



City of Freeport

Workshop

5:00 PM/Council Chambers/Freeport City Hall

August 3, 2017 Minutes

I. Meeting Opened

The August 3, 2017 Council Workshop was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Russ Barley. The meeting was held in City Council Chambers of Freeport City Hall.

Council Members present: Mayor Russ Barley, Councilwoman Amanda Green, Councilwoman Elizabeth Brannon, Councilman William "Boots" McCormick, and Councilman Eddie Farris

Council Members absent: Councilwoman Cuchens

Staff present: City Clerk Rebecca Podraza, City Attorney Clay Adkinson, Finance Officer Sara Bowers, Water Supervisor Larry Tuggle, Sewer Supervisor Robert Fawcett, Parks Director Dana Weiler, and City Engineer Cliff Knauer.

II. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

The invocation was given by Councilman Farris, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

III. 2017/2018 Budget

The 2017/2018 Budget was presented by Finance Officer Sara Bowers. The following items were covered in the Budget Highlights attachment of the Finance Workbooks distributed to Council:

1. The following items from the employee's strategic plan were addressed:
 - A. The city's need for additional employees (7 new positions)
 - B. Professional HR assistance
 - C. Enhanced technology to help the employees work and communicate more efficiently
2. Proposed 3% employee pay increase
3. Increased retirement benefit for the Department Head Positions
4. Needed equipment purchases and several repair items

The City of Freeport may take action on any matter during this meeting, including items that are not set forth within this agenda.

In accordance with Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons with disabilities needing special accommodations to participate in this meeting should contact the City Clerk's office at 850-835-2822 by 5:00 p.m. on the day prior to the meeting.

No verbatim record by a certified court reporter is made of these proceedings. Accordingly, any person who may seek to appeal any decision involving the matters noticed herein will be responsible for making a verbatim record of the testimony and evidence at these proceedings upon which any appeal is to be based (see Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes).



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5. The estimate for the health insurance along with the city's liability, property, auto and workers' compensation was approximately \$87,000 over the actual premiums. Staff proposes placing this additional amount in reserves to help with future needs.
6. The revenues from the water and sewer system still do not cover their respective expenses. Water is short \$210,300 and sewer is short \$299,460. Staff was directed to review the last rate study that was completed in 2016.

IV. Adjournment

Mayor Barley adjourned the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

FREEPORT CITY COUNCIL

Mayor

ATTEST

City Clerk

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