

State of Texas

County of Brazoria

City of Freeport

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the City Council of Freeport, Texas met on Monday, September 3 2019 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 Brimage-Absent
Councilman Brooks Bass
Councilman Ken Green
Councilwoman Sandra Loeza
Councilman Roy E. Yates

Staff: Tim Kelty, City Manager
Betty Wells, City Secretary
Chris Duncan, City Attorney
Nat Hickey, Property Manager
Brian Dybala, Golf Course Director
Kim Townsend, Parks Director
Chris Motley, Fire Chief
Ray Garivey, Police Chief
Stephanie Russell, Finance Director
Courtland Holman, Economic Development Director
Jerry Meeks, Veolia
David Hoelewyn-Street Department Director

Visitors: Larry Fansher
Melanie Oldham
Tommy Pearson
Edmeryl Williams
Desiree Pearson
Gina Adams
Manning Rollerson
Edward Garcia
Angie Williams

Call to order.

Mayor Pro Tem Brooks Bass called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: Announcements by Mayor, City Council and/or Staff

Proclamation recognizing the new Mexican Consulate

Mayor Pro Tem Brooks Bass read the proclamation of the City of Freeport proclaiming that September 15 is Mexican Independence day in the City of Freeport

Proclamation declaring September 17th thru September 23rd, 2019, as Constitution Week

Mayor Pro Tem Brooks Bass read the proclamation of the City of Freeport declaring September 17-23, 2019 as Constitution week.

Citizen's Comments

Ms. Williams spoke to council regarding the East End Park being moved to Cherry Street. She is opposed to the park being moved, as there are residents of Freeport that still use the park. East End residents feel that the park is a very valuable place for the East End residents until all families move from the East End of Freeport

Manning Rollerson spoke to council regarding the East End Park. He is concerned about the water situation with the water needing to be boiled; he also spoke on the gun control and the safety of our kids.

Larry Fansher spoke to Council acknowledging and applauding Council and the City leaders for the positive changes that are being seen in the City of Freeport

CONSENT AGENDA:

Consideration and possible action on the approval of City Council meeting minutes from August 19th, 2019.

On a motion by Councilwoman Loeza, seconded by Councilman Green, with all present voting "Aye", Council unanimously approved the Consent Agenda

Acceptance of resignation from EDC board member Mark Friudenberg

On a motion by Councilwoman Loeza, seconded by Councilman Green, with all present voting "Aye", Council unanimously approved the resignation of Mark Friudenberg.

REGULAR SESSION

Public Hearing: First Public Hearing Regarding Proposed Property Tax Rate for the 2019 Tax Year was opened at 6:18.

Melanie Oldham spoke, stating that she thinks the rate that is chosen, is a good tax rate.

Councilman Yates asked if there was anything that showed the tax rate.

City Finance Director Stephanie Russell presented the proposed Property Tax Rate \$0.628005. On a motion by Councilman Green and seconded by Loeza, with all present voting "Aye", Council unanimously approved the closing the public hearing. Mayor Pro Tem Brooks Bass closed the Public Hearing at 6:25.

Public Hearing: Conduct Public Hearing on Proposed Budget for FY 2019-2020.

City Finance Director Stephanie Russell presented the Proposed Budget for FY 2019-2020.

Manning Rollerson questioned if the City still received Federal Funding for infrastructure.

Melanie Oldham spoke to Council regarding the Proposed Budget and she thanked management that the Budget was posted online for the Public and it is very easy to read. She spoke on the first ten pages of the proposed budget. Ms. Oldham thanked the leadership of Freeport on the Proposed Budget.

Mr. Garcia questioned funding the study of the O.A. Fleming property when the city does not own it.

On a motion by Councilwoman Loeza and seconded by Councilman Yates the Public Hearing on Proposed Budget was closed by Mayor Pro Tem Brooks Bass.

Consideration and possible action on adoption of proposed Ordinance No. 2019-2581 budget 2019-2020

Finance Director Stephanie Russell presented Ordinance No. 2019-2581 to Council for adopting 2019-2020 Proposed Budget.

