



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, April 26, 2016

6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

I. CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Carl Pickett	Mayor	Present	
Diane Huddleston	Mayor Pro Tem	Present	
Dennis Beasley	Councilperson	Present	
Frank Jordan	Councilperson	Absent	
Louie Potetz	Councilperson	Present	
Libby Simonson	Councilperson	Present	
David Arnold	Councilperson	Present	
Gary Broz	City Manager	Present	
Dianne Tidwell	City Secretary	Present	
Brandon Davis	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 regarding agenda and non-agenda items. Please be aware that, under Texas Law, the Council may not deliberate or take any action during Citizen's comments for items not on the agenda. In some situations, City Staff may be able to respond to the public comment with a factual statement or clarification. The City Council may have the item placed on a future agenda for action or refer the item to Management and Staff for study or conclusion.

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.

III. PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS

1. Information Item (ID # 3482)

Project Updates - G. Broz, City Manager

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Gary Broz reported on the following:

- 1) Several City utility poles have recently been struck by drivers
- 2) Utility pole fell over due to inclement weather

4) LISD has requested assistance from the City on a new construction project relating to wiring and transformers.

2. Information Item (ID # 3483)

Finance Report - N. Herrington, Finance Director

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Finance Director Naomi Herrington reported on financials from October 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016. Being six months into the fiscal year, the General Fund is on track with budgeted amounts, with the General Fund balance in the amount of \$3.2 million. The Finance Director further reviewed the status of the various funds, commenting that Sales Tax collections are at 50% of the budgeted amount and Property Tax collections are 99% of the budgeted amount.

3. Information Item (ID # 3484)

Recycling Report - Councilperson Huddleston

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Councilperson Huddleston reported that the next Shred Event would take place on June 18th. This event will include electronic recycling and roll-off containers for paper, plastic and aluminum.

4. Information Item (ID # 3485)

Sam Rayburn Municipal Power Agency - Mayor Pickett

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Mayor Pickett reported that the Sam Rayburn Municipal Power Agency had elected officers at their most recent Board meeting. Mayor Pickett also stated that the Board had voted to distribute additional Cambridge Funds to each member city in the amount of \$2.5 million, each having now received a total of \$12 million.

5. Information Item (ID # 3486)

Hardin Sewer Report - G. Broz, City Manager

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Gary Broz reported on a handout relating to the City of Hardin's daily wastewater meter readings for portions of March and April, 2016. Mr. Broz reported that there are no concerns during good weather, however overflow becomes an issue when there is a rain event. After further discussion, Mr. Broz reported that he and City Attorney Brandon Davis will attend the next meeting of the Hardin City Council.

IV. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Regular Session

1. Council Action 2016-29

Discussion with a representative from Olson & Olson LLP regarding proposed annexation, and take any action deemed necessary.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Mr. Arthur Pertile, Olson & Olson LLP, was present to address the Council regarding the City's proposed annexation south along the Trinity River, and the annexation process. Mr. Pertile addressed various topics including growth plans, establishing a growth pattern, the exemption process, concerns regarding the extra-territorial jurisdiction, public hearings and publications, process timeline, voluntary and involuntary process, 380 agreements, and numerous other related issues.

At 7:35 p.m., Mayor Pickett called for a short recess.

At 7:40 p.m., Mayor Pickett reconvened the meeting.

RESULT: NO ACTION TAKEN

2. Ordinance 2016-8

Consider an Ordinance suspending the rates proposed by CenterPoint Energy Resources Corporation d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Entex and CenterPoint Energy Texas Gas Company's Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program (GRIP).

