

City of Freeport
March 23, 2015 Rural Development Workshop

I. Workshop Opened

The workshop was opened by Mayor Russ Barley at 2:00 in the Conference Room of City Hall.

II. Introductions

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

City Staff present: City Clerk Gary Mattison, City Planner Latilda Hughes-Neel and City Bookkeeper Floyd McKenzie.

Other attendees: Robert Jones/Consulting Grant-writer, SheNeena Forbes/Rural Development, Mary Gavin/Rural Development, Darren Gavin/Rural Development, Bob Mearns/FRWA

III. Rural Development Financing Programs

Mary Gavin of USDA Rural Development passed out several hand-outs (attached):

- Rural Business Opportunity Grant

This is a grant; only program of Rural Development used to promote sustainable economic development in rural communities with exceptional needs.

- Rural Utilities Programs/Water and Environmental Programs

This is a water and wastewater loan and grant program to improve the quality of life and promote economic development;

- Water and Waste Disposal Direct and Guaranteed Loans
- Water and Waste Disposal Grants
- Solid Waste Management Grants
- Rural Water Circuit Rider Technical Assistance

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- Rural Housing and Community Programs/Community Facilities Loans and Grants for Rural Libraries

\$100 million has been set aside for improvement of library facilities.

- USDA Rural Development Catalog of Programs

A guide to Rural Development loans, grants and technical assistance.

IV. Adjournment

Mayor Barley adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

CITY OF FREEPORT

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk