

State of Texas

County of Brazoria

City of Freeport

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the City Council of Freeport, Texas met on Tuesday, December 21, 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  
Councilman Mario Muraira  
Councilman Roy E. Yates Absent  
Councilman Jeff Pena

Staff: Tim Kelty, City Manager Via Teleconference  
Stephanie Russell, Assistant City Manager  
Betty Wells, City Secretary Via Teleconference  
Chris Duncan, City Attorney  
Laura Tolar, Assistant City Secretary/ Special Projects Coordinator  
Via Teleconference.  
Ray Garivey, Freeport Police Chief  
Lance Petty, Public Works Director  
Chris Motley, Freeport Fire Chief  
Clarissa Molina, Administrative Assistant  
Giselle Hernandez, Accounts Payable Specialist  
Donna Fisher, Human Resource Assistant

Visitors: Manning Rollerson David McGinty  
Nicole Mireles Sandra Loeza  
Cindy

Visitors, Via Teleconference: Amanda Vander Williams  
Billy Shoemaker Courtland Holman  
Kim Hammonds Eric Bailey  
Paul Crow

**Call to order.**

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

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Invocation was led by Tim Kelty and Pledge was led by Mayor Brooks Bass.

**COUNCIL BUSINESS:**

Consideration and possible action approving Ordinance 2020-2622 Canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the December 15, 2020 run-off Election for City Council Ward A, signing the required affidavit, and administering the oath for the successful candidate.

City Manager Tim Kelty presented to council Ordinance 2020-2622 Canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the December 15, 2020 run-off Election for City Council Ward A. He said that the runoff election for Ward A was held on December 15, 2020, Jeff Pena received the majority of the votes for this election.

On a motion by Councilman Green, seconded by Councilman Cain, with all present voting "Aye" 4-0 Council unanimously approved Ordinance 2020-2622 Canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the December 15, 2020 run-off Election for City Council Ward A.

Administer oath of office to newly elected council member Ward A.

Mayor Brooks Bass swore in newly elected council member Jeff Pena for Ward A.

Councilman Jeff Pena thanked the people who supported and encouraged him in the election.

### Citizen's Comments

Manning Rollerson spoke to council of his concerns of the young man on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. He also spoke of the street light on the corner of his street stating that it is still out.

Mayor Bass also spoke of the Blessing Box at Sweet T's Diner.

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

Presentation recognizing outgoing Council Members Sandra Loeza, and Captain Ken Green.

Mayor Bass said that he appreciates all the work that was done while these council members served on this council. He spoke of the bonds that were passed. He said it is his honor to have served with these members.

City Manager Tim Kelty presented plaques to outgoing Council Members Sandra Loeza and Ken Green.

Ken Green thanked the council and the citizens of Ward A and the citizens of Freeport. He spoke of all the changes that were made.

Sandra Loeza, thanked the citizens of Freeport. She said that she enjoyed her time on Council and she is excited of all the changes that are coming to Freeport.

Employee service awards.

City Manager Tim Kelty said that these awards are given to recognize the commitment of longtime employees. He recognized 5-year employees: Patricia Castillo, Curtis Land, Abdul Martinez, Ashley Smith, and Arron Wagner. He recognized 10-year employee: Shawn Andel; and 15-year employees: Jessie Rodriguez and John Steig. These individuals were presented with a certificates and service pins.

City Manager Tim Kelty presented Donna Fisher with the Employee of the Year Award for 2020.

City Manager Tim Kelty presented the Director of the Year to Fire Chief Chris Motley for 2020.

Presentation of Employee of the Month for the month of November 2020.

City Manager Tim Kelty presented Giselle Hernandez with the employee of the month certificate for the month for November 2020.

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

Consent Agenda items are considered to be routine in nature and may be acted upon in one motion. Any item requiring additional discussion may be withdrawn from the Consent Agenda by the Mayor, Councilmember or City Manager, and acted upon separately.

Consideration and possible action on the approval of City Council meeting minutes from December 7, 2020.

