

Village of Freeport  
Committee of the Whole  
Minutes  
October 1, 2024

Village President Bill Andrews called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

Other council members present – Trustees Madison Cove, Lani Forbes, Treasurer Joyce Callihan, and Clerk Shari Clark. Absent – Trustees Damon Cove and Shawn Hill.

Staff Members present – DPW Director Collin Crumback, Police Chief Tim Griffin, & Water Operator Duane Weeks.

No Public Comment.

Reports:

**Administration**

DPW applications were presented, resumés will be reviewed at a later time.

Comments were shared from a previous renter of the Community Center with concerns about lack of cleaning. It was noted that other organizations using the hall need to clean up after their use.

Barry Conservation District continues to seek village representatives to serve on the new Materials Management Planning Committee (formerly Solid Waste Oversight Committee). There are no available council members at this time.

Current budget was reviewed, Forbes will review and present any necessary budget amendments at the next council meeting.

Appointments for future vacancies on Village Council will be made.

**Water**

Weeks & Crumback are currently working on the Complete Distribution System Materials Inventory (CDSMI) with intent to complete and present to council at next meeting ready submit to the State (EGLE).

In preparation for replacing lead service lines inventory (per ARP grant) Weeks recommends working with Williams & Works engineers to help set up and obtain information over the winter so that the project is ready to start in the spring. A monthly report must be emailed to reflect if/when there are any expenditures. Forbes offered to assist Crumback submit the reports if needed.

Wellhouse new controls/ improvements are up and running. Weeks recommended a new computer, will research if ARPA funds may be used if any surplus is available.

**Buildings, Streets, & Grounds**

Crumback shared an update on street light poles from City of Hastings, some have been hauled and are being powder coated. Some are in need of repairs, total quantity desired of short & long poles needs to be finalized.

EGLE doesn't allow construction after October, the East Street Bridge project will likely begin in the spring.

One tree removal bid has been received, waiting for one more, which will be reviewed for approval at next council meeting.

Crumback will research electricians regarding horizontal boring for wiring below sidewalks for street lights. expressed the need for additional help, especially with leaf removal soon approaching.

Silversmith data crafting critical information systems - annual service agreement was presented by Crumback. This software can map out the water system which can be viewed on a tablet, record maintenance data, etc. \$571.00 annual hosting fee. This will be researched more. Village of Middleville currently uses this software.

Cemetery Fees were reviewed. Clarification is needed regarding additional fees (winter, weekend, holidays – some which overlap) and non-residential rates. Forbes will research other cemeteries rates for comparison.

**Parks & Recreation**

Thank you from Barry County United Way a “Day of Caring” was received. This event brought 12 volunteers to Freeport. Crumback will submit list expenses for a \$1,000.00 grant reimbursement.

**Police**

Council approved purchase for replacement of television in police office connected to security cameras.

Radar Unit for police vehicle is in need of replacement, recommendation for new unit will be presented for approval at next council meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

The next COW meeting will be held November 5, 2024.

*Submitted by Shari Clark, Village Clerk*