



The City of Liberty
Liberty Community Development Corporation

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

Meeting

April Gilliland City Secretary 936-336-3684

~ Minutes ~

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

I. CALL TO ORDER

This meeting was called to order on January 20, 2026, in the City Council Chambers, 1829 Sam Houston Street, Liberty, Texas at 6:00 p.m. by President Michael Dorsett Jr.

Table with 5 columns: ATTENDEE NAME, PRESENT, ABSENT, LATE, ARRIVED. Rows include President Michael Dorsett Jr., Vice-President Kathrine McCarty, Secretary Betty Runkle, Board Member Barbara Norwood, Board Member Mark Campbell, Board Member Dan VanDeventer, and Board Member Craig Vansau.

II. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GUESTS AND VISITORS / PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment is reserved for members of the public who would like to address the Liberty Community Development Corporation Board regarding agenda and non-agenda items. Please be aware that, under Texas Law, the Board may not deliberate or take any action during Citizen's comments on items not on the agenda.

President Dorsett welcomed guests and visitors in attendance, opening the floor for public comment to those individuals wishing to address the board. There were no comments.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

All consent items listed are considered to be routine by the Liberty Community Development Corporation and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board 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 Board Member McCarty to approve all items on the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Board Member Norwood. The motion passed 7 to 0.

A. Minutes Approval

- 1. October 21, 2025

IV. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Regular Session

1. Consider awarding a General Economic Development Grant to Liberty Fontenot Building LLC in the amount of \$25,000.

Liberty Fontenot Building LLC owns the building at 414 Main St. They are proposing the following work/repairs to the building:

1. Painting
2. Brick or siding repair
3. Exterior lighting
4. Window replacement
5. Door replacement
6. Signage
7. Awnings or canopies
8. Security cameras

Liberty Fontenot Building LLC's application was attached for LCDC's review.

A motion was made by Board Member Norwood to approve awarding a General Economic Development Grant to Liberty Fontenot Building LLC in the amount of \$25,000. The motion was seconded by Board Member McCarty. The motion passed 7 to 0.

2. Rural Texas Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) Presentation to LCDC with discussion and possible action.

Ms. Samantha Roberston & Ms. Shyanne Loftin from Rural Texas TNR Program, in support of Ms. Austin Thomas from ROSES Rescues, presented to the LCDC Board about their program and how it helps the community. The Trap-Neuter-Return program safely traps stray and feral cat populations, then they are spayed/neutered, vaccinated and treated for health issues at a vet, and are returned to their outdoor homes to live out their natural lives to help reduce overpopulation and improve community health. Various locations within the City of Liberty were discussed that would benefit from partner funding to help to increase the number of cats that are treated specifically to the city. The discussion closed with a question-and-answer session.

3. Consider and take possible action regarding the City and Liberty Community Development Corporation Websites.

The City of Liberty and LCDC each have their own websites maintained and hosted by CivicPlus Drupal 7 software. CivicPlus is moving to new Web Central Software for better security. To migrate both websites to the new software, it would cost \$31,290 and if the websites are combined into one website, the migration cost would be \$16,700. Current cost is \$15,085 to maintain both websites. LCDC agreed that combining the websites into one website would be beneficial for the citizens and beneficial for the budget.

A motion was made by Board Member VanDeventer to approve combining LCDC's website into one website with the city. The motion was seconded by Board Member Vansau. The motion passed 7 to 0.

4. Consider and take possible action on additional expenditure of \$3,565 for the July 3, 2026, fireworks show.

The City has contracted with Pyro Shows of Fort Worth to provide the annual fireworks display. This year's display will be held on Friday, July 3, 2026. Pyro Shows have been providing

fireworks displays since 2019. The cost of the display this year is \$26,565, which is \$3,565 more than last year's \$23,000.

During the March 19, 2024, Liberty Community Development Corporation Meeting approved the request to fund the July 3rd fireworks show to relieve pressure on the general fund and due to the size of LCDC's fund balance. This expenditure was added to the 2024-2025 Liberty Community Development Corporation Budget in the amount of \$21,000, then increased to \$23,000 for the 2025 show.

The fireworks show was previously funded by Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) funds. State law no longer allows fireworks to be paid for by HOT funds.

A motion was made by Board Member Norwood to approve the additional expenditure of \$3,565 for the July 3, 2026, fireworks show. The motion was seconded by Board Member McCarty. The motion passed 7 to 0.

- 5. Consider and take possible action on approving the expenditure of funds and construction of a storage building at the Liberty Municipal Airport.

After purchasing equipment to maintain the Liberty Airport property, we need a place to store the equipment. Enclosed are two proposals for a 30 x 40 building for LCDC to review.

A motion was made by Board Member Norwood to table this item for the next meeting for cost evaluation of the proposed building. The motion was seconded by Board Member Runkle. The motion passed 7 to 0.

B. Executive Session

At 7:34 p.m., President Dorsett 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 §551.087 - Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations.**

Discussion regarding economic development negotiations.

C. Reconvene into Regular Session

At 8:38 p.m., President Dorsett closed the Executive Session and reconvened the open meeting.

- 1. Consider and take possible action on economic development matters discussed in the executive session.

No action was taken.

V. ADJOURNMENT

A. Motion To: Adjourn

With no further business to discuss, President Dorsett adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

ATTEST:

Michael Dorsett, Jr., President

April Gilliland, City Secretary