

State of Texas

County of Brazoria

City of Freeport

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the City Council of Freeport, Texas met on Monday, June 7, 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
Chris Duncan, City Attorney
Cathy Ezell, Finance Director
Lance Petty, Public Works Director
Laura Tolar, Special Events Coordinator, Via Teleconference
LeAnn Strahan, Destinations Director
Courtland Holman, EDC Director
Clarisa Molina, Administrative Assistant
Billy Shoemaker, Building/Code Director
Ray Garivey, Freeport Police Chief
Bob Cramer, Via Teleconference
Giselle Hernandez, Financial Analyst

Visitors: David McGinty Sandra Barnett
James Barnett Ken Green
Manning Rollerson Melanie Oldham
Sabrina Brimage Sandra Barnett
Desiree Pearson James Barnett
Ed Garcia Larry Fansher
Tommy Pearson Nick Irene (Facts)
Sam Reyna Nicole Mireles
Joe Gonzalez Annette Payne
Diane McCleester Con McCleester
Ruben Renobato Charlie Johnson
Margaret McMahan Gary Guerriery

Visitors, Via Teleconference: Amanda Petty Lila Diehl
Melissa Ashington (GLO) Vander Williams

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 City Manager Tim Kelty, the Pledge was led by Councilman Brimage.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

Members of the public are allowed to address the City Council at this time, and must include name and address. Note, specific factual information or a recitation of existing policy may be furnished in response to an inquiry made, but any deliberation, discussion, or decision with respect to any subject about which the inquiry was made shall be limited to a proposal to place such subject on the agenda for a subsequent meeting for which notice is provided in compliance with the Texas Open meetings Act unless said notice appears herein. The public is reminded that there is a (4) minute time limit as approved by City Council on June 21, 2010.

Larry Fansher with the CCF spoke to council about the investigation that was conducted on the leak that occurred from the candidate forum that the CCF hosted. He said that the independent investigation was done by Clay Hutcherson. Mr. Fansher said that this found that two members acted alone without the knowledge of officers of the CCF. He said that with this information there are lessons that were learned and the CCF will be changing their By-Laws.

Nicole Mireles spoke to council of her concern of the issues with the sewer backing up when it rains. She said that she knows it is not this council's fault, because it has been this way for years, but this needs to be addressed.

Gary Gurriery spoke of his concern for the Short-Term Rentals in Bridge Harbor. He said that there are parties and underage drinking. He said that this needs to be taken care of. He said that there are dogs tied up, and cars that are parking in his driveway.

Annette Payne, 119 Redfish Lane, spoke to council against Short-Term Lease Rentals. She said that they need help with amending the ordinance for this. She spoke of the loud music, the parking on private property, and the garbage issue.

Diane McCleester spoke against Short-Term Lease Rentals. She said that an ordinance needs to be created to regulate Short-Term Rentals. She also complained about the Captains Table and Marina and the noise from the Karaoke that is held on Saturday nights, she said that she would like this to be shut down by 10 PM.

Joe Gonzalez 707 West 10th spoke to council about the sewer lines and the drainage from the lines when it rains. He said that this is a bad problem for 10th Street, he said it overflows, and becomes a health issue.

Cathy Lopez spoke to council of her concern from her sewer backing up when it rains. She said that she was told by Veolia it was her problem so she had a plumber come out, but the problem is still happening. Ms. Lopez said that Veolia came back out and cleaned the manhole, and this has helped with this problem. She said that for two weeks she had asked the City for help and they wouldn't help her. She also said that there is a sink hole on the other side of her fence. Ms. Lopez said that she appreciates City Manager Tim Kelty, and Councilman Muraira for all the help that they gave her.

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

Presentation on Demolition Report.

Building/Code Director Billy Shoemaker presented to council the demo report. He said that there have been fifteen permits pulled for demos. Mr. Shoemaker said that there are two in process, and twenty-one structures under evaluation.

Councilman Brimage asked what is the biggest challenge on getting these properties done? Mr. Shoemaker said that it's all about the money. Councilman Brimage said that we have to get this taken care of.

Councilman Cain said that he assumes that the property owners do not live in these houses. Mr. Shoemaker said that this is correct.

CONSENT AGENDA

Item Numbers 2-7 were moved from Consent Agenda to Council Regular Agenda by Mayor Bass.

COUNCIL REGULAR AGENDA:

Consideration and possible action on the approval of City Council meeting minutes from May 17, 2021.

