

State of Texas

Brazoria County

City of Freeport

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the City of Freeport, met in a regular meeting on Monday, August 18th, 2008 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:                      Larry L McDonald  
  Clan A. Cameron  
  Jim Saccomanno  
  Ron Wise  
  Norma M. Garcia

Staff:                                      Gary Beverly, City Manager  
  Wallace Shaw, City Attorney  
  Delia Munoz, City Secretary  
  Larry Fansher, Public Works Director  
  John Stanford, Fire Chief  
  Jeff Pynes, Police Chief  
  Nat Hickey, Property Manager  
  Mary Stotler, Main Street Director  
  Pinkey Hartline, Golf Course Director  
  Bob Welch, Finance Director

Visitors:                                Louie Jones                      Willie Rains  
  Pixie Floyd                      Lila Lloyd  
  Bobby Bass                      Grady Pennington  
  Tobey Davenport              Mary Darnell  
  Jim Pirrung                      Dorothy Pirrung  
  Fai Demain                      Bill Demain  
  Mary Darnell                    Janice Goines  
  Rene Damian                    Ron Damian  
  Kenny Kouches                Mike Jones  
  Brenda Laird                    Edna Allan  
  Lucky Gilbert                   Bobby Casale  
  Melanie Oldham                Joyce Adkins  
  Judy Shaefer                    Larry Shaefer  
  Wright Gore, III                Jerry Meeks  
  Lila Diehl                        Eric Hayes  
  Rosa McDonald                Susie Wise  
  Mark Wessels                   Kimmy Wessels  
  Michelle Kent                   Sandra Barbree  
  Sandra Leavey                 Sandra W. Wicke

Loren Hayes  
Chris Moore

Phyllis Saathoff  
Eileen Koenig

Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor McDonald at 6:00 p.m.

Invocation by Chris Moore of the Velasco Baptist Church.

Chris Moore offered the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor McDonald led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consideration of the approval of the August 11, 2008 Council Minutes.

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilman Wise, with all present voting "aye", Council unanimously approved the August 11, 2008 council minutes.

Attending Citizens and Their Business.

Chris Moore of 1867 Acacia Circle thanked Councilwoman Garcia and the Park Department for the Exporters Kick Rally at River Place. He announced a new program called "Celebrate Recovery Program" at Texas Port Ministry on Cherry Street. It starts Tuesday night and costs \$20.00 for books, for more information please call him at 236-2034.

Bobby Casale asked Melanie Oldham to update Council on the contamination of the Golf Course. He disapproved of the recent ad in the newspaper, promoting the Golf Course.

Melanie Oldman advocate for Public Health and Environmental reservation collected vital information about the contamination on the Golf Course. She had documentation from the state that showed areas at the Golf Course with high levels of benzene. She passed out information to Council to let them draw their own conclusion.

Lucky Gilbert spoke on behalf of Main Street. He thanked the Council for their public service to the City. He discussed the rumors going around about Mary Stotler and Main Street. He said that Main Street has grants to approve and eventually will have the money to match the grants. The Summer Time Blue festival is progressively growing.

Consideration of the approval of rescheduling September 1, 2008, Council Meeting to September 2, 2008 due to Labor Day holiday.

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilman Saccomanno, with all present voting "aye", Council unanimously approved rescheduling September 1, 2008 Council Meeting to September 2, 2008 due to the Labor Day holiday.

Consideration of the approval of an Interlocal Agreement with Brazoria County and the City of Freeport regarding the West off Ramp at FM1495 and the Pine

On a motion by Councilwoman Garcia, seconded by Councilman Cameron, with all present voting “aye”, Council unanimously approved to table this item to collect more data on the cost of the project and getting commitments from the participants.

At this time, Mr. Mr. Shaw noticed that the Economic Development Corporation had a quorum present: Bobby Casale, Clan Cameron, Lila Diehl, and Bill Rains of the Economic Development Corporation were present at the Council Meeting, and asked one member to be excused from the meeting. Bill Rains excused himself from the Council Chambers.

Consideration of the approval of a request from Port Freeport to place a natural gas pipeline within the City’s 20-foot sewer easement behind Block(s) 8, 9, 23 and 24, and within the Terminal Street right-of-way from its southern end northward to about the intersection with the East Fifth Street right-of-way.

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilwoman Garcia, with all present voting “aye”, Council unanimously approved Phyllis Saathoff, Port Managing Director request to place a natural gas pipeline within the City’s 20-foot sewer easement behind Block(s) 8, 9, 23 and 24, and within the Terminal Street right-of-way from its southern end northward to about the intersection with the East Fifth Street right-of-way.

Consideration of the approval of selling the City’s interest in 1/5 undivided interest on Block 13, Lots 9 through 12, Velasco Townsite, known as South Ave.B, Tax Id # 8110-0164-000.

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Mayor McDonald, with all present voting 4 to 1, Council approved selling the City’s interest in 1/5 undivided interest on Block 13, Lots 9 through 12, Velasco Townsite, known as South Ave.B, Tax Id # 8110-0164-000. Councilwoman Garcia opposed.

Consideration of the approval of selling the City’s interest on Block 781, Lots 14 through 22, Velasco Townsite, known as North Ave. T, Tax Id 8110-3915-000.

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilman Saccomanno, with all present voting “aye”, Council unanimously approved selling the City’s interest on Block 781, Lots 14 through 22, Velasco Townsite, known as North Ave. T, Tax Id 8110-3915-000.

Consideration of the approval of selling the City’s interest on Block 627, Lots 23, 24, Velasco Townsite, known as North Ave. D., Tax Id # 8110-2260-000.

