The City of Liberty
City Council
Special Called Meeting
~ Minutes ~

1829 Sam Houston
Liberty, TX 77575
www.cityofliberty.org

Dianne Tidwell
City Secretary
(936) 336-3684

Tuesday, May 17, 2011 | **6:00 PM** | **City Council Chambers**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order on May 17, 2011 at the City Council Chambers, 1829 Sam Houston, Liberty,TX at 6:05 PM by Mayor Carl Pickett.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Carl Pickett	Mayor	Present	
Dennis Beasley	Councilperson	Present	
Diane Huddleston	Councilperson	Present	
Mike McCarty	Mayor Pro-Tem	Present	
Al Simonson	Councilperson	Present	
Louie Potetz	Councilperson	Present	
Frank Jordan	Councilperson	Present	
Libby Simonson	Councilperson	Present	
Gary Broz	City Manager	Present	
Dianne Tidwell	City Secretary	Present	
Brandon Smith	City's Counsel	Present	

II. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GUESTS AND VISITORS / PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Pickett welcomed guests and visitors, opening the floor for public comment to those individuals wishing to address the Council. There were no comments from the audience.

Mayor Pickett reported on the following:

1) a Law Enforcement Memorial Service will be held at First Baptist Church on Wednesday, May 11,
2) June 14 is the date of the next regular Council Meeting, with budget work sessions the week of July 11-15, and
3) the Rotary Club on Tuesday, May 24 will hold the annual lunch for veterans.

City Manager Gary Broz remarked on the following:

1) introduced new staff member, Roger Drews, from Harker Heights, Tx. who will serve as the Water & Wastewater Director,
2) a simulated disaster exercise was held this same morning, by using the dam breaking in Livingston as the disaster event, with 47 hours to evacuate the City, and ending with 58 feet of water in the City. This event was an exercise in reviewing and working with the City's Emergency Operations Plan; with Staff performing well, and
3) budget work sessions will begin the week of July 11.

III. REGULAR AGENDA

A. WORK SESSION

1. Work Session (ID # 2038)

Discussion of the Upcoming Budget Process, and Council Goals, Objectives, Issues and Concerns.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Gary Broz reported on the upcoming budget process, stating that he is working on presentation of a maintenance budget, anticipating no large expenditures. Mr. Broz further reported that in regard to future budget expenditures, the following is taken into consideration:

1) do it right the first time,

2) do we need it or should we do it, and

3) change only as needed, or where needed.

Mr. Broz reviewed the following list of issues and concerns:

1) major IT issues,

2) Police Dept. continuing Best Practices certification, and a new building scheduled for the 2012 budget,

3) City Secretary's Office planning for upgrade of various records management issues,

4) possible Purchasing Software for Finance Dept.,

5) Neighborhood Services continuation of condemnations,

6) possible replacement of AC units at the Municipal Library,

7) Water/Wastewater Dept. reviewing lift stations and looking towards completion of Wastewater Treatment Plant rehabilitation, and

8) maintenance and accountability for Parks, Streets, and Electric Departments.

Mr. Broz further stated that he does not see the need for any additional employees, and time will be spent working on 5-year plans. Budget work sessions will begin the week of July 11.

2. Work Session (ID # 2039)

Discussion of Sale of City Properties.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Gary Broz reported on a group of City properties proposed for sale. Reviewed were Central Appraisal District information, photos, maps, and surveys. The following properties were discussed:

1) <u>Bowie @ Edgewood</u> - detention pond -3.87 acres - discussion of drainage and street access, surveyed,

2) <u>Treetop Terrace</u> - close to one (1) acre in the northwest corner of Treetop Terrace (location of old sewer plant), currently being surveyed, discussion of wastewater line easement,

3) <u>Landfill - FM 1909</u> - 60 acres, fenced property, does not need survey,

4) <u>Trinity @ Louisiana</u> - site of old Trinity Street Warehouse, surveyed, with City retaining water storage tank.