On a motion by Councilman Brimage, seconded by Councilman Cain, with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved City Council meeting minutes from May 17, 2021.

Consideration and possible action approving an agreement for temporary use of ROW at driveway on property at Ave U.

City Manager Tim Kelty presented to council an agreement for temporary use of ROW for a driveway on unconstructed portion of at Ave U ROW. He said that Javier Acuna owns four 25' lots, and he is wanting to build two houses on this property. Mr. Kelty said that there is no constructed road frontage to those lots so Mr. Acuna would have to construct a driveway along an undeveloped portion of Ave U.

On a motion by Councilman Muraira, seconded by Councilman Pena, with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved an agreement for temporary use of ROW at driveway on property at Ave U.

Councilman Muraira said that this property is in his Ward, and he knows where these individuals live, and this makes sense.

Consideration approving the road closure of outside lane from S. Ave. A to Front St. leaving one lane open to traffic for a 5K Benefit for "Blessings Women Helping Women" to be held on July 24, 2021.

Destinations Director, LeAnn Strahan presented to council the road closure of outside lane from S. Ave. A to Front St. leaving one lane open to traffic for a 5K Benefit for “Blessings Women Helping Women” to be held on July 24, 2021. She said that she thinks this is a great opportunity for Freeport.

On a motion by Councilman Brimage, seconded by Councilman Muraira, with all present voting “Aye” 5-0 Council unanimously approved the road closure of outside lane from S. Ave. A to Front St. leaving one lane open to traffic for a 5K Benefit for “Blessings Women Helping Women” to be held on July 24, 2021.

Consideration approving the road closure for Fort Velasco Day.

Destinations Director, LeAnn Strahan presented to council the request for road closure for Fort Velasco Day. She said that this event will be on June 26, 2021 from 9 AM – 4 PM. She said that there will be artillery and black powder rifle firing, and we are requesting approval for this as well. She said that the closure will be on 4th Street between East and West Park, and the 300 block of East and West Park at Broad extending to the North side of 4th Street.

On a motion by Councilman Brimage, seconded by Councilman Pena, with all present voting “Aye” 5-0 Council unanimously approved the road closure for Fort Velasco Day.

Councilman Pena asked what the hours of the event will be, and what time the roads will be blocked off? Ms. Strahan said that the event is from 9-4 and the closure should be started at 7 AM. She said that there will be individual camping in the park. Councilman Pena suggested using the parking lot behind the Museum. He also asked if we have adequate Police, EMS and trash pickup set up for this event? Ms. Strahan said yes, this will be coordinated with the Parks Department, and Police will be present and much as possible.

Mayor Bass asked what time the closure of the streets would be done? Ms. Strahan said by 5 PM.

Consideration approving the road closure for Barcadia Event.

Destinations Director, LeAnn Strahan presented to council the road closure for Barcadia Event. She said that this will be a bike and car show hosted by Mr. McDonald, owner of Barcadia and that he planned to sell alcohol at the event under his license.

Councilman Brimage asked what are the hours for this event? Ms. Strahan said that it will be from 9 AM – 9 PM, she said that this is for the closure and for the event. Councilman Brimage said that he wants to be clear that there will be no wet t-shirt contest. Ms. Strahan said that Mr. McDonald has said that this will not happen.

Councilman Pena asked who will be the primary contact for this event? Ms. Strahan said that she will be that person for the city. Councilman Pena also asked who will be responsible for security and for trash pickup? Ms. Strahan said that Mr. McDonald will provide the security, and that his staff will take care of the trash, and assures that everything is cleaned at the end of the event.

Mayor Bass said that he wants our PD at the event for the security, and he wants them to be compensated. Ms. Strahan said that Mr. McDonald said he will have no problem using our PD for security paying them directly for their time. Mayor Bass said that he would like there to be four officers.

On a motion by Councilman Brimage, with the use of our Peace Officers for security, seconded by Councilman Cain, with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved the road closure for Barcadia Event.

Councilman Pena said that he would like a follow up at a later date before the event for the security and the trash clean up.

Consideration and possible action on vacating of plat for Pena subdivision.

Building and Code Director, Billy Shoemaker presented to council the possible action on vacating of plat for Pena Subdivision. He said that the owner of this property wants to vacate the plat from 2020, and take it back to the original two lots. He said that this was approved by Planning and Zoning.

On a motion by Councilman Cain, seconded by Councilman Muraira, with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved vacating of plat for Pena subdivision.

