

Village of Freeport  
Council Meeting Minutes  
December 11, 2023

A regular monthly meeting was held December 11, 2023 at the Freeport Community Center. Village President Bill Andrews called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

Other council members present – Trustees Lani Forbes, Madison Cove, Damon Cove, and Clerk Shari Clark.

Absent - Trustee Shawn Hill and Treasurer Joyce Callihan.

Staff present – Water Operator Duane Weeks, DPW Director Collin Crumback, and Ben Christie.

The minutes of the November 13, 2023 meeting were approved.

No Police Report. Former police email addresses will be set up to auto reply to contact Barry County Sheriff Department or in case of emergency call 911.

No public comment.

Treasurer's report prepared by Callihan was read by D.Cove.

Moved by Forbes and supported by D.Cove to pay monthly bills totaling \$9,080.49. Upon roll call, all voted "Aye". Motion passed.

Water Operator Report was read by Weeks. He is working on the EGLE DWSRF grant application to submit. The sanitary survey of the village water system will be completed December 12, 2023.

DPW Report was read by Crumback. Leaf pick up is done for residents. Park bathrooms are closed for the season. He has sought out additional bids for water line replacement. Former employee Cody Geiger may help with snow plowing this season. Tree removal of one dead tree on Maple Street will be scheduled. Water shut off door hangars will be placed December 12, 2023.

Moved by D.Cove and supported by M.Cove to complete Miss Dig Membership Application for Village of Freeport. Upon roll call, all voted "Aye".

Village Resolution #23-07 AUTHORIZING NON-MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION IMPROVMENTS was offered by Council Member Damon Cove and supported by Council Member Lani Forbes. A plan to replace existing sidewalk on Oak Street will be implemented which will connect to the village park facilities. Upon roll call, the following voted "Aye": Madison Cove, Bill Andrews, Lani Forbes, and Damon Cove. "Nay": *(none)*. Absent: Shawn Hill. Motion passed; President Andrews declared the resolution adopted.

Moved by D.Cove and supported by M.Cove to approve 2024 Meeting Calendars as written. Council meetings to be held on the second Mondays at 7:30 pm and Committee of the Whole (COW) meetings be held on the first Tuesdays at 6:30 pm each month. The annual Budget Hearing will be held February 12, 2024 at 7pm. All in favor, motion passed.

Lani Forbes was officially appointed as President Pro Tempore.

Public comment was heard from Jon Smelker to share updates from Barry County Board of Commissioners.

Announcements – Forbes shared that the village sent a letter of support with Barry County's application for the MSHDA CHILL grant. If approved, this grant will assist residents needing to upgrade their homes.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

The next COW meeting will be January 2, 2024 and regular Council Meeting will be held January 8, 2024.

*Submitted by Shari Clark, Village Clerk*