



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, February 21, 2012

6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order on February 21, 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	Present	
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	
Brandon Davis	City Counsel	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.

City Secretary Dianne Tidwell reported that the deadline for filing for a place on the City's General Election ballot is Monday, March 5th, 5:00 p.m. Ms. Tidwell reported that Mayor Pickett has filed for re-election for the Mayor's position. Councilpersons Jordan and Potetz have filed for re-election in the Council Member race, along with three additional individuals; David Arnold, Gary "Skeet" Raggio, and Susan McCain.

Mayor Pickett reported on a benefit to be held on Tuesday, February 28th, 6-9 p.m., at the Liberty Fire Department for Larry Hajovsky, former full-time firefighter and most recently volunteer firefighter for the LFD. Mr. Hajovsky suffered a stroke and the benefit will include a BBQ and live auction.

Mayor Pickett also mentioned the monthly "Coffee with the Mayor" that will be held Thursday, February 23rd, 7:30 a.m., in the Council Chambers.

Councilperson Jordan reminded everyone of the Liberty-Dayton Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet to be held Thursday, March 8th, at the Dayton Community Center.

III. PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS

A. Information Item (ID # 2318)

January Financial Report - Finance Director N. Herrington

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Finance Director Naomi Herrington reported on the January, 2012 financial report. Ms. Herrington reviewed and discussed with Council the various funds, along with their respective revenue and expenditure totals. Ms. Herrington also stated that sales tax revenues are currently on track and property tax revenues are at 97% of the budgeted amount. Further discussion included a payment of \$425,000 due from the Water/Wastewater Fund to the Texas Water Development Board Loan, the meter replacement program, and the Boomerang Tube facility charge, paid to the City, that goes toward payment of the bond for the Boomerang transformer and substation.

B. Information Item (ID # 2319)

H-GAC Report - Councilperson Jordan

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Councilperson Jordan reported on the Houston-Galveston Area Council and several current grant opportunities. Councilperson Jordan stated that the City had received a small grant for trees that would be planted on the City Hall grounds. The City has also submitted an application for a \$25,000 grant that must be tied to a historical area and could be used for restoration of the City Hall Square. If awarded to the City, proposed use of these funds would be for purchase of decorative antique street lights.

Further discussion included infrastructure grants in which Liberty County, in the previous year, received \$1,250,000 for disbursement among numerous municipalities in the County. With the County receiving those funds, they most probably will not receive infrastructure grant funds for another year. Also mentioned was the informative Monthly Economic Digest.

C. Information Item (ID # 2320)

SRMPA Report - Mayor Pickett

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Mayor Pickett stated that the financial status of the Sam Rayburn Municipal Power is good and that the Cambridge Energy Project which began December 1, 2011, will add to the financial stability of the Agency. Mayor Pickett stated that the change in structure and processes seem to be working very well. A meeting of the SRMPA Board of Directors will be held on Tuesday, February 28th, after which time Mayor Pickett will be happy to answer additional questions.

IV. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Regular Session

1. Council Action 2012-15

Consider Declaring Miscellaneous City Equipment as Surplus Property.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Mr. Broz reported on a list of items for an online auction, in which miscellaneous equipment from various city departments has been prepared for sale.

Motion was made to approve the miscellaneous city equipment as surplus property.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Surplus Property Feb 2012 (PDF)

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Mike McCarty, Mayor Pro-Tem
SECONDER:	Dennis Beasley, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, McCarty, Beasley, Huddleston, Jordan, Potetz, Simonson

2. Council Action 2012-16

Consider Approval of Change Order #3 to the Generator Contract with A&A Electric Company.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Mr. Broz reported on the generator contract with A&A Electric and Change Order No. 3. Mr. Broz stated the change order is for the extension of the contract until June 29, 2012, as it currently expires on February 29th. This contract is for generators at various locations, to include the wastewater treatment plant, and the Wallisville and Washington lift stations, currently under construction. This change order requires no additional funds.

Motion was made to approve Change Order No. 3.

ATTACHMENTS:

- CO #3 A&A Electric (PDF)

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Mike McCarty, Mayor Pro-Tem
SECONDER:	Libby Simonson, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, McCarty, Beasley, Huddleston, Jordan, Potetz, Simonson

B. Executive Session

Personnel Matters. Gov. Code §551.074

Consultation with Attorney. Gov. Code §551.071

1. Discussion - City Engineer.

At 6:25 p.m., Mayor Pickett closed the open meeting and opened the Executive Session as authorized above.

C. Reconvene into Regular Session

At 6:55 p.m., Mayor Pickett closed the Executive Session and reconvened the open meeting.

1. Council Action 2012-17

Consider and Take Action, If Any, on the Items as Discussed in the Executive Session.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Motion was made to authorize the City Manager to employ Mr. Tom Warner as City Engineer and Public Works Director.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Libby Simonson, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Mike McCarty, Mayor Pro-Tem
AYES:	Pickett, McCarty, Beasley, Huddleston, Jordan, Potetz, Simonson

V. WORK SESSION

1. Work Session (ID # 2324)

Review and Discuss Any Changes to the Final Draft of the Re-Codification of the City's Code of Ordinances.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Discussion was held regarding the final draft of the City's new Code of Ordinances. Discussed were the following topics:

- 1) jake brakes,
- 2) electrician's license - required exceptions,
- 3) reference to manual on Texas Traffic Control Devices,
- 4) vegetation in the streets and gutters,
- 4) regulating carnivals, and
- 5) regulating portable buildings.

Mr. Broz stated that the necessary changes would be completed and the ordinance to adopt the new code will be brought to Council in the near future.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion To: Adjourn

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Libby Simonson, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Frank Jordan, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, McCarty, Beasley, Huddleston, Jordan, Potetz, Simonson

Carl Pickett, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dianne Tidwell, City Secretary