

Council Minutes
Regular Session
Tuesday, March 21, 2023

The Freeman City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at 6:30 pm at City Hall in Freeman. Mayor Michael Walter called the meeting to order and the following members were present: Charles Gering, Blaine Saarie, Tabitha Schoenwald, Clifford Tjaden and Steve Waltner. Also attending were Finance Officer Lisa Edelman, Scott Brewer, Duane Walters and Carol Eisenbeis, Anna Arnold, Josh Arnold, Raymond Arnold, Scott Stern, Ron Stover, Todd VanMaanen, Ted Brands and Amy Cummings.

Anna Arnold representing the Department of South Dakota VFW, presented a donation in the amount of \$11,827.17 to the City of Freeman for the upkeep and maintenance of the veteran’s memorial. This money was from the remaining funds of the local VFW Wilde Post #3728 that is no longer active.

Equalization Board

At 6:33 S. Waltner moved to convene as the Board of Equalization to hear requests for property value adjustments. Saarie seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Equalization Meeting
 Tuesday, March 21, 2023

Members present: City Council – Charles Gering, Blaine Saarie, Tabitha Schoenwald, Clifford Tjaden, Steve Waltner and Mayor Michael Walter.

Members absent: City Council – Elizabeth Waltner and School Board Representative

There were no written requests for equalization received. S. Waltner declared the Board of Equalization adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Minutes

S. Waltner moved to accept the minutes of the March 7, 2023 regular meeting as presented. Schoenwald seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Vouchers

Tjaden moved to approve the vouchers listed below. Saarie seconded the motion. Roll call: all votes aye.

ACUSHNET, resale	263.50	KARL KUSTOMS, equipment	226.56
AFLAC, employee insurance	459.92	OFFICE ALLEY, monthly subscription	35.00
ARROW MFG, install power load	1900.00	PHEASANTLAND INDUSTRIES, supplies	184.38
CENTURY BUSINESS PRODUCTS, copy fees	136.10	SPIN LIFE, pool lift	5684.07
EMERGENCY MEDICAL PRODUCTS, supplies	343.14	TWO WAY SOLUTIONS, repair	255.22
FIRSTNET, police cell phone	199.50	US BANK TRUST, lagoon loan	16668.22
FREEMAN REGIONAL HEALTH, nursing staff	117.91	WELLMARK, health insurance	13027.26
HEIMAN, annual service	2941.95	WIEMAN AUCTION, mower	8100.00
JH DIESEL & AG REPAIR, repairs	443.10		
		VOUCHER TOTAL	50985.83

Dakota Protein Solutions

Scott Stern updated the council on what will be needed to pipe the well water to their site. The group is now asking the council to set a water rate. The council asked several questions of the group and then stated that they would discuss the water rate in executive session and get the city attorney involved in the contract negotiation.

Golf Course Rates

Mayor Walter updated the council on the recommended rates by the golf course board for the 2023 season. Tjaden moved to approve the rates with the recommended adjustments. Saarie seconded the motion. Roll call: all votes aye.

Annual Report

Tjaden moved to accept the annual report as presented. Gering seconded the motion. Roll call: all votes aye.

Marketing & Development Report

The marketing & development report was given to the council.

Other Business

Tjaden: Asked about the odd colored light on 6th Street. Edelman will call Muth Electric about a possible repair.

Saarie: Informed the group that he has a call into Northwestern Energy about the placement of the lights on Main Street. Asked that the pot holes be fixed as soon as the weather permits. Informed the council that he had a meeting at the rubble site to discuss the possibility of having the excess cement and asphalt crushed for city use.

Brewer: Gave an update on street sign replacement project. Informed the council that the grant for radios was approved at 100%.

Walter: Requested that the police adjust their hours to accommodate the additional people in town for Schmeckfest. Asked about grass seeding on Main Street and some repair on 6th Street.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Freeman City Council will take place on Tuesday, April 4, 2023 at 6:30 pm.

Executive Session

S. Waltner moved to go into Executive Session at 7:13 pm pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) personnel and SDCL 1-25-2(4) contract negotiation. Schoenwald seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Saarie declared out of executive session at 8:27 pm.

Hire Seasonal Personnel

Saarie moved to hire the following seasonal personnel at a rate of \$12.60/hour: Todd Graber, Josh Andersen, Ted Pidde, Neil Zachariasen, Jim Rigo, Kevan Sanders, Karli Harberts, Jane Hermsen, Natalie Arens, Morgan Edelman, Brooklyn Mendel, Taylor Hermsen, Chet Hermsen, Gail Letcher, Brad Letcher and Samuel Gering. Tjaden seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Adjournment

Tjaden moved to adjourn at 8:28 pm. Schoenwald seconded motion. All votes aye.

Lisa Edelman, Finance Officer

Michael Walter, Mayor