On a motion by Councilwoman Loeza and seconded by Councilman Green to approve Ordinance No. 2019-2581, with all present voting "aye".

On the Record Councilman Green "Aye"

On the Record Councilman Yates "Aye"

On the Record Councilwoman Loeza "Aye"

On the Record Mayor Pro Tem Brooks Bass "Aye"

Consideration of approving the expense to modernize and update the elevator system at City Hall.

City Manager Tim Kelty spoke to council regarding the repair and modernization of the elevator system, he stated that the City has a bid from ThyssenKrupp, and is waiting for a bid from Norrell he requested the approval of the expenditure \$74,516.00 he said that he will use the best bid from the two vendors.

On a motion by Councilman Yates and seconded by Councilwoman Loeza, with all present and voting "aye" Council approved the expenditure of up to \$74,516.00 for the modernization of the elevator system at City Hall.

Consideration of approving various items and equipment for surplus and approve the sale of such items by auction

City Manager Tim Kelty spoke to Council regarding surplus items from departments that are no longer used or needed; he stated that the City would use an online auction company for the sale of these surplus items.

On a motion by Councilwoman Loeza and seconded by Councilman Yates, with all present and voting "aye" Councilman Green seconded the motion but conceded the motion seconded to Councilman Yates

Consideration of approving Resolution No. 2019-2603 for continued receipt of Bingo Prize Funds

City Manager Tim Kelty presented Resolution No. 2019-2603 to Council stating this resolution is necessary in order for the City to continue receiving these funds pursuant to House Bill 914 by the Legislature

On a motion by Councilwoman Loeza and seconded by Councilman Green Resolution No. 2019-2603 was approved, with all present and voting “aye.”

Consideration of approving Resolution No. 2019-2604 on a nomination for the Brazoria County Appraisal District

City Manager Tim Kelty spoke to Council regarding Resolution No. 2019-2064, he stated that this nomination happens every two years and the City gets to nominate up to five members to The Brazoria County Appraisal District. Mr. Kelty recommended this item be tabled since it does not have to be done until October 15, 2019 and can be considered at a later date.

Mayor Pro Tem, Brooks Bass tabled this item.

No action was taken.

WORK SESSION:

Councilman Ken Green stated just as Ms. Williams spoke earlier in the meeting in regards to the East End Park, this is a big concern to the residents on the East End, moving this park and that he understands the concern and Council needs to take into thought of what they are going to do with that. .

Councilman Brooks Bass asked if an entity damages infrastructure who does the City bill? He stated that he wants Veolia and City Management help to make sure the entity that makes the damage is the one to repair it.

Councilman Roy Yates questioned the status of the Urban Renewal Project. He spoke on moving City Hall to O.A. Fleming and his concerns that this will not work. He also spoke on old fines and if there is a statute of limitations.

City Manager Tim Kelty spoke on the new HR Director starting on September 5. He spoke on the open enrollment, he thanked Donna Fisher and Stephanie Russell for a job well done on making open enrollment a success.

Councilwoman Loeza had nothing to report.

Update on reports / concerns from Department heads

Chris Motley Fire Chief gave a weather update on TD in the Gulf that was headed to Mexico. He also said that Hurricane Dorian had downgraded to a category 2.

Open session was closed at 7:12 pm and Council entered into Executive Session.

CLOSED SESSION:

Executive Session regarding economic development (Projects 2019-2 and 2019-3) in accordance with Vernon’s Texas Government Code Annotated, Chapter 551, 551.087

REGULAR SESSION

Mayor Pro Tem Books Bass opened regular session at 7:26 pm

Consideration in open session of taking action on any matter discussed in closed executive session

No action taken.

Adjourn

On a motion by Councilman Loeza, seconded by Councilman Green, with all present voting "Aye", Mayor Pro Tem Brooks Bass adjourned the meeting at 7:26 PM.

Mayor, Troy Brimage
City of Freeport, Texas

City Secretary, Betty Wells
City of Freeport, Texas