

State of Texas

County of Brazoria

City of Freeport

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the City Council of Freeport, Texas met on Monday, November 1, 2021 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 Jeff Pena
- Councilman Jerry Cain
- Councilman Mario Muraira
- Councilman Troy Brimage

Staff:

- Tim Kelty, City Manager
- Betty Wells, City Secretary
- Cathy Ezell, Finance Director
- Chris Duncan, City Attorney
- Lance Petty, Public Works Director
- Chris Motley, Fire Chief
- Kacey Roman, Building Official
- LeAnn Strahan, Destinations Director
- Ray Garivey, Freeport Police Chief
- Clarisa Molina, Administrative Assistant

Visitors:

Landis Adams	Gina Adams
Kenny Hayes	Larry Fancher
Melanie Oldham	Raven Wuebker
Sabrina Brimage	Sam Reyna
Manning Rollerson	Nicole Mireles
Dania Moreno	Lorenzo Gomez
Jose Montoya	Sandra Barnett
Jim Barnett	Sandra Loeza
Pam Dancy	Eric Hayes
Ed Garcia	Mary Garcia
Diane McCleaster	Ruben Renobato
Bryan Bruce	Zach Dully, Vulcan

Visitors, Via Teleconference:

Laura Tolar	Robert Cramer
Vander Williams	Amanda Petty
George Hawkins	Tyler Lowe
Yvette Ruiz	Lila Diehl
Lauralee Ellis	Jen Hawkins
Eddie Saucedo	

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.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

Diane McCleaster, 97 Dolphin Lane spoke to council of her concerns of tabling the proposed Short-Term Rental Ordinance, on the October 18, 2021 meeting. She said the reason to table this ordinance, was owners of Short-Term Rental properties did not receive notice of this proposed ordinance. Ms. McCleaster said that notice must be published once the ordinance is passed. She said that Councilman Pena has four Air B & B listings in Freeport, and it appears to be the most of any single host, in our area. She said that she appreciates that he is trying to revitalize Freeport, and his properties meet most of the requirements per this proposed ordinance. Ms. McCleaster said that it seems to her that his request to table this ordinance as a member of council, on the October 18 ,2021 is self-serving, and in conflict with his council service. She said to please reconsider this proposed ordinance and bring it to a vote.

Lorenzo Gomez, 314 South Ave C spoke to council of his concern of a reroof of a building on his property. He said he has not received his original survey back from the city. He said that he has lived in the city for 50 years, and he has owned a business. Mr. Gomez said that the he was told his grease trap is not in compliance, and that he has received citations for his property. He said that he is being harassed and that the citations need to be dismissed and he needs to be reimbursed for the 20 hours community service he has worked because the citations were issued under the previous building official.

Manning Rollerson spoke to council of his concern of Conflict of Interest. He said that Council Members are buying taxable property and removing it off of the tax roll. He said there is a conflict of interest in this. He said that the city owes him money from the taxes that he has paid to maintain the levy. He said the city illegally sold the levy to private property owners and that state officials told him this was not allowed. He spoke to council about his father being told to paint his garage. Mr. Rollerson said that the city cannot tell a resident to paint their personal property.

Jose Montoya said that he has been in Freeport for the last 35 years. He said during this time he has been involved, in the parks, school and the church. He said the majority of his time has been dedicated to the Freeport Soccer Club and the Medical Center. He said over the years, Mayors and council have come and gone, he said some of you may know me. Mr. Montoya said that he represents the Freeport Soccer Club, and he wants to speak to council about condition the Soccer Field is in. He said it is a shame that we do not have soccer fields appropriate to accommodate our kids. There is no electricity and we have no lights in the restrooms. He said that it is a shame that the city does not have an appropriate field for our youth. He said that it is embarrassing, to go to a County meeting and be asked to host a tournament, and have to turn it down because we do not have soccer fields to accommodate. He said that he has talked to past council and Mayors and there have been a lot of empty promises. Mr. Montoya said I hope that this council will do something for this sport, for our kids in Freeport. Mr. Montoya said that we are losing our youth to other cities because our fields are so bad.

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

Presentation of quarterly investment report.

Finance Director, Cathy Ezell presented to council the fourth quarter investment report for 2021.

Presentation by City Attorney on investigation of Boys and Girl Club Property purchase by Councilman Pena.

Nicole Mireles asked if we got an independent investigator to do this investigation, or was this done internally? Mayor Bass said that the investigation was done by City Attorney, Chris Duncan with the help of TML.

