

**Regular Council Meeting
February 14, 2012**

I. Meeting Called to Order

Mayor Marse called to order the regularly scheduled council meeting of February 14, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Mayor J. M. Marse, Council members Elizabeth Brannon, Ray Jackson, Earl King, Charlie Simmons and Harold Taunton. Staff present: City Attorney Clayton Adkinson, Fire Chief Ben Greenslait, Parks Director Shane Supple, City Planner Latilda Henninger and City Clerk Robin Haynes.

II. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

III. Approval of past minutes

Councilman Taunton motioned to approve the minutes of the regular scheduled council meetings of December 12, 2011, January 10 and January 26, 2012 as presented, Councilwoman Brannon seconded. There was no public or council discussion, the motion carried 5:0.

Mayor Marse stated that after attending a council meeting at another city, he really appreciated his council members.

1. Planning Issues

A. Contract with Department of Economic Opportunity/Waterfronts Florida Partnership Program

Councilwoman Brannon motioned to approve the Mayor executing the contract between the City of Freeport and the Department of Economic Opportunity concerning the Waterfronts Florida Partnership Program as presented, Councilman Jackson seconded. There was no public or council discussion, the motion carried 5:0.

Ms. Henninger gave a brief update on the Freeport Youth Sports registrations and the mandatory training of all managers of teams this year.

Councilwoman Brannon reminded Clerk Haynes to add portable AED machines for the Sports Complex as budget considerations for the next year.

2. Legal Matters

Attorney Adkinson stated that he and Cliff Knauer would coordinate on the letter that Mayor Marse wants to send to both the Florida Department of Transportation and Eglin Air Force Base regarding CenturyLink trenching through the City's permitted right of way.

3. Fire Department Report

A. Rental fee waiver – Department of Forestry

Councilwoman Brannon motioned to approve the rental fee waiver for the community center for the Department of Forestry to hold a training class, Councilman Simmons seconded. There was no public or council discussion, the motion carried 5:0.

Chief Greenslait gave a brief update regarding the fire hydrant maintenance progress and the installation of the vehicle exhaust system.

4. Parks Department Report

Shane Supple gave a brief update regarding some maintenance items being handled at the Sports Complex as well as some of the upcoming functions being held at the Complex.

5. Engineering report

Charley Cotton, representing Preble-Rish, gave a brief update to council on the energy grant, Wagon Wheel, and North Bay expansion projects. He also stated he expected the meter split project at the Sports Complex to be ready to present to council at the next regular council meeting.

IV. Old Business

1. Fire department applicant interview process

After brief discussion, council agreed to interview all applicants for the fire department position at a special meeting to be set at the next scheduled council meeting.

2. Sewer department truck submittals

Five truck submittals were presented to council:

- Hub City Ford Mercury, Inc. \$16,496.00 each truck
- Solomon Motor Company, Inc. \$17,875.00 each truck
- Triangle Chevrolet-Buick, Inc. \$18,269.40 each truck
- Lee Buick GMC \$19,151.84 each truck
- Award Chevrolet, Inc. \$22,998.00 each truck

Councilman King motioned to approve purchasing two trucks for the sewer department for a total of \$16,496,00 each (or \$32,992.00 total) subject to verification that tag and title work fees do not exceed price of the next lowest submittal, Councilman Jackson seconded. There was no public or council discussion, the motion carried 5:0.

V. New Business

1. Pay all bills in order

Councilman Taunton motioned to approve paying all bills that are in order, Councilman Jackson seconded. There was no public or council discussion, the motion carried 5:0.

VI. Council Business Not On Agenda

Councilman King mentioned that he has received several citizen complaints regarding consenting adults using Laird Park as a meeting location for inappropriate behavior and asked if there was anything the City could do to prevent this. After short discussion regarding the possibility of video recording the park, council agreed to have City staff, in particular the fire department, visit the park at different times throughout the day and to request Walton County Sheriff’s department to increase visits to the park.

VII. Public Comment

None was presented.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

J.M. Marse, Mayor

Robin Haynes, City Clerk

Earl King, Council President