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Mayor Pickett read the caption of the Ordinance into the record as follows:

"AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS SUSPENDING THE RATES PROPOSED BY CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP., d/b/a CENTERPOINT ENERGY ENTEX AND CENTERPOINT ENERGY TEXAS GAS ("CENTERPOINT" OR "COMPANY") COMPANY'S GAS RELIABILITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM ("GRIP") FILING MADE WITH THE CITY ON MARCH 31, 2016; FINDING THAT THE MEETING COMPLIES WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT; MAKING OTHER FINDINGS AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE SUBJECT, DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND DISPENSING WITH THE REQUIREMENT OF SECTION 3.10 OF THE HOME RULE CHARTER THAT THIS ORDINANCE BE READ ON TWO SEPARATE DAYS."

City Manager Gary Broz reported that this Ordinance relates to a rate increase proposed by CenterPoint Energy. The City has joined with other member cities as part of the Beaumont/East Texas Division Steering Committee to provide direction to attorneys that represent these cities regarding service rates. This Ordinance only suspends the effective date of the proposed rate increase until July 14, 2016.

A motion was made to adopt the Ordinance, as presented.

ATTACHMENTS:

- CenterPoint Info April 2016 (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dennis Beasley, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Libby Simonson, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Potetz, Simonson, Arnold
ABSENT:	Frank Jordan

3. Information Item (ID # 3490)

Discussion of solid waste collection services.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Gary Broz reported that the City's current Solid Waste Collection Agreement with Waste Management (WM) expires September 30, 2016. The City is required to give WM a sixty (60) day notice of intent to renew or solicit bids. Mr. Broz further stated that he would like to work again with Councilperson Simonson and Councilperson Huddleston to review the available options for these services. Both Council Members agreed to work with management on this project.

4. Council Action 2016-30

Discussion of the recent 2016 Liberty Jubilee budget, future plans, other related issues, and take any action deemed necessary.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Gary Broz reviewed a handout of the 2016 Liberty Jubilee revenues and expenditures. Mr. Broz stated that a steering committee is to be formed to review the recent festival and discuss those ideas that work well and areas that need to be improved upon. Mr. Broz asked if any of the Council Members would be willing to serve on this committee. Councilperson Simonson and Huddleston agreed to participate.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 2016 Jubilee Rev & Exp (PDF)

RESULT:	NO ACTION TAKEN
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5. Council Action 2016-31

Consider the purchase of a vehicle for the Liberty Fire Department, and take any action deemed necessary.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Gary Broz and Fire Chief Brian Hurst reported on the proposed purchase of a new vehicle for the Liberty Fire Department. Requested was a Chevrolet Tahoe to serve as a Command Vehicle which would be financed from the Fixed Asset Fund, \$40,000 which was budgeted for the vehicle. Total cost of the vehicle is \$48,852.00 and would be purchased through the Houston-Galveston Area Council BuyBoard. After discussion regarding the cost, local vendors, service and maintenance, and other related issues, it was determined that a quote should be acquired from the local Ford dealer and this item to be brought back for Council action at the meeting scheduled for May 10, 2016.

ATTACHMENTS:

- FD Vehicle Info-April 2016 (PDF)

RESULT: NO ACTION TAKEN

B. Executive Session

1. Gov. Code §551.087

Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiation - Hacienda San Lorenzo.

2. Gov. Code. §551.074 - Personnel Matters.

Discussion of the City Manager's Duties and Responsibilities.

At 8:00 p.m., Mayor Pickett closed the open meeting and opened the Executive Session as authorized above.

C. Reconvene into Regular Session

At 8:34 p.m., Mayor Pickett closed the Executive Session and reconvened the open meeting.

1. Council Action 2016-27

Consider and take action, if any, on discussion held in the Executive Session regarding Hacienda San Lorenzo.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

This agenda item was passed on.

RESULT: NO ACTION TAKEN

2. Council Action 2016-28

Consider and take action, if any, on discussion held in the Executive Session regarding the City Manager's duties and responsibilities.

RESULT: NO ACTION TAKEN

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion To: Adjourn

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

There being no further business before the Council, Mayor Pickett adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

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Carl Pickett, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dianne Tidwell, City Secretary