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Mayor McDonald, with all present voting 4 to 1, Council approved selling the City’s interest on Block 627, Lots 23, 24,

Velasco Townsite, known as North Ave. D., Tax Id # 8110-2260-000. Councilwoman Garcia opposed.

Consideration of the approval of selling the City's interest on Block 36, Lots 13, 14, Velasco Townsite, known as South Ave. D., Tax Id # 8110-0397-000.

On a motion by Councilwoman Garcia, seconded by Councilman Wise, with all present voting 4 to 1, Council declined the offer to sell the City's interest on Block 36, Lots 13, 14, Velasco Townsite, known as South Ave. D., Tax Id # 8110-0397-000. Councilman Cameron opposed.

Consideration of the approval of selling the City's interest in 1/6 und. interest on Block 694, Lot 15, Velasco Townsite, known as North Ave. N., Tax Id # 8110-2896-110.

On a motion by Councilwoman Garcia, seconded by Councilman Saccomanno, with all present voting 2 to 3, Council declined the offer to sell the City's interest in 1/6 und. interest on Block 694, Lot 15, Velasco Townsite, known as North Ave. N., Tax Id # 8110-2896-110. Councilman Wise, Councilman Cameron, and Mayor McDonald opposed.

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilman Wise, with all present voting 3 to 2, Council approved selling the City's interest in 1/6 und. interest on Block 694, Lot 15, Velasco Townsite, known as North Ave. N., Tax Id # 8110-2896-110. Councilman Saccomanno and Councilwoman Garcia opposed.

Consideration of the approval of selling the City's interest Block D, Lots 18-N/2, 19, Velasco Heights, known as 1914 Zapata, Tax ID # 8115-0052-000.

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilman Wise, with all present voting 4 to 1, Council approved selling the City's interest Block D, Lots 18-N/2, 19, Velasco Heights, known as 1914 Zapata, Tax ID # 8115-0052-000. Councilman Saccomanno opposed.

Consideration of the approval of selling the City's interest on Block 36, Lots 9, 10, 12, Velasco Townsite, known as South Ave. B., Tax ID # 8110-0394-000.

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilman Wise, with all present voting "aye", Council unanimously approved selling the City's interest on Block 36, Lots 9, 10, 12, Velasco Townsite, known as South Ave. B., Tax ID # 8110-0394-000.

Consideration of the approval of allowing the Fraternal Order of Eagles # 3111 to have their annual Turkey Shoot starting in October and ending in December 2008 at 6818 Hwy. 332.

On a motion by Councilwoman Garcia, seconded by Mayor McDonald, with all present voting "aye", Council unanimously approved the request of the Fraternal Order of Eagles # 3111 to have their annual Turkey Shoot starting in October and ending in December

2008 at 6818 Hwy. 332 East. President Metzroth stated that last year \$3,500 had been raised for 38 families for Christmas baskets.

Consideration of the approval of setting dates for Public Hearings on budget and vote by governing body to propose a tax increase for fiscal year 2008-2009.

- September 8, 2008 Public Hearing on Budget  
Adopt budget by ordinance  
Public Hearing (1st) on Tax Rate
- September 15, 2008 Public Hearing (2nd) on Tax Rate
- September 22, 2008 Adopt Tax Rate Ordinance

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilman Saccomanno, with all present voting “aye”, Council unanimously approved the dates for the Public Hearings.

By a record vote such motion is duly adopted, the record vote being:

The following motion was made by Councilman Wise: “I Councilman Wise purpose a tax increase of 3.5% above the effective rate based on a total rate of .710000. Seconded by Councilman Saccomanno, with all present voting, Council approved the proposed tax increase of 3.5% above the effective rate based on a total rate of .710000 for fiscal year 2008-2009, the record vote being:

**Aye:** Mayor Larry L. McDonald  
Councilman Saccomanno  
Councilman Wise  
Councilwoman Garcia

**Nay:** Councilman Clan Cameron

Consideration of the approval of using Kennemer, Masters & Lunford as our audit firm for fiscal year 2007-2008.

On a motion by Councilman Saccomanno, seconded by Councilman Wise, with all present voting 4 to 1, Council approved using Kennemer, Masters & Lunford as our audit firm for fiscal year 2007-2008. Councilman Cameron opposed.

### Elected Official Report

Councilman Saccomanno reported that Senior Citizens had Nola Copus, Executive Director of Freeport’s Brazosport Medical Center speak at their meeting. They are planning a trip to Schulenburg to visit historical churches.

## **Work Session**

### Administration Report

No Report.

### Discussion regarding Freeport Historical Board & Main Street Advisory Board operations.

Mr. Shaefer discussed poor minutes and failure to disclose how dollars are being spent. He attended a Main Street meeting and has seen good improvements.

Mrs. Floyd addressed Mr. Shaefer as to what he wanted and felt that he was questioning the character of the board members. She said that Mary Stotler was the best director they have had. She was a person of high morals, honest and focused on her job.

Councilman Saccomanno said that in the past there was a real struggle for good volunteers and Mary Stotler had turned it around. He commended her for that.

Sandra Barbee and Sandra Leavey said that Mary Stotler was a very knowledgeable person and was a very good director and doing a good job.

Bobby Casale suggested having a tape recorder for accuracy account.

Mayor McDonald closed the Work Session and opened the Executive Session at 8:15 p.m.

### Executive Session

Deliberations concerning the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee, to wit:

Main Street Director

No action taken.

Mayor McDonald reconvened the meeting in open session at 9:13 p.m.

### Adjourn

On a motion by Councilman Saccomanno, seconded by Councilman Cameron, with all present voting "aye", the meeting was adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

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Delia Munoz  
City Secretary

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Larry L. McDonald  
Mayor

