



CITY OF FREEPORT

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January 4, 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, City Attorney Scott Dymoke, City Engineer Dave Blommel, and Maintenance Assistant Vernon Fuchs.

Residents in attendance:

Andrea Ramacher (720 1st Ave N)
Allen Herdering (218 3rd St NE)
Ashley Feldewerd (New Munich)
Sister Janine Braun
Emily Smith (Melrose)
Kathy Welle (Freeport)

Craig Timp (213 2nd Ave NW)
Gerry Mayers (413 1st Ave N)
Bob Harren (Freeport)
Judy Caveny (New Munich)
Sue Frieler (313 2nd St NW)

Approve Agenda

Eveslage moved, seconded by Eittle to approve to agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

Sacred Heart School Gymnasium

Jim Hemker explained that after the December 29th meeting, he met with his architects and revised the plan for the gymnasium to meet the 30 foot setback, which would avoid having to get a variance. Hemker explained the only thing now is the Board would be asking the council to allow the building to encroach a sewer line by 2.6 feet. Hemker stated that he has been speaking with the City Engineer Dave Blommel to determine a solution.

First Blommel confirmed this sewer line cannot be moved due to the grade of the pipe being as low as already possible. Blommel stated there are two options he would recommend if the council wanted to let the building encroach the sewer line that close. First, Blommel said that he would require the gymnasium footings be deeper than the sewer line. This would remove any structural pressure the gymnasium could have on the pipe. This would also protect the building in the instance the city would have to dig up the sewer line, less of the footings for the gymnasium would be exposed protecting the stability of the building. Blommel stated the second option was the wrap or enclose the sewer line in a steel casing. This method would protect the structural integrity of the pipe as well as making it easier to maintain the pipe, since they city could remove the PVC pipe and replace it without having to dig. Blommel stated that he brought up the first option to make the footings deeper because he thought that would be the cheaper route then encasing the pipe.

Hemker reminded the council that between 1988 and 1993 the Parish grounds were inundated with sewer lines and a main one which can't be moved as Dave Blommel had already mentioned. Hemker questioned what the price was for the parish being too generous. Blommel stated that if the City has to ever dig up this

pipe in the future it will have to be a hand dig, which will cost much more. Blommel stated that could be a price the city has to pay in the future if they allow you to build that close to the sewer line. Council discussed allowing the school to build that close but to get prices at which option was more viable for the Parish and that everything would have to be approved by Blommel before any building were to happen. Atkinson stated that we can always have more of these meetings to keep progress going and to keep everyone informed.

K. Goebel moved to allow the gymnasium to encroach the sewer line, but all building plans would have to be approved by Blommel prior to building, seconded by Eveslage. Atkinson asked for a roll call vote: Atkinson-yes, Ertle-yes, Eveslage-yes, K. Goebel-yes, T. Hennen-yes. Motion carried 5-0.

Adjourn

Ertle moved to adjourn at 7:45, seconded by Eveslage. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor, Rodney Atkinson

City Clerk-Treasurer, Adrianna Hennen