

State of Texas

County of Brazoria

City of Freeport

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the City Council of Freeport, Texas met on Monday, October 1, 2018 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 Troy T. Brimage
Councilman Brooks Bass
Councilman Ken Green
Councilwoman Sandra Loeza
Councilman Roy E. Yates

Staff: Bob Welch, Finance Director/Interim City Manager
Laura Tolar, Asst. City Secretary/Special Projects Coordinator
Wallace Shaw, City Attorney
Nat Hickey, Property Manager
Chris Motley, Fire Chief
Ray Garivey, Police Chief
Kim Townsend, Parks Director
LeAnn Strahan, Museum Director
Billy Shoemaker, Building Official
David Hoelewyn, Streets Director

Visitors:	Christina Travis	Kenny Hayes
	Nicole Mireles	Tommy Pearson
	Sam Reyna	Desiree Pearson
	Moby Burrige	Evelyn Burrige
	Ronaldo Cantu	Melanie Oldham
	Angel Barbosa	Virginia Barbosa
	Wayne Mettetal	Sabrina Brimage
	Melanie Oldham	Norma Hernandez
	Angie Williams	Edmeryl Williams

Call to order.

Mayor Troy T. Brimage called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Invocation.

Wallace Shaw offered the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Troy T. Brimage led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attending citizens and their business

There were none.

Announcement: National Night out will be held October 2, 2018 at Freeport Municipal Park from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Mayor Brimage announced that on Tuesday, October, 2, 2018 National Night Out will be held in Freeport Municipal Park and encouraged all residents to attend.

Consideration of approving the minutes for September 4, September 5, September 10 and September 17, 2018 meetings.

On a motion by Councilman Bass, seconded by Councilwoman Loeza, with all present voting “Aye”, Council unanimously approved the minutes for September 4, September 5, September 10 and September 17, 2018 meetings.

Consideration of a request from Habitat for Humanity of Southern Brazoria County to waive permit(s) and utility fees on Freeport Townsite, Block 54B, Appraisal District Property ID 209374, for construction of a new house known as 302 Oak St.

Mr. Wayne Mettetal, a volunteer representative of Habitat for Humanity of Southern Brazoria County, asked the City Council to waive fees for permits and utilities.

Mr. Mettetal said construction would start as soon as the ground dries up from all the recent rain.

Mayor Brimage thanks Mr. Mettetal and other volunteers for the great work they do.

On a motion by Councilman Bass, seconded by Councilman Green, with all present voting “Aye”, Council unanimously approved to waive permit(s) and utility fees on Freeport Townsite, Block 54B, Appraisal District Property ID 209374, for construction of a new house known as 302 Oak St.

Discuss and consider action to be taken concerning encroachment in the South Avenue S right-of-way by structures built at 1806 N. Ave S and 1810 N. Ave S.

Mr. Nat Hickey presented to council two homes located at 1806 North Ave. S and 1810 North Avenue S that are encroaching south into the North Avenue S street right of way.

Councilman Yates asked if we could give them a waiver.

Mr. Shaw responded that it would not alter the right of way issue.

A representative from Capital Title said that the homes can't be insured if not owned.

Mr. Hickey said that he has observed this same issue with other homes in the Velasco Townsite.

Councilman Yates asked if we can move the right of way.

Mayor Brimage expressed concern regarding the cost of the survey.

This item was tabled and scheduled to be placed back on the agenda at the next meeting.

Consideration of designating a representative and an alternate to the Houston-Galveston Area Council General Assembly for the year 2019

On a motion by Councilman Bass, seconded by Councilman Yates, with all present voting “Aye”, Council unanimously approved to designate Councilman Green as representative and Councilwoman Loeza as alternate representative to the Houston-Galveston Area Council General Assembly for the year 2019.

Work Session:

Mayor Troy T. Brimage announcements and comments.

Mayor Brimage invited everyone to attend Mr. Nat Hickey’s 95th birthday party on Saturday, October 6th at noon at the Dow Heritage House.

Mayor Brimage announced that in November the City will begin participating in Project Search with BISD. This program is part of BISD’s life skills students work in jobs as unpaid interns to gain employment experience.

Mayor Brimage stated that he had breakfast Saturday morning with the new City Manager Tim Kelty and his wife as they were in town house hunting. Mr. Kelty starts on October 23, 2018.

