



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 27, 2019

6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

I. CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Carl Pickett	Mayor	Present	
Diane Huddleston	Mayor ProTem	Present	
Dennis Beasley	Council Member	Present	
Libby Simonson	Council Member	Present	
David Arnold	Council Member	Present	
Chipper Smith	Council Member	Present	
Neal Thornton	Council Member	Present	
Tom Warner	City Manager	Present	
Chris Jarmon	Asst. City Manager	Present	
Naomi Herrington	Asst. City Manager	Present	
April Gilliland	Adm. Asst.	Present	

II. INVOCATION

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. 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.

V. PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS

1. Information Item (ID # 4556)

City Manager's Report - City Mgr. T. Warner

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Tom Warner reported on the following:

- Numerous Texas cities hacked by ransomware-need to update security system to various facilities
- HVAC replacement at City Hall, Fire Department and Public Works facility
- Lighting replacement at the Fire, Police and Public Works Department and City Hall
- City Hall Interior repairs and improvements, bid opening scheduled for Sept. 19
- Floodway and Levee Project at the Wastewater Treatment Plant
- New signage at the Golf Course, Canfield and Magnolia Parks, and Airport.

Mr. Warner also fielded questions from the Council.

ATTACHMENTS:

- City Manager's Report(DOCX)
- Exhibit - City Manager's Rpt. (PDF)

2. Information Item (ID # 4546)

Finance Report

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Asst. City Manager/CFO Naomi Herrington reported on the City's financials ending July 31, 2019. Ms. Herrington reviewed the various funds and the status of each.

3. Information Item (ID # 4547)

Mayor, Council and Staff Comments

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

There were no comments.

VI. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Regular Session

1. Public Hearing (ID # 4548)

City Council to conduct a Public Hearing on the Proposed Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

At 6:22 p.m., Mayor Pickett opened the first of two public hearings on the proposed tax rate. Asst. City Mgr./CFO reported that the City is proposing to stay at the same rate as the previous fiscal year, of \$0.5851 per \$100 valuation. Therefore, there will be no increase in the tax rate. After brief discussion, Mayor Pickett closed the public hearing at 6:25 p.m.

2. Work Session (ID # 4549)

City Council to conduct a Work Session on the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

A breif work session was held in regard to the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 19/20. Discussed were the various options for solid waste collection, estimated revenue of \$400,000 in the budget from Moss Bluff, HUB and providing a balanced budget.

3. Council Action 2019-57

Consider ratifying the Liberty Community Development Corporation's (LCDC) action to approve an agreement with Zoom Prospector for property and site selection services on the LCDC website.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Asst. City Manager Jarmon reported on an agreement with Zoom Prospector for GIS-based site and property selection services. If approved, photos and data will be embedded within the Liberty Community Development Corporation (LCDC) website to assist with marketing and advertising of properties. The goal is to work with local brokers and realtors to develop a database of sites and buildings available in the City of Liberty.

A motion was made to ratify the LCDC's action to approve the agreement with Zoom Prospector.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Diane Huddleston, Mayor ProTem
SECONDER:	Dennis Beasley, Council Member
AYES:	Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Simonson, Arnold, Smith, Thornton

4. Ordinance 2019-20

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS PROVIDING FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE MASTER FEE SCHEDULE FOR ALL RATES AND FEES CHARGED BY THE CITY OF LIBERTY; PROVIDING FOR MILITARY AND JUNIOR DISCOUNT FEES AT THE LIBERTY MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE; PROVIDING THAT ALL RATES OR SCHEDULES OF RATES CONFLICTING HERewith ARE AMENDED; PROVIDING FOR 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:

Lengthy discussion was held regarding a discount fee to be offered at the Liberty Municipal Golf Course for military and junior players. Suggested fees for junior players (17 and under) and military players are to be the same as the current senior discount. Seniors, juniors and military members will all be charged the same rate.

A motion was made to adopt the Ordinance reflecting the fees, as discussed.

