

Village of Freeport
Council Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2026

A regular monthly meeting of the Freeport Village Council was held July 13, 2026 at the Freeport Community Center. Village President Bill Andrews called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

All council members present – Trustees Lani Forbes, Amanda Faunce, Hannah Clewell, Treasurer Joyce Callihan, and Clerk Shari Clark. There remains one Trustee vacancy.

Staff present – Police Chief Tim Griffin and DPW staff Shane Faunce & Brian Allbright.

Absent - Water Operator / DPW Director Collin Crumback and Back Up Water Operator Duane Weeks

Moved by Clewell and supported by A.Faunce to approve the June 8, 2026 minutes. Motion passed.

Police Report was read by Chief Griffin. Zoning violations report was reviewed, letters have been mailed out. The State of Michigan has mandated that all police radios be encrypted. The current one cannot be upgraded.

Moved by Forbes and supported by A.Faunce to approve \$12,682.27 encrypted radio quote from Chrouh Communications, Inc. plus \$6,574.40 for a second radio for a total cost of \$19,256.67. Upon roll call, all voted "Aye". Motion passed.

Moved by A.Faunce and supported by Forbes to approve Blough Automotive Patrol Car Repair quote \$1,284.70. Upon roll call the following voted "Aye": A.Faunce, Forbes, and Andrews. "Abstain": Clewell. Motion passed.

Public Comment was heard from Jon Smelker to share updates from Barry County Board of Commissioners and on behalf of the Freeport Historical Society thanked the village for use of the Community Center for the Freeport Alumni Reunion.

Shane Faunce thanked everyone from the community who helped with the recent storm damage.

Kathy Kunde asked council to consider options to remedy the brush issue at the cemetery, suggested turning administration & enforcement of zoning over to the county, and made update suggestions for the village website.

Treasurer's Report was read by Callihan.

Moved by Forbes and supported by A.Faunce to pay monthly bills totaling \$9,040.55. Upon roll call, all voted "Aye". Motion passed.

Village Trustee Applications from Michael Underwood and Alex Hobday were reviewed by council.

Moved by Forbes and supported by A.Faunce to accept the draft Village Rezoning Application. Suggested additions & changes will be made. All in favor, motion passed.

Hannah Clewell offered RESOLUTION #26-02 TO ADOPT REZONING APPLICATION FEE and supported by Amanda Faunce which sets the Rezoning Application Fee at \$350.00 to defray costs of processing in accordance with the requirements of the Village Zoning Ordinance. Upon roll call, all voted "Aye". Motion passed. President Andrews declared the resolution adopted.

Forbes is currently working with the state on submitting the MDOT TEDF Grant bid specifications to resurface Warren & Maple Streets to be placed up for bid over three weeks. Opening of bids will be scheduled. She would like the project completed by September 30, 2026.

Public comment was heard from Brian Allbright sharing appreciation of coworker Ben Christie who just celebrated his 87th birthday. He also shared that Peter Vanderbrook just passed away this morning.

President Andrews announced that Hannah Clewell has submitted her letter of resignation due to moving outside of the village next month. Council expressed appreciation to her for her time served since November 2024 as Village Trustee. Moved by A.Faunce and supported by Forbes to accept her resignation. All in favor, motion passed.

Moved by Forbes and supported by A.Faunce to appoint Michael Underwood and Alex Hobday to fill the two vacant Trustee terms until the next election. All in favor, motion passed. They were officially sworn in by the Clerk.

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.

The next COW meeting will be held August 4, 2026 at 6:30 pm and regular Council Meeting will be held August 10, 2026 at 7:30 pm.

Submitted by Shari Clark, Village Clerk