Consideration and possible action on changing the date of the first and second meeting in January 2021. Due to the New Year Holiday, and Martin Luther King Jr., holiday, to Monday January 11, and Tuesday January 19, 2021.

Consideration of approving various items and equipment for surplus and approving the disposition of such items, by auction or otherwise.

On a motion by Councilman Muraira, seconded by Councilman Cain, with all present voting "Aye" 4-0 Council unanimously approved the Consent Agenda.

### **COUNCIL BUSINESS – REGULAR SESSION:**

Consideration and possible action of awarding Competitive Sealed Bid (CSB) #2008 Stormwater Pump Station Electrical Overhaul, to Infrastructure Engineering & Construction, LLC

Assistant City Manager Stephanie Russell presented to council the consideration of awarding Competitive Sealed Bid (CSB) #2008 Stormwater Pump Station Electrical Overhaul, to Infrastructure Engineering & Construction, LLC. She said that staff advertised for sealed bids and we received two bids. The lowest bid received was by Infrastructure\_Engineering & Construction, LLC. She said that Freese and Nichols do recommend this company.

Council Muraira asked about the extra money in the amount of \$27,390.00 that was being saved on this bid, where it will go. Ms. Russell said that the extra money will stay in the Bond program to be used for other bond projects as council sees fit.

On a motion by Councilman Cain, seconded by Councilman Muraira with all present voting "Aye" 4-0 Council unanimously approved awarding Competitive Sealed Bid (CSB) #2008 Stormwater Pump Station Electrical Overhaul, to Infrastructure Engineering & Construction, LLC.

Consideration of requesting revisions to the County Interlocal street plan.

City Manager Tim Kelty presented to council the revisions to the County Interlocal street plan. He said that a list of streets were approved by Council in early November. Councilman Muraira has requested a

couple of changes to the list that was previously approved. The previous list as already been approved by the County, and it is unclear if they will approve the changes that are being requested.

Mayor Bass asked if the County has approved the changes. Mr. Kelty said that the county has not approved these changes yet. If approved tonight by council we will present to the County and hope to get these changes approved.

Councilman Pena asked when these repairs will begin? Mr. Kelty said that this is under the county control. He said that curb and gutter replacement has already begun on two streets, and water sewer lines are being planned for repair as well.

On a motion by Councilman Cain, seconded by Councilman Muraira with all present voting "Aye" 4-0 Council unanimously approved the County Interlocal street plan.

Consideration and possible action on approving designation of streets for 2021 concrete work Authorization for Freese and Nichols for engineering and bidding of those concrete streets.

City Manager Tim Kelty presented to council approving designation of streets for 2021 concrete work Authorization for Freese and Nichols for engineering and bidding of those concrete streets. He said that this will be paid for by part of the bond. He said that these are existing concrete streets, and will be replaced with concrete streets. He said that the next step is to have Freese and Nichols develop engineering specifications for the streets chosen and put the project for bid identify the streets that we want to replace.

Councilman Muraira asked what the total budget overall is. Mr. Kelty said about two and half million a year between asphalt and concrete. Councilman Muraira asked if we will be adding streets for next year. Mr. Kelty said yes. Councilman Muraira asked when we will discuss the next streets. Mr. Kelty said early March.

Ruben Renobato asked about 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, when the repairs will begin.

Mayor Bass said that this will be discussed in March.

Councilman Pena asked why 2<sup>nd</sup> Street was not brought into the street repair?

Mayor Bass said that council presented the streets that they felt needed repairs in their Wards.

On a motion by Councilman Muraira, seconded by Councilman Cain with all present voting "Aye" 4-0 Council unanimously approved designation of streets for 2021 concrete work Authorization for Freese and Nichols for engineering and bidding of those concrete streets.

Consideration and possible action of approving a one-time hazard pay to City Employees.

Mayor Bass said that since the start of this pandemic there has been discussion of how we will take care of our employees. He said that we have provided PPE, and overtime. He said that there needed to be something else. He said that about two months ago staff said that we can use CARE money. He said that we are able to do a one-time hazard pay to employees.

