

**City of Freeport**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 22, 2015**

**I. Meeting Called to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Russ Barley at 7:00 p.m.

Council Members present: Mayor Russ Barley, Councilwoman Janice McLean, Councilman Eddie Farris, Councilwoman Jennifer Laird, Councilwoman Kasey Cuchens and Councilwoman Elizabeth Brannon.

Staff present: City Planner Latilda Hughes-Neel, City Engineer Anna Hudson, City Engineer Cliff Knauer, City Water Supervisor Larry Tuggle, City Clerk Gary Mattison, City Parks and Recreation Director Dana Weiler and City Attorney Clayton Adkinson.

**II. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**III. Approval of Past Minutes –1/13/15 RCM**

Board Discussion: none

Board Action:

Councilwoman McLean motioned to approve the minutes as presented.  
Councilwoman Brannon seconded the motion. All ayes; motion carried.

**IV. Additions/Deletions**

Clerk Mattison asked if the Council or Staff had any additions or deletions to the agenda.

Mattison stated that he wanted to delete Item V.A.4. City Position Adjustments and add as a new #V.A.4. Fire Tanker /Auction

Parks Director Weiler asked to add Freeport Youth Sports as Item V.D.3.

Councilwoman Cuchens requested that Items VII.B.1. & 2. be deleted.

*Additions are underlined. Deletions have ~~strike-through~~.*

**V. Report from City Auditor**

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JoAnn Rocque appeared before the Council and presented the Draft Audit (attached).

**VI. Staff Reports**

A. City Clerk Matters/Gary Mattison

1. Security Update

Mattison informed the Council that the new door keypads are being installed.

2. Security Camera Proposal

Mattison discussed the upcoming security camera proposal; to installed security cameras in the Water & Sewer Billing area, the Council Chambers, the Water Plant and the Sewer Plant. Mattison stated that an unused security camera was discovered that will be used at the Sports Complex.

3. Monthly Expenditure Report

Mattison presented the bills to be paid and the monthly budget balances.

~~4. City Position Adjustments~~

4. Fire Tanker Truck/Auction

Mattison reported that on the 29<sup>th</sup> of January, the fire tanker truck would be auctioned in Headland, Alabama.

B. Planning & Zoning /Latilda Hughes-Neel

There were no planning matters discussed.

C. Legal Matters/Clayton Adkinson

There were no legal matters discussed.

D. Parks Department /Dana Weiler

Weiler presented a status report for on-going maintenance and recreation activities (attached).

1. City Archery Program

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Weiler presented a proposal to start a city archery program (proposal attached).

Board Action:

Councilwoman Cuchens motioned to allow Weiler to pursue setting up a city archery program. Councilwoman Laird seconded the motion. All ayes; motion carried.

2. Quotes to have FRSC Concession Stands Cleaned

Weiler discussed quotes she had obtained to have the two concession stands cleaned. The best prices are coming in around \$1200. The prison crews will not be available for two more weeks; FMS needs the concession stands for their baseball/softball tournament which will take place February 7.

Board Action:

Councilman Farris motioned to approve Weiler having the concession stands cleaned. Councilwoman Laird seconded the motion. All ayes; motion carried.

3. Freeport Youth Sports season contract

Tater Morrison addressed the Council. He presented a list of items from last year's season (attached) and estimated expenses for each item and asked the Council to deduct those expenses from the 2015 season usage fees.

Board Discussion:

The Council questioned the list; there was no supporting documentation and receipts attached to verify that Freeport Youth Sports had spent the amount stated.

Board Action:

Councilwoman Cuchens tabled the Freeport Youth Sports contract discussion so addition information could be provided. Councilwoman Laird seconded the motion. All ayes; motion carried.

E. Engineering/Preble-Rish, Praestare Eng.

Anna Hudson/Preble-Rish Engineering presented updates for the Council (attached).

Jody Solomon/Praestare Engineering gave a status report on the 331 4-laning project.

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**VII. Old Business: none**

**VIII. New Business**

A. Councilwoman Brannon

1. Legislative Matters

Councilwoman Brannon discussed the January 15 NWFLC Board Meeting, Advocacy Workshop and Dinner, which were held in Valparaiso. Upcoming NWFLC events:

|                           |                      |                   |
|---------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| January 28 <sup>th</sup>  | Parliamentary Course | Panama City Beach |
| February 26 <sup>th</sup> | Ethics Summit        | Crestview         |

Councilwoman Brannon urged the Council to register through the FLC website for the NWFLC website to receive legislative updates.

Councilwoman Brannon noted that the May 9 NWFLC Meeting and Dinner is also the Awards Night for the NWFLC, for various categories of excellence. Scholarships are still available through NWFLC to attend the 2-day Elected Municipal Certification Program.

B. Councilwoman Cuchens

1. ~~Councilperson Duties when "over a dept."~~
2. ~~Committees/Boards, designating alternates~~

C. Councilwoman McLean

1. Re-Finance of 5 Loans from Rural Dev. to CoBank

Councilwoman McLean presented the re-finance proposal from Co-Bank.

Board Discussion:

Attorney Adkinson discussed Rural Development needing to be primary in all loan cases and CoBank being secondary.

Grant Consultant Bob Jones stated that this was common practice between Rural

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Development and others lenders.

Board Action:

Councilwoman McLean will obtain additional information and bring this item back to the Council at their next meeting.

**D. Pay All Bills in Order**

Board Discussion: none

Board Action:

Councilman Farris motioned to pay the bills. Councilwoman McLean seconded the motion. All ayes; motion carried.

**IX. Council Business Not Listed on Agenda**

There was none.

**X. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**XI. Adjournment**

Board Action:

Mayor Barley called for a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman McLean motioned to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Council President

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_

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City Clerk

APPROVED