

State of Texas

County of Brazoria

City of Freeport

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the City Council of Freeport, Texas met on Monday, June 1, 2026 at 6:00 PM at the Freeport Council Chamber located at 430 North Brazosport Blvd. , Freeport Texas for the purpose of considering the following agenda items:

City Council:

- Mayor Jerry Cain
- Councilman Larry McDonald
- Councilman Jarvis Davis
- Councilwoman Nicolasa Mireles
- Councilman Winston Rossow

Staff:

- Danielle M Kelly, DPA, City Manager
- Jennifer Howell, Police Chief/Assistant City Manager
- Chris Duncan, City Attorney
- Clarisa Fernandez, City Secretary
- Ashlee Hurst, Finance Director
- Toby Cohen, IT Director
- Crystal Ruiz, Executive Administrative Assistant
- Sabrina Leblanc, Executive Administrative Assistant
- Reginald Harris, Building Official
- Corey Brinkman, Police Captain
- Craig Graham, Police Lieutenant

Visitors:

David McGinty	Troy Rivers
Linda Marshall	Margaret McMahan
Manning Rollerson	Ron Bachman
Pamela Dancy	Sam Reyna
Thomas Koole	West Warrict
Margaret Bachman	James Wood
Kenneth Hayes	Jeff Pena
Tom Pearson	Leslie Anguiano
Con McCleester	
Diane McCleester	

Call to Order:

Call to Order - Jerry Cain, Mayor

Mayor Cain called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Freeport City Council to order at 6:00P.M. on June 1, 2026, declaring that a quorum was present.

Invocation - Councilman

Councilman Rossow led the Invocation.

Pledges - Pledge of Allegiance to the United States; Pledge of Allegiance to the State of Texas.

Councilman Rossow led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and the Pledge of Allegiance to the State of Texas.

Matters Subsequent to Posting.

City Manager Dr. Danielle Kelly announced that the item listed as Tax Abatements under the Executive Session portion of the agenda would not be discussed during tonight's meeting. Mayor Cain confirmed that Executive Session would address only the Utility Billing item.

Audience Participation – Anyone who has registered to speak prior to the meeting being called to order and desires to address the City Council will be heard at this time, or during the discussion of an item listed on the agenda. These forms are located by the City Secretary. After completing the form, give it to the City Secretary. She will give it to the Mayor. The Mayor will call on you when that item is presented, once a motion has been made by Council then public participation will not be allowed. You will have four (4) minutes to make your comments regardless of the number of agenda items to be addressed.

Margaret Bachman resides at 96 Dolphin Lane. She addressed the Council to respectfully request reappointment to the Board of Adjustments as a full member, noting that her term as an alternate member had expired. Ms. Bachman acknowledged that she had not reviewed the evening's agenda and stated that the requirement to attend that night had created a hardship due to a previously scheduled obligation. She expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to serve and thanked the Council for their consideration.

Manning Rollerson addressed the Council, referencing recent international travel and commenting on governance practices he observed abroad. He expressed frustration with what he characterized as violations of law by two newly sworn-in council members, specifically citing an alleged failure to vote on a matter required by law. He raised concerns about public safety, policing, environmental pollution, and matters related to land allocation on the east end of Freeport. He called on the city to fulfill its obligations to the community and stated his intention to hold the city and Port of Freeport accountable for what he described as organized criminal conspiracy against east end residents. He also referenced the ongoing Juneteenth observance and questioned the city's commitment to the Black population of Freeport.

Pamela Dancy addressed the Council and stated she felt compelled to speak about rumors circulating in the community that council members had conspired prior to the election to remove the city attorney. Ms. Dancy alleged that Councilman Rossow had been identified as a weak link to be persuaded in order to facilitate the attorney's removal. She asked that if such a removal were pursued, the city attorney be afforded the opportunity to present to citizens a full account of his accomplishments and ongoing work on behalf of the city.

Thomas Koole presented photographs depicting drainage problems in the alley between the 1300 and 1400 blocks between Fourth and Fifth Streets. He described chronic flooding issues, broken drainage pipes, and inadequate water pressure affecting residents. He expressed frustration that city representatives would visit the area but take no action despite resident complaints and tax payments. Mr. Koole also urged the Council to reconsider removing the Tax Abatements item from discussion, noting that industries in Brazoria County receive billions in tax relief while the city suffers from neglected infrastructure, and calling on all elected bodies in the region to demand those funds be returned to the community.