City Manager Tim Kelty presented to council the possible action of approving a one-time hazard pay to City Employees. He said that our employees are essential workers. He said that the city received over

\$600,000.00 in the Corona Relief Fund. He said that we would like to give \$1000.00 to all full-time employees, and \$500.00 to part time employees, as Hazard Pay. He said that this is to show the appreciation to our employees for their dedication throughout the pandemic.

Mayor Bass asked when these funds will be available to employees. Ms. Russell said it would be included in their December 31 paycheck.

Nicole Mireles said that she was unhappy with the \$200.00 dollars given to the employees. She said that she felt that they needed more.

Councilman Pena asked if these funds were from Grant Money? Mayor Bass said that he believes that this is coming from unassigned revenue from the Corona Relief fund, which is part of the federal stimulus package.

Councilman Cain asked if this is budget neutral. Mayor Bass said yes.

Councilman Muraira asked about the total cost was? Mr. Kelty said about \$135,000.00. Councilman Muraira asked what would be left once this is done? Mr. Kelty said that he did not have this total available at this moment. Councilman Muraira asked if we could raise this hazard pay to \$1500.00. Mayor Bass said if a motion is made then yes, if we have the funds to meet our other obligations. Councilman Muraira asked if staff anticipated changes tonight? Mr. Kelty said that change was always a possibility. What is provided is completely up to City Council.

On a motion by Councilman Cain, seconded by Councilman Pena with all present voting "Aye" 4-0 Council unanimously approved a one-time hazard pay to Full Time City Employees of \$1000.00, and \$500.00 to Part Time Employees.

#### Consideration and possible approval of Resolution No. 2020-2667 for the Legislative Agenda

Assistant City Manager presented to council the approval of Resolution No. 2020-2667 for the Legislative Agenda. She said that this is just to approve the items that staff feels could impact the City. Mayor Bass said that this is a list of our priorities.

On a motion by Councilman Muraira, seconded by Councilman Cain with all present voting "Aye" 4-0 Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 2020-2667 for the Legislative Agenda

#### **WORK SESSION:**

Councilman Pena said that he did not want to use this time discuss the pot holes and the street lights. But said that he has received calls from Ward A residents over the streets and lights. He said that he wants to make sure that residents know that they are being heard. He said that he hopes we can engage our residents. He said that our website has a link for GovQa. He said that this needs to be promoted. Councilman Pena said that there were some lights that have been repaired but there are some that have not been repaired on the list that he provided a few weeks back.

Councilman Cain said that there is need for street repair on 2<sup>nd</sup> street. He said that there are street lights in the City that are not working at the intersection of Velasco and 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Councilman Muraira asked about the progress on the signs for the park and for Yellowstone street. Mr. Kelty said that the child at play signs have been ordered, and will be installed as soon as we get them in. He asked when the museum will reopen. Mr. Kelty said that there will be an emergency management meeting to discuss when this and other departments will reopen. Councilman Muraira said that he received a call from a resident about potholes in the alley of Walnut and Cedar Street, he asked if there is an update on this. Mr. Kelty said that this will be looked into.

Mayor Bass said that there are no reports from Councilman Yates, but he and his wife did test negative and we look forward to having him back.

City Manager Tim Kelty said that we have had a growing number of positive cases with City Employees.

Councilman Muraira asked about the \$27,000.00 that was left over, from the pump station repair where will this money be used. Mr. Kelty said that it will be used for drainage.

Mayor Bass said that the director reports are in the packets.

Update on reports / concerns from Department heads

No comment from department heads.

Open session was closed at 7:15 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 7:50 P.M.

There was no action taken from executive session.

Adjourn

On a motion by Councilman Cain, seconded by Councilman Pena, with all present voting "Aye", Mayor Brooks Bass adjourned the meeting at 7:50 PM.

  
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Mayor, Brooks Bass  
City of Freeport, Texas

  
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City Secretary, Betty Wells  
City of Freeport, Texas