

State of Texas

County of Brazoria

City of Freeport

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the Freeport City Council met on Monday September 8, 2014 at 6:15 p.m. at the Freeport Municipal Court Room, Police Department, 430 North Brazosport, Freeport Texas for the purpose of considering the following agenda items:

City Council: Mayor Norma M. Garcia – Absent
Councilman Larry L. McDonald
Councilman Fred Bolton
Councilwoman Sandra Loeza
Councilwoman Sandra Barbree

Staff: Jeff Pynes, City Manager
Gilbert Arispe, Assistant City Manager
Delia Munoz, City Secretary
Wallace Shaw, City Attorney
Nat Hickey, Property Manager
Bob Welch, Finance Director
Brian Davis, Fire Chief
Dan Pennington, Police Chief
Larry Fansher, Parks Director
Kola Olayiwola, Building Inspector
Loni Kershaw, Human Resources

Visitors: Glenda Fansher Danny Gillchriest
Melanie Oldham Annette Sanford
Nicole Mireles Sam Reyna
Ed Garcia Jerry Meeks

Call to order.

Mayor Pro Tem Fred Bolton called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Invocation.

Wallace Shaw offered the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Pro Tem Fred Bolton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consideration of approving the September 2, 2014 First Tax Rate Public Hearing Minutes.

On a motion by Councilwoman Barbree, seconded by Councilwoman Loeza, with all present voting "Aye", Council unanimously approved the September 2, 2014 First Tax Rate Public Hearing Minutes.

Consideration of approving the September 2, 2014 Council Minutes.

On a motion by Councilwoman Barbree, seconded by Councilwoman Loeza, with all present voting "Aye", Council unanimously the September 2, Council Minutes.

Attending citizens and their business.

There were none.

Public Hearing – Proposed budget for fiscal year 2014-2015.

Mayor Pro Tem Fred Bolton opened the Public Hearing on the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 at 6:16 p.m.

Mr. Pynes explained that Council and staff had two lengthy workshops reviewing the proposed budget. He presented council with a Power Point presentation of the proposed \$18,186,543.00 budget. He reviewed the General Fund Accounts and total Revenue Analysis and explained why some Departments were increasing and some were decreasing. Mr Pynes also reviewed the Employee Pay Plan.

Councilman Larry McDonald asked why the City had plans for repairing East 6th Street, if the Port Freeport is continuing acquiring east end property. He thought it was a waste of money. He asked that it be reviewed. He asked when Waste Management contract expires. Mr. Pynes stated that Waste Management contract expires in June 2015.

Mayor Pro Tem Fred Bolton questioned the capital expenditure of \$157,000 for an ambulance. Chief Davis explained that the city now has 4 ambulances. There are times when two are down or in the shop and two are running. A new ambulance cost over \$200,000 with bells and whistles. A good quality ambulance is about \$157,000. They often have 3 ambulances on the road.

Councilman McDonald asked for the interest on the unrestricted fund balance of \$6,180,000. Mr. Welch answered that TEXPOOL offers less than 1%.

Councilman McDonald commented that he was not approving the proposed budget because of the increase in water & sewer rates and taxes.

Edward Garcia, Chairman of the Planning Commission asked if the propose budget had \$15,000 allocated for help in developing a master plan. Mr. Pynes stated that he will work with the Planning Commission and get more details and the cost of a master plan before presenting to council.

Mayor Pro Tem Fred Bolton closed the Public Hearing at 6:49 p.m.

Consideration of approving Ordinance No. 2014-2071 adopting a budget for the fiscal year 2014-2015 for the City of Freeport.

On a motion by Councilwoman Loeza, seconded by Councilwoman Barbree, with all present voting 3 to 1, Council approved the Ordinance No. 2014-2071 adopting a budget for the fiscal year 2014 – 2015 for the City of Freeport.

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| Record Vote Taken: | Mayor Norma Garcia | <u>Absent</u> |
| | Councilman Larry McDonald | <u>No</u> |
| | Councilman Fred Bolton | <u>Yes</u> |
| | Councilwoman Sandra Loeza | <u>Yes</u> |
| | Councilwoman Sandra Barbree | <u>Yes</u> |

Consideration of approving Ordinance No. 2014-2072 amending Sections 52.15 and 52.16 of the Code of Ordinances of said City to increase the rates for water and sewer and water only services set forth therein for services furnished on or after October 1, 2014 to industrial facilities, offices and other commercial establishments, residences and customers located in inside and outside the corporate limits of the city.

Councilman Bolton asked for this item to be restructured so that the residence not pays for the increase rates.

Councilwoman Loeza asked to revisit this item.

On a motion by Councilwoman Barbree to approve Ordinance No. 2014-2072, motion died for lack of a second.

Consideration of approving Ordinance No. 2014-2073 authorizing the offering of health benefits coverage to the City of Freeport retirees; repealing all ordinances in conflict; providing and open meeting clause; and providing an effective date.

On a motion by Councilman McDonald, seconded by Councilwoman Barbree, with all present voting “Aye”, Council unanimously approved No. 2014-2073 authorizing the offering of health benefits coverage to the City of Freeport retirees; repealing all ordinances in conflict; providing and open meeting clause; and providing an effective date.

Mayor Pro Tem opened the Executive Session at 6:55 p.m.

Executive Session:

Section 551.071, Government Code

Consultation with City Attorney concerning pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers; claims 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:

- Freeport Municipal Golf Course
(no action taken)

Adjourn

On a motion by Councilwoman Barbree, seconded by Councilman McDonald, with all present voting "Aye", Mayor Pro Tem Fred Bolton closed the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

Mayor Norma M. Garcia
City of Freeport, Texas

City Secretary – Delia Muñoz
City of Freeport, Texas