



## CITY OF FREEPORT

125 Main Street E – PO Box 301 – Freeport, MN 56331 – 320-836-2112  
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### January 28, 2020 – Meeting Minutes

A regular meeting of the Freeport City Council was convened at 7:00pm by Acting Mayor Tim Hennen, and councilmembers Sarah Blake, Ben Ettle, and Jake Renneker.

Members not in attendance: Mayor Mike Eveslage

Staff in attendance: Clerk-Treasurer Joan Wall, City Attorney Scott Dymoke, Fire Chief Andy Grieve.

Others in attendance:

Carol Moorman (Melrose Beacon)  
Jason Hoeschen (1020 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave SE)  
Phil Osendorf (124 2nd St SE)  
Rodney Atkinson (310 8<sup>th</sup> St SE)

Branden Roering (421 1st Ave N)  
Jamie Engelmeyer (208 9<sup>th</sup> St SE)  
Andy Grieve (210 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave NE)

### Approve Agenda

Wall asked to add St Joseph Society temp liquor license to item 4g under Consent Agenda. Ettle moved to approve the agenda with the change, seconded by Renneker. Motion carried 4-0.

### Public Forum

No comment was given.

### Consent Agenda

Ettle moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Blake. Motion carried 4-0.

### Reports

#### Clerk-Treasurer Report

No additional information besides what was included in the agenda.

#### Fire Department Report

Grieve stated the fire department is looking at a possible pay increase of \$1.00 per hour. They have been paid \$12.00 per hour for calls and training since at least 2010. In May they will be hiring two or three firefighters. It has been difficult to find people because the required training hours keep increasing. This will be discussed further at the February 18 area fire service meeting.

Grieve explained that air tanks need to be hydrotested every five years. Tanks have a 15-year lifespan and ours are 16 years old, so they can't be hydrotested anymore. Purchasing 18 air packs and 36 tanks would cost \$118,000. We applied for a FEMA grant to purchase them, but the grant writer isn't optimistic that we

will receive the grant. We won't know about the grant until November. If we purchase the equipment and then receive the grant, we would have to give the grant back.

#### Public Works Report

Ettle asked Wall to check to see if training and support services for the first year are included in the Preferred Controls quote for the SCADA system upgrade.

#### Engineer Report

No report given.

#### Attorney Report

Dymoke stated all his items are included in old business.

#### **Old Business**

##### Ordinance 2020-01 Accessory Structures

Renneker moved to approve Ordinance 2020-01, seconded by Ettle. Motion carried 4-0.

##### Rental Licensing

Hennen stated he spoke with Mayor Eveslage earlier. Eveslage spoke with Melrose police and got copies of their rental housing inspection sheets. Eveslage wonders if the Freeport Fire Department could do the inspections. Grieve said this would be discussed at the next fire department meeting. Melrose police chief Maus is willing to show them how to do it.

A discussion was had regarding Dymoke's opinion letter on the rental ordinance. Dymoke stated any property rented for residential purposes falls under the rental ordinance. The only exemption is for parents and children. Dymoke said Eveslage wondered if it was too restrictive and Dymoke believes we were restrictive on purpose because of a problem house in town where the homeowner lived in the house and rented a room. Osendorf's opinion is that renting one room should be treated the said as renting a whole house. Hennen and Renneker both wondered how we could enforce whether someone was renting a room of their house. Ettle stated he sees the need for safety for renters. Blake noted the ordinance says "no person shall operate rental property..." and stated it seems like renting a room is not the same as operating a rental business. Council directed Dymoke to come up with language to look at to address the issue.

##### Waste Management

After discussion, Council directed Dymoke to draw up language to amend the Waste Management contract by removing commercial accounts from the franchise agreement.

#### **New Business**

##### Resolution 2020-01 - Official Depository FSB

Renneker moved to approve Resolution 2020-01, seconded by Ettle. Motion carried 4-0.

##### Resolution 2020-02 - Official Depository CMCU

Renneker moved to approve Resolution 2020-02, seconded by Ettle. Motion carried 4-0.

##### Resolution 2020-03 - 2019 Donations

Blake moved to approve Resolution 2020-03, seconded by Renneker. Motion carried 4-0.

Resolution 2020-04 - Disbursement and Payment of Claims Policy

Ettle moved to approve Resolution 2020-04, seconded by Renneker. Motion carried 4-0.

2020 Appointments

Renneker moved to approve 2020 Appointments except the wellhead protection committee, seconded by Ettle. Motion carried 4-0.

Ordinance 2020-02 – Fee Schedule

Renneker moved to approve Ordinance 2020-02, seconded by Ettle. Motion carried 4-0.

Resolution 2020-05 – Election Judges

Blake moved to approve Resolution 2020-05, seconded by Ettle. Motion carried 4-0.

Purchase Public Works Vehicle

Hennen moved to approve purchasing the van for \$600 provided Loren test drives it first, seconded by Renneker. Motion carried 4-0.

Adjourn

At 8:43pm, Renneker moved to adjourn, seconded by Ettle. Motion carried 4-0.

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Mayor, Mike Eveslage

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City Clerk-Treasurer, Joan Wall