

Village of Freeport
Committee of the Whole
Minutes
February 3, 2026

President Bill Andrews called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.

Others present – Trustees Lani Forbes, Hannah Clewell, & Amanda Faunce, Clerk Shari Clark, Treasurer Joyce Callihan, Water Operator/DPW Director Collin Crumback, and Police Chief Tim Griffin.

Absent – Back Up Water Operator Duane Weeks.

No Public Comment.

Reports:

Administration

WOW contracts for phone & internet will be updated. A new phone line will be added for the police office with a different phone number.

Budget was reviewed. Treasurer will provide updated figures to Forbes to prepare an amended budget for adoption at the upcoming budget hearing.

One Trustee vacancy remains for partial term ending November 3, 2026.

Rehmann will no longer be conducting audits, proposals from other CPA firms will be sought out to perform the village's annual audits.

Renewal options for the TCU CD which will mature 2/16/26 will be considered at the next council meeting.

Zoning Administrator Lani Forbes will update zoning permit case file with a letter from Barry County to document their approval prior to village zoning approval. Steps have been taken by the county to ensure this will not occur again. Their website has been updated to make clear to zoning applicants within the Village of Freeport that they must first obtain zoning approval from the Freeport Zoning Official.

Water

Home inspections and upgrades for galvanized or lead service lines continue.

Williams & Works will report to Crumback work completed.

Lead Line Survey was conducted. Crumback will be documenting an Asset Management Plan, CIP Plan, and Cross Connection Report to comply with requirements.

Forbes has submitted \$12,837.79 additional expenses for the TMF Grant. There are still \$22,000.00 grant funds available but only for eligible expenses such as asset management and outreach & education for residents.

The Annual MRWA Conference will be held March 17-20, 2026 in Mt. Pleasant. Consideration is being given to registering Collin Crumback & Shane Faunce for the full conference including overnight accommodations.

Buildings, Streets, & Grounds

The new garage door for the storage building is on order to be installed soon.

Crumback is waiting on two electrician proposals for the street light poles.

Parks & Recreation

Amanda Faunce has begun taking calls from teams to schedule ball fields for the season.

Police

Chief Griffin mentioned some police officers may submit their resumés to help cover part time on days he is off or for special events.

No Public Comment.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

The next COW meeting will be held March 3, 2026.

Submitted by Shari Clark, Village Clerk