Public Hearing: Public Hearing and possible action on Preliminary Plat of property described as Lot 4A of Thousand Oaks Subdivision a 4.000 Acre, 1-Lot Subdivision. Being a 4.000 Acre Tract Lots 4 and 5 of the replat of Thousand Oaks Subdivision in Clerks File No. 2007039748, B.C.P.R. in the Cochran and McClure Subdivision in the Jared E. Groce 5 Leagues Grant, Abstract No. 66 in Brazoria County, Texas.

Mayor Bass opened the Public Hearing at 7:09 PM.

Billy Shoemaker Building/Code Director presented to council possible action on Preliminary Plat of property described as Lot 4A of Thousand Oaks Subdivision a 4.000 Acre, 1-Lot Subdivision. Being a 4.000 Acre Tract Lots 4 and 5 of the replat of Thousand Oaks Subdivision in Clerks File No. 2007039748, B.C.P.R. in the Cochran and McClure Subdivision in the Jared E. Groce 5 Leagues Grant, Abstract No. 66 in Brazoria County, Texas. He said that this was presented and approved by Planning and Zoning. He said that this in our ETJ.

Mayor Bass closed Public Hearing at 7:11 PM.

On a motion by Councilman Brimage, seconded by Councilman Muraira, with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved action on Preliminary Plat of property described as Lot 4A of Thousand Oaks Subdivision a 4.000 Acre, 1-Lot Subdivision. Being a 4.000 Acre Tract Lots 4 and 5 of the replat of Thousand Oaks Subdivision in Clerks File No. 2007039748, B.C.P.R. in the Cochran and McClure Subdivision in the Jared E. Groce 5 Leagues Grant, Abstract No. 66 in Brazoria County, Texas. He said that this was presented and approved by Planning and Zoning. He said that this in our ETJ.

Discussion and possible action for the approval of City Attorney Chris Duncan's Contract.

City Manager, Tim Kelty presented to council the approval of City Attorney Chris Duncan's Contract. He said that this is for the legal service to the City.

Councilman Brimage asked that the flat fee be explained. City Attorney Chris Duncan said that the flat fee is for up to 40 hours a month. He said that the first 40 hours a month are set and covered by that flat fee. Any hours worked over that would be charged per hour. Councilman Brimage asked if Mr. Duncan has an average as to what he is working now. Mr. Duncan said most months are around the 40 hours, but about three months a year it is about 50-55 hours a month

Councilman Muraira asked how much overtime is he receiving. Mr. Duncan said that there is no overtime charged, it is a flat fee.

Councilman Brimage asked Mr. Kelty where the funds will come from? City Manager Tim Kelty said it is budgeted. Councilman Brimage asked if we will be able to keep up with the hours that is being worked. Mr. Kelty said he will have to stay in contact to make sure it is not going over too much. Councilman Brimage asked what other changes were made to the contract? Mr. Kelty said the length of the contract went from one year to a three-year contract, with a clause for early termination for malfeasance.

Mayor Bass said that he thinks this is a fair contract.

On a motion by Councilman Cain, seconded by Councilman Muraira, with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved the approval of City Attorney Chris Duncan's Contract.

Consideration and possible action for water billing adjustment for the New Jerusalem Baptist Church.

City Manager, Tim Kelty presented to council the possible action for water billing adjustment for the New Jerusalem Baptist Church. He said that the church has a water bill in the amount of \$15,000. Mr. Kelty said that this was caused by a toilet that was constantly running.

There was a church member that spoke to council and asked that the church be given relief from this bill. He said that they are asking favor on this, he said that they are a very small church and they just cannot pay this.

Councilman Brimage said that he met with some members from the church and spoke on how they would be able to pay the bill. He said in his opinion the city should have turned the water off once we realized there was a problem. He said that the church did pay the current past due in the amount of \$534.38, he said that he the church would like to work out a deal to pay an additional \$100.00 a month for the next nine months.

Councilman Muraira asked if this was the first proposed agreement that was made and presented to council? Mr. Kelty said yes this is the exact proposal that was previously brought to council. Councilman Muraira said that he supports this offer.

Councilman Cain said that he supports this offer, and asked if the church supports it as well. The Member of the church said yes.

Councilman Pena said that he hopes that we get a system in place so that this does not happen again.

On a motion by Councilman Muraira, seconded by Councilman Pena with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved the agreement for \$100.00 to paid in addition to the normal water bill for the next nine months for water billing adjustment for the New Jerusalem Baptist Church and at the end of that period the remaining balance be dismissed.

