



The City of Liberty City Council

Special Called Meeting

~ Minutes ~

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

April Gilliland
City Secretary
936-336-3684

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

5:30 PM

City Council Chambers

I. CALL TO ORDER

This meeting was called to order on July 22, 2025, in the City Council Chambers, 1829 Sam Houston Street, Liberty, Texas at 5:38 p.m. by Mayor John Hebert.

Attendee Name	Present	Absent	Late	Arrived
Mayor John Hebert, Jr.	X			
Mayor Pro Tem Tommy Brents	X			
Council Member Ed Seymour	X			
Council Member Ross Ward		X		
Council Member Debbie Dugger	X			
Council Member Bruce Bell			X	5:43 PM
Council Member Nick Dennis	X			

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 Hebert welcomed guests and visitors, opening the floor for public comment to those individuals wishing to address the Council. No comments were made.

III. PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS

A. Acknowledgment of the City of Liberty's Award for Transparency in Local Government Traditional Finances Star from the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.

City Manager Bryan Kendrick stated to the Council that on July 10, the City of Liberty was notified that they had officially been awarded the Texas Comptroller's Transparency Star for excellence in financial transparency, effective June 30, 2025.

This prestigious honor highlights our commitment to providing clear, consistent, and accessible financial information to the public. The award, issued by the Texas State Comptroller's Office, reflects the City's ongoing dedication to open government and responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars. Only 7.3% of cities in Texas have received a transparency star, and we are the first municipality in Liberty County to receive this award.

We have received both the official certificate and the Transparency Stars insignia, which will soon be displayed on our website and in related publications as a symbol of this important achievement.

City Manager Bryan Kendrick extended a special thanks to ACM/CFO Naomi Herrington for her leadership and expressed his appreciation to the City Council and all City staff for their collective efforts in prioritizing transparency for the citizens of Liberty.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member Brents to approve all items on the consent agenda and seconded by Council Member Dennis. The motion passed 5 to 0 with all present voting yes.

- A. 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, ADOPTING THE LIBERTY COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN 2025 UPDATE.**
- 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, DECLARING EQUIPMENT AS SURPLUS.**

V. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Regular Session

- 1. 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 OFFERS FOR THE PURCHASE OF DELINQUENT TAX TRUST PROPERTY ID 37299.**

A tax foreclosure was done on the following property:

Property	Offeror	Offer Amount	CAD Value	Taxes Owed	City to Receive
Property ID 37299	Armando Alam	\$33,834	\$147,350	\$74,550.38	\$4,153.89

A motion was made by Council Member Brents to approve the resolution accepting the offer for the purchase of delinquent tax trust property and seconded by Council Member Seymour. The motion passed 6 to 0 with all present voting yes.

- 2. 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 OFFERS FOR THE PURCHASE OF DELINQUENT TAX TRUST PROPERTY ID 56485.**

A tax foreclosure was done on the following property:

Property	Offeror	Offer Amount	CAD Value	Taxes Owed	City to Receive
Property ID 56485	Gracy Rincon	\$3,500	\$24,360	\$5875.79	\$540.76

A motion was made by Council Member Brents to approve the resolution accepting the offer for the purchase of delinquent tax trust property and seconded by Council Member Seymour. The motion passed 6 to 0 with all present voting yes.

B. Work Session**1. Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget.**

City Manager Bryan Kendrick presented to the Council a Preliminary Budget for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year. Mr. Kendrick discussed the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year General Fund Budget going over the General Funds Revenues and Expenditures by departments. The discussion continued with the revenues and expenditures for the following funds:

Water/Wastewater
Electric
Solid Waste
Liberty Community Development Corporation
Airport
Hotel/Motel
Golf Course

Then the discussion continued with the departmental request for equipment, potential ways to increase revenue, building maintenance concerns, and city-wide mowing crews.

C. Executive Session

At 9:11 p.m., Mayor Hebert closed the open meeting and opened the Executive Session as authorized by Title 5, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

1. Texas Government Code §551.072 - Deliberation Regarding Real Property
Discussion regarding real property.**D. Reconvene into Regular Session**

At 9:37 p.m., Mayor Hebert closed the Executive Session and reconvened the open meeting.

1. Consider and take possible action on real estate matters discussed in the executive session.

A motion was made by Council Member Bell to authorize the purchase of property as discussed in the executive session and seconded by Council Member Dennis. The motion passed 6 to 0 with all present voting yes.

VI. ADJOURNMENT**A. Motion To: Adjourn**

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Hebert adjourned the meeting at 9:38 p.m.

John Hebert, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

April Gilliland, City Secretary