Margaret McMahan resides at 97 Dolphin Lane. She addressed the Council regarding the condition of United States flags displayed along West Second Street and Highway 288 during the Memorial Day weekend. Ms. McMahan noted that many flags were torn or frayed, citing this as a violation of the U.S. Flag Code, which requires displayed flags to be clean, unfrayed, and in good condition. She recommended the city adopt proactive inventory management practices, including post-removal inspections, damage counts, restock orders, and baseline inventory levels in the city's asset management system to prevent such lapses

before holidays. She also spoke more broadly about the need for a preventive maintenance program covering routine checks on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annual, and annual basis, linking the flags issue to the larger need for pride and attention to detail in the city's appearance.

Troy Rivers addressed the Council regarding a recall petition that he stated had been properly submitted and validated by citizens. He spoke that once the threshold for a valid recall petition is met, officials have a legal duty to certify it and allow voters to decide, citing Texas Supreme Court precedent. Mr. Rivers spoke about the mayor's vote to block the petition, suggesting that a truly innocent person would welcome a public vote rather than obstruct it. He called on the Council to correct the matter, allow the people to vote, and restore public trust.

Sam Reyna resides at 2002 North Avenue G. He addressed the Council in response to an accusation made at the previous meeting by Jeff Pena, who had allegedly claimed that a resident named Mark Parker assaulted him outside the council chambers and that the assault should be elevated to a felony because Mr. Pena considered himself a public servant by virtue of having announced a mayoral campaign. Mr. Reyna recited relevant portions of the Texas Penal Code and argued that a person announcing candidacy for office does not meet the legal definition of a public servant, and that the incident in question was at most an accidental bump that did not rise to the level of criminal assault. Mr. Reyna concluded his remarks with a spoken prayer for Mr. Pena.

Jeff Pena addressed the Council regarding what he characterized as illegal walking quorums by Mayor Cain, Councilwoman Mireles, and Councilman McDonald in violation of the Texas Open Meetings Act. He warned those individuals of his intent to report them to the Attorney General. Mr. Pena also challenged Councilwoman Mireles to disclose which attorneys they consulted when making claims about the city attorney's advice, and questioned whether their stated concerns were factual or pretextual. He warned City Manager Dr. Kelly of potential intimidation tactics by certain council members, referencing a prior attempt to remove the Chief of Police, and stated he would not be silenced until accountability was achieved.

Diane McCleester resides at 97 Dolphin Lane. She addressed the Council to clarify what she described as misinformation circulating regarding Texas short-term rental law. She explained that Texas does not have a statewide short-term rental statute, that the state hot tax definition is used as less than 30 day, and that local city councils retain authority to govern short-term rentals through ordinances and zoning. She cited House Bill 1905 from 2015 and Chapter 351/352 of the Tax Code in support of her clarification, noting that residential properties used for short-term rental can include mixed-use real estate.

Proclamations - Presentations and Updates

Upcoming Events -

Juneteenth Exhibit, May 20-June 20, Freeport Historical Museum

Shark Exhibit, All Summer 2026, Freeport Historical Museum

Story Time with the Freeport Library, June 10, Freeport Historical Museum, 11:00A.M.

Fort Velasco Day, June 13, Freeport Historical Museum, 9:00A.M.-1:00P.M.

Senior Citizens Commission America 250 Indoor Picnic, June 15, Freeport RiverPlace, 10A.M.-12:00P.M.

Stars and Stripes, July 4, Historic Downtown Freeport, 9:00A.M.-1:00P.M.

City Manager Dr. Danielle Kelly gave updates on upcoming events.

Public Hearings

Public Hearing: Consideration and possible action approving Ordinance No. 2026-2768 on the rezoning request within the 200 Block of South Avenue B, legally described as Velasco (Freeport), Block 12, Lots 13

through 19, from C-2 (General Commercial) to R-1 (Single Family Residential), subject to compliance with all applicable City of Freeport ordinances and adopted codes.

Mayor Cain opened the Public Hearing at 6:32P.M.

