

Regular Council Meeting
September 25, 2003

Mayor Marse called to order the regular scheduled meeting of September 25, 2003.

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

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

Councilman Helton motioned to accept the minutes of 8/19/03, 8/21/03, 8/28/03 and 9/9/03 as presented. Councilman Brannon 2nd the minutes, motion carried, 5-0.

Mayor Marse asked that old business be moved to after new business.

New Business:

Bruce French addressed the Council on implementing an ordinance on telecommunications. He explained the details of operation and the potentials of a new revenue source. He asked the Council to enter into an agreement with his firm to oversee telecommunication active in the City. Councilman King requested that Attorney Adkinson review the agreement and ordinance. The Council agreed to enter into a contract for the overseeing of telecommunications. Attorney Adkinson will advertise for first reading of the ordinance at the October 14, 2003 meeting.

Michelle Gagnard a community representative for the American Cancer Society, spoke to the Council about bringing a relay for life to our area.

Adoption of Resolution #03-12 (Mutual of America) was motioned by Councilman Brannon, 2nd by Councilwoman Arrant, motion carried, 5-0.

Other Business not on the agenda:

Motion by Councilman Brannon, 2nd by Councilwoman McLean to pay all bills in order, motion carried, 4-0.

Councilman King motioned to hire Allen Thomas and Randy Wright to fill the maintenance openings. Councilman Brannon seconded the motion, motion carried, 5-0.

Councilman Brannon moved to allow girl scout troop #336 to use the Community Center room at no charge on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month. The motion was seconded by Councilman King, motion carried, 5-0.

The request from the Chamber of Commerce to have a sponsorship of \$500 for the Community Days program was denied by Council.

Old Business:

Charles Peters, city engineer, explained to the Council that there was an over budget of \$344,000 on the North Bay expansion. Charles provided summary sheets for the expansion cost. He recommended that we negotiate with the state to reduce road bores on the right of ways. Attorney Adkinson recommended proceeding with the project. Charles discussed the project extensively. Councilwoman Arrant made motion to pass Resolution #03-13 to have a tentative award for construction. Councilman King 2nd the motion, motion carried, 5-0. Bids for interim financing should be back by 10/14/03. Charles touched on the financial conditions of the City for future projects. Charles told the Council that an interested industrial company was looking at Freeport as a potential location. He reminded the Council that we did receive the Community of the Year award.

Councilwoman Arrant stated that she had received a call from a Joanie Ellis on bird watching at Laird Park. She wants to add Laird Park to the national bird watching area.

Councilwoman McLean introduced Ray Sullivan, which had left his resume on fire service. He offered assistance in public education and fire prevention.

Paul Miller requested approval for advertisement of a public hearing for a rezoning property on hwy. 331 from R-2 to C-1, and a planned development project for Freeport 860. He also, stated that he was working on the second large scale amendment containing land use, Owl's Head land change, entry to Freeport 860 from hwy. 20, text elements, and an economic development element.

With no other business, Councilman Helton motioned to adjourn at 8:45 pm.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

J.M. Marse, Mayor

Diane Riley, City Clerk

Janice McLean, President of Council