

State of Texas

County of Brazoria

City of Freeport

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the City Council of Freeport, Texas met on Monday, November 2, 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
Betty Wells, City Secretary
Laura Tolar, Assistant City Secretary/ Special Projects Coordinator
Chris Duncan, City Attorney
Brenda Miller-Ferguson, Human Resource Director
Brian Dybala, Freeport Municipal Golf Course Director
Billy Shoemaker, Freeport Building and Code Director
Ray Garivey, Freeport Police Chief
LeAnn Strahan, Destinations Director Via Teleconference

Visitors:

Jerry Meeks (Veolia)	David McGinty
Manning Rollerson	Nick Irene (Facts)
Nicole Mireles	Sam Reyna
Tommy Pearson	Desiree Pearson
Kenny Hayes	Ty Morrow

Visitors, Via Teleconference:

Vander Williams	Mario Muraira
Amanda	Eric Hayes

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

Manning Rollerson spoke to council about his concerns of the homeless people in the City of Freeport.

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

Presentation by Freese and Nichols regarding Golf Course Bank erosion.

Ron Bavarian with Freese and Nichols presented to Council information regarding the Freeport Golf Course Bank Erosion. He said that this is not an action item, but one to provide information.

Presentation of the Investment Report for the quarter ending September 30, 2020.

Assistant City Manager Stephanie Russell presented to council the Investment Report for the quarter ending September 30, 2020.

Emergency management briefing COVID-19.

Freeport Police Chief Ray Garivey said that we need to keep wearing our mask, and washing and sanitizing our hands.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consideration and possible action on the approval of City Council meeting minutes from October 19 2020 and City Council Special Meeting on October 26 2020.

Consideration of a request from Will J. Brooks, Parade Co-Chairman of the 35th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Committee (MLKCC), is requesting permission to close portions of the following streets during the parade to be held on Monday, January 18, 2021. 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.

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

On a motion by Councilwoman Loeza, seconded by Councilman Cain, with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved the Consent Agenda.

REGULAR SESSION

Public Hearing: Public Hearing and possible action on Replat of Lots 50-51, Block 4, Of Bar X Ranch Section Five Recorded in Volume 16, Pages 195-198 of the Brazoria County Plat Records in the Asa Mitchell Survey Abstract 97. City of Freeport (ETJ) Brazoria County, Texas. October 2020

Mayor Brooks Bass opened the Public Hearing at 6:21 PM.

Freeport Building and Code Director, Billy Shoemaker presented to council a Replat of Lots 50-51, Block 4, Of Bar X Ranch Section Five Recorded in Volume 16, Pages 195-198 of the Brazoria County Plat Records in the Asa Mitchell Survey Abstract 97. City of Freeport (ETJ) Brazoria County, Texas. October 2020. He said that this was presented to Planning and Zoning and was unanimously approved.

Mayor Bass closed the Public Hearing at 6:23 PM.

On a motion by Councilwoman Loeza, seconded by Councilman Green, with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved Replat of Lots 50-51, Block 4. Of Bar X Ranch Section Five Recorded in Volume 16, Pages 195-198 of the Brazoria County Plat Records in the Asa Mitchell Survey Abstract 97. City of Freeport (ETJ) Brazoria County, Texas. October 2020.

Public Hearing: Public Hearing and possible action on Replat of Strother Subdivision a combination of Lots 2 and 3, Block 2 of the San Bernard River Estates Unit One. As recorded in Volume 16, Pages 2-3 of the Brazoria County Plat Records in the William Cummins Survey Abstract 59 Brazoria County, Texas. September 2020.

Mayor Bass opened the Public Hearing 6:23 PM

Freeport Building and Code Director, Billy Shoemaker presented to council a Replat of Strother Subdivision a combination of Lots 2 and 3, Block 2 of the San Bernard River Estates Unit One. As recorded in Volume 16, Pages 2-3 of the Brazoria County Plat Records in the William Cummins Survey Abstract 59 Brazoria County, Texas. September 2020. He said that this was presented to Planning and Zoning and was unanimously approved.

Mayor Bass closed the Public Hearing at 6:24 PM.

On a motion by Councilman Cain, seconded by Councilman Yates, with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved Replat of Strother Subdivision a combination of Lots 2 and 3, Block 2 of the San Bernard River Estates Unit One. As recorded in Volume 16, Pages 2-3 of the Brazoria County Plat Records in the William Cummins Survey Abstract 59 Brazoria County, Texas. September 2020

Public Hearing: Public Hearing and possible action on Replat of Bar X Ranch Subdivision, Section 4 Lot 63A-2.05 Acres. Amended Plat of all of Lots 62 and 63, Block 1, Bar X Ranch Subdivision, Section 4, as Originally Platted in Volume 16, pages 167-170, Plat Records, Brazoria County, Texas.

Mayor Bass Opened the Public Hearing at 6:25 PM

Freeport Building and Code Director, Billy Shoemaker presented to council a Replat of Bar X Ranch Subdivision, Section 4 Lot 63A-2.05 Acres. Amended Plat of all of Lots 62 and 63, Block 1, Bar X Ranch Subdivision, Section 4, as Originally Platted in Volume 16, pages 167-170, Plat Records, Brazoria County, Texas. He said that this was presented to Planning and Zoning and was unanimously approved.

Mayor Bass closed the Public Hearing at 6:26 PM.

On a motion by Councilwoman Loeza, seconded by Councilman Green, with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved Replat of Bar X Ranch Subdivision, Section 4 Lot 63A-2.05 Acres. Amended Plat of all of Lots 62 and 63, Block 1, Bar X Ranch Subdivision, Section 4, as Originally Platted in Volume 16, pages 167-170, Plat Records, Brazoria County, Texas.