Building Official Reginald Harris presented the item, explaining that the property owner submitted a rezoning application after discovering that the property historically used as a residential homestead had been reclassified to commercial, apparently without the owner receiving notification. Mr. Harris noted that the Planning and Zoning Commission had reviewed and approved a recommendation to bring the item forward to Council for approval.

Janice Garcia spoke about her history with the property. She explained that she had been paying taxes on the land, a single mother, and that a home on the property was lost in a fire in 2014, with a second structure similarly lost. She stated she had been unaware of the rezoning until she attempted to obtain a building permit, at which point she was informed the property was zoned commercial. Ms. Garcia expressed her desire to rebuild a home on the property to carry on her family's legacy, noting that both her parents had passed away and that her father had only recently died.

Councilman Rossow affirmed the application, noting that Freeport is consistently seeking new rooftops, and expressed that he saw no reason to stand in the way of Ms. Garcia's efforts.

Councilman Davis offered condolences and remarked warmly on the applicant's persistence and desire to remain in Freeport.

Mayor Cain echoed the sentiment, stating that Freeport is open for business and welcoming the addition of a new residential rooftop.

Mayor Cain closed the Public Hearing at 6:41P.M.

Business

Consideration and possible action approving Ordinance No. 2026-2768 on the rezoning request within the 200 Block of South Avenue B, legally described as Velasco (Freeport), Block 12, Lots 13 through 19, from C-2 (General Commercial) to R-1 (Single Family Residential), subject to compliance with all applicable City of Freeport ordinances and adopted codes.

Building Official Reginald Harris provided a brief summary of the item for the record, reiterating that the Planning and Zoning Commission had overwhelmingly voted to recommend approval. Mr. Harris praised Ms. Garcia's conduct throughout the process, noting that she had done everything properly submitting a permit application, promptly writing a check for the rezoning fee upon being informed of the zoning conflict, and patiently pursuing the appropriate process. Mr. Harris stated that he had seen the applicant's home plans and described the proposed residence as a very nice home that would be a welcome addition to the city of Freeport. He recommended approval in alignment with the Planning and Zoning recommendation.

A motion was made by Councilman Davis to approve Ordinance No. 2026-2768 on the rezoning request within the 200 Block of South Avenue B, legally described as Velasco (Freeport), Block 12, Lots 13 through 19, from C-2 (General Commercial) to R-1 (Single Family Residential), subject to compliance with all applicable City of Freeport ordinances and adopted codes, seconded by Councilman Rossow with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

Consideration and possible action approving minutes from May 11, 2026 and May 18, 2026.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mireles to approve minutes from May 11, 2026 and May 18, 2026, seconded by Councilman McDonald with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

Consideration and possible action to set the FY2026–2027 Budget Workshop Dates.

Finance Director Ashlee Hurst presented the item, explaining that staff was striving for improved collaboration, communication, and long-term planning in this year's budget development process. Ms. Hurst recommended establishing two budget workshop dates: Saturday, June 13, 2026 and Saturday, July 11, 2026, both to be held at City Hall and open to the public. Ms. Hurst described the format in detail: the June 13 workshop would feature a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation going line by line through all financials, departmental requests, and capital needs, with Council providing feedback. Staff would then incorporate changes before the July 11 workshop, which would focus only on those adjustments, with the goal of having the budget finalized ahead of the tighter deadlines for tax rates and formal adoption in August and September.

A motion was made by Councilman Davis to approve the FY2026–2027 Budget Workshop dates of June 13 and July 11, 2026, seconded by Councilman Rossow with discussion that followed.

Mayor Cain noted that both dates fall on Saturdays, confirmed the sessions would be open to the public and broadcast, and estimated the workshops would run from approximately 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

Councilman Davis offered enthusiastic praise for Finance Director Ashlee Hurst and the new format, emphasizing the importance of transparency and full council involvement well ahead of the deadline rather than at the last minute. He also noted that other neighboring city councils operate in a similar fashion and that this level of engagement was appropriate given that we are talking about Freeport's money.

Mayor Cain called the motion to a vote with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

Consideration and possible action approving Resolution No. 2026-3046 to amend section 9.07A Alternative to Overtime: Flextime to the Personnel Policy Manual.

