

Village of Freeport
Council Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2026

A regular monthly meeting of the Freeport Village Council was held May 11, 2026 at the Freeport Community Center. Village President Bill Andrews called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm.
All council members present – Trustees Lani Forbes, Amanda Faunce, Hannah Clewell, Treasurer Joyce Callihan, and Clerk Shari Clark. There is one Trustee vacancy.
Staff present – Water Operator / DPW Director Collin Crumback and Back Up Water Operator Duane Weeks.
Absent - Police Chief Tim Griffin.

Moved by Clewell and supported by Faunce to accept the agenda with three additions:
Add New Business Item 3. Duane Weeks, 4. Historical Society, 5. Slide. Motion passed.
The minutes of the April 13, 2026 Council meeting were approved.
Police report submitted by Chief Griffin was reviewed.

No Public Comment.

Treasurer's Report was read by Callihan.
Moved by Forbes and supported by Faunce to pay monthly bills totaling \$29,689.54. Upon roll call, all voted "Aye".
Motion passed.

Water Operator & DPW reports were read by Crumback.
Spring Clean Up dates/times are set for Friday May 29 (10am-7pm) and Saturday May 30, 2026 (9am – 3pm).
Weeks assisted Crumback with EGLE MOR (Monthly Operating Report) for water supplier compliance. Crumback & Shane Faunce took their water operator tests last week. He conducted monthly & annual water testing today. Worked on resolving a couple residential water pressure issues and upgraded some galvanized parts. Will contract with Tubergen for lead service line replacement at five properties before August 2026. East Jordan Ironworks will install storz for three new meters this week (may need to do some flushing). Student volunteers will work in the cemetery May 16, 2026. New foundations will be poured before Memorial Day. A third ton of cold patch has been applied to patch roads. Crumback is researching solutions for deteriorated roads 108th St heading to East St and driveway crossings by the sawmill. Water is turned on at the cemetery. He will start the pickle ball court project over the next two weeks. Still looking into hydraulic cylinder repair/replacement bids.

Village Residents interested in serving as Trustee on the Freeport Village Council to fill a partial term ending November 3, 2026 may submit an application or resumé to freeportclerk@gmail.com or mail to PO Box 10, Freeport, MI 49325. Applicants & nominations will be considered and shall be filled by appointment of the Freeport Village Council.

Moved by Forbes and supported by Faunce to support the 2026 Operating Tax Millage to be levied to reflect the 2026 Headlee Millage Reduction Fraction 0.9737 reducing the current millage to 7.1470. Upon roll call, all voted "Aye". Motion passed.

Forbes reported that Barry County Road Commission laid down some additional dirt & gravel on Hammond Road which made it better, however more is needed. Moved by Faunce and supported by Clewell to approve up to an additional \$5,000.00 for gravel to finish on Hammond Road. Upon roll call, all voted "Aye". Motion passed.

Moved by Forbes and supported by Clewell that due to the reduction in Back Up Water Operator Duane Weeks' hours, his monthly salary will be reduced to \$225.00 effective June 1, 2026. Upon roll call, all voted "Aye". Motion passed.

Village Council authorized Lani Forbes to write a grant application on behalf of the Freeport Historical Society to submit to the Barry Community Foundation/ S.C. Blood Family Fund for projects dedicated to the agricultural heritage of the lives of Barry County residents, celebrating or supporting the legacy of family farms and our close-knit communities.

Clewell is researching sources and will obtain quotes for a new slide for the park. Crumback will get her measurements.

Public Comment was heard from Jon Smelker who shared updates from Barry County Board of Commissioners.
The meeting adjourned at 8:03pm.

The next COW meeting will be held June 2, 2026 at 6:30 pm and regular Council Meeting will be held June 8, 2026 at 7:30 pm.

Submitted by Shari Clark, Village Clerk