Councilman Muraira said that he would like the City Manager to handle these kinds of issues. City Manager Tim Kelty said that because of the dollar value on this, he did not feel comfortable authorizing this without council support.

Consideration and possible action approving Ordinance No. 2021-2631 on the new Water/Sewer Rate.

Manning Rollerson spoke to council of his concern about the increase in the water/sewer rate. He said that the city has issues with sewer backing up, the bad pipes throughout the city, and he said that you cannot use the city water. Mr. Rollerson said that he has spoke with a councilman that is not his councilman for his Ward. He said that Councilman Pena has not spoke with him over his concerns for his Ward. Councilman Pena asked for Mr. Rollerson's phone number.

Finance Director, Cathy Ezell, presented to council Ordinance No. 2021-2631 on the new Water/Sewer Rate. She said that staff is recommending the increase of 8% for residential and 5% for commercial. She said that the last rate increase that was adopted was 12% residential and 16 % on commercial. She said that there is a second-year increase for 3% residential and 2% commercial, as well. She said this will get everything caught up per the rate study done by Freese and Nichols. She said that this increase will pay the debt service at \$300,000.00 a year and put \$50,000.00 in fund balance.

Mayor Bass said that we need to increase the rates over several years per the rate study in order to do what needs to be done. He also asked about the grant for \$257,600.00 he said that we need this money to start the immediate relief that is needed. He asked what the increase of 8% will look like on the use of 5000 gallons of water per month. Ms. Ezell said that the first increase will be for residential \$4.23 a month, with the 2% it will be \$1.72. She said that this will begin August of this year, and the second increase of the 2% will begin in March 2022.

Councilman Pena asked if the projects will begin next summer? Ms. Ezell said that we will receive the bond money at the end of June or beginning of July. Councilman Pena said that he hears all the concerns of the sewer problems, and we need to get started on these projects. He asked who will be doing the facilitating of the work on these projects? Ms. Ezell said that we will have to go out for bids.

On a motion by Councilman Cain, seconded by Councilman Brimage with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved Ordinance No. 2021-2631 on the new Water/Sewer Rate.

Consideration and possible action approving Resolution No. 2021-2686; A Resolution by the City Council of the City of Freeport, Texas, Approving Forms of Preliminary Official Statement and Notice of Sale; and Providing for Other Matters Incidental Thereto.

Finance Director, Cathy Ezell presented to council a Resolution No. 2021-2686; A Resolution by the City Council of the City of Freeport, Texas, Approving Forms of Preliminary Official Statement and Notice of Sale; and Providing for Other Matters Incidental Thereto. Ms. Ezell said that staff recommends the approval of this resolution. She said that the approving of this is the preliminary official statement and notice of sale.

Mayor Bass said that staff brought forth in the beginning a request for \$10 million, he said that it dropped to \$8 million, and now with the recent grant announcement, it is for \$5 million. Ms. Ezell said yes, and the bonds are selling at a discount. She said that what this means, is we are getting more money for less. She said that we will be paying \$4.88 million and getting \$5 million. City Manager Tim Kelty said that interest rates are low.

On a motion by Councilman Brimage, seconded by Councilman Cain with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved a Resolution No. 2021-2686; A Resolution by the City Council of the City of Freeport, Texas, Approving Forms of Preliminary Official Statement and Notice of Sale; and Providing for Other Matters Incidental Thereto.

Consideration and possible action on Resolutions appointing/reappointing members to various Boards and Commissions.

City Manager Tim Kelty presented to council Resolutions appointing/reappointing members to various Boards and Commissions.

Councilman Muraira asked if Mr. Mitchell only applied for the Planning and Zoning Commission? Mayor Bass said that he applied for the EDC and Planning, but he would like to see him on the BOA.

Melanie Oldham said that she is currently serving on the Planning and Zoning but she would like to be considered for the Freeport EDC.

Resolution No. 2021-2687, Planning and Zoning Appointments

On a motion by Councilman Muraira, to re-appoint Melanie Oldham, and Keith Stumbaugh to the Planning and Zoning Commission seconded by Councilman Pena with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 2021-2687, Planning and Zoning Appointments.

Resolution No. 2021-2688, EDC Appointments.

Shonda Marshall spoke to council of her interest of serving on the EDC Board.

Sandra Loeza spoke to council of her interest of serving on the EDC Board.

