

State of Texas

County of Brazoria

City of Freeport, Texas

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the City Council and the Economic Development Corporation of the City of Freeport met on Monday, July 16th, 2012 at 6:05 p.m., at the Freeport Police Department, Municipal Court Room, 430 North Brazosport Boulevard, for the purpose of considering the following agenda items:

City Council: Norma Moreno Garcia
Michelle Kent
Fred Bolton
Sandra Loeza
Sandra Barbree

Staff: Jeff Pynes, City Manager
Gilbert Arispe, Asst. City Manager
Wallace Shaw, City Attorney
Delia Munoz, City Secretary
Nat Hickey, Property Manager
Ty Morrow, Police Chief
Brian Davis, Fire Chief
Bob Welch, Finance Director
Larry Fansher, Park Director

Planning Commission: Tobey Davenport
Jesse Aguilar

Economic Development Corporation: James A. Barnett, Jr.
Brooks Bass
Kenney Kouches
Lila Diehl
Mingo Marquez
Willie Garcia
Roy Yates

Visitors: Wright Gore, II
Dorothy Pirrung
Lila Lloyd
Carol Rangel
Beth Gore
Joyce Adkins
Jim Pirrung
Annette Sanford
Officer Paul Rodriguez
Sandra Barnett

Call to order.

Mayor Norma Garcia called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Invocation.

Chief Morrow offered the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Norma Garcia led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consideration on of approving the July 2nd, 2012 Council Minutes.

On a motion by Councilwoman Barbree, seconded by Councilwoman Kent, with all present voting "aye", Council unanimously approved the July 2nd, 2012 Council Minutes.

Attending citizens and their business.

Joyce Adkins asked who and how the agendas are send to the "Facts" newspaper. Delia Munoz City Secretary answered by email.

Consideration of approving Ordinance No. 2012-2315 declaring that unvaccinated cats and dogs running at large within said City constitute a nuisance which should be abated as provided therein; amending Sections 90-01 to prohibit animals running at large and to define and declare certain animal to be nuisance animals and prohibit the keeping of such animals; to add a new Section 90.41.1 specifying the manners in which cats must be kept; amending Section 90.43 to provide for the seizure and impoundment of cats and dogs at large; amending Section 90.44 treatment and care of impounded cats and dogs; amending Section 90.45 to provide for the redemption of impounded cats and dogs; amending Section 90.46 providing for redemption fees; amending Section 90.47 to provide for owner liability for costs; amending Section 90.48 limiting the number of cats and dogs that may be kept within the City.

On a motion by Councilman Bolton, seconded by Councilwoman Kent, with all present voting "aye", Council unanimously approved Ordinance No. 2012-2315 declaring that unvaccinated cats and dogs running at large within said City constitute a nuisance which should be abated as provided therein; amending Sections 90-01 to prohibit animals running at large and to define and declare certain animal to be nuisance animals and prohibit the keeping of such animals; to add a new Section 90.41.1 specifying the manners in which cats must be kept; amending Section 90.43 to provide for the seizure and impoundment of cats and dogs at large; amending Section 90.44 treatment and care of impounded cats and dogs; amending Section 90.45 to provide for the redemption of impounded cats and dogs; amending Section 90.46 providing for redemption fees; amending Section 90.47 to provide for owner liability for costs; amending Section 90.48 limiting the number of cats and dogs that may be kept within the City.

Consideration of approving Resolution No. 2012-2396 appointing a qualified person to fill the unexpired term of Stoney Burke of the Brazosport Water Authority.

On a motion by Councilwoman Kent, seconded by Councilwoman Barbree, with all present voting "aye", Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 2012-2396 reappointing Stanley Burke to the Brazosport Water Authority.

Consideration of approving a pay policy for exempt and non-exempt employees in the event of a Disaster Declaration, State of Emergency, and/or a long Term Emergency determined by the Mayor or City Manager.

This item was reagedned.

Consideration of approving and awarding the bids for trading lots owned by the City located outside of the Urban Renewal Project for lots located within the Urban Renewal project.

