



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, August 23, 2016

5:30 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	Absent	
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

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.

Mayor Pickett reported to Council the next two meetings of the City Council are scheduled for Tuesday, August 30 and Tuesday, September 13, 2016.

City Manager Gary Broz reported that engineers from O'Malley Strand Associates would be present at the August 30 meeting to discuss Texas Water Development Board Water Projects.

III. PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS**1. Information Item (ID # 3597)**

Finance Report - Finance Director, N. Herrington

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Finance Director Naomi Herrington reported the following:

- General Fund balance is \$2.3 million,
- No transfers have been made from the Water & Wastewater or Electric Funds to the General Fund, but transfers should take place within the next thirty days,
- Sales tax revenues are close to budgeted amounts,
- Property tax revenues are above budgeted amounts,
- \$1.150 million was transferred from the Cambridge Funds, to the Water Fund, for sinkhole repairs, and
- The remaining funds were reviewed.

IV. REGULAR AGENDA**A. Regular Session****1. Council Action 2016-74**

Consider award of proposal for Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Services.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Lengthy discussion was held regarding the recent proposals received for the City's garbage collection and disposal services. Numerous topics of discussion included one-day and two-day pickup, recycling, contractor provided containers, current and proposed costs, brush pickup, roll-offs, construction debris, and other related issues.

After lengthy dialogue, a motion was made to accept the proposal from LT's Garbage Service for residential and commercial collection and disposal services, with the stipulation that the contractor will provide a roll-off container free of charge for recycling, for the first year, the contract being for three years, with two, one-year extensions.

RESULT:	APPROVED [5 TO 0]
MOVER:	David Arnold, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Libby Simonson, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, Potetz, Simonson, Arnold, Glazener
ABSTAIN:	Diane Huddleston
ABSENT:	Dennis Beasley

2. Work Session (ID # 3599)

Discussion of the proposed Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Gary Broz reported that the proposed budget includes a 3% increase in property taxes (with one cent equalling \$50,000 in property tax revenue), water & sewer rate increases, a 1.5% salary increase for employees, that 85-88% of the municipal budget being personnel costs to include five positions not being filled in the new fiscal year. Mr. Broz stated that this document has been carefully reviewed for reducing budgeted expenditures, with no remaining options.

Council Member Arnold left the meeting at 7:19 p.m.

Further discussion was held regarding the proposed budget.

3. Public Hearing (ID # 3600)

Public Hearing on the proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2016-2017.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

At 7:20 p.m., Mayor Pickett opened the Public Hearing on the proposed budget for the new fiscal year. After discussion of varied and related budget topics, Mayor Pickett closed the Public Hearing at 7:33 p.m.

4. Council Action 2016-75

Consider postponement of the Final Vote on the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget until September 13, 2016.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

State Law requires that if the budget is not adopted at the same meeting as the public hearing, the Council must take action to postpone adoption until a later date. Management recommends adoption of the budget on September 13, 2016.

A motion was made to postpone the final vote on the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 budget until Tuesday, September 13, 2016.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Louie Potetz, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Paul Glazener, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, Huddleston, Potetz, Simonson, Glazener
ABSENT:	Dennis Beasley, David Arnold

5. Public Hearing (ID # 3602)

Public Hearing on the proposed Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2016-2017.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

At 7:34 p.m., Mayor Pickett opened the Public Hearing on the proposed tax rate for Fiscal Year 2016-2017. Discussion was held regarding the tax rate, effective and rollback rates, additional proposed rate increases, and other tax related issues. After lengthy discussion, consensus of the Council was to lower the proposed rate to \$0.6100 by transferring \$50,000 from the Solid Waste Fund.

Mayor Pickett closed the Public Hearing at 7:36 p.m.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion To: Adjourn

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

There being no further business before the Council, Mayor Pickett adjourned the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

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Carl Pickett, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dianne Tidwell, City Secretary