Consideration and possible action of approving Ordinance No. 2020-2616 amending Chapter 52 of the Code of Ordinances to add a Disabled Citizens Discount.

Assistant City Manager Stephanie Russell presented to council Ordinance No. 2020-2616 amending Chapter 52 of the Code of Ordinances to add a Disabled Citizens Discount. She said that in her opinion there are just a handful of residents that will qualify for this discount. Ms. Russell said that the disabled resident must meet one of three certification requirements in order to qualify.

Councilman Roy Yates asked how much the discount would be. Ms. Russell said 20% off the base rate.

Several Freeport Residents spoke in favor of this amendment to the Ordinance

Councilwoman Loeza asked if you must be a Senior Citizen to apply for this discount. Ms. Russell said no. It was clarified that this discount would not be able to be combined with the already available senior discount.

On a motion by Councilwoman Loeza, seconded by Councilman Cain, with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved Ordinance No. 2020-2616 amending Chapter 52 of the Code of Ordinances to add a Disabled Citizens Discount.

Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Coronavirus Relief Fund ("CRF") Spending Plan.

Assistant City Manager Stephanie Russell presented to council the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) spending plan. She explained how this plan works, and gave the dates of the deadlines.

Mayor Bass said that the funds are based on the population of the city. He said that this is for COVID related expenses. He said that the money can be used for indigent needs of Freeport residents for utility bills, but there is a time limit on this. Residents must apply by November 16, 2020. This will be for 100 people in the amount of \$300.00.

Ms. Russell said that the money must be spent by December 4, 2020 and receipts are due to the City by December 11, 2020.

Councilman Cain asked if we can increase the number from 100 residents to more?

Ms. Russell calculated and that this could be increased to 320 households. She said that the \$300.00 could be given to 320 qualifying households at a total cost of \$96,000.00.

On a motion by Councilman Cain to include the \$96,000.00 to be allocated to the Utility Relief Program, and seconded by Councilwoman Loeza, with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved the proposed Coronavirus Relief Fund ("CRF") Spending Plan.

Consideration and possible action approving Ordinance No. 2020-2615 the proposed updates to the truck route.

City Manager Tim Kelty presented to Council Ordinance No. 2020-2615 the proposed updates to the truck route. He said that when this was brought to Council previously the recommendation for approval from Planning and Zoning had the condition that the speed limit be reduced on 5th street. He said after conducting a speed study that the speed limit could not be legally lowered. He said that staff is in the process of posting the existing 30MPH limit, and he has asked for additional police enforcement in this area. He recommended changing the truck route now, and then redoing the speed study in a few months to determine if it could be lowered.

Several residents spoke in favor of this ordinance for safety reasons.

On a motion by Councilman Cain, seconded by Councilman Green, with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved Ordinance No. 2020-2615 the proposed updates to the truck route.

Consideration and possible action of designation of streets for rehab by Brazoria County.

Sam Reyna handed out to council information on street material. He said that this is better and cheaper than asphalt.

City Manager Tim Kelty presented to council the proposed streets for rehab by Brazoria County. He said that there are sixteen streets, and three alleys being proposed with the County Contract.

Mayor Bass asked if the milling will be done properly, and will we be working with Veolia to make sure we are working on the sewer and water lines? Mr. Kelty said yes, we have a list from Veolia where we have some issues.

Councilman Yates asked if we will just be adding more asphalt? Mr. Kelty said no, the streets will be milled down.

On a motion by Councilman Cain, seconded by Councilman Green, with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved designation of streets for rehab by Brazoria County.

Consideration and possible action of approving Resolution No. 2020-2665 for a policy revision to the Personnel Policy Handbook in regards to Grandfathering Clause of Certification Pay.

Human Resource Director, Brenda Ferguson presented to council Resolution No. 2020-2665 for a policy revision to the Personnel Policy Handbook in regards to Grandfathering Clause of Certification/Education Pay. She said that in September, Chapter 9 of the Personnel Policy Handbook was updated with a max of certification pay being at \$5000.00 a year. Ms. Ferguson said that we have five employees from two separate departments that are already over the \$5000.00 and this was before October 1.

Councilman Cain asked if the employees that have already passed this \$5000.00 are they maxed out? Ms. Ferguson said yes.

On a motion by Councilman Cain, seconded by Councilwoman Loeza, with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 2020-2665 for a policy revision to the Personnel Policy Handbook in regards to Grandfathering Clause of Certification Pay.

WORK SESSION:

Councilman Green had no comment.

Councilman Cain said that he wanted to give a shout out for all the city workers that worked the Fright Fest. He said that it was a great turnout.

Councilwoman Loeza said that she wanted to thank everyone that worked the Fright Fest, she said that it was a great turnout and a lot of fun. She asked if we can do a contest for the month of December for the residents to decorate their yards.

Councilman Yates had no comment.

Mayor Bass encouraged everyone to vote. He also said that to spread the word on residents applying for the utility program.

Update on reports / concerns from Department heads

Billy Shoemaker presented to council some of the properties that are work in progress from the unsafe structure ordinance that was passed.

Open session was closed at 7:36 pm and Council entered into Executive Session.

CLOSED SESSION:

Executive Session regarding a.) (Potential Litigation) consultation with city attorney b.) (Deliberations about Real Property), 212 East Park Ave in accordance with Government Code Annotated, Chapter 551, Sections 551.071, 551.074.

REGULAR SESSION

Mayor Brooks Bass reconvened regular session at 7:45 P.M.

There was no action taken.

Adjourn

On a motion by Councilwoman Loeza, seconded by Councilman Cain, with all present voting "Aye", Mayor Brooks Bass adjourned the meeting at 7:45 PM.



Mayor, Brooks Bass
City of Freeport, Texas



City Secretary, Betty Wells
City of Freeport, Texas