ATTACHMENTS:

- EXHIBIT A - Master Fee Schedule Amendments - Golf Course (PDF)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	David Arnold, Council Member
SECONDER:	Neal Thornton, Council Member
AYES:	Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Simonson, Arnold, Smith, Thornton

5. Council Action 2019-58

Consider a residential solid waste collection plan offered by Frontier Waste Solutions.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Tom Warner led discussion on the various options for future residential solid waste collection services, to be provided by Frontier Waste. Outlined were the four options below:

Option 1. Twice a week automated - Increase 8.91% year one, + 1% years 2-7

Option 2. Twice a week automated - Increase 5.28% year 1-2, + 3% years 3-7

Option 3. Twice a week hand - Increase 3.79% immediately, +2 to 3.7% year 2
Eliminate Pilot Program

Option 4. Once a week automated - Decrease 6.6% year one, + 2% years 2-7

Mr. Warner stated that all options include the existing once per week trash, bulk and every other week brush collection would not change. Following lengthy discussion of the previous pilot program for automated collection, second cart fee, educating the citizens and other related issues, discussion focused on Option No. 4, in which the decreased cost of the new service will not be passed to the customer, in order to maintain an adequate fund balance in the Solid Waste Fund. The remaining options would include an increase that would be passed to the customer.

A motion was made to approve Option No. 4.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Libby Simonson, Council Member
SECONDER:	Chipper Smith, Council Member
AYES:	Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Simonson, Arnold, Smith, Thornton

6. Council Action 2019-60

Consider approval of Change Order No. 1 for the Hwy. 146N Sanitary Sewer Line Project.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Tom Warner reported on Change Order No. 1 presented by 5-T Utilities, for the Hwy. 146N Sanitary Sewer Project. Mr. Warner reported on the sewer line that will service PLC Construction and an additional facility, not yet constructed. PLC is ready for service to their building, but the contractor is not yet completed with the southern section of the line. Change Order No. 1 reflects the cost to provide bypass pumping for thirty days until the contract is complete with that section (\$12,064.52), and also includes modification of the backfill requirements (-\$13,673.99). This change order results in a net decrease in the contract of \$1809.47.

A motion was made to approve Change Order No. 1.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Change Order No. 1 - Hwy 146N (XLSX)

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Neal Thornton, Council Member
SECONDER:	Dennis Beasley, Council Member
AYES:	Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Simonson, Arnold, Smith, Thornton

7. Council Action 2019-61

Consider authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute an agreement with Distinc Cantinas Inc. for operation of the restaurant and bar at the Liberty Municipal Golf Course.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Asst. City Manager Jarmon reported on an agreement, with Distinct Cantinas Inc., for operation of the restaurant and bar at the Liberty Municipal Golf Course. Discussed were various related issues to include liquor license, gazebo and special events, landscaping and other topics.

A motion was made to authorize the City Manager to negotiate the agreement and final details.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Libby Simonson, Council Member
SECONDER:	Neal Thornton, Council Member
AYES:	Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Simonson, Arnold, Smith, Thornton

B. Executive Session

Gov. Code §551.074 - Personnel Matters. - To deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee.

- To deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee - Liberty Municipal Golf Course.

At 7:25 p.m., Mayor Pickett closed the open meeting and opened the Executive Session as authorized above.

C. Reconvene into Regular Session

At 8:12 p.m., Mayor Pickett closed the Executive Session and reconvened the open meeting.

1. Council Action 2019-59

Consider and take action, if any, on personnel matters at the Liberty Municipal Golf Course, as discussed in the Executive Session.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

A motion was made to provide an individual membership to employees, at the Liberty Municipal Golf Course, at no charge.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Libby Simonson, Council Member
SECONDER:	Chipper Smith, Council Member
AYES:	Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Simonson, Arnold, Smith, Thornton

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion To: Adjourn

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

There being no further business before the Council, Mayor Pickett adjourned the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

.

Carl Pickett, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dianne Tidwell, City Secretary