

State of Texas

County of Brazoria

City of Freeport

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the City Council of Freeport, Texas met on Monday, October 26, 2020 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 Brooks Bass:
Councilman Jerry Cain
Councilman Ken Green
Councilwoman Sandra Loeza
Councilman Roy E. Yates

Staff: Tim Kelty, City Manager
Stephanie Russell, Assistant City Manager
Laura Tolar, Assistant City Secretary/ Special Projects Coordinator
Chris Duncan, City Attorney
Lance Petty, Public Works Director
Courtland Holman, Freeport Economic Development Director
Clarisa Molina, Administrator Assistant
Brenda Miller-Ferguson, Human Resource Director Via Teleconference

Visitors:

Jerry Meeks (Veolia)	David McGinty
Manning Rollerson	Mehran Bavarian
Melanie Oldham	Nick Irene (Facts)
Angie Williams	Edmeryl Williams
Nicole Mireles	Sam Reyna
Keith Stumbaugh	Mario Maraira
Desiree Pearson	Jessi Parker
Tommy Pearson	

Visitors, Via Teleconference:

Eric Hayes	Wallace Tilley
Amanda	Vander Williams

Call to order.

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

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Invocation was led by City Manager Tim Kelty. Pledge was led by Mayor Brooks Bass.

Citizen's Comments

Edmeryl Williams stated how black churches do not hate the white man and it's not what's in her heart.

Desiree Pearson stated that there is junk in the 200 block of Broad Street and when she stopped to take a picture a dog chased her.

WORK SESSION:

Mayor Bass stated that this special called meeting was intended to discuss and prioritize that bond projects. He stated that council has worked with citizens and staff to determine items that needed maintenance. He stated that council welcomed any sites in the city. He said money has been earmarked for the renovations of City Hall. He stated it was undetermined if any money would be used for the Heritage House.

Manning Rollerson stated that he has lived in Ward A a long time and there are serious drainage issues on the back side of Cherry to Highway 36 and that there are trees growing blocking culverts and culverts that are broken.

City Manager Tim Kelty stated that staff is asking public and City Council for feedback regarding bond projects. He stated that from the budgeted \$7.7 million bond, the following were earmarked: 9% for City Hall renovations, 5% for Heritage House, 3% for Velasco Pump Station and 83% for Streets and Drainage. He said at some point a formal decision will need to be made regarding the Heritage House, and also the Velasco Pump Station has been designed and will be ready to have a contract awarded next month.

Mr. Kelty stated that this meeting to was examine the street and drainage issues in Freeport. He gave council a cost estimate for rehabbing the streets with 3 options: contract asphalt, contract concrete, and the asphalt under the county interlocal agreement. Streets that had been identified would include sidewalks if the road currently had them and are in need of repair. The cost estimated for concrete included a cost for sidewalk. The prices quoted were per square foot. He stated that there were currently three alleys that were being considered for repair on the list. He said the costs were to replace streets and return them to the originally designed elevation.

Councilman Yates stated that it appeared that Ward A was getting the short end of the stick.

Mr. Kelty stated that Ward A is proposed to get approximately 1.14 miles, Ward B to receive 0.96 miles, Ward C to receive 1.6 miles, and Ward D to receive 1.3 miles.

Mr. Kelty stated the mapped streets are just an initial proposal. He said other roads have been mentioned like 2nd Street, Jones Road behind the trailer park and Austin Street over by the Golf Course. Mr. Kelty stated that Public Works Director Lance Petty has had his crews been working to reestablish ditches. We have gotten a list of potential water and sewer lines and crossings that will need to be replaced under the streets prior to the Street reconstruction. A cost for that work has been included but will need to reviewed.

Councilman Yates stated that the handouts needed to be cleaned up and needed titles but he liked the proposed streets list.

Councilman Ken Green stated that he agreed with resident Manning Rollerson regarding people moving out from 8th Street, 9th Street and 10th Street regarding lots of deterioration. Resident Sam Reyna distributed pictures to council, Tim Kelty and Lance Petty showing conditions of streets on Avenue G, Zapata and Avenue C.

City Councilwoman Sandra Loeza stated that she had turned those streets in to Mr. Kelty.

Mayor Bass stated that these streets need to be addressed.

Mr. Reyna stated that there was a product that was cheaper and easier to install and that Vernor equipment had agreed to purchase the equipment to install if the city chose that product.

Resident Melanie Oldham stated that concrete streets should be considered due to them lasting so long.

Resident Jessi Parker stated that she wondered if the east end streets and park had been sold to the Port as there were no East End Streets discussed.

Mayor Bass stated that nothing in the East End has been sold and there have been a number of streets in the East End that have been repaired recently.

Resident Edmeryl Williams stated that Spruce already had a pot hole in it from the recent repairs. She said that ditches and culverts are stopping water from flowing. She said that there had been work in the 400 block where no one lives and she lives in the 500 block.

Resident Angie Williams stated that Navigation and 5th Street is like a swimming pool and doesn't drain. She also stated that she wished a rental facility similar to Freeport Community House would be built.

Resident Sam Reyna stated that the money from the bond election should be set up for election and doesn't have to be used for specific items.

Mayor Bass stated that we are not under the previous administration and that the public can trust council.

Resident Sam Reyna stated that the city needs to look at TIGER grants for federal funding.

Mayor Bass stated that they are making sound decisions and are looking for outside funding.

Resident Keith Stumbaugh stated that the alleys in Ward A are in very bad shape. He said that in the 400 Block of West 4th near the east side of the railroad track heading east that the concrete slabs are tilted.

Resident Manning Rollerson stated that he has to snake every home every month in the area of 6th and Cherry because of sewer issues. He added that Terminal needed to be weed-eated.

Resident Jessi Parker stated that there are potholes at the railroad past Sista White's Café that need to be repaired.

Councilwoman Loeza clarified that sidewalks would be repaired with the streets if they needed to be.

Mr. Kelty stated that funding was included in the concrete estimates.

Resident Melanie Oldham questioned why Bridge Harbor is a priority.

Councilman Green stated that it is a very rough road.

Resident Nicole Mireles stated that there are no streets in the Slaughter Road area.

Councilwoman Loeza stated that she had given street information for this area to Mr. Kelty.

Mr. Kelty stated we had looked at slaughter road which was in poor condition but that there were no homes on that proposed side street within our city limits in the only residence was on the end of the street outside of the city of Freeport.

Resident Desiree Pearson stated that Front Street has a subpar street with no sidewalks and no ditches for drainage.

Mayor Bass stated that the repair of the pump station should relieve any drainage concerns.

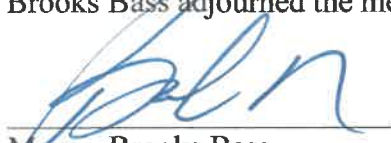
Resident Mario Maraira stated that in the 1700 block of 5th Street that residents complain that the city is not maintaining the grass around the sidewalk area.

Mayor Bass stated that it is the responsibility of property owners to maintain from the curb to the edge street or alley.


Resident Nicole Mireles requested a paper copy of the map and was provided one.

Adjourn

On a motion by Councilman Yates, seconded by Councilman Cain, with all present voting "Aye", Mayor Brooks Bass adjourned the meeting at 7:16 PM.



Mayor, Brooks Bass
City of Freeport, Texas



Assistant City Secretary, Laura Tolar
City of Freeport, Texas