

State of Texas
Brazoria County
City of Freeport

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the City of Freeport, met in a special meeting on Friday, September 26, 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
 Bob Welch, Finance Director
 John Stanford, Fire Chief
 Nat Hickey, Property Manager

Visitors: Larry Shaefer Judy Shaefer
 Melanie Oldham Rosa McDonald
 Joyce Adkins Jerry Meeks
 Grady Pennington Susie Wise
 Patrick Gore Sandra Leavey

Call to Order.

Mayor McDonald opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Consideration of the approval of the September 22, 2008 Council Minutes.

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilman Wise, with all present voting "aye", Council unanimously approved both sets of the September 22, 2008 Council Minutes.

Consideration of the approval of Ordinance No. 2008-2209 adopting a budget for fiscal year 2008-2009 for the City of Freeport.

Gary Beverly reviewed the adjustments to the budget:

- A change in tax rate from \$ 0.71000 to \$ 0.7000
- Elimination of the Market Study
- A scaled increase based of Annual Salary vs 3 % across the board

- Increases in starting pay for Police and Fire/ EMS
- \$4,500 decrease in the Parks Department (trailer)
- Increase in revenue/expense for garbage CPI increase
- Decrease in Street/Drainage/Sidewalk Maintenance to offset overall increases

Councilman Saccomanno and Councilwoman Garcia disagreed with some of the cuts to the budget.

Melanie Oldham, 316 Co. Rd. 893, Angleton stated that the tax break would benefit the Industrial Industry Contracts.

Fire Chief, John Stanford said employees only get one raise a year. He voiced that the changes being proposed were not mentioned at any of the Public Hearings. Mr. Stanford commented that his employees work hard and that they were dual certified, asked that the Fire Department and Police Department be more equally funded, and felt that his department was not being supported.

Joyce Adkins of 102 N. C, disagreed on the cuts to the Street budget. She stated that the cuts were not made public at Public Hearings.

Sandra Leavey asked if the changes to the budget would affect the Freeport Fire Department and if they would receive the requested funding. Mayor McDonald said yes that they would receive their original request. He said there would be adjusting the budget.

On a motion by Councilman Wise, seconded by Councilman Cameron, with all present voting 3 to 2, Council approved Ordinance No. 2008-2209 adopting a budget as presented for fiscal year 2008-2009 for the City of Freeport. Councilman Saccomanno and Councilwoman Garcia opposed.

Consideration of the approval of Ordinance No. 2008-2210 adopting a tax rate for fiscal year 2008-2009 for the City of Freeport.

Motioned by Councilman Clan Cameron:

“ I Clan Cameron move that property taxes be increased by the adoption of an ordinance levying ad valorem taxes for the City of Freeport for the 2008 tax year at a total tax rate of \$0.7000.” Seconded by Councilman Wise.

The Record Vote Being 3 to 2, such motion was duly adopted.

“Aye” Councilman Cameron
 “Aye” Councilman Wise
 “Aye” Mayor McDonald
 “Naye: Councilwoman Garcia
 “Naye: Councilman Saccomanno

Adjourn

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilman Wise, with all present voting “aye”, the meeting was adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

Delia Munoz
City Secretary

Larry L. McDonald
Mayor