Mayor Brimage commented on the large volume of rain that we have received and that water on Velasco Boulevard was being closely monitored during periods of high rain amounts.

Mayor Brimage stated that the city will wait until Mr. Kelty arrives to begin discussions regarding bonds for infrastructure improvements.

Mayor Brimage stated that he had learned something new. The City can not spray for mosquitoes during the day because of honey bees.

Councilman Green Ward A announcements and comments.

Councilman Green stated that he was concerned with frequent garage sales in his ward.

Billy Shoemaker stated that we do not have a garage sale ordinance. He also stated that the state comptroller limits garage sales to two per year.

Mayor Brimage asked Mr. Shoemaker to do research on garage sale ordinances.

Councilman Green also stated that he was concerned about street flooding and cars going around barricades causing wakes and potentially damaging private property.

Mayor Brimage requested Mr. Shaw to work on an ordinance for a no-wake zone.

Councilman Bass Ward B announcements and comments.

Councilman Bass inquired as to the status of the road striping of the crosswalk located at 2nd and Yaupon.

David Hoelewyn stated due to the recent rain painting hasn't been possible but will try to get it completed very quickly.

Councilman Bass added that the Gonzalez family was very appreciative for the work done in the 1300 Block of 5th Street.

Councilwoman Loeza Ward C announcements and comments.

Councilwoman Loeza inquired to a resident comment regarding the area at the Golf Course along Slaughter Road where there was some concrete moved that needed mowing.

David Hoelewyn stated that there was a 3' drop off that had to be mowed with the 15' slope mower for safety issues. The city is considering bringing in dirt to build up the drop off.

Councilwoman Loeza informed Mr. Hoelewyn that there are some potholes on Victoria Street due to the hard rains.

Mr. Hoelewyn stated that a new PO was needed because of the new budget year to purchase more material but would get them filled.

Councilwoman Loeza also noted the condition of North Avenue D behind April's Furniture needing to be repaired.

Mr. Hoelewyn replied that repair of this are is scheduled for this week.

Councilman Yates Ward D announcements and comments

Councilman Yates stated that he had been working with Mr. Clinton Wong and had a question/answer sheet that he passed out to the audience.

Mr. Bass said that we are working with a law firm out of Dallas regarding the MUD District in question.

Mr. Yates said that he would like to see what the attorney has done.

Mayor Brimage asked why would we pay to have water supplied when we can supply the water ourselves. He also stated that allowing the MUD District would cost the city \$10 million.

Councilman Bass stated that he would contact the law firm in Dallas first thing Tuesday morning and let Councilman Yates know the current status.

Mayor Brimage noted that Mr. Wong has 11-acres on which there has been no development and the Code Enforcement has to send him monthly notices to mow his property.

Councilman Yates stated he had seen the mosquito plane spraying for mosquitoes.

Update on reports / concerns from Department heads

Fire Chief Chris Motley showed pictures of an 18-wheeler turnover on Hwy 332. Chief Motley said the container was fully loaded but no product was lost.

David Hoelewyn stated that we had received just over 24 inches of rain September. Mr. Hoelewyn also stated that the school zone lights will be removed from Fourth Street.

Billy Shoemaker said that there has been three solid weeks of rain and grass is tall. Code Enforcement officers have been instructed to work with residents allowing time for the ground to dry up so they can mow.

Police Chief Ray Garivey announced that 540 pounds of cocaine had been accidentally recovered by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice from a banana donation by Ports of America.

Chief Garivey also encouraged all residents to attend National Night out to be held on October 2, 2018.

Councilman Bass noted that the story regarding the cocaine had been mentioned in Time Magazine.

Parks Director Kim Townsend said that \$3,500 worth of playground equipment had been recycled. Ms. Townsend added that her department had not been mowing because the ground is too wet.

Ms. LeAnn Strahan announced that there are a lot of activities going on at the Historical Museum. She noted that Market Days are going great. At the end of October, they will have a haunted house and be showing scary movies for kids then later for adults. She stated that in December she will be having a Nutcracker Market featuring Christmas products.

Adjourn

On a motion by Councilman Yates, seconded by Councilwoman Loeza, with all present voting "Aye", Mayor Brimage adjourned the meeting at 6:52 PM.

Mayor, Troy T. Brimage
City of Freeport, Texas

Assistant City Secretary, Laura Tolar
City of Freeport, Texas