

City of Freeport
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
July 8, 2014

I. Continuation of Election Canvassing Board/Election Results

The results of the 2014 Election were announced by the Canvassing Board:

Eddie Farris was elected unopposed.

Kasey Cuchens was elected over Harold Taunton Jr.: 175 votes for Cuchens to 33 votes for Taunton.

II. Meeting Called to Order at 7:21 p.m. by Mayor Russ Barley

Council members present: Mayor Barley, Harold Taunton Jr., Ray Jackson, Janice McLean, Elizabeth Brannon and Jennifer Laird.

Staff present: Clayton Adkinson/City Attorney, Latilda Hughes-Neel, City Planner, Cliff Knauer/City Engineer, Anna Hudson/City Engineer, Chad Harrell/City Fire Chief, Tom Palmer/City Fire Captain.

III. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

The invocation was given by Councilman Taunton, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

IV. Approval of Past Minutes – none

V. Staff Reports

A. Planning Department

1. Request for Rental Fee Waiver by FYS – Credentials Meeting for Dixie Youth State Majors Tournament on July 18th, 2014 6-9 pm

Board Action: *Motion to waive fees by Councilman Taunton. Second to motion by Councilwoman Laird. Motion carried 5:0.*

2. Hughes-Neel requested permission to add item to the agenda: 2014 APA Conference in Jacksonville (continuing education to maintain planning certification) September 3-6

Board Action: *Motion to approve Hughes-Neel's attendance of the state planning conference and to pay fees, hotel and travel by Councilwoman McLean. Second to motion by Councilwoman Brannon. Motion carried 5:0*

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B. Legal Matters

Attorney Adkinson discussed Senate Bill 218, a new bill being reviewed in the Legislature pertaining to debt refunds/relocation of water lines; the procedure to apply for the funding is not yet in place. The contact for the bill sponsor will contact Clayton.

Councilwoman Brannon added that the FDOT Governmental Affairs Liaison had recommended waiting a couple of months before applying.

Adkinson stated that the funding application covered the state but that the bill was commonly known as the "Freeport Bill".

C. Fire Department Report

Chief Harrell gave his monthly report.

D. Parks Department Report: none.

E. Engineers Report: none

VI. Old Business - none

VII. New Business - none

VIII. Council Business Not on Agenda

Mayor Barley informed the Council that the City Clerk application period closed as of 5:00 today and the City had received 19 applications.

Mayor stated that he would administer the oath of office to the new councilmembers on July 24th and he congratulated Mr. Farris and Ms. Cuchens.

Mayor Barley announced that Water Department Supervisor Larry Tuggle has passed his Water Operator test.

IX. Public Comment: none.

X. Adjournment

Board Action: *Mayor Barley called for a motion to adjourn. Motion to adjourn by Councilman Taunton.*

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Meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

APPROVED:

Mayor Russ Barley

Council President Janice McLean

ATTEST:

City Clerk