



CITY OF FREEPORT

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November 27, 2018 – Meeting Minutes

A regular meeting of the Freeport City Council was convened at 7:00pm by Acting Mayor Tim Hennen, and councilmembers Mike Eveslage, Ben Ertle and Jake Renneker, present.

Staff in attendance: Clerk-Treasurer Adrianna Hennen, Deputy Treasurer Joan Wall, Public Works Director Loren Goebel, City Engineer Dave Blommel, City Attorney Scott Dymoke, Fire Chief John Gilk, and Assistant Fire Chief Andy Grieve

Others in attendance:

Sarah Blake (1012 3rd Ave SE)

Andrea Ramacher (720 1st Ave N)

Approve Agenda

Renneker moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Ertle. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Hearing – 2019 Budget

T. Hennen opened the public hearing at 7:04pm. No comment was given. The public hearing was closed at 7:06pm.

Open Public Forum

No comment was given.

Consent Agenda

Eveslage requested that A. Hennen look into getting Freeport a credit card through the Freeport Gas. Ertle moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Eveslage. Motion carried 4-0.

Reports

Clerk Report

A. Hennen asked that the council approve moving the date of the regular December meeting from December 25th to December 18th. Ertle moved to move the regular December meeting to December 18th, seconded by Renneker. Motion carried 4-0.

Treasurer Report

No report was given.

Public Works Report

No report was given.

Engineer Report

No report was given.

Attorney Report

Dymoke explained he worked on the rental housing ordinance the past month.

Fire Department Report

Council agreed that they would like to see the balances of the Fire Department fund so they can determine where money should be allocated for the equipment and building fund. These funds will then include funds for turnout gear in the event the fire department is not awarded the FEMA grant. John Gilk informed the council that they should know by about May or June if they will get the grant. The council also agreed that a memo should be included in the packet for the area fire service meeting so that the City's and Townships know what is going on before they attend the meeting.

Ettle moved to approve Resolution 2018-11 Stearns County Fire Chiefs Association Mutual Aid Agreement, seconded by Renneker. Motion carried 4-0.

Old Business

2019 Budget Items

Wall presented the 2019 budget to council and showed them how to use a spread sheet to help determine what they want the final 2019 budget to be depending on net tax capacity rate or the general fund levy. A. Hennen stated that Atkinson wanted each council member to email A. Hennen where they would like to see the final budget for the December council meeting.

Xcel Easement Money

T. Hennen explained the reason behind the EDA's recommendation to keep the \$93,000 in the EDA fund. It was stated that the EDA would like to keep it in the event the city has to develop an area for housing. The idea isn't to try to spend the \$93,000 on getting land but using it wisely in that area. Eveslage moved to put the \$93,000 in the EDA fund, seconded by Ettle. Ettle-yes, Eveslage-yes, T. Hennen-yes, Renneker-yes. Motion carried 4-0.

Ordinance 2018-04 Rental Ordinance

It was questioned if the city should be passing an unfit for habitation ordinance or if the rental ordinance had enough "teeth" in it to uphold the rules. Dymoke explained the rental ordinance should be enough since if the house does not pass inspection it cannot be rented out, thus leaving the owner either having to get it up to passing inspection or not able to rent it out. It was also discussed if there should be a per unit rental fee so that a single family house isn't paying the same fee as the manor. Dymoke explained that can be all discussed and worked out during the time when the fee schedule is reviewed and these items are added, which normally happens at the January meeting. Eveslage moved to approve Ordinance 2018-04, seconded by Renneker. Motion carried 4-0.

Ordinance 2018-05 Rental Ordinance Summary

Renneker moved to approve Ordinance 2018-05, seconded by Ettle. Ettle-yes, Eveslage-yes, T. Hennen-yes, Renneker-yes. Motion carried 4-0.

Parking Ordinance

After some discussion it was decided that trailers should be added to accessory vehicles and that there should be a limit on the number of vehicles parked outside of a home along with a limit on accessory vehicles parked outside in residential. Council asked if they could see what some of their ideas looked like

inside of the current ordinance.

New Business

Hoeschen Rental

Dymoke did not think that this was a use in Industrial. Council agreed that it doesn't go along with Atkinson's normal trade so it shouldn't be allowed.

Ajourn

Ettle moved to adjourn, seconded by Eveslage. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor, Rodney Atkinson

City Clerk-Treasurer, Adrianna Hennen