Ed Garcia, 1924 North Ave G said that he feels that City Council should have appointed an independent investigator, because Councilman Pena is on council and a Board Member of the Freeport EDC. He said that he hopes council will reconsider and appoint an independent investigation into this matter.

Mayor Bass said that this has been going on for a while and this is the first he has heard of a request for an independent investigation. He said that he believes council has followed policy.

City Attorney, Chris Duncan presented to council the investigation of Boys and Girl Club Property purchased by Councilman Pena. He said that he does not represent individual city council members, he is the attorney of the council as a whole. Mr. Duncan said that there was a comment made in citizens comments a few months back that Councilman Pena needed to be looked into with regard to his purchase of the property at 202 W. 1st Street, The Boys and Girls Club. He said that the Boys and Girls Club was not part of a proposed development by a developer. Mr. Duncan said that he investigated this allegation along with TML. He laid out a timeline of events from February 2020 until September 2020, before the purchase of the property. Mr. Duncan said that there were over 500 emails reviewed. He spoke with EDC Members that were on the board at the time, reviewed Brazoria County Property Records, spoke with Directors and Members of the Boys and Girls Club, spoke with City Bond Council that had been working with the Developer that was interested in developing in Freeport. He said that he reached out to Marinel Music, who is the one that brought the allegation forward, with no reply from her. Mr. Duncan said that he read emails from the Mr. Pena, and the Boys and Girls Club. Mr. Duncan said that in conclusion Councilman Pena's, interest in the Boys and Girls Club had nothing to do with his membership on the EDC Board, he said that when Councilman Pena discussed this property with the Boys and Girls Club the developer was looking at different property. When the contract was signed, the developer had communicated they could not get financing and they were not going to do any deals in the City of Freeport. TML agrees that there were no concerns of any ethical violations.

Councilman Brimage asked City Attorney, Chris Duncan if he spoke with Amber Newman with the Boys and Girls Club? Mr. Duncan said yes this is who he spoke with. Councilman Brimage asked if Ms. Newman mentioned trading this building to the City? Mr. Duncan said no, she never mentioned this.

Chris Duncan said that Mr. Pena paid asking price of the building, and this was voted on and approved by the Boys and Girls Club, Board Members.

Mayor Bass said that this this report has been finalized. He said that this report is available if the public would like to review.

Manning Rollerson said that this is a conflict of interest.

Pam Dancy said that there while there were no ethical violations in this transaction, she said he is a member of the City Council and this should have been brought up to the board that the property was up for sale.

Councilman Pena said that speaking on his behalf, has become a reoccurring theme, since he started volunteering here in Freeport. He said that he hopes council will develop a process, that will require a set of processes and evidence, before the city takes on any future investigations. He said if not then we risk what happened tonight, unfair allegations that will continue with the petty politic attacks. He said we need to clean this up. He said that council should pass an ordinance to disclose assets and holdings by all council and board members within the city.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Consideration and possible action on the approval of City Council meeting minutes from October 18, 2021.

Consideration for road closure for St Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church for the Solemnity of Christ the King procession.

Consideration and possible action approving Resolution No. 2021-2715 lifting the Emergency Declaration.

On a motion by Councilman Brimage, seconded by Councilman Cain, with all voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved item numbers 3-5 on the Consent Agenda.

COUNCIL REGULAR AGENDA:

Consideration and possible action approving of the annual streets contract and listing of streets for the Interlocal Agreement Brazoria County for 2021-2022.

Public Works Director, Lance Petty presented to council the annual streets contract and listing of streets for the Interlocal Agreement Brazoria County for 2021-2022. He said that staff recommends that council authorize and execute a contract with Brazoria County and the list of asphalt streets for FY21-22. He said that list was presented to council at the last city council meeting for the total estimated cost of \$382,972.93, he said this is the material cost only. Prior to the meeting, Councilman Muraira submitted four additional streets, one being concrete and they were included for consideration. The beach entrance, and golf course road will utilize grant funding. Mr. Petty said Councilman Pena submitted a list of streets later, as well, and those were passed out at the beginning of the meeting.

Councilman Muraira said that he sees an unfair balance. He said that he feels his streets are in bad condition. He said that Ward A only received 20,000 SQ FT. Ward B received 16,000 SQ FT. Ward C 37,236 SQ FT. Ward D was the highest with 111,622 SQ FT. Councilman Muraira said that he does not feel that this is a fair balance. He said that he would like to see more in his Ward. He said that he submitted these streets last year and they did not make it. He wants to know why he wasn't told that they would not make it this year, he said he would appreciate more communication by the City Manager.

