

State of Texas

County of Brazoria

City of Freeport

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the City Council of the City of Freeport, met on Monday July 18, 2016 at 6:00 p.m., at the Freeport Police Department, Municipal Court Room, 430 North Brazosport Boulevard, Freeport Texas for the purpose of considering the following agenda items:

City Council: Mayor Norma Moreno Garcia
Councilman Larry L. McDonald
Councilman Fred Bolton
Councilwoman Nicole Mireles
Councilwoman Sandra Barbree

Staff: Jeff Pynes, City Manager
Gilbert Arispe, Assistant City Manager
Delia Munoz, City Secretary
Wallace Shaw, City Attorney
Dan Pennington, Police Chief

Visitors: Phyllis Saathoff Ravi Singhanian
Jason Hull Al Durel
Shane Pirtle Rudy Santos
Diana Kile Rheda Valrey
David Terry Jerry Meeks
Sam Reyna Jim Barnett
Larry Fansher Vivian Alford
Manning Rollerson Scott Click
Bill Morris Melanie Oldham
Gina Adams Landis Adams
Moby Burr ridge Evelyn Burr ridge
Troy Brimage Sabrina Brimage
Bill Merritt Mike Dobson
Kenny Verner Kelly Tobias
Felicia Harris Carmen Read
Jarvis Davis Johnathan Sublet
Desiree Pearson Annett Sanford
Marcus Lincoln Santos Aluiso
Donna Hayes

Call to order.

Mayor Norma Moreno Garcia called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Invocation.

Johnathan Sublet, Servant Pastor from the Cross Over Community Church offered the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Norma Moreno Garcia led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attending citizens and their business.

Manning Rollerson's concern is the speed of trucks on 2nd Street. He was almost run over and jumped in the ditch. He is in agreement that policemen are pulling over citizens running the stop sign on Yellowstone and Ave. O.

Ruben Renobato of 1507 W. 2nd Street conducted a door to door demographic and information survey of the families and property owners. He spoke to 150 families and they have concerns of losing their homes, wants to provide for the needs of their family, and wants to be treated fairly. He asked that when the two entities discuss the East End to consider their wellbeing.

Vivian Alford lives on East End is concerned if they're going to take her house away.

Douglas Domingues stated that on July 11, 2016 Council meeting, a motion was made concerning the City Managers to negotiate a contract not to exceed 3 years, the City Attorney should have acknowledged a violation of the City Charter , Section 4.01 City Manager.

Rita Valrey spoke in behalf of her mother, born in 1927 said her mom is 90 years old and lives on East 6th Street. Her concern is the pot holes on East 6th Street. The Port offered to buy her mother's property or swap properties, along with 19 other residents as well. The streets need to be repaired.

Kelly Tobias's main concern is the negativity of the City. Some time ago her husband signed a petition and found out later that he was lied to. She is in favor of the Sports Complex and asked Council and the citizens to stay positive.

Troy Brimage concurred with Kelly Tobias. He asked that we stop bashing each other and stop running the City down and to stop negative remarks being said. Kidfest was celebrated with hundreds of kids, held at downtown Memorial Park and was a great event.

Melanie Oldham of 922 West 5th Street asked why we had to have a contract for the City Manager. She conducted a survey on surrounding cities on the employment of City Managers most are hired at will with no agreement. She asked for Mr. Shaw to look into this.

Carmen Read is the Director of the Memorial Day Care and nonprofit organization for twenty five years. She thanked the City for being supporters of services. She thanked Council for opening the Freeport Museum for educational activities. The children spoke highly of Kidfest which was free, a joyful event for children that cannot afford to pay. She is grateful and announced that Council is doing a great job.

Consideration of approving July 11, 2016 Council Minutes.

On a motion by Councilman McDonald, seconded by Councilwoman Barbree, with all present voting "Aye", Council unanimously approved the July 11, 2016 Council Minutes.

Mayor Garcia closed the Open Session at 6:29 p.m. to open the Executive Session.

Mayor Garcia reopened the Open Session to hear comments from Port Freeport.

