



CITY OF FREEPORT

125 Main Street E – PO Box 301 – Freeport, MN 56331 – 320-836-2112 – FAX 320-836-2116
For TTY/TDD Users 1-800-627-3529 or 711 Minnesota Relay Service www.freeportmn.org

August 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, City Attorney Scott Dymoke, City Engineer Dave Blommel

Residents in attendance:

Andrea Ramacher & Vernon Fuchs (720 1st Ave N)
Gerald Meyer (330 8th St SE)
Craig Timp (213 2nd Ave NW)

Heidi Hollenkamp (211 3rd St NE)
Al Williams (308 2nd Ave NW)
Kathleen Murphy (Eagen)

Public Forum

No Comments were made.

Approve Agenda

Goebel moved to approve the agenda with the additions of claims and the 3.2 Liquor license requested by the Rec Club for September 26, 2015; seconded by T. Hennen. Motion carried 5-0.

Consent Agenda

Council questioned “CDL Physical” on the claims list. It was explained to them that this cost was from a year ago and Stueve was promised that this would get paid for by the City.

Reports

Public Works Director Report

Stueve explained that he had been working on checking residents’ sump pumps in town and only had about 30% of the north side of town left. Council stated they want every documented relating to the residents who are compliant, not compliant, and what they have currently in their basements. Stueve also said that he will be discharging the ponds September 1st. Stueve thanked the City for his 6.5 years of working in Freeport, but stated that he will be taking a different position in two weeks.

Engineer Report

Blommel recommended that the sump pumps are the cheapest and easiest “right now” solution to the sanitary sewer systems. Blommel stated that something will eventually need to be done with the pipes, but he doesn’t expect these pipes to get any worse in the upcoming years and that our clay soil is helping the cause.

Attorney Report

Dymoke explained that since the July meeting his biggest focus has been on developing the purchase agreement for an industrial lot with MarVin Enterprise.

Old Business

Play Area Equipment-Al Williams

Williams and Joe Hennen have been checking into purchasing some sport equipment for the Welle Addition park. Currently the City has maintained the area as a grassy space, but Williams is proposing soccer nets, football posts, and volleyball nets. He said that Joe Hennen thought the Rec Club would be willing to donate to the equipment, but is asking that the City budget for the remainder of the costs, which he thought would be able \$1,200. Council agreed that they would put it into the preliminary budget.

Pay Plan

Kathleen Murphy, Murphy Management, presented a pay plan that was started last year, but never completed and with the City having to report wages to the state at the end of the year, this is something that was considered important. Murphy explained that without ranges adopted by the City, the city would have to submit the wages and genders of the employees in 2015 and currently the City would not be in compliance. Murphy explained that if ranges were put into place that would show the maximum earnings for each employee according to the points they were assigned from the state job match instead of exactly what they were earning. This would protect the City. Murphy explained that the previous council had approved ranges and to move through the range would be based upon performance. Murphy provided examples on how the City could implement that portion of the ranges, but wasn't something that needed to be decided upon tonight and wasn't a part of the reporting process to the state. Eittle moved to use ranges for Freeport's pay plan; seconded by Goebel. Motion carried 5-0. After some discussion on how the points were assigned to each position Eittle moved to approve the proposed points for each job and the ranges that correlate; seconded by Eveslage. Motion carried 5-0.

New Business

Senior Citizen Center-Purchase Chairs

Council directed A. Hennen to allocate \$2,000 into the preliminary budget for the purchase of new steal folding chairs for the Senior Citizen Center.

Land Use Plan Proposal

Council directed A. Hennen to allocate \$5,000 into the preliminary budget for the hiring of a land use professional to develop a land use plan for Freeport.

Wellhead Protection Plan

Eveslage moved; seconded by Eittle to update the Wellhead Protection Plan to the current staff and councilmembers. Motion carried 5-0.

Resolution 2015-15

Eittle moved, seconded by Eveslage to approve Resolution 2015-15. Motion carried 4-0 with T. Hennen abstaining.

Public Works Director Position

Eittle moved to e. Public Works Position to New Business with the notification of Stueve's two week notice; seconded by Eveslage. Motion carried 5-0.

Council decided to go through and determine their “wish list” for a Public Works Director. They would like someone within a 12 mile radius and must meet the requirements set forth in the job description. They also stated that the Public Works Director will be required to come to City Council meetings, but will be paid a flat rate of one hour of pay. They agreed to post the job ad in the Beacon, Albany Enterprise, Sauk Centre Herald, and the Dairy Land Peach. They agreed on a application deadline of September 15, and they will make a final decision at the September 29 Regular City Council meeting. Council agreed that they need Stueve to complete the sump pump report in his final weeks here and to make sure that Mike Elfering and Vernon Fuchs no enough that they can cover most of the duties for the two weeks that Freeport will be without a Public Works Director.

Adjourn

Ettle moved, seconded by T. Hennen to adjourn at 9:45pm. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor, Rodney Atkinson

City Clerk-Treasurer, Adrianna Hennen