



CITY OF FREEPORT

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August 11, 2015 – Meeting Minutes

A special 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

Residents in attendance:

Andrea Ramacher & Vernon Fuchs (720 1st Ave N)

Gary Pierskalla (324 8th St SE)

Gerald Meyer (330 8th St SE)

Mark Middendorf (711 Main St E)

Matt Worms (124 9th St SE)

Public Works/Maintenance Department Review

Many different ideas were talked about in regards to how the Public Works/Maintenance Department should develop. First, council directed Public Works Director Jon Stueve to develop a schedule/log sheet of duties. This will consist of seasonal/monthly/weekly duties that the maintenance department already does but will now be written down and dated when completed. They felt this will help prove to the residents Stueve is getting things done and to remain proactive with duties and projects by looking forward at what needs to be done, when.

Discussion then moved to the type of assistant does Stueve need to properly do his job and allow him time only Stueve is authorized to do. Many ideas were discussed by council, staff, and residents. A majority thought it would be good to have a couple of people as groundskeepers and who Stueve could also call in the event he needed help with other duties. Council discussed if a full-time assistant was needed and resident Matt Worms stated that Freeport is in a difficult spot “not big enough for two full-time maintenance employees, but too big for one guy”. Other residents expressed they didn’t think two full-time maintenance workers were necessary. Stueve’s biggest concern was the on-call weekends. Stueve expressed that it is stressful being on call every weekend and having to come in to do rounds on Saturdays and he didn’t know if the City can expect a part-time worker to be on-call. That is the reason that the last Public Works Assistant was eventually promoted to full-time. Ideas were expressed about having a pool of part time help that could be called upon when Stueve needed them. Other ideas consisted of having one very part time person to help with groundskeeping and then have a more permanent part-time assistant to help Jon with his duties.

Eventually council decided to start with hiring two groundskeepers that had expressed that they would be able to help out in the winter with snow removal and would be able to help with other duties Jon cannot do alone. Council would see how this worked and are keeping the option open of hiring a Public Works Assistant. T. Hennen moved to hire Mike Elfering, seconded by Goebel. A roll-call vote was taken: Eittle-yes; T. Hennen-yes; Atkinson-yes; Goebel-yes; Eveslage-abstain. Motion carried 4-0.

Eittle moved to hire Vernon Fuchs, seconded by T. Hennen. A roll-call vote was taken: Eittle-yes; T. Hennen-yes; Atkinson-yes; Goebel-abstain; Eveslage-yes. Motion carried 4-0.

Sewer Line Televising Results

Council stated, now that Stueve had more help they want to prioritize checking sump pumps so that City Engineer Dave Blommel can compare those results with the results of the sewer televising.

Adjourn

T. Hennen moved, seconded by Eittle to adjourn at 8:45pm. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor, Rodney Atkinson

City Clerk-Treasurer, Adrianna Hennen