



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 24, 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	
Louie Potetz	Councilperson	Present	
Libby Simonson	Councilperson	Present	
David Arnold	Councilperson	Present	
Paul Glazener	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

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 reminded Council of the Texas Municipal League Region 16 Meeting to be held on Thursday night, May 26th in the Liberty Center.

III. PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS

1. Information Item (ID # 3524)

Project Updates - G. Broz, City Manager

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Gary Broz reported on current City activities, including the recent heavy rainfall which has caused the river to rise and the ground to be saturated. This has resulted in the occurrence of several sinkholes with infiltration causing numerous issues, will attend Hardin City Council Meeting in regard to overages in their wastewater flows, Med-1 ran over an alligator damaging the vehicle, new playground equipment for the Park has been delivered, and other various items.

2. Information Item (ID # 3526)

Recycling Report - Councilperson Huddleston

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Councilperson Huddleston reported on the upcoming Shred-It Event which will take place on Saturday, June 18th from 9:00 a.m. until Noon. There will be provisions for regular paper shredding, aluminum, plastic and e-recycling.

3. Information Item (ID # 3527)

Finance Report - N. Herrington, Finance Director

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Finance Director Naomi Herrington reported on the City's financials for the month of April, 2016. Ms. Herrington reported that property tax and sales tax revenues are on budget, with a General Fund balance of \$2.6 million. Cambridge Project funds to the City of Liberty total \$12 million. Ms. Herrington further reviewed the remaining fund accounts.

4. Information Item (ID # 3523)

Proclamation-Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month - Mayor Pickett

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Mayor Pickett read, in its entirety, a Proclamation declaring the month of May, 2016 as Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month. Motorcycle club representatives were present and expressed their appreciation for the proclamation.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Motorcycle Safety Month 2016 (DOC)

IV. REGULAR AGENDA**A. Regular Session****1. Council Action 2016-47**

Consider an Agreement with the Liberty County Historical Commission regarding the Branch Cemetery located on Cypress Street, and take any action deemed necessary.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

This agreement relates to the restoration of the Branch Cemetery by the Liberty County Historical Commission and the property being deeded to the City of Liberty. City Attorney Brandon Davis stated that this document specifies the responsibilities of each entity and the details of the contract language have been agreed upon by both parties.

A motion was made to approve the agreement, as presented.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Branch Cemetery Agreement (MSG)

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Diane Huddleston, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	David Arnold, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Potetz, Simonson, Arnold, Glazener

2. Council Action 2016-48

Consider ratifying the Liberty Community Development Corporation's expenditures for the Ruth Canfield Park and the Magnolia Street Pocket Park, and take any action deemed necessary.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Ms. Carol Skewes and Mr. Stephen Dugger made a presentation to Council regarding the Ruth Canfield Rotary Pocket Park and Magnolia Street Pocket Park, and proposed upgrades to each. Ms. Skewes gave a history of the Canfield Park and those organizations and individuals that supported and assisted in bringing the park to its current status. Mr. Dugger reviewed the deficiencies of each park and gave a presentation of the three -phase expansion plan which includes additional playground equipment, sports areas, landscaping, dog park and other upgrades.

After lengthy discussion, a motion was made to ratify the Liberty Community Development Corporation's expenditures for the two parks as follows:

Phase I - Canfield Park - \$63,000

Phase I - Magnolia Park - \$18,200

In-kind by City - \$2750 and \$2000.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Park Information (PDF)
- Joy in the Park (PDF)

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Louie Potetz, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Diane Huddleston, Mayor Pro Tem
AYES:	Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Potetz, Simonson, Arnold, Glazener

3. Council Action 2016-49

Update and discussion of the Sam Rayburn Municipal Power Agency activities, and take any action deemed necessary.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Lengthy discussion was held regarding the Sam Rayburn Municipal Power Agency (SRMPA), its activities, the Cambridge Project, and reference to pending litigation with the Agency's former legal counsel. Former SRMPA President Bruce Halstead was in the audience and offered comments.

There was no action taken.

RESULT: NO ACTION TAKEN

4. Council Action 2016-50

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

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Council reviewed quotes related to a new command vehicle for the Fire Chief. Reviewed were the Ford Explorer, Ford Expedition and Chevrolet Tahoe. After discussion of the various vehicles and dialogue with the Fire Chief, a motion was made to approve the purchase of the Ford Explorer at \$48,119.00 from BJ Ford.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Fire Chief Vehicle Info (PDF)

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Libby Simonson, Councilperson
SECONDER: Dennis Beasley, Councilperson
AYES: Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Potetz, Simonson, Arnold, Glazener

5. Council Action 2016-51

Consider the purchase of two (2) patrol vehicles for the Liberty Police Department, and take any action deemed necessary.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Council reviewed quotes for the Dodge Charger for use as new patrol vehicles for the Police Department. Chief Claunch reported that these vehicles would be used to control traffic violators and drug interdiction.

After brief discussion of the vehicles and included equipment, a motion was made to approve the purchase of two (2) Dodge Chargers, from Liberty-Dayton Chrysler, for a total cost of \$66,840.00.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Police Vehicle Info (PDF)

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Libby Simonson, Councilperson
SECONDER: David Arnold, Councilperson
AYES: Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Potetz, Simonson, Arnold, Glazener

6. Council Action 2016-52

Consider a Settlement Agreement with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for permit violations at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Gary Broz reported that the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has agreed to allow the City to spend approximately \$68,756 on various

wastewater plant repairs to offset penalties acquired for previously accessed violations, of \$48,800, that occurred in May, June and July, 2015. These violations occurred as a result of area flooding in May and June, 2015. Various parts of the wastewater treatment system will be repaired or replaced.

A motion was made to approve the Settlement Agreement with TCEQ.

At 7:20 p.m., Mayor Pickett called for a short recess.

At 7:32 p.m., Mayor Pickett reconvened the meeting.

ATTACHMENTS:

- TCEQ Information (PDF)

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dennis Beasley, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Libby Simonson, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Potetz, Simonson, Arnold, Glazener

V. WORK SESSION

1. Work Session (ID # 3533)

Presentation by HR Green Engineers regarding proposed wastewater improvements.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Mike Halde And Rebekkah Nelson, HR Green Engineering, were present to address Council regarding proposed improvements to the City's wastewater system. Reviewed was a powerpoint program that introduced project objectives, assessment of the system addressing deficiencies, rehabilitation priorities, and related costs. Discussion was held regarding the various portions of the presentation.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion To: Adjourn

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

There being no further business before the Council, Mayor Pickett adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

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Carl Pickett, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dianne Tidwell, City Secretary