

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF BRAZORIA

CITY OF FREEPORT

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the City of Freeport, met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 2, 2007, at the Freeport Police Department, Municipal Court Room, 430 North Brazosport Boulevard, for the purpose of considering the following agenda items:

City Council: Jim Phillips – absent
Clan A. Cameron
Jim Saccomanno
John Smith, III – Mayor Pro Tem
Norma M. Garcia

Staff: Wallace Shaw, City Attorney
Delia Muñoz, City Secretary
Gary Beverly, Finance Director
Larry Fansher, Public Works Director
Doug Caffey, Building Inspector
Nat Hickey, Property Manager
Jeff Pynes, Police Chief
Lee Cameron, E.D.C, Director
Chris Motley, Deputy Fire Chief
Billy Wayne Shoemaker, Fire Captain

Visitors: Barbara Mohler
Abel Garcia
Larry Schaefer
Roddy Mohler
V. L. Scott
Keith Johnson
Janice Evans
Michelle Kent
Angel Kent
Larry McDonald

Call to Order.

Mayor Pro Tem, John Smith, III, called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Invocation.

Abel Garcia, Pastor from the First Baptist Church offered the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Pro Tem led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the December 4, 2006 Council Minutes.

On a motion by Councilman Saccomanno, seconded by Councilwoman Garcia, with all present voting "aye", Council unanimously approved the minutes of December 4, 2006.

Attending Citizens and Their Business.

Jim Pirrung of 101 Dolphin Lane stated that on December 4, 2006 he sent a letter to City Council members requesting to be put on the agenda in reference to dredging the Bridge Harbor canal. He asked when it would be placed on the agenda.

Pixie Floyd enjoyed the lights and music at the Memorial Park during the Holidays.

Presentation by Gary Zemp, Security Director for Freeport LNG.

Gary Zemp, Security Director for Freeport LNG presented to the City a check for \$8,226, to help defray the cost of police radios.

Public Hearing: 1st Public Hearing on the proposed annexation of 122 acres adjacent to the Bridge Harbor Subdivision and fronting on Gulf Intracoastal Waterway.

Mayor Pro Tem opened the public hearing at 6:25 p.m. He read out the proposed annexation of 122 acres adjacent to the Bridge Harbor subdivision and fronting on Gulf Intracoastal Waterway.

Angela Kant requested a map of the proposed area. Mr. Shaw offered her a map from his packet. Gary Beverly apologized for not having a map available, but the presentation on the proposed annexation on the computer failed. He will provide a map on the 2nd public hearing.

Roddy Mohler asked if the proposed annexation was close to Gulfco Marine, a well known problem area. Mr. Nat Hickey explained that the proposed annexation was at the end of Marlin Street.

Councilman Saccomanno stated that this move would put the City in position to annex the next section.

Councilman Cameron asked if the residents had been notified. He thought it to be pointless if the present residents will object.

Keith Johnson did not understand exactly where this property of annexation was located. A map was presented to him, after seeing a map he stated that there is no access to the island.

There being no further questions or comments, Mayor Pro Tem announced the 2nd public hearing on January 16, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. He closed the public hearing at 6:36 p.m.

Consideration of the approval of signing a H-GAC Public Safety Answering Point Interlocal Agreement for E-911 services.

On a motion by Councilwoman Garcia, seconded by Councilman Saccomanno, with all present voting “aye”, Council unanimously approved Chief Pynes recommendation to approve signing a H-GAC Public Safety Answering Point Interlocal Agreement for E-911 services.

Consideration of the approval of Resolution No. 2007-2129 repealing Resolution No. 2006-2106 (approving a loan agreement between the Freeport Economic Development Corporation and Freeport Marina L.P.)

On a motion by Councilman Saccomanno, seconded by Councilwoman Garcia, with all present voting “aye”, Council unanimously approved Mr. Shaw recommendation to approve Resolution No. 2007-2129 repealing Resolution No. 2006-2106 (approving a loan agreement between the Freeport Economic Development Corporation and Freeport Marina L.P.

Consideration of the approval of Resolution No. 2007-2130 repealing Resolution No. 2006-2107 (approving a loan agreement between the City of Freeport, Texas and Freeport Economic Development Corporation).

On a motion by Councilman Saccomanno, seconded by Councilwoman Garcia, with all present voting “aye”, Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 2007-2130 repealing Resolution No. 2006-2107 (approving a loan agreement between the City of Freeport, Texas and Freeport Economic Development Corporation.

Angela Kant had legal questions about the two resolutions, Mr. Shaw answered her questions.

Consideration of the approval of selling the City’s interest at Block 790, Lot 23, Velasco Townsite, (8110-4013-000), known as 1721 N. Ave. P.

Gary Beverly and Nat Hickey explained that the City has liens on these properties. Mr. Beverly recommended that the city wait on the sale on some of these properties to recover these liens.

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilman Saccomanno, with all present voting “aye”, Council unanimously approved selling the City’s interest at Block 790, Lot 23, Velasco Townsite (8110-4013-000), known as 1721 N. Ave. P.

Consideration of the approval of selling the City’s interest at Block 85, Lot 5 & 6, Velasco Townsite, (8110-0852-000), known as 110-112 South Gulf Blvd.

On a motion by Councilman Saccomanno, seconded by Councilwoman Garcia, with all present voting 3 to 1, Council opt not to sell the City’s interest at Block 85, Lot 5 & 6, Velasco Townsite, (8110-0852-000), known as 110-112 South Gulf Blvd. Councilman Cameron opposed.

