

State of Texas

County of Brazoria

City of Freeport

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the City Council of Freeport, Texas met on Monday, November 18, 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
- Councilman Brooks Bass
- Councilman Ken Green
- Councilwoman Sandra Loeza
- Councilman Roy E. Yates

Staff:

- Tim Kelty, City Manager
- Stephanie Russell, Assistant City Manager
- Betty Wells, City Secretary
- Laura Tolar, Assistant City Secretary. Special Events Coordinator
- Chris Duncan, City Attorney
- Brenda Miller-Ferguson Human Resource Director
- Courtland Holman, Economic Development Director
- Billy Shoemaker-Building Department Director
- Ray Garivey-Freeport Chief of Police
- David Hoeslewyn, Street Department Director
- Nat Hickey, Property Manager
- Chris Motley, Freeport Fire Chief
- Kris Viera, Freeport Fire
- Cody Chandler, Freeport Fire
- Ach Armstrong, Freeport Fire
- Jessica Dyson, Freeport Fire
- Donna Fisher, Human Resource Specialist
- Brian Dybala, Freeport Gold Course Director

Visitors:

Mario Muraira	Eric Hayes
Kenny Hayes	Donna Hayes
Sabrina Brimage	Briana Brimage
Tommy Pearson	Keith Stumbaugh
Desiree Pearson	Melanie Oldham
Nicole Mireles	Jerry Meeks
Sam Reyna	Jim Barnett
Sandra Barnett	Brendan Brimage

Call to order.

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

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

City fire department employee's Jessica Dyson and Brennon Malone were recognized as Employees of the Month for October 2019. Jessica Dyson was present and received a certificate for the recognition.

Travis James of TXP made a presentation to Council regarding a Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ). Mr. James said that the City will need to publish and hold a Public Meeting before any action to approve a TIRZ.

On a motion by Councilman Green, seconded by Councilwoman Loeza, with all present voting "Aye", Council unanimously approved scheduling a Public Hearing for December 2, 2019.

Citizen's Comments

There were no citizen's comments.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Consideration and possible action on the approval of City Council meeting minutes from November 18, 2019

Consideration of approving the Annual Brazoria County Fire Fighters Association Fire Protection Agreement.

Consideration of a request from Will J. Brooks, Parade Co-Chairman of the 34th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Committee (MLKCC), permission to close portions of the following streets during the parade to be held on Monday, January 22, 2019. The parade will start at 11:00 a.m. at East Park and Fourth Street, down 2nd Street to Brazosport Blvd. to Freeport Municipal Park and the Rally at the Freeport Municipal Park will end at 4:30 p.m

On a motion by Councilman Bass, seconded by Councilwoman Loeza, with all present voting "Aye", Council unanimously approved the Consent Agenda. With the correction of the date for the MLKCC Parade. January 22, 2020.

REGULAR SESSION

Discussion regarding the request by Ms. Donna Jones for the transfer of city-owned riverfront property adjacent to her properties at 6 and 10 Front Street

Councilman Yates spoke to Council about Ms. Jones wanting to buy the waterfront property. He said that she was told that she would have to agree to make improvements on the property, or it would go back to the city. Mr. Yates said that he against this. He asked why she can't just buy the property. Chris Duncan, City Attorney said that there is no reason to discuss the sale of this property when Ms. Jones is not here. He recommended that if she is wanting to buy the property, she should get an appraisal and make an offer to purchase and present that request to Council for discussion.

Consideration and possible action of approving EDC Bylaws.

Courtland Holman spoke to Council with the recommendation of approving the new EDC bylaws. He said that this was basically started from scratch. Mr. Holman said that the old bylaws were not clear in the language. He said that one of the things that needed changing is the required attendance of by board members, that they were missing too many regular meetings. The recommended bylaws also allowed for the City the City Council Liaison and Ex-officio members to attend EDC Executive Sessions. Councilman Bass confirmed with City Attorney Chris Duncan that he had reviewed the bylaws.

On a motion by Councilman Bass, seconded by Councilman Yates, with all present voting “Aye”, Council unanimously approved EDC Bylaws.

Consideration of approving Ordinance No. 2019-2589 for proposed 2019-2020 budget amendment # 1

Assistant City Manager Stephanie Russell presented Ordinance No. 2019-2589 for proposed 2019-2020 budget amendment # 1. This is a budget amendment for \$300,000.00 to be transferred to the EDC for the approved 380 agreement. She also said that the Freeport Police Department received a grant for \$106,000.00. She said that she is reflecting the revenue and the expenditure for this. The grant will have a net zero impact to the budget.