On a motion by Councilwoman Kent, seconded by Councilwoman Barbree, with all present voting "aye", Council unanimously approved and awarded the bids to the Jordan Family Trust, Jessie Lee Jordan, Trustee, offers to trade to the City of Freeport the following described property owned by the bidder; all located in the Velasco Townsite, City of Freeport.

Block 59, Lots 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22
Block 581, Lot 5
Block 647, Lot 3
Block 694, Lot 2

In exchange for the following property owned by the City of Freeport; all located in the Velasco Townsite, City of Freeport:

Block 623 , Lot 5
Block 729, Lot 19
Block 731, Lot 1,2,7 & 18
Block 744, Lot 16
Block 766, Lot 20
Block 787, Lots 10 & 13

Consideration of approving and awarding the bids for the demolition of a residential structure, known as 523 S. Ave. G., held by the City in trust.

This item was reagendaed.

Consideration of approving and awarding the bids for the City of Freeport Central Lift Station Rehabilitation.

This item was reagendaed.

Work Session:

Joint Public Hearing

Discussion regarding vision/Master Plan for the City of Freeport.

The Planning Commission had no quorum.

There being a quorum with the Economic Development Corporation, Mayor Garcia opened the Joint Public Hearing at 6:20 p.m.

Jeff Pynes City Manager presented Council with the latest Comprehensive Master Plan for Freeport dated 1964. He recommended implementing a Review Committee to review and evaluate the current Master Plan or look for a professional consultant. The Review Committee could consist of two members from the EDC, two from the Planning Commission and two public officials, and two from Urban Renewal, and two more from the private citizens.

Tobey Davenport from the Planning Commission suggested having a preliminary hearing with professional consultants once a committee is organized. He suggested Council budget money for consultants authorized travel/planning services with proposed developers. The Urban Renewal project needs development and to actively market mix use development to proposed developers. He would like to see Council take the lead on the Urban Renewal project.

Jim Barnett, Jr. thanked Council for the opportunity to discuss the city Master Plan. He stated that the City Charter directs the Planning Commission to formulate a master plan for the City. He is very concern over the Urban Renewal project, population is the most important thing to a municipality. The City that does not grow in population; dies. He would like to see the Urban Renewal project be developed for mainly residential use and some commercial development. He would like the properties be conveyed to Economic Development Corporation. The EDC has powers that the City does not have, allowing the EDC more flexibility to market. He advised Council to hire a management company or consultant/professional market team to actively market the Urban Renewal properties to developers. Mr. Barnett believed that in 2001 there was a conceptual plan for the Urban Renewal project. It included 535 homes sites, park, walk and jog trail, skate board park and a nine hole golf course. He requested Nat Hickey provide a copy to Council.

Brooks Bass of Economic Development Corporation born and raised in Freeport observed four buses coming out of the surrounding plants. The City is in dire need of housing. The latest news is that Dow Chemical and Chevron Philips is expanding, people will need housing. He commended Nat Hickey for the accomplishment on the Urban Renewal project. He is looking forward on working together and sharing ideas to make this endeavor a success.

Councilman Bolton challenged the Committees to list five priorities that are important to the city.

Jim Barnett, Jr. representing the Economic Development Corporation closed the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

There being no more discussion from Council and audience Mayor Garcia closed the Joint Public Hearing at 6:53 p.m.

Discussion regarding a request by Ms. Juanita Gonzales of 1704 N. Ave. G. to replace the Yield Sign on the corner of North Ave. G and Varner with a Stop Sign.

This item was reagendaed.

Preparation for upcoming 2012-2013 budget process.

Jeff Pynes City Manager presented Council a schedule for the fiscal year 2012-2013 budget. He has scheduled meetings with department directors on getting projections for the budget.

Mayor Garcia requested Jerry Meeks of Veolia Water be involved with the budget process for input on the sewer lift station. She also requested the Directors meet with Council for reviewing their budget items.

Adjourn

On a motion by Councilwoman Kent, seconded by Councilwoman Barbree, with all present voting "aye", Council adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Mayor Norma M. Garcia
City of Freeport, Texas

City Secretary-Delia Munoz
City of Freeport, Texas