City Manager Dr. Danielle Kelly read the memorandum regarding Resolution No. 2026-3046, which would amend Section 9.07A, Alternative to Overtime: Flextime, of the City Personnel Policy Manual. Dr. Kelly explained that the proposed amendment would allow approved flextime hours to be utilized within 30 days of being earned rather than within the same pay period, while continuing to prohibit the banking or accumulation of compensatory time. She further stated that the amendment would provide greater scheduling flexibility for departments and employees, maintain supervisory approval requirements, and ensure compliance with applicable labor regulations.

A motion was made by Councilman Davis to approve Resolution No. 2026-3046 to amend section 9.07A Alternative to Overtime: Flextime to the Personnel Policy Manual, seconded by Councilman Rossow with discussion that followed.

Councilman Davis drew on his experience with Brazoria County, where flex/comp time has no expiration period and employees simply coordinate with supervisors and coworkers.

Councilwoman Mireles similarly referenced her experience at Dow Chemical, where comp time was informal and flexible.

Mayor Cain acknowledged the rationale behind setting a time limit specifically to prevent all employees from banking weeks of comp time and taking it simultaneously in December but expressed personal discomfort with the same-week constraint, noting that a 30-day window seemed more reasonable.

Mayor Cain called the motion to a vote with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

Consideration and possible action approving Resolutions appointing/reappointing members to various Boards and Commissions.

This item was moved forward on the agenda at Mayor Cain's direction to accommodate the large number of attendees present for this purpose.

City Manager Dr. Danielle Kelly reported that terms had expired as of May 31, 2026 on the following boards: Planning and Zoning, Freeport EDC, Board of Adjustments, Historical Commission and Main Street Advisory Board, and Parks and Recreation/Beautification Board. Several positions were also vacant due to members stepping down mid-term.

Mayor Cain invited all applicants who wished to introduce themselves to approach the podium and speak briefly about their backgrounds and interest in serving.

Ronnie Martin, 1850 West 8th Street, requested reappointment to the EDC, citing his background in retail, contract management, and corporate relationships developed through prior business ownership.

Kenneth Hayes, 414 Mystery Harbor, requested reappointment to the Board of Adjustments, expressing satisfaction with the board's work in supporting code enforcement efforts.

James Wood requested reappointment to the Historical Commission and Main Street Advisory Board, noting the growing enthusiasm in the city and the board's expanding public profile.

Kenneth Tyner requested reappointment to the EDC, noting this would be his third term if reappointed, praising the board's knowledgeable membership, and inviting the public to attend EDC meetings.

Patricia Richardson, 21 North Avenue A, applied for Planning and Zoning, stating her background in real estate and her shared passion for increasing residential rooftops in Freeport.

Vanessa Warick, 410 South Avenue C, introduced herself as a new Freeport resident and business owner (Repurposeful) who applied for Parks and Beautification, describing her skills in repurposing donated items and finding beauty and potential in places others may overlook.

Leslie Anguiano expressed her lifelong passion for Freeport, her ownership of a local business with her husband, and her desire to contribute to the city's continued growth through the Historic Commission.

Andrew Dill, 132 Brazos Landing, spoke about his years of service in Planning and Zoning, noting the board typically runs efficiently but occasionally handles items of real significance, citing Ms. Garcia's rezoning where the board expanded the staff recommendation from a single address to the entire 200 block as an example of meaningful impact.

Susan Landers, 915 West 9th, expressed interest in both Planning and Zoning and the Historic Commission, noting a 20-plus-year career as a certified arborist and a professional background in environmental health and safety with a focus on construction.

Jeff Pena applied for the EDC and Main Street boards, citing prior service as EDC president and as the council member who established the Main Street Historical Society. He warned the Council against reappointing existing EDC members, alleging involvement in lawsuits over city land, and to caution against allowing a HOA-type structure in the downtown Main Street program.

Tony Meladin, 529 West Fourth, a disabled U.S. Air Force veteran who recently relocated to Freeport, expressed interest in the Historic Commission or any board where he could contribute. Mayor Cain noted that Mr. Meladin's application did not appear in the submitted materials and suggested it may have been received after the deadline. Mr. Meladin was encouraged to resubmit.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mireles to reappoint Andrew Dill to the Planning and Zoning Commission, seconded by Councilman McDonald with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

A motion was made by Councilman Davis to appoint Patricia Richardson to the Planning and Zoning Commission, seconded by Councilman Rossow with all present and voting "Aye" 3-2. The Council approved the motion. Councilman McDonald voted "Nay". Councilwoman Mireles voted "Nay".