On a motion by Councilman Bass, seconded by Councilman Green, with all present voting “Aye”, Council unanimously approved. Ordinance No. 2019-2589 for proposed 2019-2020 budget amendment # 1

Consideration and possible action for the creation of the position of public works director.

City Manager Tim Kelty presented to Council on the creation of a position of a public works director. He said that this is something that was recommended in the Strategic Community Plan adopted last year and was discussed during the strategic planning meeting staff held prior to developing the budget. He believes that this can be done without a budget amendment this year. Kelty said that the creation of this position is being timed with the retirement of Street Department Director, David Hoelwyn coming up in the next few months. Councilman Bass asked what the advantage is. Mr. Kelty said that field crew can be shared among the various departments based upon fluctuating demand within each department on large projects. He said that it will allow for a stronger organizational efficiency, and accountability for keeping track of all the projects that are going on.

On a motion by Councilman Bass and seconded by Councilwoman Loeza, with all present voting 3 to 1, Council approved the. the creation of the position of public works director. Councilman Yates opposed.

WORK SESSION:

Mayor Troy Brimage spoke to Council and the public of his stepping down as Mayor and running for State Representative spot. He said that his priority is the City of Freeport. He said that he will step down after the closing of the meeting on November 18, 2019. Councilman Brooks Bass will step into the Mayor seat for the next year and half. This is done as our Charter 3.05 & 3.06 states how it is done. He asked that council to continue to focus on the infrastructure and the repairs that they are now focused on.

Councilman Green spoke to David Hoelwyn on the area of the 500 block of West 4th alley way he said there is a barricade that has been there for a year. David said that is Veolia, he said there is a sink hole that needs to be repaired. He said that 518 West 4th has just a little more work that needs to be done.

Councilman Bass thanked Mayor Brimage for his leadership. He thanked David Hoelwyn for his and his crews work. He said that the numbered streets are raised up above the side streets. Mr. Bass said that after the last few rains that we have had, Holly Street between Broad and 2nd Street has been full of water. We must make sure water is getting to the drains. Mr. Bass said that he is assuming that David's crew will be going and checking on the drains during rain.

Councilwoman Loeza said that she appreciates the work that has been done on Victoria Street. But since Victoria has been closed traffic is taking Jones Street, and it is getting torn up. She said that there are some big potholes. There is also a pothole on Ave H. Yellowstone has a large pothole as well. She said that she does see all the roadwork going on and she appreciates it.

Councilman Yates asked if anyone knows what is going on with the interchange with Hwy 288 and Hwy 332. Mr. Kelty said that the contractor pulled off the job, but the project should be starting back up next month.

City Manager Tim Kelty said that Mr. Holman, Chris Duncan and himself went to a PID workshop. Mr. Kelty with Council presented Mayor Brimage a plaque of appreciation for his service. He spoke about the Young Professionals Quorum which was held last Thursday which the City hosted. He said this was sponsored by the Hispanic Chamber and it is something that we will probably do on a quarterly or regular basis. Mr. Kelty said an exciting thing that is happening is the City has a meeting later this week in establishing a Sister City with a Port City in Mexico. There will also be a meeting with Freese and Nichols on Thursday. Mr. Kelty also said that applications for Ward B can be picked up at City Hall and need to be dropped off Friday by 5 pm. And we will hold a special meeting on November 26, 2019

Update on reports / concerns from Department heads

Brian Dybala said that he did not have anything. But he did want to thank Mayor Brimage for all that he had done.

David Hoelwyn said that Pecan Street has been completed by the contractor. He said that this week they are supposed to finish up the joint seals with tar on Yaupon. David said that they are supposed to make the first pour on Victoria this Wednesday, and they have started taking out road on Skinner. He said that he spoke with Tim Kelty and Roy Yates about the pump system. Kenny Hayes asked David if the generators were fixed yet. The part has been ordered for the generator and it will ship on December 5, 2019.

Kenny Hayes thanked Mayor Brimage for all that he has done.

CLOSED SESSION:

No executive session was held

Adjourn

On a motion by Councilman Bass, seconded by Councilwoman Loeza, with all present voting "Aye", Mayor Troy Brimage adjourned the meeting at 6:57 PM.

Mayor, Troy Brimage
City of Freeport, Texas

City Secretary, Betty Wells
City of Freeport, Texas