Councilman Brimage said that we are one city, not just one Ward. We hire professionals to tell us which roads need attention. He advised Councilman Muraira to request an increase to the budget. Brimage said you don't take away from one Ward to fix another Ward.

Councilman Cain told Councilman Muraira that this is just asphalt streets, not concrete. He said that you may see next year, there is more concrete streets in one ward than the other. Councilman Cain said that he agrees that this list of streets is what is best for the city.

Councilman Muraira said that Councilman Brimage was correct about a few things, but he has noticed a lot of political undergivings. Councilman Muraira said for example the current asphalt streets that are being worked on, his ward is the last one to be completed, and the county has not done much. Councilman Muraira asked, if the streets in Ward D were such a priority, why weren't they a priority last year? Mayor Bass said that some of these streets were put in by Councilman Yates.

Councilman Brimage asked Mr. Petty if he (Mr. Brimage) had submitted any streets to him? Mr. Petty said no sir.

Mayor Bass asked Councilman Muraira to please explain what he means by political underpinning? Councilman Muraira said, "it is what, it is meant to be". He said that there is constant pressure, and not enough being done to meet needs that he has spoken about. Mayor Bass said if you are talking about the county, we do not have a lot of control on which streets they start on, he said that there are no political underpinning on this what so ever. Mayor Bass said that he does not see how Councilman Muraira can say that this is political underpinning, and does not know how Councilman Muraira can make ambiguous accusations. He said that this is the problem that disintegrates the unity of this council, and keeps us from moving forward. Mayor Bass asked that Councilman Muraira be specific of the political underpinning which he is talking about. Councilman Muraira said there can be better communication with the County, he said that he has addressed it with Mr. Kelty. Mayor Bass asked if Councilman Muraira has called Dude Payne, Councilman Muraira said no sir. He said that he has spoke with Mr. Kelty, and Mr. Kelty has said that he has spoke with the County. Councilman Muraira said that he has not spoken with Dude Payne, but did speak with Joe Alvarado. He said this is Mr. Kelty's job. Mayor Bass said it is Mr. Kelty's job, as well as it is the job of the council. Because we represent the people of the city. Mayor Bass said if you have an issue with the County, call Dude Payne.

Councilman Pena said he did some simple math, Ward A has 10%, Ward B has 8%, Ward C has 20% and Ward D has 60%. He said that we should have a balanced approach going forward. He asked if we are under the gun tonight, we can try to get a balanced approach. Mayor Bass said that we are under the gun. Councilman Pena said that he met with Mr. Kelty with street needs in Ward A. He asked if they were included in this list? Mr. Petty said that there is a separate list with Ward A additional streets and alleys. Mr. Petty said that the 2nd Beach entrance street was not included in the original list.

On a motion by Councilman Brimage, seconded by Councilman Cain, with discussion that followed

Councilman Pena asked if when can look to add the 2nd Beach entrance. If so, can we consider to do it under a budget amendment. Mayor Bass said that this will be discussed with anything we do with Bryan Beach.

Mayor Bass called the motion for a vote, with a 4-1 vote, Council approved of the annual streets contract and listing of streets for the Interlocal Agreement Brazoria County for 2021-2022. Councilman Muraira voted "Ney".

Public Works Director, Lance Petty spoke to council about the information with the lights at the soccer fields. He said that the main transformer at the school had issues, and the school is not going to have this repaired. Mr. Petty said that he has spoken with Ron Saures and John Salinas with Centerpoint, he said that he was sent to another division of Centerpoint to get an EISD Number with an address. Mr. Petty said that Laura Tolar has given an address to this corner lot, and it has been submitted to Centerpoint, but Centerpoint came back saying it is not a valid address. At this point Mr. Kelty has a call into Mr. Salinas.

Discussion and possible action to instruct Attorney to take action to remove development restrictions from property in the Texas Parks and Wildlife Open Recreation Program.

Nicole Mireles asked what is the location of this property? And why do we want to remove this from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Open Recreation Program.

Ed Garcia said that this is the old Golf Course. He said that he is in favor of the city taking this action, but he is not in favor of a non-profit going onto this property.

There was a lengthy discussion by Council and City Attorney Chris Duncan to remove development restrictions from property in the Texas Parks and Wildlife Open Recreation Program.