A motion was made by Mayor Cain to reappoint Eric Hayes to the Planning and Zoning Commission, seconded by Councilman McDonald with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

A motion was made by Mayor Cain to appoint Ronnie Martin to the Economic Development Corporation (EDC), seconded by Councilwoman Mireles with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

A motion was made by Councilman McDonald to appoint David McGinty to the Economic Development Corporation (EDC), seconded by Councilwoman Mireles with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mireles to appoint Kenneth Tyner to the Economic Development Corporation (EDC), seconded by Councilman McDonald with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

A motion was made by Mayor Cain to appoint Margaret Bachman as a full member to the Board of Adjustments, seconded by Councilman McDonald with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mireles to reappoint Kenneth Hayes to the Board of Adjustments, seconded by Councilman McDonald with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

A motion was made by Councilman Davis to reappoint Flora Green to the Historical Commission and Main Street Advisory Board, seconded by Mayor Cain with all present and voting "Aye" 3-2. The Council approved the motion. Councilman McDonald voted "Nay". Councilwoman Mireles voted "Nay".

A motion was made by Mayor Cain to reappoint James Wood to the Historical Commission and Main Street Advisory Board, seconded by Councilman McDonald with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council

unanimously approved the motion.

A motion was made by Councilman Davis to appoint Leslie Anguiano to the Historical Commission and Main Street Advisory Board, seconded by Mayor Cain with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mireles to appoint Susan Landers to the Historical Commission and Main Street Advisory Board, seconded by Councilman McDonald with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

A motion was made by Mayor Cain to appoint David McGinty to the Historical Commission and Main Street Advisory Board, seconded by Councilman McDonald with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

A motion was made by Councilman Davis to appoint Jeff Pena. Motion died due to a lack of a second.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mireles to appoint Vanessa Warick to the Parks and Recreation/Beautification Board seconded by Councilman Davis with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

A motion was made by Councilman Rossow to appoint Susan Landers to the Parks and Recreation/Beautification Board, seconded by Councilwoman Mireles with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

Consideration and possible action on the appointment of City Council Liaison for City of Freeport Boards and Commissions.

City Manager Dr. Danielle Kelly cited Article 4, Section 2-143 of the City of Freeport Code of Ordinances, which requires the City Council to appoint one of its members as liaison to each board and commission. Due to turnover on the Council, it was timely to appoint new liaisons.

A motion was made by Councilman McDonald to appoint Councilwoman Mireles as the liaison to the Planning and Zoning Commission, seconded by Councilman Rossow with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

A motion was made by Councilman Davis to appoint Mayor Cain to continue as the liaison to the EDC, seconded by Councilman Rossow with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

A motion was made by Councilman Davis to appoint himself as the liaison to the Board of Adjustments, seconded by Councilman McDonald with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mireles to appoint Councilman McDonald to the Historical Commission and Main Street Advisory Board, seconded by Councilman Rossow with all present and voting "Aye" 3-2. The Council approved the motion. Councilman McDonald voted "Nay". Councilman Davis voted "Nay".

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mireles to appoint Councilman Rossow to continue as the liaison to the Senior Citizens Commission, seconded by Councilman McDonald with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

A motion was made by Councilman McDonald to appoint Councilman Rossow to continue as the liaison to the Parks and Recreation/Beautification Board, seconded by Councilwoman Mireles with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

Discussion regarding amending Ordinance No. 2025-2756 establishing specific procedures and deadlines for items to be placed on the City Council agenda.

City Manager Dr. Danielle Kelly introduced the item, noting that staff recommended the Council discuss the current ordinance and provide direction regarding any desired amendments, with no formal action requested at this meeting. If directed, staff would prepare a revised ordinance for consideration at a subsequent meeting.

Mayor Cain led the Council through each provision of the existing ordinance, inviting discussion on each section.