Consideration of approving Ordinance No. 2016-2119 declaring the use of the Public Streets authorized in Item (19) of Division (C) of Section 76.02 of the Code of Ordinances of said City to transport cargo, as defined in Section 76.01 of said Code, on Yaupon Street, between East Fourth Street and East Second Street, and on East Second Street, between Navigation Boulevard (F.M. 1495) and Terminal Street, constitutes a public nuisance which should be abated, amending Item (19) of Division (C) of Section 76.02 of said Code to exclude the use of East Second Street and any other street or highway within the City to transport cargo between Navigation Boulevard and Terminal Street, amending Division (C) of Section 76.02 of said Code to add a new item (30) to provide a route for transportation cargo East of Navigation Boulevard (F.M. 1495) within the City.

No action taken

Mayor Garcia reopened the Open Session to hear comments from Port Freeport.

Phyllis Saathoff Executive Director of Port Freeport and Jason Hull talked about the joint efforts between Port Freeport and the City of Freeport on rerouting truck traffic. Ms. Saathoff and Port Commissions are committed and proposing a Letter of Intent to the City. Proposing splitting the cost of repairs to 2nd Street and Sycamore, making improvements to 5th Street, Terminal and 2nd Street, needing a signed agreement from the City authorizing the improvements. The use of 5th Street and Terminal until construction starts, use 2nd and Sycamore for inbound trucks and Port main gate for outbound loads, use 5th Street and Terminal as temporary truck route, until remaining properties can be acquired and a new gate built.

Manning Rollerson maintains that he is not selling to the Port and has been threaten by Eminent Domain for his property.

Phyllis Saathoff stated that they are making offers to residents and that there are not being coerced.

Reuben Renobato asked why the tax payers would pay half of the cost of the repairs if the Port was responsible for destroying the roads.

David Terry of VIT, Inc. has a business on East 2nd and Terminal Street for over 65 years. Shutting down the road would terminate their business. He recognizes the problem and safety of families, any consideration given is appreciated.

Scott Glick has the same concern that Mr. Terry stated. The closing of 2nd Street would have a negative impact on their businesses.

Mr. Tim Vernor of Vernor Material Equipment feels that since they are the number one customer with the Port, feels that it is their trucks they are complaining about. It would be a hardship for them and very costly, hoping for a resolution and maintain an entrance for trucks.

Felicia Harris representing Freeport Launch and Old River Marine recommends that the City work with the Port for alternatives on the truck routes.

Consideration of approving the sale of City's interest on Block 718, Lots 21-22 (undivided 50% interest) Velasco Townsite, known as 1727-1729 North Ave. P, Tax Id No. 8110- 3120-000.

This item was reagendaed.

Consideration of taking action on any items discussed in Executive Session.

Mayor Norma Garcia closed the Executive Session and reconvenes the Open Session at 7:34 p.m. to motion.

On a motion by Councilwoman Mireles, seconded by Councilman McDonald, with all present "Aye", Council unanimously approved the City Manager to renegotiate a Letter of Intent with provision with Port Freeport.

Work Session: Mayor Norma M. Garcia opened the Work Session at 7:10 p.m.

Brazosport Water Authority representative expires in August 2016.

Mr. Pynes advises Council that Mr. Ron Wise's term will expire in August.

2nd Community Input for Fiscal Year 2016-2017.

No comments received.

Mayor Garcia closed the Work Session at 7:12 p.m. and opened the Executive Session.

Executive Session:

Section 551.071, Government Code:

Consultation with City Attorney concerning pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers or other matters in which his duty to the City Council under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with Chapter 551, Government Code, to wit:

- Port Freeport

Section 551.074, Government Code:

Deliberations concerning the duties, employment, evaluation, employment contract of a public officer or employee:

- City Manager

Mayor Norma Garcia closed the Executive Session and reconvenes the Open Session at 7:34 p.m. to motion.

Adjourn

On a motion by Councilwoman Barbree, seconded by Councilman Bolton, with all present voting “Aye”, Mayor Norma M. Garcia adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Mayor Norma Moreno Garcia
City of Freeport, Texas

City Secretary Delia Munoz
City of Freeport, Texas