

Village of Freeport
Committee of the Whole
Minutes
September 1, 2026

President Bill Andrews called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm.

Others present – Trustees Amanda Faunce, Alex Hobday, Michael Underwood & Lani Forbes, Clerk Shari Clark, and Treasurer Joyce Callihan. Staff present – Shane Faunce.

Absent – Police Chief Tim Griffin, Water Operator/DPW Director Collin Crumback, and Back Up Water Operator Duane Weeks.

No Public Comment.

Reports:

Administration

Employee Pay Raises will be discussed at next meeting which may be based on a current pay study.

Freeport uses BSA.Net program which allows only Treasurer to access current tax and water balances on one computer. Callihan researched options and expense to upgrade but costs are significant. Options will be explored over the next couple of years.

Clark presented BHS commercial insurance renewal proposal, with a rate increase about 8%. Listed equipment was reviewed and will be updated. Clerk will be meeting with the insurance representative on September 3, 2026.

Water

Door hangers with shut off notices were discussed due to a recent dog incident. A letter will be sent to that specific address to explain that the courtesy door hangers will no longer be delivered to that residence.

Forbes shared an update on the LSLR Grant, final expenses must be submitted by September 15, 2026. Available funds \$10,495.07 specific to outreach, education, & planning remain.

Buildings, Streets, & Grounds

Council is considering posting seeking bids for electrician/street light pole placement and sidewalks. Forbes will reach out to Evan's Electric.

Rubber Sealer for roof maintenance expenses will be brought to council for approval.

The MDOT TEDF Grant for Warren & Maple Streets \$50,700.00 was awarded towards the project. Milling is scheduled to begin September 22nd and Paving on September 23rd. Forbes notified all the affected businesses and posted notice on the village Facebook page.

Parks & Recreation

Barry County United Way Day of Caring projects will take place on September 17, 2026. They have around 500 volunteers. Some funds are also available to cover materials. Freeport has not yet submitted any project requests. Amanda Faunce will submit a request to finish the Pickle Ball Courts.

Police

(no new business).

No Public Input.

The meeting adjourned at 7:24 pm.

The next COW meeting will be held October 6, 2026.