
**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT
SEPTEMBER 11, 2017**

The Regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Freeport was held on Monday, September 11, 2017, at the Housing Authority of the City of Freeport Administrative Office in the Empowerment Center located at 1052 W. Galena Avenue, Freeport, Illinois at 12:00 p.m. Chair Jennifer Smith-Norman called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present and responded to roll call: Chair Jennifer Smith-Norman, Commissioner Becker, Commissioner Rhymer, Commissioner Schulz, Commissioner Greta Harrell.

Members absent: Vice Chair Samuel Newton and Commissioner Patrick McDermott.

Also present: None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Smith Norman requested that Agenda Items 5 Approval of Minutes and 7 Payables Review be tabled until the next meeting.

Commissioner Schulz moved, second by Commissioner Rhymer to approve the agenda, as amended for the September 11, 2017, special meeting. On voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

AT 12:02 P.M., VICE CHAIR NEWTON ENTERED THE MEETING.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Schulz read a letter from Mr. Larry Williams.

Ms. Vicki Brinker read a statement sharing concerns about the future of the HACF.

ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF CEO MR. LARRY WILLIAMS

Commissioner Schulz moved, second by Commissioner Rhymer, to accept the resignation of Mr. Larry Williams. Roll call was as follows:

Newton:	Aye	Rhymer:	Aye	Harrell:	Aye
Becker:	Aye	Schulz:	Aye	Smith Norman:	Aye

Chair Smith Norman declared the motion passed.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF GENERAL COUNSEL

Discussion was held on the appointment of general counsel. Commissioner Schulz shared concerns about not rating the two RFQ's. Chair Smith Norman expressed the immediate need of general counsel considering the position that the HACF is in.

Commissioner Rhymer moved, second by Commissioner Becker, to approve the appointment of Meyer and Horning, P.C. and the Law Offices of Michael J. Phillips to serve as legal counsel for the Housing Authority of the City of Freeport. Roll call was as follows:

Becker	Aye	Schulz:	Nay	Smith-Norman:	Aye
Rhymer:	Aye	Harrell:	Aye	Newton	Nay

Chair Smith Norman declared the motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 12:07 p.m., Commissioner Rhymer moved, second by Commissioner Schulz to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of the following:

The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. 5ILCS 120/2(C)(11)

On roll call, the following members voted:

Rhymer	Aye	Harrell:	Aye	Newton	Aye
Schulz:	Aye	Smith-Norman:	Aye	Becker	Aye

Chair Smith Norman declared the motion passed.

Open Session

At 12:40 p.m., Commissioner Schulz moved, second by Commissioner Rhymer to return to open session. On roll call, the following members voted:

Schulz	Aye	Smith-Norman:	Aye	Becker	Aye
Harrell:	Aye	Newton:	Aye	Rhymer	Aye

Chair Smith Norman declared the motion passed.

APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Commissioner Rhymer moved, second by Commissioner Becker, to approve the appointment of Ms. Babette Jamison-Varner to serve as Interim Director for the Housing Authority of the City of Freeport. Roll call was as follows:

Harrell	Aye	Newton:	Aye	Rhymer:	Aye
Smith-Norman:	Aye	Becker:	Aye	Schulz	Nay

Chair Smith Norman declared the motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be conducted at this special meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Freeport, Commissioner Becker moved, second by Commissioner Rhymer to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously, and at 12:43 p.m., Chair Smith-Norman declared the meeting adjourned.

Jennifer Smith-Norman
Chair of the Board of Commissioners
Housing Authority of the City of Freeport

ATTEST:

Greta Harrell
Secretary Pro-Tem/Commissioner
Housing Authority of the City of Freeport