On a motion by Councilman Pena to instruct City Attorney Chris Duncan to remove development restrictions from property in the Texas Parks and Wildlife Open Recreation Program, seconded by Councilman Muraira with discussion that followed.

Councilman Brimage asked if this includes the school district land? Councilman Pena said that it includes the baseball field that was swapped with the school district, and where the old Community House use to be. Councilman Brimage asked exactly how many acres are we talking about? He said we need a solid plan.

Mayor Bass said that he is concerned about the lack of specific information being presented in this. He asked if the Municipal Park is included in this?

Councilman Brimage asked why the survey was not reviewed before this was put on the agenda? Chris Duncan said that there is not a survey for this property.

Councilman Cain said he agrees with Councilman Brimage and Councilman Pena, this is prime land to generate taxes, but we need to make sure we know what we are doing. Councilman Cain asked that we table this item.

Mayor Bass asked if Councilmen Pena and Muraira if they were willing to withdraw their motion and second to have this taken up at a future meeting. With their consent, the item was tabled.

Consideration and possible action approving Ordinance No. 2021-2646 setting regulations for tow truck fees.

Police Chief, Raymond Garivey presented to council Ordinance No. 2021-2646 setting regulations for tow truck fees. He said that the City has the lowest fees in our area. He said that Clute and Lake Jackson have the tow truck fee set at \$130.00, and the County is \$160.00. This ordinance will allow the fee to be raised from \$100.00 to \$130.00. Chief Garivey said that this is not what the city charges, but it is the fee that the tow truck company is allowed to charge. This is for non-consent tows.

On a motion by Councilman Brimage, seconded by Councilman Cain, with discussion that followed.

Councilman Muraira asked why are we raising the rate on the citizens? It was explained that these rates are what the wrecker service is allowed to charge on vehicles that are abandoned, or from a DWI stop. It is for non-consent tows, we have to get these vehicles towed for the safety of our city. This ordinance sets the rate of the maximum fee that a wrecker can charge.

Mayor Bass called the motion for a vote, with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved Ordinance No. 2021-2646 setting regulations for tow truck fees.

Consideration and possible action on Resolution No. 2021-2716 in opposition to the development of a temporary asphalt plant.

Zach Dully with Vulcan Material Company spoke to council, he said that he is here to let council know that Vulcan has not filed for an Air Permit Application with TCEQ. Mr. Dully requests that city council hold off on passing this resolution until Vulcan has the opportunity to discuss this with all council. He said that this would include a briefing of the plant, and the operation of the plant, and any other questions that council may have about the plant.

Mayor Bass said the issue is the placement of this plant. He said it is by Jane Long Elementary and in the Reserve area. He said you will have to do a lot of convincing. Mr. Dully said this is why he would like to meet with each councilmember. Mayor Bass asked if opposition will prevent Vulcan from building their plant? Mr. Dully said that this is why he wants to meet with council. Mayor Bass asked if Vulcan will seek a permit without the city's approval. Mr. Dully said No.

Councilman Pena said that he would like to have a deeper conversation about the safety and the air quality.

Councilman Brimage asked will we meet with Vulcan before they apply for the permit with TCEQ? Mr. Dully said yes sir.

On a motion by Councilman Brimage, to table this item, until council has met with Vulcan, seconded by Councilman Pena.

Mayor Bass said with the understanding Mr. Dully, you told us "Vulcan will not proceed until we talk". Mr. Dully said "yes sir, we welcome having a meeting".

Consideration and possible action on Resolution No. 2021-2717 approving an opioid settlement with Johnson & Johnson.

City Manager Tim Kelty presented to council Resolution No. 2021-2717 approving an opioid settlement with Johnson & Johnson. He said this is a settlement that was negotiated by the State with Johnson & Johnson. Staff recommends that we move forward with this resolution.

Chris Duncan said that the State of Texas sued the manufacturer, and with this we are agreeing that we will accept the settlement and not sue the manufacture ourselves. He said that the amount is \$89,000.00 as a direct payment, this is the first settlement. He said that there are more to come, and we will have to agree to that later. He said for our region we will be able to apply for grants up to \$66 Million.

Mayor Bass said with the \$89,000.00 that he would like to help those addicted, and the families that are dealing with this.

On a motion by Councilman Cain, seconded by Councilman Brimage, with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 2021-2717 approving an opioid settlement with Johnson & Johnson.

Consideration and possible action to remove Board Member(s) from the Freeport Economic Development Corporation Board.

