

Regular Council Meeting  
March 11, 2003

The Freeport City Council met for a Regular council meeting at 7:00 pm on March 11, 2003.

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

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

Motion by Councilwoman Arrant, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Brannon to accept the minutes of 2/5/03, 2/11/03, 2/19/03, 2/27/03 as presented, motion carried, 5-0.

Old Business:

Donny Bartow of Municipal Code Corporation presented his product to the Council on the benefits of imaging the records of the City. After further discussion the Council decided to have MCC image all the records needed for retention and not purchase the operating system to do the imaging in house. Clerk Riley is to get with Mr. Bartow to start the process of imaging the records.

Councilwoman Arrant talked with Paul Miller with WFRPC about obtaining a historical grant to restore the Old Post Office building. Mr. Miller stated that there were a lot of rules and regulations attached to the grant program that would not be in the best interest of the City. Case in point, the building would have to be listed on the historical building register, and restoration would involve going back to the original look of the building, which could be rather expensive. The Council decided that once Laird Park is complete and the Recreation Park behind City Hall commences then they would start with workshops to develop a plan to refurbish the building.

Charles Peters will present the engineers' report later.

New Business:

Representative Amber with the WC Chambers of Commerce addressed the Council on a countywide event called Community Days. The event starts March 29, through April 5, 2003. Motion by Councilman Brannon to issue a proclamation commemorating these days, the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Arrant, motion carried, 5-0. Councilwoman Arrant announced April 1, as dedicated to be Freeport's Community Day and stated some of the events slated for that day. Everyone is invited.

Freeport 860, LLC, representative George Ralph Miller requested annexation of over 3200 acres into the City. The property is located west of the City along Bay Loop road. Attorney Adkinson requested additional information to advertise in the paper. Motion by Councilman Brannon to accept the request for annexation, seconded by Councilman Helton, motion carried, 5-0.

Angela Ellis with WFRPC presented an application from Cemex Corporation to change the land use designation from rural development to industrial and attach a zoning designation of general industrial (I-2). Motion by Councilman King, seconded by Councilwoman Arrant to accept the application and allow WFRPC to advertise for a public hearing on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2003, motion carried, 5-0.

Roy Thomason asked the Council if his son Al Thomason could address them about a road located off North Jackson. The Thomasons requested the City to open the road so he could get to his property. Attorney Adkinson informed the Thomasons that it was not the decision of the Council, but a civil matter that they needed to go through the court system.

Darrell Barnhill a representative for Robert Agerton request the annexation of property on highway 331 south. Attorney Adkinson requested a simple meets and bounds description of all the lots together. After further discussion the Council

requested a sign to be posted on the property to notify the public of the intentions of the owner. A motion was made by Councilwoman McLean to accept the annexation request, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman King, motion carried, 5-0.

Tom Catanese addressed the Council about a track of property his family purchased at the corner of North Jackson and highway 20. It is known as the Lynn Property. He is requesting the Council to accept the site plan that was presented to them 6 years ago. Attorney Adkinson noted that no development order was issued and so the City is not bound by discussions of 6 years ago. He asked if he could present a new conceptual plan. Charles Peters stated he would review a new conceptual plan and forward to the Council for their review.

Motion by Councilman Brannon to pay all bills that are in order, seconded by Councilman Helton, motion carried, 5-0.

Charles Peters began with the request by Freeport Truss to expand the plant. His concern was about the over lap of zoning with the property on the west side. After discussions about the zoning he recommended that the Council accept the zoning by the LDC rules and treat it as the majority of the other property zoned C-1 and keep the same use category. He stated that it needs screening on the west side, due to the residential zoning. Parking should not be included on the plans if there are no intentions of putting it in. Charles needs a floor plan to determine the final development order. Motion by Councilman Helton to issue a conditional development order after the revisions of the plans at made, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman McLean, motion carried, 5-0. Change orders from the contractors on the Portland project were presented to the Council. Motion by Councilman King to accept the change order, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Helton, motion carried, 5-0. The North Bay interlocal agreement for emergency water backup was approved by the Okaloosa County commissioners, details will be addressed later. PMA received the FONCI notice and is being advertised in the paper. The entrance to the Owls Head Industrial Park is almost complete. Charles stated that there is a need to have a workshop on the availability of sewer taps, due to the growth in Freeport. A motion to have an employee handbook workshop on March 25, 2003 at 7pm was made and a motion to have a workshop on the sewer taps for March 26, 2003 at 7pm was made by Councilman Brannon, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Helton, motion carried, 5-0.

Other Business not on the agenda:

Councilman King talked to Nextel. Some employees used the system and reported that it was very useful. We are going to set a tentative meeting with Nextel on Thursday and see about plans.

Councilman Helton requested that Charles get someone to look at Bruce Bates drive in Portland. Construction of the water lines has damaged his drive.

Councilman Brannon presented a bill for reimbursement of sod to go on the little league fields. Council was in agreement to reimburse the league for this expense.

With no other business, Councilman Helton motioned to adjourn.

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