Section 1- Submission Deadline (Regular Meetings): The current ordinance requires agenda requests from the Mayor or a single council member to be submitted in writing to the City Manager by noon on the Thursday that is 9 calendar days prior to the meeting. Mayor Cain proposed changing the deadline from noon to 5:00 PM (close of business) on that Thursday, which Dr. Kelly indicated was acceptable. The Council agreed. Regarding the requirement of a single council member to request an agenda item, a significant discussion arose. Councilwoman Mireles expressed support for requiring two council members to co-sponsor an agenda request, noting this was how it had been done in the good old days. Mayor Cain agreed, stating it helps filter out frivolous agenda items. Councilman Rossow also noted that the two-member requirement had only recently been changed to one member, and questioned the rationale for changing it back. Councilman Davis spoke about his opposition, stating that requiring a second sponsor effectively handcuffs an elected representative and is disrespectful to the citizens who elected each council member to advocate on their behalf. He stated he knew of no other city that required two members to simply place an item on an agenda. Mayor Cain responded that while legitimate ward issues would easily garner a second, the two-member threshold protects against items that may be politically motivated or legally problematic. The Council took no formal vote but the direction moved toward requiring two council members for regular meeting agenda requests.

Section 2- Submission Deadline (Special Meetings): The same discussion regarding a single versus two-member requirement applied here, with Mayor Cain recommending the threshold be raised to two council members for special meeting agenda items as well. The Council agreed.

Section 3- City Manager Placement of Items: Mayor Cain raised concerns about the current language requiring items to be placed on the agenda "as requested" using "exact language." He proposed a collaborative drafting process in which the City Manager would create a draft from the submitted request and send it back to the council member for review and revision before posting. Councilman Davis indicated support for City Manager Dr. Danielle Kelly's professional judgment in determining appropriate language, while Mayor Cain emphasized that the current language does not allow for that discretion. City Attorney Chris Duncan confirmed that under the current ordinance, the city is obligated to post the item exactly as written. The Council agreed.

Section 4- Open vs. Executive Session Placement: Mayor Cain noted past instances where items were placed in the wrong session open instead of executive, or vice versa creating procedural complications at the meeting. He recommended language be added allowing legal counsel to flag and correct such errors before posting. City Attorney Christopher Duncan confirmed that when such errors occur, he raises the issue at the meeting and a majority of Council votes to correct the placement. Mayor Cain and the Council indicated a preference for resolving these issues before the agenda is posted.

Section 5- City Manager/Staff Contact: Councilman McDonald expressed that all communication regarding agenda items should flow through the City Manager, not city staff directly, consistent with council-manager governance norms. Mayor Cain agreed and indicated the reference to city staff may need to be narrowed to City Manager. The Council agreed.

Section 6- Supporting Documentation: Mayor Cain emphasized this as among the most important provisions, noting past instances where Council arrived at a meeting with minimal information about an agenda item. He stated that thorough supporting documentation is critical for informed decision-making.

Section 7- Tabling Agenda Items: Mayor Cain stated that this provision allows the Council to table any agenda item upon a motion and majority vote during the open session of the meeting in which the item appears on the agenda. He indicated that the provision is self-explanatory.

Section 8- Reintroduction Moratorium: The current provision prohibits reintroduction of a defeated item for three months unless requested by the Mayor or a council member who did not sponsor the original item. Mayor Cain expressed support but again suggested the threshold should be two members.

Section 9- Work Session Items: Mayor Cain clarified that simply mentioning an item during the work session does not constitute a formal agenda submission. The written process must still be followed. The Council agreed this was appropriate and consistent with normal procedure.

Councilman McDonald requested that a revised draft of the ordinance be provided for review before formal action is taken. Mayor Cain confirmed that the revised ordinance would be prepared by staff and placed on a future agenda.

Discussion regarding amending Resolution No. 2025-2951 standard procedures to nominate and select positions for all Council appointed boards.

City Manager Dr. Danielle Kelly introduced the item, noting that staff recommended Council discuss current appointment and nomination procedures and provide direction for any desired amendments, with no formal action requested at this meeting.

Mayor Cain walked through the key provisions:

Section 1- Nominations: Every council member shall be allowed to make nominations for each position. The Council agreed.