On a motion by Councilman Muraira, to re-appoint Mingo Marquez, and to appoint Shonda Marshall and Joshua Mitchell to the Freeport Economic Development Board, seconded by Councilman Pena with a 4-1 vote, Council approved Resolution No. 2021-2688, EDC Appointments. Councilman Cain voted "Ney"

Councilman Pena said that he wants applicants to know that the number one prerequisite is time. He said that serving on the Boards will take time. He said that the EDC will be moving to having meetings two times a month.

On a motion by Councilman Brimage, to re-appoint Nicole Mireles to the Freeport Economic Development Board, seconded by Councilman Muraira with a 3-2 vote Council approved Resolution No. 2021-2688, EDC Appointments. Councilman Pena and Councilman Cain both voted "Ney."

Resolution No. 2021-2689, Boards of Adjustments Appointments

On a motion by Councilman Muraira, to re-appoint Sammie Moore as a Regular to the Boards of Adjustments, seconded by Councilman Brimage with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 2021-2689, Boards of Adjustments Appointments.

On a motion by Mayor Bass to re-appoint Mario Muraira as an Alternate to the Boards of Adjustments, seconded by Councilman Pena with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 2021-2686, Boards of Adjustments Appointments.

Resolution No. 2021-2690, Historical Commission and Main Street Appointments

On a motion by Councilman Brimage, to re-appoint David McGinty, Carolyn Weatherly and to appoint Amanda Petty to the Historical Commission and Main Street Board, seconded by Councilman Cain with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 2021-2690, Historical Commission and Main Street Appointments.

Resolution No. 2021-2691, Charter Review Appointments

On a motion by Councilman Brimage, to re-appoint Sandra Barbree, Ana Silbas, and to appoint Sam Reyna and Shonda Marshall to the Charter Review Board, seconded by Councilman Muraira with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 2021-2691, Charter Review Appointments.

Resolution No. 2021-2692, Senior Citizen Appointments

On a motion by Councilman Brimage, to re-appoint Ona Johnson, Sammye Moore, Sandra Potts Childress, Jane Hawkins, and Pamela Douglas to the Senior Citizen Board, seconded by Councilman Muraira with all present voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 2021-2692, Senior Citizen Appointments.

Beautification and Parks Board.

On a motion by Councilman Brimage to appoint Ana Silbas to the Beautification and Parks Board, seconded by Councilman Cain with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved appointing Ana Silbas to the Beautification and Parks Board.

Mayor Bass said that the Library Board will be held until the next meeting.

Consideration and possible action approving a form of Agreement for use with Freeport youth athletic associations.

Public Works Director Lance Petty presented Agreement for use with Freeport Youth Athletic Associations. He said that this is agreement to protect the City and the Youth Association. He said that there is no charge to the Freeport Little League and for the Girls Softball Youth Association. Mr. Petty said that we are requesting the schedules of the Associations so the fields are ready for them. He said that we want Select Teams to come and use our fields, but there will be a charge for these teams for maintenance cost, unless they are a 501C.

Mayor Bass asked if the Association has reviewed this agreement? Mr. Petty said that it has been reviewed, and the Softball Association has some questions. Mayor Bass also asked if the Association understand the requirements that are added to this agreement.

Councilman Muraira asked if Coach Reggie is content with this agreement? Mr. Petty said yes.

Councilman Brimage said that he likes this agreement.

On a motion by Councilman Brimage, seconded by Councilman Cain with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved the action of approving a form of Agreement for use with Freeport Youth Athletic Associations.

Mayor Bass also asked if the Association understand the requirements that are added to this agreement. He asked who will be keeping up with the documentation from the Association? Mr. Petty said that the Association will send the documentation, and if not, then the City will have to do the background checks, and this will be at the expense of the Association.

Consideration and possible action of approving Interlocal Agreement with Brazoria County regarding TIRZ.

EDC Director Courtland Holman presented to Council the possible action of approving Interlocal Agreement with Brazoria County regarding TIRZ. He said that staff recommends the approval of this agreement. Mr. Holman said that in December of 2019 Council approved the TIRZ.

On a motion by Councilman Brimage, seconded by Councilman Pena with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0 Council unanimously approved the Interlocal Agreement with Brazoria County regarding TIRZ.

