

STATE OF TEXAS)(

COUNTY OF BRAZORIA)(

CITY OF FREEPORT)(

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Planning and Traffic Commission of the City of Freeport, Texas met in a regular meeting on **Monday, December 8, 2008 at 6:00 P.M.** at the Police Department Conference Room, 430 North Brazosport Boulevard, Freeport, Texas to discuss the following:

Planning Commission:

Diane Williams, Chairperson
Eric Hayes
Roberto Caceres
Reuben Cuellar
Alonzo Martinez
Joyce Adkins

Staff:

Larry Ellis
Melissa Farmer
Nat Hickey
Wallace Shaw
Mayor Larry McDonald
Councilman Ron Wise

Visitors:

Rosa McDonald
Rene Damian
Dilip Patel

Open Meeting.

Ms. Diane Williams called meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Invocation.

Mr. Roberto Caceres opened the meeting with prayer.

Approval of Minutes.

Mr. Eric Hayes moved to accept the minutes for October 28, 2008, seconded by Mr. Alonzo Martinez, unanimous vote for approval.

Mr. Wallace Shaw, City Attorney, to explain ordinance provisions applicable to mobile home parks.

Mr. Wallace Shaw explained to the Planning Commission that the land Mr. Dilip Patel is asking to be re-platted is a non-conforming piece of land and that according to the Code of Ordinances, Section 155.021, (C), (1), "That no such non-conforming use shall be enlarged or increased, nor shall be extended to occupy a greater area of land than was occupied at the effective date of adoption or amendment of this chapter." He then explained to the Planning Commission that Mr. Patel had three courses of action he could pursue: He could ask that mobile homes be added to the Comprehensive Zoning of C1 or C2; he could ask that that plat of land be made a mobile home subdivision; or he could ask that the ordinance be amended to allow for specific-use permits.

Discuss/consider the re-plat of a portion of Tract 520 adjacent to Lafitte Street, Velasco Townsite, being comprised of seventeen (17) lots: Ten (10) lots for recreational vehicles and seven (7) lots for mobile homes.

Ms. Diane Williams explained to Mr. Dilip Patel that since the land was a non-conforming piece of land, that at the present time the Planning Commission would not be able to grant his request to re-plat. She explained that until he did one of the three suggestions that Mr. Wallace Shaw had given him, that they would not be allowed to grant him his request.

No action was taken on this item.

Traffic: Discuss/consider making changes to the 18-wheeler truck routes; revisions to the tractor-trailer driving and parking ordinances; update on intersection stop lines.

Ms. Diane Williams explained that Mr. Eric Hayes and she had traveled the map routes that were furnished to them from the City Manager, Jeff Pynes, and she explained how the map was incorrect in that where it shows truck route signs to be, there weren't any. She said that if 18-wheeler trucks didn't have these signs, that they would not know where they could and could not go. She asked to send the map back to the City Manager and have it corrected so that they could send it to the City Council.

The Planning Commission discussed the revisions of driving and parking of 18-wheelers. Mr. Wallace Shaw explained there was already an ordinance on the book, Section 72.07. They discussed that the ordinances needed to be enforced by Code or police officers.

Mr. Roberto Caceres made a motion to send request to City Council to have Ordinance 72.07 enforced, seconded by Mr. Rueben Cuellar. By a vote of 5 to 1, with Mr. Eric Hayes voting against, the motion passed.

Ms. Diane Williams updated the Planning Commission members on some of the intersections that are painted with stop lines and how they are not consistent and are causing problems. She stated that the City Manager had called a meeting with Mr. B.R. Williams from the Street Department and herself. He explained that they were going to start painting the white lines 4 feet from the corner, with the stop sign real close. He explained that at a crosswalk, that instead of just the two lines that are there now, that they would also be painting diagonal lines in the center to draw more attention so that the cars would not be parking in the crosswalk or stopping on the stop lines.

Begin study of Sign Ordinances, Chapter 113 of the Code of Ordinance book.

Ms. Diane Williams asked Mr. Larry Ellis to explain to the Planning Commission members which sign ordinances were the hardest for the Code Officers to enforce. He explained to them that the officers had stated that they were having a hard time enforcing the A-frames, that since the City put them out, residents felt they could put them up, and that it was hard to get them to take them down. He also explained that the officers were having a hard time with garage sale signs. Residents were putting them up on Friday evening or Saturday morning and that it wouldn't be until Monday or later before the Code Officers would find them and pull them down. So the residents were seeing these signs up all weekend and they don't realize there's an ordinance on the book prohibiting this.

Adjourn.

Mr. Eric Hayes made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Roberto Caceres. Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

These minutes read and approved this _____ day of _____, 2008.

Diane Williams, Chairperson