

Regular Council Meeting
April 13, 2004

Mayor Marse called to order the regular scheduled meeting of April 13, 2004.

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

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

Councilman Brannon motioned to accept the minutes of RCM 3/25/04 and SCM 3/30/04. Councilwoman McLean 2nd the motion, motion carried, 3-0.

Old Business:

Paul Miller of WFRPC reported to the Council that the Freeport 860 roadway was in compliance with the Land Development Code and requested the approval of the project. Councilwoman McLean motioned to approve the project and Councilman Brannon 2nd the motion, it carried, 3-0.

City engineer, Charles Peters provided a written report to the Council. Mayor Marse explained that there is a break down in communications with the County in issuing certificates of occupancy and not having the utilities cleared by the City. A meeting is going to be set up with several departments of the County and City officials. Charles stated that unfortunately the City does not have the personnel for an inspector and perhaps in the near future the City would consider hiring someone full time to do inspections and development reviews.

New Business:

Mayor Marse opened the only sealed bid for the tractor, it was submitted by Beard Equipment. Councilman Brannon motioned to accept the bid price of \$35,368.63 for the 110 tractor and the purchase of such tractor. Councilman Helton seconded the motion, it carried, 3-0. Although the John Deere 4610 is listed as a state contract bid item and requires no bidding process the Councilman Helton motioned to purchase the tractor at the state contract price, this motion was 2nd by Councilman Brannon, motion carried, 3-0. Mayor Marse presented the Council with a price of \$5703.57 for a Polaris ATV to use as a street maintenance vehicle. The price of the ATV is higher than a Honda Gator, yet offers more horsepower, payload and mechanical features. Councilwoman McLean motioned to accept the price of the ATV and purchase a Polaris, Councilman Helton 2nd the motion, it carried, 3-0.

Mayor Marse opened 3 sealed bids for the surplus property in Portland. David Kelly submitted a bid of \$18,000, Bobby Roger, Bryan Duke and Rena Duke submitted a combined bid of \$21,101 and the final bid of \$25,000 was submitted by Sidney and Melinda Hollington. Councilwoman McLean motioned to accept all the bids and award the sale of the surplus property to Sidney and Melinda Hollington for the amount of \$25,000. Councilman Brannon 2nd the motion, it carried, 3-0.

William Bush of Lakeside Drive addressed the Council with a request to assist him in finding a solution for the awful road conditions on Lakeside Drive. Several items came up in the discussion and everyone agreed that this road needs repair. Councilman Helton requested that he be given the opportunity to speak with the County road department to see if they would maintain the road. The Council agreed with Mr. Bush's concern and will assist him as much as possible to resolve the road problems.

Councilman Brannon motioned to deny accepting the roadway within the Blue Ridge International property. Councilwoman McLean seconded the motion, it carried, 3-0.

Attorney Adkinson presented the requested interlocal agreement with Freeport 860, LLC. He had some minor wording concerns about the agreement. Councilman Brannon motioned to authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement when legal

council is done reviewing the wording. Motion was 2nd by Councilwoman McLean, motion carried, 3-0.

Councilman Brannon motioned to purchase a track marker for the Relay for Life event slated for May 7 & 8. Councilwoman McLean 2nd the motion, it carried, 3-0. Mayor Marse is the team captain of the City Hall's team for the event and encourages everyone to come out and support the first annual event.

The Council set a workshop on April 22, 2004 at 6pm for interviewing the applicants for the grounds maintenance position.

Councilman Helton motioned to place an ad in the Freeport High School sports program. Councilwoman McLean 2nd the motion, it carried, 3-0. Mayor Marse instructed Clerk Riley to make sure the ad was correct before publication.

Councilman Helton motioned to pay all bills that are in order. Councilwoman McLean 2nd the motion, it carried, 3-0.

Clerk Riley expressed to the Council that Joe Ward has asked if it was a blanket coverage for anyone in the Freeport Mobile Village to be allowed to move their trailers within the City limits. Council stated that each case would be dealt with on an individual bases and the owner would have to address the Council themselves. Robert Houston did request for the Council to allow him to move his travel trailer to Joe Campbell Road and place it on Joe Ward's property. Councilman Brannon motioned to approve the move with conditions that the home falls within the appropriate zoning district and he has required water and sewer connections. If there are no services for these utilities he will be required to purchase the applicable hookups. Councilman Helton seconded the motion, it carried, 3-0.

Mayor Marse informed the Council that a representative from Chelco approached him with a request for the City to consider allowing them to move into the City Hall and use it as a billing collection center for the electric bills. Mayor Marse thought it would be a good idea and will discuss it further when decisions on the renovation of the City Hall become secure.

Attorney Adkinson mentioned that the annexation of Watkins property and the abandonment of Fillmore Street will be addressed at the May 11, 2004 regular council meeting.

With no other business, Councilman Helton motioned to adjourn at 8.25 pm.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

J.M. Marse, Mayor

Diane Riley, City Clerk

Janice McLean, President of Council