Consideration of the approval of selling the City’s interest at Block 28, Lots 16 thru 23, Velasco Townsite, (8110-0341-000), known as 503-517 South Ave. C.

Mr. Hickey advised Council not to sell because the property has \$6,082.44 in liens. A motion to sell this property by Councilman Cameron died due to lack of a second .

Consideration of the approval of selling the City’s interest at Block 38, Lot 23, Velasco Townsite, (8110-0425-000), known as 603 South Ave. I.

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilman Saccomanno, with all present voting “aye”, Council unanimously approved selling the City’s interest at Block 38, Lot 23, Velasco Townsite, (8110-0425-000), known as 603 South Ave. I.

Consideration of the approval of selling the City’s interest at Block 39, Lots 1 thru 24, Velasco Townsite, (8110-0427-000), known as 601-624 South Ave. I.

On a motion by Councilman Saccomanno, seconded by Councilman Cameron, with all present voting “aye”, Council unanimously approved selling the City’s interest at Block 39, Lots 1 thru 24, Velasco Townsite, (8110-0427-000), known as 601-624 South Ave. I.

Consideration of the approval of selling the City’s interest at Block 623, Lots 6 thru 12, Velasco Townsite, (8110-2193-000), known as 714-724 North Ave. G.

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilman Saccomanno, with all present voting “aye”, Council unanimously approved Mr. Hickey’s recommendation to sell the City’s interest at Block 623, Lots 6 thru 12, Velasco Townsite, (8110-2193-000), known as 714-724 North Ave. G.

Consideration of the approval of purchasing a new ambulance for the Freeport Fire/EMS Department.

On a motion by Councilwoman Garcia, seconded by Councilman Saccomanno, with all present voting “aye”, Council unanimously approved Mr. Shoemaker’s recommendation to purchasing a new Medtec ambulance for the Freeport Fire/EMS Department at a total cost of \$104,310.93.

Consideration of the approval of purchasing four (4) mobile radios and two (2) hand held radios for Freeport Fire and EMS Department.

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilwoman Garcia, with all present voting “aye”, Council unanimously approved Mr. Chris Motley recommendation to purchase four (4) mobile radios and two (2) hand held radios from a federal grant. The City will contribute a 10% match fund requirement for a total of \$1,834.14 for the radios antennas and installation accessories for \$160.00.

Elected Official Report

Councilman Saccomanno attended the Senior Citizens Christmas Party and a Rockettes Show in Houston.

Councilman Cameron will be attending the Library Board meeting on January 9, 2007.

Mayor Pro Tem, John Smith had a great time over the holidays. He announced that Mayor Phillips has been transported to Brazosport Regional Medical Center and is doing well.

Work Session

Administration Report

Gary Beverly will have a financial audit presentation ready for the next meeting.

Chief Pynes held a meeting on December 30, 2006 with local cities and industry on increasing security issues. The police department will be hosting the South East Texas Police Chief Association on January 10, 2007. He reported that for New Years Eve twelve officers were on duty. Also waiting on the final word on a \$110,000 grant to upgrade the dispatch radio console which is in bad shape.

Jerry Meeks working on sewer lines on Ave. H. The street department is working north of Yellowstone Street. He wants to set up a odor control workshop to resolve the problem.

Doug Caffey talked about the City being very quiet during the holidays. American Rice continues to work on their large expansion. He was called out on a power shortage at Sonics.

Chris Motley reported the staff helped delivered gifts. They have just completed the employee hiring and will be presenting to council.

Larry Fansher crew working on Yellowstone Street, will complete within the next 30 days. Holiday on the Brazos was well attended. Martin Luther King parade will be January 15, 2007 and following with a celebration at the Freeport Municipal Park. Educating the public that they can not shoot off fireworks in the City nor at Bryan Beach.

Discussion concerning a request from Capital Telecommunications, Inc. to install a fiber optic cable along SH 288 to Broad Street.

Tony Stuckey from Capital Telecommunications, Inc. discussed building a fiber optic cable and conduit along State Hwy. 288 to 1023 W. Broad Street. They have received approval from Dow and still need the City's approval. Larry Fansher wanted assurance that they would not adversely affect the landscaping, irrigation in the City. This item will be on the next agenda.

Discussion concerning relocating a paddle boat to Freeport.

Ken and Linda Wright discussed their desire to bring a 72-foot paddlewheeler to Freeport. The paddlewheeler is named "Yellowstone", docked next to Dido's Restaurant on the San Bernard River. This is an authentic stern wheeler that is ideal for family gatherings, parties, special events or simply shore watching. They want to dock near RiverPlace. This will be placed on the next agenda.

Discussion concerning the proposed countywide joint election.

Janice Evans from the Brazoria County Election Department presented the County's proposal to have a county wide election for all political subdivisions in May, 2007. This plan would benefit the voters as well as the county entities. Mayor Pro Tem asked for a contract to present at the next meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem closed the work session and opened the executive session at 7:55 p.m.

Executive Session

- A. Section 551.071 Government Code
Consultation with City Attorney concerning pending or contemplated litigation settlement offers or other matter in which his duty to the City Council under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with Chapter 551, Government Code, to wit:

- (1) Western Seafood Company/Western Shellfish, et al.

Mayor Pro Tem, John Smith, III, reconvened the open session at 8: 18 p.m.

Adjourn

On a motion by Councilman Cameron, seconded by Councilwoman Garcia, with all present voting “aye”, the meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Attest:

Delia Muñoz
City Secretary

John Smith, III
Mayor Pro Tem