

State of Texas

County of Brazoria

City of Freeport

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the City Council of Freeport, Texas met on Monday, February 7, 2022 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 Via Facebook Live
Cathy Ezell, Finance Director
Chris Duncan, City Attorney
Lance Petty, Public Works Director
Chris Motley, Fire Chief
Kacey Roman, Building Official
Laura Cramer, Special Project Coordinator/GIS

Visitors:

Raven Wuebker	Pam Dancy
Melanie Oldham	Tommy Pearson
Desiree Pearson	Sam Reyna
Manning Rollerson	Kenny Hayes
David McGinty	Sabrina Brimage
George Matamoras	Diane McCleaster
Con McCleaster	Nicole Mireles
Dr. Kody Gordel and Wife	

Call to order.

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

COUNCIL REGULAR AGENDA:

Discuss and take possible action on trash recycling.

Councilman Pena presented to council the possible action on trash recycling. He said that he brings this up because residents have reached out to him about recycling.

City Manager Tim Kelty said he has spoken with AmeriWaste and Ms. Marin asked that we put this off for a couple of months to give residents a chance to get acclimated to the new service, but she did give a couple of options. First option is city-wide curbside recycling, being the most expensive. Mr. Kelty said generally in the past, in other cities he has worked at, there is about 20 – 25 percent participation. With this option every citizen will pay for this whether they use it or not. Mr. Kelty said the second option would be a subscription service, which Ms. Marin offers in a couple of cities. With this option there will need to be a minimum number of residents who participate. In another city they service it required 240 participants with the cost being \$70.00 a year. But it could cost more here, because they will have to take it to the North Side of Houston. The third option was to have a centralized drop off location for solid waste similar to what we had before.

Councilman Pena asked so we will have 20-25% of participation in the curbside and this is paid by the residents? Mr. Kelty said yes. Councilman Pena said he is curious about the subscriber service. He said it will cost \$70.00 a year and only to those that subscribe? Mr. Kelty said yes it would only be paid by those that participate but we don't know that the cost will be \$70 a year. That was an example of an existing customer in the Houston area. It could be more. Councilman Pena asked if there is record of participation from before. Mr. Kelty said no. Councilman Pena asked if there could be a centrally located drop off site. Mr. Kelty said yes. It will probably be at the Service Center. Councilman Pena said that he would like to have a Town Hall Meeting so that the citizens may speak on this.

Councilman Muraira asked why we would put this off for several months? Mr. Kelty said this is just a suggestion from Ms. Marin, because the new changes with the new trash service this will take getting use to. There may be some kinks that may need to be worked out. Mr. Kelty said this is just a recommendation.

Councilman Pena said he would like to see this in the next 30-60 days. Mr. Kelty said he can get cost, and get an informal survey together.

Mayor Bass said the local land fills will not be accepting the recycling, so we will have to go further.

Melanie Oldham supports the recycling program. She said that there are residents that are interested in this.

Councilman Cain suggested that we get the cost first.

Manning Rollerson said when he ran for Council and for Mayor, he said the main thing he said was put the people back to work. He spoke of Lake Jacksons recycling service. He spoke about all the years and money spent in trash service, and the service has failed us. He said the containers are too small, and in his neighborhood the dogs are getting into the trash. Mayor Bass asked Mr. Rollerson to go around and teach people to be responsible and follow the rules. Mayor Bass said this company came with trash trucks on a Sunday and cleaned this city. Mayor Bass said let's all work together.

Pam Dancy said she supports and likes the new trash service, and people just need to be educated.

Melanie Oldham said that she does like the new trash service.

Mayor Bass read an email from Manning Rollerson.

Councilman Muraira said that it is unnecessary to shame a citizen.

Mayor Bass said that he is just repeating facts and these are Mr. Manning's words.

Discuss and take possible action on Beach Road Entry and Beach Plan.