Further discussion was held regarding appraisals for the various properties, environmental liability, minimum acceptable bids, and other matters related thereto. Management is to obtain appraisals and additional information for presentation to Council, at a later date.

B. Regular Session

1. Information Item (ID # 2035)

Oath of Office to be Issued to Newly Elected Officials.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

The Oath of Office was issued to the following elected officials, by Municipal Court Judge Bobby Rader:

Dennis Beasley, Diane Huddleston, and Libby Simonson.

The May 14, 2011 General Election was cancelled due to lack of opposition, therefore no canvas of election was necessary.

Outgoing Councilperson Al Simonson expressed that it was his pleasure, and an honor, to serve on City Council, and that he appreciated the efforts of City Staff and the other Council Members. The Mayor and remaining Council Members thanked Councilperson Simonson for his service to the community.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Oath of Office Form (DOC)

2. Council Action 2011-54

Election of a Mayor Pro Tem.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Mayor Pickett nominated Councilperson Mike McCarty to serve, once again, as Mayor Pro Tem. There were no other nominations. Motion was made to elect Councilperson Mike McCarty as Mayor Pro Tem.

RESULT:	**APPROVED [6 TO 0]**
AYES:	Pickett, Beasley, Huddleston, Potetz, Jordan, Simonson
ABSTAIN:	Mike McCarty

3. Council Action 2011-55

Consider Appointments to the Liberty Community Development Corporation Board of Directors.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

This Corporation is managed by a Board of seven members, appointed to serve two-year terms. Three of the seven members shall be persons who are not employees, officers of the City, or members of the City Council. Discussion was held regarding amendment of the Corporation Bylaws to reflect that only three members of Council shall be appointed to this Board, in order to ensure that there is no pre-determined conclusion of any issue taken before the Council. Discussion was also held to include, in the bylaws, the way in which the members are elected, whether by majority, or other means.

Those members whose terms expire are Mike McCarty, Robert Ward, and Juan Venegas. Robert Ward and Councilperson McCarty have agreed to serve again, if appointed, however, Mr. Venegas has declined another term. Councilperson Beasley made a motion to table this item, to provide adequate time to revise the bylaws; there was no second to the motion.

Mayor Pickett nominated Ms. Leslie Herndon, Councilperson Potetz nominated Mr. Charles McGuire, and Councilperson Jordan nominated Mr. Chipper Smith, to fill the open position left on the Board. Councilperson McCarty made a motion that nominations cease, a second being made by Councilperson Beasley.

A vote was taken by a show of hands, with the following results:

Charles McGuire	-	1
Leslie Herndon	-	5
Chipper Smith -	-	1

A motion was made by Councilperson Beasley, seconded by Councilperson Huddleston to appoint Mike McCarty, Robert Ward, and Leslie Herndon to the LCDC Board of Directors.

RESULT:	**APPROVED [6 TO 0]**
MOVER:	Dennis Beasley, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Diane Huddleston, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, Beasley, Huddleston, Potetz, Jordan, Simonson
ABSTAIN:	Mike McCarty

4. Council Action 2011-56

Consider Two (2) Appointments to the Solid Waste Recycling Committee.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Gary Broz stated that the City is investigating recycling issues and various recycling programs. Mr. Broz requested that Councilpersons Huddleston and Simonson be appointed to a Solid Waste Recycling Committee to assist Staff in reviewing available options, before formal presentation to the City Council.

Motion was made to appoint Councilperson Diane Huddleston and Councilperson Libby Simonson to the Solid Waste Recycling Committee.

RESULT:	**APPROVED [5 TO 0]**
MOVER:	Mike McCarty, Mayor Pro-Tem
SECONDER:	Dennis Beasley, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, Beasley, McCarty, Potetz, Jordan
ABSTAIN:	Diane Huddleston, Libby Simonson

IV. COUNCIL MEAL

Council shared an evening meal.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion To: Adjourn

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

RESULT:	**APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Louie Potetz, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Dennis Beasley, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, Beasley, Huddleston, McCarty, Potetz, Jordan, Simonson

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Carl Pickett, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dianne Tidwell, City Secretary