



**The City of Liberty**  
**City Council**  
**Emergency Meeting**  
**~ Agenda ~**

1829 Sam Houston  
Liberty, TX 77575  
[www.cityofliberty.org](http://www.cityofliberty.org)

Dianne Tidwell  
City Secretary  
(936) 336-3684

**Wednesday, April 8, 2020**

**12:00 PM**

**City Hall Conference Room**

The City Council of Liberty, Texas reserves the right to meet in closed session on any agenda item should the need arise and if applicable pursuant to authorization by Title 5, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

This meeting will be called to order on April 8, 2020 at the City Hall Conference Room, 1829 Sam Houston, Liberty, TX.

| Attendee Name                 | Present                  | Absent                   | Late                     | Arrived |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| Mayor Carl Pickett            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |         |
| Mayor ProTem Diane Huddleston | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |         |
| Council Member Dennis Beasley | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |         |
| Council Member Libby Simonson | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |         |
| Council Member David Arnold   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |         |
| Council Member Chipper Smith  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |         |
| Council Member Neal Thornton  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |         |

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GUESTS AND VISITORS / PUBLIC COMMENT**

**II. REGULAR AGENDA**

**A. Regular Session**

**1. Resolution 2020-7**

Consider approval of a Resolution authorizing the expenditure of funds related to the COVID-19 Disease.

**B. Executive Session**

**Tx. Gov. Code §551.074 - Personnel Matters.**

To deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee.

**C. Reconvene into Regular Session**

**1. Resolution 2020-8**

Consider a Resolution approving action to be taken, on personnel matters, as discussed in the Executive Session.

### III. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion To:** Adjourn

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*I certify that the attached Notice of Meeting was posted on the bulletin board and in the Message Centers located on the east and west sides of the City Hall Administration Building, located at 1829 Sam Houston on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. This notice will remain so posted continuously for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said meeting in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.*

  
Dianne Tidwell, City Secretary

#### **NOTICE**

*In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Liberty will provide reasonable accommodation for persons attending and/or participating in this Council Meeting. To better serve you, requests must be made at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Contact the City at (936) 336-3684 or by Fax at (936) 336-9846. The building is wheelchair accessible, with parking available, on the west side of the building.*

*I certify that the attached Notice and Agenda of items to be considered by the City Council was removed by me from the bulletin board at the City Hall on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.*



## The City of Liberty

City Council  
1829 Sam Houston  
Liberty, TX 77575

2.A.1

Meeting: 04/08/20 12:00 PM

Department: Administration  
Category: Miscellaneous Expenditures

### RESOLUTION 2020-7

DOC ID: 4739 A

**Department:** Administration

**Subject:** Expenditure of Funds Related to COVID-19

**Background:** The City has currently incurred expenses related to the COVID-19 Disease. Although these expenses to date have totaled less than \$5,000, there is a potential for the expenses to increase significantly. A primary concern to City staff is the possibility of first responders having to self-quarantine or contracting the disease. In either case, if an employee is unable to remain at home, arrangements will need to be made to house these employees. Various companies offer quarantine housing units on a rental basis. Typically, the quarantine unit is a Conex container consisting of two separate rooms with each having a bed and restroom. Due to the widespread nature of this event, these types of units may not be available when needed by the City. The cost to rent one unit is \$375.00 per day. As a proactive measure, it is proposed to rent one unit for sixty days at a cost of \$22,500, plus \$1,900.00 for pickup and delivery. Since the need for additional quarantine units and/or other supplies may be needed on short notice, prior to receiving City Council approval, it is also requested the City Manager receive pre-authorization to expend up to an additional \$100,000 for COVID-19 related expenditures.

**Funding Source:** Cambridge Funds

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends approval to rent a quarantine unit for sixty days at a total cost of \$24,400 and pre-authorization in an amount up to \$100,000 for expenditures related to the COVID-19 Disease.

**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, AUTHORIZING CITY STAFF TO RENT A QUARANTINE UNIT FOR SIXTY DAYS AND PRE-AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURES IN AN AMOUNT UP TO \$100,000 FOR EXPENDITURES RELATED TO COVID-19**

**WHEREAS,** beginning in December of 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, was detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China, and has since spread throughout the world; and

**WHEREAS,** symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, coughing, and shortness of breath. In some cases, the virus has caused death; and

**WHEREAS,** a Disaster Declaration has been issued by the President, Governor, and Mayor; and

**WHEREAS,** it is important and necessary for City employees to continue working during this disaster in order to protect the health and safety of our citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the nature of their jobs many City employees must continue to interact with members of the public making them more likely to contract COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, said City employees may need a place to quarantine in order to protect their families; and

**WHEREAS**, it is possible that future expenses may arise directly related to COVID-19 and that City staff may have to act quickly in order to procure necessary equipment and supplies.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Liberty, Texas hereby authorizes the City Manager to use Cambridge Funds to rent a quarantine unit for sixty (60) days at a total cost of twenty-four thousand four hundred dollars (\$24,400). Additionally, the City Council pre-authorizes the City Manager to spend up to one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) out of Cambridge funds on necessary COVID-19 related expenses.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020.

CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS

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Carl Pickett, Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Secretary

**The City of Liberty**

City Council  
1829 Sam Houston  
Liberty, TX 77575

Meeting: 04/08/20 12:00 PM

Department: Administration  
Category: Employee Issues

**RESOLUTION 2020-8**

DOC ID: 4740

**Subject:** Action Taken Following an Executive Session

**Background:** A vote on a matter deliberated in a closed session may only be made in an open meeting that is held in compliance with the notice provisions.

**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, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO TAKE CERTAIN ACTIONS RELATED TO COVID-19.**

**WHEREAS**, beginning in December of 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, was detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China, and has since spread throughout the world; and

**WHEREAS**, a Disaster Declaration has been issued by the President, Governor, and Mayor; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important and necessary for City employees to continue working during this disaster in order to protect the health and safety of our citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the nature of their jobs many City employees must continue to interact with members of the public making them more likely to contract COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the health risks to employees associated with COVID-19, certain policies regarding employee scheduling and compensation must be created and implemented; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Greg Abbott has declared golf courses to be non-essential services.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Liberty, Texas hereby authorizes the City Manager to create and implement policies relating to split shift work schedules for non-emergency services personnel. Employees working a split shift as determined by the City Manager will be paid the base rate of pay during the shift they are not physically at work. Additionally, the City Council authorizes the City Manager to implement hazard pay of an additional \$2.00 per hour for fire department and police department employees that are not allowed to work on a split schedule, including back pay at the hazard pay rate from the date of the City's initial COVID-19 Disaster Declaration on March 16, 2020 until the end of the COVID-19 disaster declaration period. Additionally, the City Council hereby orders the City Manager to close the City of Liberty Municipal Golf Course until the end of the COVID-19 disaster declaration period, or until otherwise determined by the City Council.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 8th day of April, 2020.

CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS

Resolution 2020-8  
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City Council Meeting

April 8, 2020

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Carl Pickett, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Dianne Tidwell, City Secretary