Ed Garcia said let's see if Mr. Pena is a man of his word, or if he is just here to speak. Mr. Garcia said that he believes this is just petty politics that brought this item before council. Mr. Garcia said that he is the President of the Freeport EDC Board, and he thinks the board as a whole has acted in the best interest of the City of Freeport.

Sam Reyna 2002 North Ave G, said this right here is why we do not have people wanting to volunteer to serve on our Boards. He said these board members should be allowed to finish out their terms. Mr. Reyna said that Councilman Muraira called and said that he wanted to speak with Nicole Mireles and Ed Garcia, so they all met at his house after the last meeting. He said that Councilman Muraira wanted Nicole and Edward to commit to having the Hispanic Chamber Event Center. Mayor Bass asked that he hold off on making specifics on this, because we do not know who Councilman Pena is wanting to be removed.

Kenny Hayes said that Jeff Pena should be removed. He said him buying the Boys and Girls Club may have been legal, but it is completely unethical. And the conflict of him being on City Council at the same time adds to the unethical decision. Mr. Hayes said that if anyone is removed, it should be him.

Councilman Pena presented to council the possible removal of Board Member(s) from the Freeport Economic Development Corporation Board. He said that he has a prepared statement. He said that when he decided to run for City Council it was because he saw that he could have a greater impact on helping Freeport move forward, and that has not changed. He said that in the past his service on the EDC he has been singled out for simply asking the tough questions. He said over the last eleven months he has witnessed the various petty politics of the EDC, which has prevented Freeport's growth, as well as nepotism and score keeping. Councilman Pena said there are so many examples, that he had to make categories, to present to council tonight. He said that he has about twelve, but he is only going to discuss four. They included Petty Political Score Keeping, Financial Malfeasance, Manipulation of Administrative Meeting Agendas, Exclusion of Board Members, and Subverting Development.

Councilman Pena made the motion to remove President Ed Garcia and Secretary Nicole Mireles from the Freeport EDC Board effective immediately. It was seconded by Councilman Muraira, with discussion that followed.

Councilman Brimage said Kenny Hayes, Mark Friedenbunrg, Lesa Girouard, and Trey Sullivan are all successful Freeport business people and former members of the EDC, and the type of people the City needs on the EDC. They all indicated to him that they resigned from serving on the EDC Board because of Jeff Pena. Councilman Brimage said we cannot have these kinds of politics in the City of Freeport, we were getting away from this, and we are headed right back into it. He said please don't let this manipulation fool you.

Mayor Bass asked if this was brought to all of the EDC Boards attention in a meeting? Councilman Pena said no it was not brought to the EDC Board.

Nicole Mireles said that everything that Jeff Pena has stated, is the way it was when he was the President. She said that she understands why other members have resigned. She said that Jeff Pena is a bully.

Melanie Oldham said that she has attended EDC Meetings for the last six years. She said the meetings are a circus. She said it is embarrassing. She said there is a lot of disfunction.

Ed Garcia said that Jeff Pena said “over the past eleven months these things have been ongoing with the EDC”. He said that Pena was president for seven of those months. He said that he guarantees everything he said that is going on now, was going on during his administration.

Mayor Bass called the motion for a vote, with 3-2 vote, Council approved the motion to remove President Ed Garcia and Secretary Nicole Mireles from the Freeport EDC Board effective immediately. Mayor Bass and Councilman Brimage voted “Ney”.

Consideration and possible action to remove Board Member(s) from the Freeport Planning and Zoning Board.

Ed Garcia said that he hates repeating himself, but it’s the same petty politics.

Melanie Oldham is a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, she said that Nicole Mireles has disrespected her over and over. She explained that she requested the last meeting be rescheduled, before electing officers, because there were only three members in attendance. She said Ms. Mireles said no that there was a quorum.

Sam Reyna said that Ms. Oldham could have walked out of the meeting, he said if she would have left there would not have been a quorum.

Mayor Bass said just because you can do something does not mean that you should. He said that he still believes these issues should be taken up with each board before being brought to council.

Mayor Bass called for a motion.

Councilman Pena said this is the petty politics of Freeport. He said that there are about three or four camps, and he is not part of any of them. He said that he brought this to council because he has heard of the disfunctions of the leadership in the Planning Commission, caused by Nicole Mireles.

Councilman Pena made a motion to remove Nicole Mireles from the Planning and Zoning Commission effectively immediately, seconded by Councilman Muraira. With discussion that followed.

