

State of Texas

County of Brazoria

City of Freeport

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the City Council of the City of Freeport, met on Wednesday August 24, 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  
Nat Hickey, Property Manager  
Bob Welch, Finance Director  
Jennifer Hawkins, Economic Development Director  
Danny Gilchrest, Freeport Police Dept.

Visitors:	Melanie Oldham	Annette Sanford
	Sam Reyna	Gardo Campbell
	Kenny Kouches	Jerry Meeks
	Troy Brimage	Sabrina Brimage
	Ed Garcia	Margaret McMahan
	Ty Morrow	Larry Fansher
	Sandra Leavey	

Call to order

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Norma Moreno Garcia led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Work Session:

Presentation of Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2016-2017.

Mr. Pynes presented the proposed budget. He presented an overview and recommendation and answered Council's questions. He continues getting suggestion from citizens, audience, and staff for the proposed budget.

Councilman McDonald asked what kind of vehicles is being selected. Councilman McDonald expressed concern over buying high dollar vehicles. Mr. Pynes said that the Tahoe's are the Police Department's recommendation. Mr. Pynes stated that the department had 46 police officers and 6 part times. The Department is asking for one more police officer. Councilman McDonald commented on spending \$42K on a beach jeep and because of the sand and salt recommends buying a used one. Councilman McDonald stated that he would prefer that Street Department get more manpower, than the Code Department

Councilwoman Mireles asked if the bank drive-in would be demolished and that the roof was falling. Councilwoman Mireles asked about an audio system for council. Councilwoman Mireles suggested said that they could move 2 new labors type from the Code Department and place in the Street Department. She felt they needed the most help in improving the streets, sidewalks.

Mr. Pynes recommends the effective tax rate of \$0.628005 for this fiscal year 2016-2017.

Melanie Oldham of 922 W. 5th Street stated that Gulf Chemical & Metallurgical has filed bankruptcy and TCEQ has assessed a fine of 9 million dollars. According to the contract the City could receive 4.5 mil from the chemical plant and be used for supplement environmental projects. She suggested the City hire a city planner and forms a committee and has a council member representing their ward and needs. She concurs with the idea of pulling 2 labors from Code and placing them in the Street Department. She hopes that with this new event coming up "George Lopez" raises money for the Freeport Historical Museum. She agrees with the City's compliance plan for American with Disabilities Act.

Ed Garcia of 1924 North Ave. G, Velasco Townsite is concerned that Velasco side of town does not have a functional fire department. In the past the City had 2 functional fire stations. He sees no see any changes or efforts on developing a volunteer fire department.

Adjourn

On a motion by Councilwoman Barbree, seconded by Councilman McDonald, with all present voting "Aye", Mayor Norma M. Garcia adjourned the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

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Mayor Norma Moreno Garcia  
City of Freeport, Texas

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City Secretary Delia Munoz  
City of Freeport, Texas