WORK SESSION:

Councilman Pena said that all of his contact information is on the website, he said that if a resident need to get in touch with him, to please reach out. He said that he hopes that the residents know they can contact the City Secretary as well, to get a message to him. He said that he believes all of his information is assessable because he receives calls from residents of other Wards. He spoke of the sewer problems on 10th Street, Councilman Pena said that Mr. Gonzalez reached out to him about his sewer problem. Councilman Pena said that he shared this information with Mr. Kelty, and he was very responsive on this issue, and he wants to thank him for that. Councilman Pena said there is a sewer issue on 714 West 4. He said that for safety and security he has requested that the visible lines on Velasco and Ave A, and Velasco and 2nd Street be painted, as soon as possible since we do have these materials. He said that he met with Mr. Kelty and Lance Petty a few weeks ago he said that he was under the impression this would be taken care of. Councilman Pena said that he would like to make sure we look into having a recycle program added when we start the search for new trash service contract. He said that he has had several complaints from businesses in Ward A, about the fire ant issue on the sidewalks and at the park in downtown, he said this needs to be taken care of before the events that are coming up. He also said that the parking stripes down town need to be done. Councilman Pena spoke on the parking space behind Barcadia, he said that we need to get lighting in this area for safety. He spoke about the Short-Term Rentals, he said the parking, and noise violations are a huge complaint from home owners and this needs to be taken care of. He said that he hosts Short Term Rentals, he said that the rules are outlined in the agreement of what is and is not allowed.

Councilman Cain asked what the status is on the Storm Pump projects? Lance Petty said that the it is in process right now; the concrete has been poured for the electrical house. He said that the contractor said completion would be mid to late July. Councilman Cain asked if the pumps still work during this process? Mr. Petty said that all will be complete before the switch over. Councilman Cain asked about the Pump across the river, Mr. Petty said that everything is working on this one. Councilman Cain thanked Mr. Shoemaker on the report and the work being done on the unsafe structures throughout the City.

Councilman Muraira asked Mr. Petty how often potholes are repaired. Mr. Petty said that is done about three times a month. Councilman Muraira said that he notices Zapata has the same holes. Mr. Petty said that this street is falling apart because of the large trucks, this is a street that will be looked at with the Interlocal Agreement. Councilman Muraira spoke about the sinkhole on Cathy Lopez's property. Mr. Kelty said that locates have been identified, and work will begin. Mr. Kelty said that there are funds available for these projects. Mr. Petty said that this is caused by the clay pipes. Councilman Muraira

Councilman Brimage said that he would like to see discussion and action on the pay for the PD. He said that the PD has had the pay study, and we know that we are insufficient on pay, and just this week the PD lost a twenty-year Veteran due to money. He said think about the investment we had in this man, and what we are losing. Councilman Brimage said that the Sherriff's Office is taking our people, and this is something that has to be fixed. Councilman Brimage said that he agrees with Councilman Muraira all of the employees pay needs to be looked at. He said all these are important. He said that when he had his stroke he doesn't know what he would have done if we did not have the First Responders. He said the down fall for Freeport is, we spend the money on the studies, and then we do what we think is best, and we have to stop that. Councilman Brimage asked if we are still doing the Summer Program for the kids? Staff answered that this program went away.

Councilman Pena said that he agrees that the whole City Staff pay needs to be looked at. He said that the storms have caused a lot of driftwood on the beach. He said that he spoke with some of our PD staff that was working on the beach, and they were overwhelmed. He said that we need to make sure we have the proper equipment for our staff.

City Manager Tim Kelty said that he will be out of town on Thursday and Friday for a conference. Mr. Kelty said that he would like to recognize Mr. Petty and his crew for all the work that was done on the beach two weeks ago. He said that he and his crew worked hard to get the beach cleaned back from all the driftwood. He said it is a battle that we will face, and Mr. Petty and his crew has worked hard. Sabrina Brimage asked if Community Service Workers can help with this work. Mr. Kelty said that we are utilizing Community Service workers but that the Courts have not started back fully with this just yet, he said that resource is just limited right now.

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, c.) (Personnel Matters) City Manager Annual Evaluation, in accordance with Government Code Annotated, Chapter 551, Sections 551.071, 551.072, 551.074.

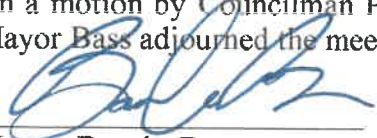
REGULAR SESSION

Mayor Bass reconvened regular session at 9:03 P.M.


There was no action taken from executive session.

Adjourn

On a motion by Councilman Pena, seconded by Councilman Brimage, with all present voting "Aye", Mayor Bass adjourned the meeting at 9:03 P.M.



Mayor, Brooks Bass
City of Freeport, Texas



City Secretary Betty Wells
City of Freeport, Texas