



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, September 25, 2018

6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

I. CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Carl Pickett	Mayor	Present	
Diane Huddleston	Mayor Pro Tem	Absent	
Dennis Beasley	Councilperson	Present	
Libby Simonson	Councilperson	Present	
David Arnold	Councilperson	Present	
Paul Glazener	Councilperson	Present	
Chipper Smith	Councilperson	Present	
Tom Warner	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.

III. PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS

1. Information Item (ID # 4257)

Project Updates - City Mgr. Tom Warner

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Tom Warner reported on various City activities including:

- Two power outages caused by trees and falling limbs
- Water leaks

- Sanitary Sewer Improvement Project moving along
- Main "A" and Main "B" Repairs
- Code Enforcement Report available next month
- Report of numerous other project and activities.

2. Information Item (ID # 4258)

Recycling Report - Councilperson Huddleston

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Tom Warner reported that the recycling event held on Saturday, September 22nd was held in the rain, however there were 50-60 vehicles that brought boxes of documents to be shredded. Mr. Warner thanked those that assisted with the event.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Shred It Event (DOC)

3. Information Item (ID # 4259)

Mayor, Council and Staff Comments

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

There were no comments.

IV. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Regular Session

1. Ordinance 2018-21

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS ADOPTING AN AD VALOREM TAX RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019, AT A RATE OF \$0.5851 PER ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR (\$100) ASSESSED VALUATION ON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND DISPENSING WITH THE REQUIREMENT OF SECTION 3.10 OF THE HOME RULE CHARTER THAT ALL ORDINANCES BE READ ON TWO SEPARATE DAYS.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

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

"AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS ADOPTING AN AD VALOREM TAX RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019, AT A RATE OF \$0.5851 PER ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR (\$100) ASSESSED VALUATION ON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND DISPENSING WITH THE REQUIREMENT OF SECTION 3.10 OF THE HOME RULE CHARTER THAT ALL ORDINANCES BE READ ON TWO SEPARATE DAYS."

Finance Director Naomi Herrington reported on the proposed rate of \$0.5851, discussed the effective and roll back rates and stated that new property on the tax roll would provide

approximately \$67,000-\$70,000 revenue. A motion was made to adopt the Ordinance and tax rate of \$0.5851 per \$100 valuation.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Libby Simonson, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Paul Glazener, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, Beasley, Simonson, Arnold, Glazener, Smith
ABSENT:	Diane Huddleston

2. Council Action 2018-82

Consider approval of a bid for Tax Resale Property described as 0.7281 acres, GEO ORR, Tract 240, Street and Paving (Cook Street).

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Attorney Brandon Davis reported on tax resale property located on Cook Street, Park Place Apartments. The resale property is located within the apartment complex and serves as their parking lot. When the complex changed ownership, the parking lot was not included in the sale. No one has paid the taxes resulting in the taking of the property for back taxes. An offer of \$60,000.00 has been made, and if the bid is accepted, \$12,877.57 will be distributed to the City of Liberty, and the property placed back onto the tax roll.

After brief discussion, a motion was made to accept the bid of \$60,000.00, for the tax resale property described as 0.7281 acres, GEO ORR, Tract 240, Street and Paving.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Tax Resale Property Info (PDF)
- Tax Resale Prop Map (PDF)

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Libby Simonson, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Chipper Smith, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, Beasley, Simonson, Arnold, Glazener, Smith
ABSENT:	Diane Huddleston

3. Council Action 2018-83

Consider approval of a Lease Agreement between the Port of Liberty, Chambers-Liberty Counties Navigation District and the City of Liberty, and Schlumberger Technology Corporation, for property located at 1505 Fort Worth Street, Liberty, Texas.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Attorney Brandon Davis reported that the proposed agreement is for the lease of real property, to be used as a warehouse facility. Mr. Davis stated that the property owners (Port, CLCND and City of Liberty, as Lessor) have leased this location to Schlumberger Technology, as Lessee, for quite some time. The term of the lease is one year, for a fee of \$24,000.00 per annum.

A motion was made to approve the Lease Agreement with Schlumberger Technology Corporation.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Lease Agreement-Schlumberger (PDF)

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

4. Council Action 2018-84

Consider approval of the dates of March 22nd and 23rd for the 2019 Liberty Jubilee.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Lengthy discussion was held regarding the regular festival date of the fourth weekend in March, other possible festival dates, and additional events that the City could possibly be competing with for vendors and visitors. Also discussed was that festival planning should begin much earlier to accommodate a possible change in date and provide an opportunity to seek new attractions. A motion was made to approve the dates of March 22nd and 23rd for the 2019 Liberty Jubilee.

ATTACHMENTS:

- March 2019 Events (PDF)

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Paul Glazener, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Libby Simonson, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, Beasley, Simonson, Arnold, Glazener, Smith
ABSENT:	Diane Huddleston

5. Council Action 2018-85

Consider designation of certain Fire Department Self Contained Breathing Apparatus Equipment (SCBA) as surplus property, and authorize the transfer of the designated SCBA Equipment to the Texas Forest Service.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Tom Warner and Fire Chief Brian Hurst reported that the City had replaced its Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Equipment and that the Texas Forest Service "Helping Hands Program" will take the older equipment, refurbish it and supply it to other smaller departments that cannot afford to purchase new equipment. Chief Hurst stated that he has been assured that the equipment will go to a department in the local area.

A motion was made to declare this equipment surplus, and transfer it to the Texas Forest Service to assist other Fire Departments.

ATTACHMENTS:

- FD SCBA Equipment (PDF)

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

6. Council Action 2018-86

Consider approval of a new City of Liberty Purchasing Policy.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Tom Warner reported that the City's Purchasing Policy had not been updated in quite some time. Mr. Warner stated that the competitive purchasing requirements are maintained, while providing additional flexibility to Department Directors, explaining the dollar thresholds and minimum documentation required for various procurement methods. After further discussion of quotes, procedures, and HUB vendors, a motion was made to approve the new Purchasing Policy.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Paul Glazener, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Libby Simonson, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, Beasley, Simonson, Arnold, Glazener, Smith
ABSENT:	Diane Huddleston

7. Ordinance 2018-22

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS ("CITY") APPROVING THE SETTLEMENT FILED IN ENTERGY TEXAS, INC.'S RATE PROCEEDING INITIATED ON MAY 15, 2018; 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 ALL ORDINANCES BE READ ON TWO SEPARATE DAYS.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

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

"AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS ("CITY") APPROVING THE SETTLEMENT FILED IN ENTERGY TEXAS, INC.'S RATE PROCEEDING INITIATED ON MAY 15, 2018; 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 ALL ORDINANCES BE READ ON TWO SEPARATE DAYS."

City Manager Tom Warner reported that this settlement is a result of a proposed rate increase filed by Entergy Texas in May, 2018. Mr. Warner further stated the rate increase is in regard to excess income taxes collected that it must return to customers. After brief discussion, a motion was made to adopt the Ordinance as presented.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Paul Glazener, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Dennis Beasley, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, Beasley, Simonson, Arnold, Glazener, Smith
ABSENT:	Diane Huddleston

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion To: Adjourn

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

There being no further business before the Council, Mayor Pickett adjourned the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

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Carl Pickett, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dianne Tidwell, City Secretary