Section 2- Opportunity to Speak: Each nominated person present in person shall have the opportunity to present their merits. The Council discussed the "present in person" requirement in depth. Councilwoman Mireles and Councilman McDonald both objected strongly to requiring applicants to be physically present at the council meeting in order to be appointed, noting it creates unnecessary hardship for volunteers who may be at work, on vacation, or dealing with personal obligations. Councilman Davis drew a distinction between job seekers (who are expected to appear for an interview) and volunteers donating their time to serve the city. Mayor Cain shared two illustrative examples: a former appointee who was denied appointment because she had the flu, and a current appointee who canceled and rescheduled his vacation around the delayed appointments process. Mayor Cain expressed that while he personally values attendance and would weigh it in close decisions, requiring attendance as a threshold condition is excessive for volunteers.

Section 5- which currently prohibits appointment of any person not physically present at the meeting — should be removed.

City Attorney Duncan clarified that because this resolution's rules apply to all council-appointed boards as well, removing Section 5 would also eliminate the in-person attendance requirement for board-level

nomination processes, which Mayor Cain indicated was equally desired.

Section 3- Liaison Priority: The council member serving as liaison to a given board shall have the opportunity to make the first motion to appoint a nominee. Mayor Cain expressed satisfaction with this provision, noting that tonight's appointments proceeded more smoothly than in past cycles.

Section 4- Individual Votes: Appointments shall be made one at a time, not as a slate. No objection.

Mayor Cain noted an additional related issue: at a recent EDC meeting, the board had wanted to make a formal recommendation to Council for a nominee but could not do so because that nominee was not present at the board meeting an extension of the same burdensome "must be present" rule. He stated the removal of Section 5 would resolve this issue as well. Staff was directed to prepare an amended resolution for formal consideration at a subsequent Council meeting.

Consideration and possible action approving Resolution No. 2026-3052 deeming property of the Freeport Police Department surplus for donation.

Police Chief Jennifer Howell presented the item, explaining that canine officer Abigail a single-purpose narcotics detection dog obtained by the department around 2019 had been recommended for retirement by the veterinarian due to health concerns that had emerged over the prior six to nine months, including thyroid issues. Chief Howell noted that Abigail's role as a single-purpose dog had extended her working life somewhat beyond what dual-purpose dogs typically serve, with most service canines retiring between six and nine years depending on breed and service type. Because Abigail is classified as a city asset, she must formally be deemed surplus property before any disposition can occur. Chief Howell explained that the department wished to donate Abigail to one of her previous handlers, who had already been contacted and was enthusiastic about the adoption. A contractual agreement was prepared stipulating that if the handler can no longer care for Abigail or if end-of-life decisions arise, the matter would return to the police department for guidance. Chief Howell remarked warmly on Abigail's character and service and expressed the department's hope that she would enjoy her remaining years as a "couch dog." When asked about a replacement, Chief Howell confirmed the department had submitted a request through the budget process.

A motion was made by Councilman Davis to accept the retirement of Sister Abigail, seconded by Councilwoman Mireles with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

Consideration and possible action approving Resolution No. 2026-3053 deeming property of the Freeport Police Department surplus.

Police Chief Jennifer Howell presented the item, explaining that the department had ten Symbol handheld ticket writers that were no longer operational, as the manufacturer had discontinued support for their operating system in the prior year. The department had already replaced them with new ticket writers currently in service. Chief Howell noted that the old units had been sitting in storage, including in Lieutenant Graham's office, and that the lieutenant had requested they be cleared out. Due to the sensitive nature of the data stored on the devices from their use as ticket writers, Chief Howell recommended the units be deemed surplus and destroyed through an e-cycle process rather than donated or sold. Councilwoman Mireles asked about the e-recycling destination, and Chief Howell explained there are multiple options, including a city-wide e-waste collection coordinated by IT staff, or alternative vendors if that collection had already closed. Mayor Cain confirmed that all data would be wiped prior to destruction.

