

State of Texas

County of Brazoria

City of Freeport

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the City Council of Freeport, Texas met on Monday, August 22, 2018 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 Troy T. Brimage
Councilman Brooks Bass
Councilman Ken Green
Councilwoman Sandra Loeza (Absent)
Councilman Roy E. Yates

Staff: Bob Welch, Finance Director / Interim City Manager
Laura Tolar, Asst. City Secretary/Special Projects Coordinator
Wallace Shaw, City Attorney
Nat Hickey, Property Manager
Corey Brinkman, Police Lieutenant/CID Supervisor

Visitors: Thomas Zirlott Melanie Oldham
Tommy Pearson Desiree Pearson
Sabrina Brimage Erin Callahan
Kenny Hayes Sam Reyna
Sandra Barnett Jim Barnett
Nicole Mireles

Call to order.

Mayor Troy T. Brimage called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

First Tax Rate Public Hearing on adoption of proposed tax rate and consider motion that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of 0.628005, which is effectively a 10.72 percent increase in the tax rate.

Mayor Brimage stated that there was a drop from \$50 million to \$36 million because of protests at the appraisal district. Also, he doesn't want to base any values on the Appraisal District values.

Mayor Brimage stated that there are 3048 homes in Freeport.

Mayor Brimage stated that if you take the \$14,830 increase and divide it by the 3,048 homes that it equals \$4.86 per household.

Mayor Brimage also stated that we have one of the lowest in this area. The only city lower is Lake Jackson but they have an \$8 million in sales tax.

Mayor Brimage explained to the audience that the city needs funds for police and fire services. He said that tax revenues have only gone up because the property values have gone up.

Melanie Oldham commented that a lot of residents don't know they can protest their property appraisals. She added that the City's industrial contacts could be better and that she had spoken to financial people and the Wong deeds can be undone.

Tommy Pearson said that he was glad that Gladieux was coming on line because it will bring increased taxes.

Nicole Mireles commented that we don't have hotel/motel tax like Lake Jackson.

Kenny Hayes commented that we can't fix potholes without tax money.

Councilman Bass stated that there are a lot of folks that aren't aware of the ability to dispute taxes but there are a lot that do know about it. He also stated that he had one constituent that wants a roll back of taxes.

Mr. Zirlott asked how we will get a handle on alleys.

Mayor Brimage responded that we will blacktop the alleys but not comfortable with the new material being used.

Adjourn

On a motion by Councilman Bass, seconded by Councilman Green, with all present voting "Aye", Mayor Brimage adjourned the meeting at 6:24 PM.

Mayor, Troy T. Brimage
City of Freeport, Texas

Assistant City Secretary, Laura Tolar
City of Freeport, Texas