Councilman Brimage asked Clarisa Molina who was online? Ms. Molina said “Vander Williams, Lila Deihl, Yvette, and Laura”. Councilman Brimage said “thank you”.

Mayor Bass called the motion for a vote, with a 3-2 vote, Council approved to remove Nicole Mireles from the Planning and Zoning Commission effectively immediately. Mayor Bass and Councilman Brimage voted “Ney”.

WORK SESSION:

Mayor Bass told Mr. Montoya that we are trying to get electricity as quickly as we can on the soccer fields. Councilman Brimage asked how many kids are registered? Mr. Montoya said 90. Mayor Bass congratulated Cindy and Jerry Cain, as well as LeAnn Strahan on the tremendous success of the Fright Fest Thursday night. He said that there were over 500 children. Jerry Cain said they ran out of goodie bags by 7 PM. Mayor Bass thanked the Chief for the patrol that was out Sunday night. Mayor Bass said that Councilman Brimage had a point when he said that the citizens need to talk to their councilman. He said we need to hear from you. He said that he believes Troy is passionate, and when he says things, folks need to listen. He said that he has heard people say that Troy lives in a house that the City of Freeport bought. Mayor Bass said folks this is not true. Just as Councilman Pena with the accusations against him. He said get your facts before you speak. He said that positive things have been done for the City of Freeport. He said that we have to be honest with each other. He asked council, to be true to yourself.

Councilman Pena told Mr. Kelty that on 4th and 5th Street there has been a lot of debris that has not been picked up. Councilman Pena thanked Mr. Kelty for getting the lights on Broad and 2nd Street. He said the strips on Ave A and Velasco are put in place. He said he wanted to thank Mr. Petty for getting Ave A that leads to Hooks asphalted. Councilman Pena said all of Freeport needs to benefit for all of these infrastructure changes. He said that he is glad that Hooks, that is on the River, has a clear path to drive to. Councilman Pena said that he sincerely means this.

Councilman Cain said that the 1400 block of 10th Street where there was a house fire about six weeks ago, has been demolished and cleaned out. Councilman Cain asked where we stand on the home at 2nd and Velasco, and the other home at 10th and Velasco? Kacey Roman said that we are processing the warrants to present for demolition. Councilman Cain said that he has had complaints of how people are having to jump through hoops to get permits. He asked if there is anything that we can do to make this a smoother process. Ms. Roman said that they are making a checklist of what is needed for a permit to help make things clear up front. Ms. Roman said that they have been in contact with Waste Connections for the trash pickup in the areas discussed.

Councilman Muraira had no comment.

Councilman Brimage said that he is embarrassed by how this council is going, and he does not agree with it. He said that we went through this about five years ago, and we finally had gotten rid of it. But, we are now right back where we were. He said that he sees the control that these two gentlemen are falling under, and the effect that they have had on people that can turn the city upside down. He said, do not let that happen again. He said he is begging the citizens of Freeport to rise up, and not let this city go backwards. Councilman Brimage said on the next agenda, he wants an action item for the entire EDC Board to be removed. He said he has always chosen Freeport, and he always will. Councilman Brimage said if you love Freeport get rid of the politics. He said that everything Pena talked about, it all failed. He said this has set Freeport back, probably years.

City Manager Tim Kelty said that the City has received our first GLO grant award of \$6 million dollars, for the sewer, and hoped to receive the second one this week. He said that this is the Federal Grant money, and it will not be fast. But we do have some projects that are starting up now using the Bond Funding that Council approved. He announced that the city was re-approved in the Main Street Community. He said that Ms. Strahan worked hard on this.

Update on reports / concerns from Department heads

Open session was closed at 8:40 pm and Council entered into Executive Session

CLOSED SESSION:

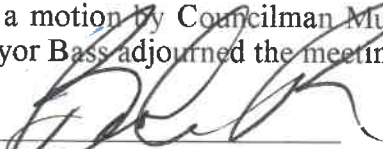
Executive Session regarding a.) (Potential Litigation) consultation with city attorney b.) (Deliberations about Real Property), East End and Brazos Cove, in accordance with Government Code Annotated, Chapter 551, Sections 551.071, 551.072.

REGULAR SESSION


Mayor Bass reconvened regular session at 9:05 P.M.

Adjourn

On a motion by Councilman Mupaira, seconded by Councilman Cain, with all present voting "Aye", Mayor Bass adjourned the meeting at 9:05 P.M.



Mayor Brooks Bass
City of Freeport, Texas



City Secretary, Betty Wells
City of Freeport, Texas