Councilman Pena spoke of the entrance to Bryan Beach. He said the entrance is still needed. Councilman Pena said the EDC is in the process of implementing some entry signage for the beach. He said it makes no sense doing this with the entry as it is and the road not being right. Councilman Pena asked if Public Works Director could get the branches cleaned up out of the ditches before March, he said there is still debris at the entrance. Mr. Petty said he is not sure this can be addressed by March. Mr. Petty said the driftwood came in with the Hurricane, and Centerpoint came in and pushed all of that over to the ditches, to be able to get to electrical poles. Councilman Pena said the driftwood needs to be prioritized. Mr. Petty said that he would meet with Mr. Kelty to move forward on this.

George Matamoras opposes this. He said this is money down the drain. He said let's use the money where the money needs to be used, parks, and infrastructure.

Councilman Pena said money spent on water fronts, is the best spent money. He said this is not money wasted.

City Manager Tim Kelty said at the last meeting the cost for the proposed improvements to the main entrance was \$215,000 for asphalt the road to the dunes and, and \$41,000 for the palm trees. Councilman Pena said this increased \$45,000 from the \$167,000 stated previously. How is this increase possible? Mr. Kelty said this is not an increase. This was the same amount presented previously. The \$167,000 that Councilman Pena is confused about was the bid received for the work that was just completed by the county using Hurricane Harvey funds, not the additional work Councilman Pena is requesting currently.

Kenny Hayes said Councilman Pena is trying to gas light people until we spend the money. He said if you are going to do something to Bryan Beach have a Public Hearing, see what the public wants. Councilman Pena talks about what he wants.

Mayor Bass said that we need to hold a Public Hearing on this. Mayor Bass said that he looked at the road to the right of the entrance of the beach. He said there is some type of concrete that goes into the dunes he asked if we can find out what this base is. Mr. Petty said he is not certain what this material is but will try to find out.

Discuss and review and take possible action on Agenda Procedure Ordinance.

Mayor Bass said he thought there was an Agenda Procedure Ordinance in place. He said we passed the Ordinance in November 2021. Mayor explained the newly adopted ordinance, and with this ordinance nothing was done with Special Meetings, it was lined out because what was proposed was in violation of Open meetings requirements. Mayor explained there was an Ordinance passed for the Special Meetings as well. Mayor Bass explained this Ordinance.

Councilman Pena spoke on this item. He said it was brought back tonight just to clarify the practical application of both of these Ordinances. He said there were questions on this agenda. He said the first was "if one Councilmember requests the item, and recognizes who the co-sponsor Council Person is, that this would be acceptable". The second is there is 96 hours to call a Special Meeting, and he was puzzled because in order to add to this agenda a Special Meeting had to be called.

City Attorney Chris Duncan said there has to be request from two Councilmembers to put something on the agenda, or to schedule a Special Meeting. This requires two Councilmembers to put it in writing. The issue of Carbon Copying of the other Councilmember, can cause complications. He said to make a clean clear rule, it needs to be that both Councilmembers put it in writing.

Councilman Pena said he appreciates the legal guidance. He asked about the time tables of the meetings. He said the Special Meetings are 96 hours, and a Regular Meeting is six and half days. He said what if something comes up at 5:00?

CLOSED SESSION:

Open session was closed at 8:05 pm and Council entered into Executive Session

Executive Session regarding a.) (Personnel Matters) Review job performance issues of City Manager, in accordance with Vernon's Texas Government Code Annotated, Chapter 551, Sections 551.074.

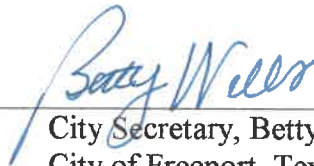
Executive session was closed at 8:57 pm, and entered back into Open Session.

Adjourn

Mayor Bass adjourned the meeting at 8:57 P.M.



Mayor, Brooks Bass
City of Freeport, Texas



City Secretary, Betty Wells
City of Freeport, Texas