

Village of Freeport
Council Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2024

A regular monthly meeting of the Freeport Village Council was held May 13, 2024 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, Damon Cove, Treasurer Joyce Callihan, and Clerk Shari Clark. Absent – Trustees Madison Cove & Shawn Hill. Staff present – Water Operator Duane Weeks, DPW Director Collin Crumback, and Brian Allbright.

The minutes of the April 8, 2024 meeting were read and approved. Public comments were heard from Heather Wing running for Barry County Treasurer.

Treasurer's Report was read by Callihan. Moved by Forbes and supported by Cove to pay monthly bills totaling \$10,977.11. Upon roll call, all voted "Aye". Motion passed.

Water Operator Weeks reported that the water system is running as expected. He shared an update on the well house improvements by CSM Mechanical, LLC with anticipated timeline to start early July and completion possibly late August or early September. The Consumers Confidence Report must be distributed to all water bill-paying customers by July 1st due to inadvertently missing collecting the nitrate water sample before 9/30/2022. Samples had been taken 10/11/2022 which met the drinking water standards set by the Safe Drinking Water Act. Effort will be taken to assure monitoring period deadlines will be met.

DPW Report was read by Crumback. Moved by Forbes and supported by Cove to authorize Crumback to select contractor for dumpster rental, expense not to exceed \$1,800.00, for Village Clean Up Day scheduled June 6-8, 2024. Upon roll call, all voted "Aye". Motion passed. Street Poles donated from City of Hastings hauling /storage options, powder coating, underground wiring (coordinated with sidewalk repair), and placement were discussed. Additional research is needed.

Forbes presented two resumés received from potential Police Chief candidates. Moved by Cove and supported by Forbes to hire Timothy Griffin as Freeport Police Chief at a rate of \$25.00 per hour. Upon roll call, all voted "Aye". Motion passed. Griffin was officially sworn in as Chief of Police for Village of Freeport.

Moved by Forbes and supported by Cove to support the 2024 Operating Tax Millage to be levied to reflect the 2024 Headlee Millage Reduction Fraction 0.9798 reducing the current millage to 7.4248. All in favor, motion passed.

Moved by Cove and supported by Forbes to officially accept Walker, Fluke, & Sheldon, PLC CPA's engagement letter to conduct the audit of Village of Freeport's financial statements for the year ended February 29, 2024. All in favor, motion passed.

Forbes presented Superior Asphalt bids to resurface Beech Street \$51,600.00 and St. Johns Street \$49,800.00. Forbes will submit a TEDF grant application, due by June 12th, for this project and will report back to council.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.

The next COW meeting will be held June 4, 2024 at 6:30 pm.
The next regular Council Meeting will be held June 10, 2024 at 7:30 pm.

Submitted by Shari Clark, Village Clerk