



The City of Liberty City Council

Regular Meeting

~ Minutes ~

1829 Sam Houston
Liberty, TX 77575
www.cityofliberty.org

April Gilliland
City Secretary
936-336-3684

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

I. CALL TO ORDER

This meeting was called to order on November 9, 2021 in the City Council Chambers, 1829 Sam Houston Street, Liberty, Texas at 6:00 PM by Mayor Carl Pickett.

A.

Attendee Name	Present	Absent	Late	Arrived
Mayor Carl Pickett	X			
Mayor Pro Tem Diane Driggers	X			
Council Member Dennis Beasley	X			
Council Member Libby Simonson	X			
Council Member David Arnold	X			
Council Member Chipper Smith	X			
Council Member Neal Thornton	X			

II. INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Pastor Revlon Belle, Lily of the Valley Baptist Church, Liberty, Texas.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge to the American Flag was led by Public Works Director Damon Jones and the pledge to the Texas Flag was led by Police Chief Gary Martin.

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.

Mayor Pickett welcomed guests and visitors, opening the floor for public comment to individuals wishing to address the Council about items not on the agenda. There were no comments.

V. PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS

The presentation and report items were briefly discussed by Mayor Pickett to give more time to the regular agenda items.

- A. City Manager's Report - City Manager Tom Warner - Topics include Jubilee, TML Region 16 Meeting, Country Christmas, Employee Christmas Dinner, COVID-19, Golf Course, and Electric Projects.**
- C. Department Reports**
- D. Sam Rayburn Municipal Power Agency - Mayor Pickett**
- E. Mayor, Council and Staff Comments**

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

All consent items listed are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member so requests, and if such a request is made, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in a normal sequence on the agenda.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Driggers to approve all items on the consent agenda and seconded by Council Member Beasley. The motion passed 7 to 0.

A. Minutes Approval

- 1. 10.12.2021 Minutes
- 2. 10.26.2021 Minutes

B. A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS, A HOME RULE MUNICIPALITY EXISTING UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, APPROVING APPOINTMENT OF FARRAH HARPER TO THE LIBERTY MUNICIPAL LIBRARY BOARD.**VII. REGULAR AGENDA****A. Regular Session**

- 1. Citizen Request - Ms. Whitney Brents to discuss Liberty Municipal Library

Mrs. Whitney Brents requested to speak before Council regarding a recent book found in the Children's area of the Liberty Municipal Library. Mayor Pickett opened the agenda item for presentation, giving the floor to City Manager Tom Warner to discuss details on how the Municipal Library orders, sorts and catalogs over 60,000+ books in the Library. Mrs. Whitney Brents gave an emotional speech about her concern regarding certain books found in the

library, especially in the children's area, and was concerned about how the books were placed in various categories and would like procedures put in place to prevent future books that are not appropriate for children from being placed in the children's area. Other citizens from around the area that spoke with the Council about procedures in the Library and presented ideas to help with future placement of books were as follows: Patti Barrow, Stacey Sundgren, Michael Dorsett, Karen Sandefur, Jerry Ursprung, Joy Murphy, Nell Key, Gideon Watson, Linda Ursprung, Jaime Mayden, Reverend Hardy, and June Damek. Mayor Pickett thanked the concerned citizens for their responses and feedback and gave the Council a 10 minute recess at 7:15 pm.

2. Citizen Request - Mr. Charles McGuire, FLNB Board Chairman

Item was passed as the requestor was not able to attend.

3. Citizen Request - Mr. Frank Jordan to discuss the Port Of Liberty Commission.

The meeting was brought back into session at 7:25 p.m.. by Mayor Pickett. Mayor Pickett invited Mr. Frank Jordan to discuss the Port of Liberty with the Council.

4. Mr. Jeff Blume to give an update on the Liberty Municipal Golf Course.

Mr. Jeff Blume presented to the Council the current status of the Liberty Municipal Golf Course Renovation Project.

5. A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS, A HOME RULE MUNICIPALITY EXISTING UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, APPROVING CHANGE ORDER NUMBER 1 RELATED TO THE LIBERTY MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE RENOVATION PROJECT.

A motion was made by Council Member Arnold to approve the resolution as presented and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Driggers. The motion passed 7 to 0.

6. A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS, A HOME RULE MUNICIPALITY EXISTING UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, NOMINATING CANDIDATE(S) FOR THE LIBERTY COUNTY CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

No Action was taken on this item. This item will be brought back to the Council during the December 14, 2021 regular scheduled meeting.

7. A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS, A HOME RULE MUNICIPALITY EXISTING UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, DESIGNATING A REPRESENTATIVE AND ALTERNATE TO THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL 2022 GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

A motion was made by Council Member Beasley to appoint Carl Pickett as representative and Diane Driggers as Alternate to the Houston-Galveston Area Council 2022 General Assembly. The motion was seconded by Council Member Thornton. Motion passed 7 to 0.

8. A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS, A HOME RULE MUNICIPALITY EXISTING UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, AWARDED THE BID TO TEXAS PRIDE UTILITIES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$153,410 FOR THE HIGHWAY 146 SANITARY SEWER LINE EXTENSION PHASE II

PROJECT.

A motion was made by Council Member Thornton to approve the resolution as presented and seconded by Council Member Arnold. Motion passed 7 to 0.

B. Work Session

1. Discussion regarding the Port of Liberty.

The Council discussed the current status of the Port of Liberty Commission and the plans for the future of the Port of Liberty.

C. Executive Session

At 8:35 p.m., Mayor Pickett closed the open meeting and opened the Executive Session as authorized above.

1. **Texas Government Code §551.074 - Personnel Matters.**

- To deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee.
 - Discussion of appointments to the Port of Liberty Commission

2. **Texas Government Code §551.087 - Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations.**

- To discuss or deliberate regarding commercial or financial information received from a business prospect.
 - Business Proposal

3. **Texas Government Code §551.071 - Private Consultation with Attorney.**

- To seek advice regarding contemplated /pending litigation.

D. Reconvene into Regular Session

At 9:43 p.m., Mayor Pickett closed the Executive Session and reconvened the open meeting.

1. Consider and Take Action on the appointments to the Port of Liberty Commission as discussed in the Executive Session.

No action was taken.

2. Consider and Take Action on business proposal as discussed in the Executive Session.

No action was taken.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A. Motion To: Adjourn

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Pickett adjourned the meeting at 9:44 p.m.

Carl Pickett, Mayor

ATTEST:

April Gilliland, City Secretary