda could be put on the website before the meetings.

### Approve Agenda

B. Eittle moved to change the claim range from 1877-1905 to 1877-1909; to add e) "Freeport Off-Site Gambling Permit" under the consent agenda; to add Bob Deters to b) "Health Insurance" under New Business, seconded T. Hennen. Motion carried 5-0.

### Consent Agenda

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

## **Old Business**

### Industrial Park Street Lights

Clerk-Treasurer Adrianna Hennen provided a map of where she and resident Gary Pierskalla thought street lights should be added on 7<sup>th</sup> St into the industrial park. A. Hennen is waiting to hear from Xcel what the initial startup costs will be.

### Maintenance Building

T. Hennen moved to contact the person who was interested in the maintenance shed and see if they would be interested in an industrial lot, seconded by K. Goebel. Motion carried 5-0.

### Digital Speed Limit Signs

B. Eittle moved to ask Stearns County to pay for half of the cost of four signs and to plan for it in next year's budget, seconded by K. Goebel. Motion carried 5-0.

### 204 1<sup>st</sup> Ave N Public Nuisance Property Update

A. Hennen provided an update on the Sheldon Peterson property. Mr. Peterson incorrectly signed the plea agreement and Matthew Luven, Rincken-Noonan, is still waiting for Mr. Peterson to return the plea agreement correctly.

### 515 Main St E Public Nuisance Property Update

A. Hennen provided an update on the James Beutz property. Last fall Mr. Beutz signed a plea agreement stating he would erect a fence or get his wood piles down to compliance by May 31, 2015. Mr. Beutz has yet to do either of the two. Matthew Luven sent a notice stating Mr. Beutz had until May 31 to remedy his property or he would be in violation of his plea agreement.

## **New Business**

### Girl Scouts – Amy Hoeschen & Amy Hoppe

Amy Hoeschen and Mary Hoppe explained to council what the girl scouts had done so far in regards to their medal project. They had landscaped around the gazebo on Main Street in Freeport. The girls had gathered information on business in town and had developed a map/directory that would be featured on Main Street near the trail. A. Hoeschen and M. Hoppe asked council if they would be willing to donate to the project. T. Hennen moved that the City should donate \$500 towards the work the girl scouts had done to landscape around the gazebo, seconded by M. Eveslage. Motion carried 5-0.

### Health Insurance – Fritz Hoeschen & Bob Deters

Fritz Hoeschen of Commercial Exchange and Bob Deters of Diversified Insurance were given the opportunity to speak to council about options regarding employee health insurance. Council decided they wanted to hold a special meeting to discuss this item and to give themselves time to individually think about what they would like to offer. R. Atkinson also asked that they employees decide what they would like in a health insurance plan.

### Resolution 2015-11 Approving Conditional Use Permit for Franklin Properties LLC

M. Eveslage moved and B. Eittle seconded a motion to table decision until next month and to have A. Hennen look into previous decisions that were made regarding the billboard. Motion carried 5-0.

R. Atkinson moved to ask the EDA for their recommendation on the billboard as well, seconded by M. Eveslage. Motion carried 5-0.

Resolution 2015-12 Approving Public Hearing on Ordinance 2015-02 “Repealing & Replacing Section 500.45 of the City Code”

T. Hennen moved to approve Resolution 2015-12, seconded by M. Eveslage. Motion carried 5-0.

Resolution 2015-13 Approving Liquor Licensing

K. Goebel moved, seconded by B. Ertle to approve Resolution 2015-13. Motion carried 5-0.

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Mayor, Rodney Atkinson

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City Clerk-Treasurer, Adrianna Hennen