

Regular Council Meeting  
February 24, 2005

Mayor Marse called to order the regular scheduled meeting of February 24, 2005 at 7:00 pm.

Members Present: Mayor J.M. Marse, Council members Janice McLean, Earl King, Mike Helton, Ray Jackson, and Jean Arrant were present. Also present: City Clerk Diane Riley. Attorney Clayton Adkinson was absent.

Councilman Helton gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Councilman Helton motioned to approve the minutes of the regular council meeting of 2/8/05. Councilman Jackson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, it carried, 5-0.

Old Business:

Paul Miller of WFRPC stated he had no public hearing issues tonight. On another note he added that working with the new planner, Latilda Henninger was a real pleasure and the transition was going great. He remarked that it is a real boom to have her here. He reminded the Council that the planning board will meet next Wednesday and asked the support of the Council in the planning boards' role. He also, reminded the Council that the EAR report is due to DCA in September 2007. The official start of the data will be in March of 2006. The report is changing in content and will require much more planning for the future.

City engineer, Charles Peters stated that the bid tabulation was complete with 5 contractors submitting bids. After reviewing bids, Charles noted that Southeastern Underground, Inc. was the lowest bidder. The difference in the cost and money in grant is about 170 thousand. Councilman Jackson motioned to award the base bid to Southeastern Underground, Inc. and wait a month to award the extras. Councilwoman McLean seconded the motion, it carried, 5-0. Mayor signed the notice of award. No resolution was adopted. North Bay water lines are in and 98% of the meters are installed. Charles suggested having both systems running for 2 months. Tentative close out for the North Bay project is the end of March. Bay area sewer design is in progress. Charles wants the Council to consider setting a date for the public hearing for the Bay area sewer. Councilwoman Arrant stated that we need to set a meeting, but no dates were set. The relocation of waterlines bids are due March 18<sup>th</sup> for the intersection of 331 S/20 E. Sewer plant upgrade is on schedule.

New Business:

Chuck Jones with McKee and Associations presented the Council with a concept plan for the new city hall. Each member was given a smaller version of the plan to review. The building will increase to about 6500 sq. ft. compared to 4000 sq. ft. in the city hall now. After a lengthy discussion, Councilwoman Arrant and McLean will review the plans and make recommendations to the architect. Jack Rhodes requested that all parties involved, (ie. the school, city hall, park planner, etc.) have a workshop to coordinate the displacement of the sport activities.

Lynn Warrick purposed to the Council that a non-profit business association be formed for the benefit of all small businesses within the Freeport area. The Council was very receptive to this idea and urged her to head up such an organization. Her ideas consisted of possibly having a city flag and have business days designated.

The Blount House item was taken care of.

The Council reviewed the RFP's submitted by surveyors for plating reviews. After some discussion, the Council asked planner, Latilda Henninger to review the qualifications, cost, time involved in the review process, etc. and give a recommendation to the Council at the next meeting.

Kelly Reynolds from Destin asked for the support of the Council for a Ronald McDonald House Celebrity Charity Golf Classic at Windswept on May 6 & 7. He

presented a purposed proclamation in support of the event. He also asked for a monetary contribution and invited the Council and management to participate. The Mayor informed Mr. Reynolds that the Council does not donate to organizations at this time, but encouraged success in this endeavor.

Councilman Helton motioned to pay all bills that were in order. Councilwoman McLean 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, it carried, 5-0.

Other Business:

The Council set a rate classification for a low-pressure sewer service at \$4500 per hook-up for inside or outside residents. This rate is for an impact fee of \$2500 and a tap fee of \$2000. This does not include any other fees. The customer cannot just do a low-pressure sewer system, it must be feasible for the City to allow this. Councilwoman McLean motioned to advertise to amend the ordinance, Councilwoman Arrant seconded the motion, it carried, 5-0.

A & D Development requested the City acceptance of a road within the Freeport Industrial Park. The Council tabled the request until the next meeting, so each could review and refresh their memory on this matter.

With no other business, Councilman Helton motioned to adjourn at 8:30 pm.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

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J.M. Marse, Mayor

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Diane Riley, City Clerk

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Janice McLean, President of Council