

State of Texas

Brazoria County

City of Freeport

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the City of Freeport, met on Tuesday, January 20, 2009, 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:

City Council: Larry L. McDonald
Clan Cameron
Jim Saccomanno
Ron Wise
Norma M. Garcia

Economic Development Corp. Tan Darver
Clan Cameron
Oliver (Johnny) McQuaig
Lila Diehl
Bobby J. Casale

Staff: Acting City Manager, Jeff Pynes
City Attorney, Wallace Shaw
Delia Munoz, City Secretary
Nat Hickey, Property Manager
Brian Dybala, Golf Course Director
Bob Welch, Finance Director
Mary Stotler, Main Street Director
Larry Ellis, Building Inspector

Visitors: Susie Wise Rosa McDonald
Manning Rollerson Doug Boone
Jason Montier Buddy McKim
Cele Damian Ron Damian
Rene Damian Jim Pirrung
Brenda Laird Cathy Williams
Kathy Varnado Annette Sanford
Jim Adkins Joyce Adkins
Eric Hayes Lila Diehl
Bobby Casale Wright Gore, III
Abel Garcia Roy Yates
Jerry Meeks Robert Worley
Lila Lloyd Jerry Meeks
Jimmy Allan Edna Allan
Freddie Brown Jim Goins
Joyce Neuburg Manuel Bustos

Esteban Bustos
Helen McQuaig

Bob Durham
David McKim

Call to Order.

Mayor McDonald recognized a quorum with City Council and the Economic Development Corporation. He opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Invocation.

Wallace Shaw offered the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor McDonald led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consideration of the approval of the January 5, 2009 Council Minutes.

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilman Wise, with all present voting "aye", Council unanimously approved January 5, 2009 Council Minutes.

Attending Citizens and Their Business.

Bobby Casale requested a no smoking ordinance be placed on the agenda. He wanted to share information from the Justice Department office regarding the council responding to the audience, and that this topic be placed on the agenda.

Robert Worley, President and CEO of the Brazoria County Economic Alliance, discussed economic development in general and the EDC. Looking forward to the day, EDC has a director. He discussed the projects on the table and that maybe some have slowed due to the economy, but no project has been cancelled. He feels like Freeport has a great future and that Port Freeport is a major factor. He thanked Mayor McDonald and Dan Tarver for their vision and felt that under their leadership "Freeport" has a great future.

Consideration of the approval of accepting the bids and awarding the contract for mowing services for the City of Freeport.

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilman Saccomanno, with all present voting "aye", Council unanimously approved the bids and awarded the contract for mowing services to Bustos Lawn Service (01.25 sq. ft) for the City of Freeport.

Consideration of the approval of Resolution No. 2009-2190 appointing Lila Lloyd to the Freeport Historical Board & Main Street Advisory Board of said City.

On a motion by Councilman Saccomanno, seconded by Councilwoman Garcia, with all present voting 4 to 1, Council approved Resolution No. 2009-2190 appointing Lila Lloyd to the Freeport Historical Board & Main Street Advisory Board of said City. Councilman Cameron opposed.

Consideration of the approval of Ordinance No. 2009-2212 amending the budget for the fiscal year 2008-2009.

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilman Wise, with all present voting “aye”, Council unanimously approved Ordinance No. 2009-2212 amending the budget for the fiscal year 2008-2009.

Consideration of the approval of Ordinance No. 2009-2213 vacating and abandoning a portion of the unopened street right-of-way known as Sweeny Street and authorizing the mayor or in his absence, the Mayor Pro Tem to execute a special warranty deed conveying the same.

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilman Saccomanno, with all present voting “aye”, Council unanimously approved Ordinance No. 2009-2213 vacating and abandoning a portion of the unopened street right-of-way known as Sweeny Street and authorizing the mayor or in his absence, the Mayor Pro Tem to execute a special warranty deed conveying the same.

Consideration of the approval of Ordinance No. 2009-2214, calling the Annual General Election for the City of Freeport for May 9, 2009, at which all the voters residing in said City shall be permitted to vote for or against the candidates for Mayor of the City of Freeport, Texas and in which the voters of said City residing in Wards B and D shall be permitted to vote for or against the candidates for positions B and D on the City Council of the City of Freeport, Texas.

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilman Saccomanno, with all present voting “aye”, Council unanimously approved of Ordinance No. 2009-2214, calling the Annual General Election for the City of Freeport for May 9, 2009, at which all the voters residing in said City shall be permitted to vote for or against the candidates for Mayor of the City of Freeport, Texas and in which the voters of said City residing in Wards B and D shall be permitted to vote for or against the candidates for positions B and D on the City Council of the City of Freeport, Texas.

Consideration of the approval of a request for a variance by Buddy McKim of Drymalla Construction Company to rebuild a marque for the Brazosport High School, 1800 West Second Street.

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilman Saccomanno, with all present voting “aye”, Council unanimously approved a request for a variance by Buddy McKim of Drymalla Construction Company to rebuild a marque for the Brazosport High School, 1800 West Second Street.

Consideration of the approval of entering an Interlocal Agreement with Brazoria County and the City of Freeport for the widening of FM 1495 feeder road.

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilwoman Garcia, with all present voting 4 to 1, Council approved an Interlocal Agreement with Brazoria County

and the City of Freeport for the widening of FM 1495 feeder road. The City's maximum cost is estimated at \$31,630.00, with Roy E. Yates from Freeport Welding and W. D. Dorsett of Dorsett Brothers committing \$15,000 each to the project. Councilman Wise opposed.

Consideration of the approval any action to be taken as result of closed executive session.

No action taken

Elected Official Report

Councilman Saccomanno reported that the Senior Citizens had 93 members for the year 2008. They are planning a trip to Galveston in February and have a Black History presentation coming from a group from West Columbia.

Councilman Cameron met with the Freeport Library Board, all county library are running accept one, applied for several grants. The county library having their annual book sale on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of next week.

Mayor McDonald and Chief Pynes participated in the Martin Luther King Parade on Monday, January 19, 2009. The golf course has new golf carts.

Mr. Dan Tarver introduced Mr. Joe Scribner of Gattis Pizza. A new business in town located at the Oasis Shopping Center. His facility will be for dining in or take out. He brought 5 boxes of hot pizza to share with the audience and Mayor McDonald announced a 10 minutes recess. Annette Sanford thanked him for this new business in Freeport.

Mayor McDonald reconvened the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Work Session

Administration Report

Mary Stotler, Main Street Director reports on the Mardi Gra project.

Mary Stotler, Main Street Director announced the 3rd Annual Mardi Gras Masquerade Ball. Entertainment will be by the Brazosport High School & Intermediate School Jazz Bands and Blues Brothers Tribute Band. The event will take place at RiverPlace, on Friday, February 20th, 2009. Tickets are \$25.00 each and a table of 8 will be \$185.00. Tickets can be bought at City Hall or on the website. Dinner, dancing, beads, silent auction will take place. Costumes are welcomed or black and white attire is acceptable.

Dan Tarver, President of EDC reports on the Freeport Marina Project.

Dan Tarver, President of the Economic Development Corporation discussed and updated the audience and council on the progress of the Freeport Marina project.

Wright Gore, III, stated that he enjoyed working with the new EDC members. In the past he would have not gotten plans or drawing of the Marina. He had problems with the past board with navigation issues, but now was resolved. He wants the marina project to be a success and pledges to help the City.

Roberto Casares, asked Council to file criminal charges on those that took advantage of their position.

Jerry Masters remembers a few years ago that the reason the marina was developed was to help Freeport. Not to get anybody rich, but to have businesses and a tax base.

Lila Lloyd has seen Freeport die and sees that property is being sold cheap or given away. The Port keeps buying property and do not pay taxes. The Marina project would bring us some tax revenue. She said if you wanted information to go the City and asked for it. Those things do not change and numbers will stay the same. She didn't believe that anything was being hidden from the citizens.

Mayor McDonald closed the work session and opened the Executive Session at 7:50 p.m.

Executive Session

Section 551.074, Government Code:

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:

Acting City Manager – Jeff Pynes

(no action taken)

Mayor McDonald closed the Executive Session and reconvened the open session at 8:17 p.m.

Adjourn

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilman Saccomanno, with all present voting “aye”, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Delia Munoz
City Secretary

Larry L. McDonald
Mayor

