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, January 24, 2012 | **6:00 PM** | **City Council Chambers**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order on January 24, 2012 at the City Council Chambers, 1829 Sam Houston, Liberty,TX at 6:00 PM by Mayor Carl Pickett.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Carl Pickett	Mayor	Present	
Mike McCarty	Mayor Pro-Tem	Absent	
Dennis Beasley	Councilperson	Present	
Diane Huddleston	Councilperson	Present	
Frank Jordan	Councilperson	Present	
Louie Potetz	Councilperson	Present	
Libby Simonson	Councilperson	Present	
Gary Broz	City Manager	Present	
Dianne Tidwell	City Secretary	Present	
Randy Gunter	City Attorney	Present	

II. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GUESTS AND VISITORS / PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment is reserved for members of the public who would like to address the City Council on items that are not on the City Council Agenda. Please be aware that, under Texas Law, the Council may not deliberate or take any action on non-agenda items. In some situations, City staff may be able to respond to the public comment with a factual statement or clarification. City Council may request that the item be placed on a future agenda at which time the Council may deliberate and/or act.

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 public.

Councilperson Jordan reported that Community Ambassador Training was being conducted, this same evening, at the Liberty Municipal Library. Councilperson Jordan explained that this committee works through the Houston-Galveston Area Council and will ultimately present a strategy plan to the Economic Development Agency in Washington D.C. In turn, based on information garnered and compilation of a 35-page report, the agency will allocate funds for grants for the next 2-3 years.

Mayor Pickett reported that the Fire & EMS Department Annual Banquet would be held on Saturday, January 28th.

City Manager Gary Broz reported that the annual Houston-Galveston Area Council General Assembly will be held on Friday, January 27th. Mr. Broz stated that the City had one seat left available if anyone was interested in attending.

III. PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS

A. Information Item (ID # 2292)

Financial Report

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Gary Broz reported that the financials for the month of December were not yet closed and the monthly financial report would be passed on, and that the 2010-2011 Fiscal Year Audit is being presented later in the meeting.

Finance Director Naomi Herrington reported on five project worksheets (PW) resulting from Hurricane Ike (2008) that went to State audit for reimbursement. Debris cleanup, being the largest project, has been closed out at 100%, with the City receiving a final payment of $299,102. Ms. Herrington reported on the remainder of the PWs to include a payment for the electrical distribution system, with possible reimbursement of approximately $200,000, and three smaller projects, with an approximate total reimbursement of $60,000.

Ms. Herrington further stated that two additional project worksheets have not yet been to State audit; the Public Works Service Center (old GM Bldg.) with possible reimbursement of $200,000 and airport hangars with possible reimbursement of approximately $264,000.

Ms. Herrington completed her report by stating that property tax revenues were on the increase.

B. Information Item (ID # 2293)

2012 General Election Report

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Secretary Dianne Tidwell reported the City's general election for officers would be held on Saturday, May 12, 2012. Ms. Tidwell stated that the period for filing an application for a place on the ballot is February 4 - March 5th, with Early Voting by Personal Appearance being held from April 30th through May 8th. Two twelve-hour days of early voting will be held on the last two days of that period, Monday and Tuesday, May 7th and 8th, from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m.

IV. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Regular Session

1. Council Action 2012-8

Presentation of the Annual Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2010-2011 by Swaim, Brents & Associates, and Consider Acceptance of Same.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Ms. LeAnn Brents, Swaim, Hanagriff & Associates presented the Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2010-2011. Ms. Brents stated that the audit is prepared on a full accrual basis and is subject to government auditing standards due to the receipt of federal funds. Ms. Brent further stated that the City was also subject to Single Audit Act requirements due to receiving over $500,000 in federal grant funds, an even higher level audit. After review of various sections of the Audit Report and discussion of related issues, Ms. Brents reported that the City received a unqualified opinion audit, with no significant deficiencies and a major increase in net assets.

RESULT:	**NO ACTION TAKEN**

2. Work Session (ID # 2295)

Discussion of Project Options for 2012 Certificates of Obligation.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

The City's Financial Advisor, Mr. Bob Henderson, was present to discuss with Council the financing of proposed projects for the issuance of 2012 Certificates of Obligation. Mr. Henderson discussed two possible options to include an issuance of $1.2 million for three previously discussed projects or $2.2 million to include additional projects. Additional projects discussed include the following:

Bell Tower - $250,000

Skate Park - $100,000

Cultural Ctr. Landscaping & Irrigation - $100,000.

Mr. Broz recommended the issuance of $1.8 million, plus issuance costs, for the three projects previously discussed to include $1.5 million to assist with construction of a new Police Department facility, $200,000 for HVAC at the Humphreys Cultural Center, and $50,000 for an equipment awning at the Public Works Service Center. Mr. Broz further reported that he recommends the smaller issuance as it can be accomplished without raising taxes. Mr. Broz stated that hopefully other projects may be considered at a later date, on a cash basis, without the need for financing.

After further discussion of the I&S Rate, grants, community enhancement and quality of life issues, the Council consensus was that the $1.8 million issuance is the option of choice.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion To: Adjourn

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

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

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Carl Pickett, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Dianne Tidwell, City Secretary