A motion was made by Councilman McDonald to approve Resolution No. 2026-3053 deeming property of the Freeport Police Department surplus, seconded by Councilwoman Mireles with all present and voting

"Aye" 5-0. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

Kenneth Hayes, liaison between the City and the Velasco Drainage District (VWD), informed Council that the district had begun its semiannual chlorine burn-out process and advised that residents may notice a chlorine odor during the flushing period. He explained that the procedure is conducted twice each year and had commenced that day. Mr. Hayes noted that the process would continue for approximately 30 days. In response to an inquiry regarding the duration of the flushing program, City Manager Dr. Danielle Kelly clarified that the burn-out was officially scheduled to continue through June 22 and stated that multiple public notices had been posted on Facebook and the City's website. Mayor Cain thanked Mr. Hayes and the VWD representative for the information.

Work Session

Councilman McDonald Ward A announcements and comments.

Councilman McDonald noted a recent issue at a business in Ward A that he had personally looked into, and acknowledged a persistent infrastructure issue on one of the streets in his ward that had not yet been resolved.

Councilman Davis Ward B announcements and comments.

Councilman Davis thanked all board applicants and attendees. He offered a Memorial Day tribute to veterans, expressing admiration for those who voluntarily entered military service. He noted ongoing sidewalk work in Ward B and stated his intent to advocate during the budget process for reconstruction of a concrete road on Ninth Street. He also noted several streetlights out in Ward B that he planned to document and report. Councilman Davis closed by asking residents to keep the Harris family in their prayers following the loss of a family member.

Councilwoman Mireles Ward C announcements and comments.

Councilwoman Mireles reported that she regularly communicates with Dr. Kelly about issues in Ward C and expressed appreciation for Dr. Kelly's responsiveness.

Councilman Rossow Ward D announcements and comments.

Councilman Rossow congratulated all attendees for staying through the entirety of the meeting. He highlighted the upcoming Juneteenth celebration on June 19, noting that former Mayor Bass hosts an annual free fish fry at Dickie Park in Angleton, featuring entertainment, tater tots, and drinks, with fish donated by Phillips 66. He described the event as drawing 200 to 300 attendees and noted it has been held successfully without incident for several consecutive years.

Mayor Jerry Cain announcements and comments.

Mayor Cain thanked all attendees, noting this was the third consecutive meeting with a near-full house. He clarified that the removal of the Tax Abatements item from tonight's Executive Session did not indicate the city had abandoned the topic, rather, the city is in the process of rethinking its approach to future tax abatements, and while existing agreements may not be alterable, any new abatements would be subject to revised policy. Mayor Cain also addressed the flooding and sewer backup concerns raised during audience participation, stating his commitment to continuing infrastructure investment until every residence in Freeport can flush its toilets during rain events. He shared that following a recent rain, he contacted Dr.

Kelly about a specific complaint and was told crews were already en route.

City Manager announcements and comments.

City Manager Dr. Danielle Kelly offered a preview of the upcoming budget, stating that Council would be well pleased with the emphasis on infrastructure investment visible in the June 13 budget workshop materials. She announced that on June 10, police, fire, and EMS would conduct a full-scale emergency exercise at Brazoswood High School in Clute, with lights and sirens visible throughout the day — residents in the area were advised not to be alarmed as it is a drill. Dr. Kelly also introduced her new Executive Assistant, Sabrina LeBlanc, noting she was recruited from the Police Department, and acknowledged the outgoing assistant Crystal Ruiz who would be transitioning to a position with the PD.

Councilman Davis offered warm remarks to current Executive Administrative Assistant Crystal Ruiz, wishing her success in her next role.

Executive Session

Executive Session regarding a.) Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) 1.) Utility Billing. 2.) Tax Abatements.

The Regular Session closed at 8:53P.M. and the Council entered into the Executive Session

Reconvene into Open Session:

Take any action resulting from Executive Session.

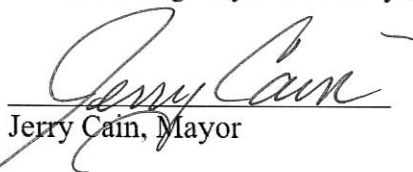
The Executive Session ended at 9:15P.M. and the Council went back into Regular Session.

There was no action from the Executive Session.

Adjournment

Adjournment – Jerry Cain, Mayor

A motion was made by Councilman McDonald to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Davis with all present and voting "Aye" 5-0. Mayor Cain adjourned the meeting at 9:15P.M


Jerry Cain, Mayor


Clarisa Fernandez City Secretary