



The City of Liberty
City Council
Regular Meeting
~ Minutes ~

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

Dianne Tidwell
City Secretary
(936) 336-3684

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

I. CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Carl Pickett	Mayor	Present	
Diane Huddleston	Mayor Pro Tem	Present	
Dennis Beasley	Councilperson	Present	
Frank Jordan	Councilperson	Present	
Louie Potetz	Councilperson	Present	
Libby Simonson	Councilperson	Present	
David Arnold	Councilperson	Present	
Gary Broz	City Manager	Present	
Dianne Tidwell	City Secretary	Present	
Brandon Davis	City Attorney	Present	

II. INVOCATION

There was no Invocation given.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge to the American and Texas flags was led by Liberty High School Senior, Meagan Clawson.

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 reported on the following: 1) Liberty Police Dept. Silver Santa Program 2) Liberty Fire Dept. Angel Tree Program and the 3) recent Police Dept. Town Hall Meeting regarding the new open carry laws.

City Manager Gary Broz reported that there would be a Special Called Meeting on January 26th, in which the annual audit will be presented.

V. PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS

A. Information Item (ID # 3425)

Project Updates - City Mgr. G. Broz

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Gary Broz reported on current City projects and the status of each.

B. Information Item (ID # 3426)

2016 Election Update - City Sec. D. Tidwell

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Secretary Dianne Tidwell reported on the upcoming May 7, 2016 General Election for officers. Those officials with terms expiring are Mayor Pickett and Councilpersons David Arnold, Frank Jordan and Louie Potetz.

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.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dennis Beasley, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Libby Simonson, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Jordan, Potetz, Simonson, Arnold

A. Minutes Approval

1. Tuesday, December 08, 2015

VII. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Regular Session

1. Information Item (ID # 3427)

Mr. Mike Allison to address the Council regarding City of Liberty power issues.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Mr. Mike Allison, Liberty resident, addressed the Council regarding his concerns and frustration

with recent and past power outages in the City of Liberty. Lengthy discussion was held regarding the various outages, origin of each, and future plans for electric infrastructure upgrades.

2. Council Action 2016-1

Update on the Sam Rayburn Municipal Power Agency business, and take any action deemed necessary.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Mr. Bruce Mintz, Executive Director of the Sam Rayburn Municipal Power Agency (SRMPA) addressed the Council and the audience regarding the electric utility issues, as the City of Liberty is a member of the SRMPA and receives its power from the Agency. Lengthy discussion was held regarding Agency operations, activities, annual maintenance project, proposed express feeder which builds redundancy in the system, the substations and various feeders, and other related topics.

RESULT: NO ACTION TAKEN

3. Public Hearing (ID # 3429)

Public Hearing regarding hazardous building abatement for property located at 1512 Hwy. 90, also known as the Inn at Liberty.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

At 7:27 p.m., Mayor Pickett opened the Public Hearing regarding hazardous building abatement for the property located at 1512 Hwy. 90, known as the Inn at Liberty. City Attorney Brandon Davis reported on the numerous and varied issues with the property, and Building Official Dawnel Rodgers reported on inspections of the property and the proper notification process in which the owner was notified of the hearing. The owner's attorney, structural engineer and electrician spoke on the owner's behalf and the plan to rehabilitate the property. Also discussed were the rehabilitation costs, property value, and crime on the property.

Mayor Pickett closed the Public Hearing at 8:51 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Agenda Item Form-Inn at Liberty (DOCX)
- Inn at Liberty Notice (PDF)

4. Council Action 2016-2

Consider, and take action, regarding hazardous building abatement for property located at 1512 Hwy. 90, also known as the Inn at Liberty.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

A motion was made to order the demolition of the Inn at Liberty, giving the property owner 30 days from receipt of the Order to complete this task.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Libby Simonson, Councilperson
SECONDER: Dennis Beasley, Councilperson
AYES: Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Jordan, Potetz, Simonson, Arnold

5. Council Action 2016-3

Consider award of bid for transformers for the Electric Department inventory.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Gary Broz reported on bids received for transformers for the Electric Department. Mr. Broz stated that \$45,000 was budgeted for this equipment which will be paid for with funds received from the Sam Rayburn Municipal Power Agency, Cambridge Project. This equipment will rebuild the Electric Department inventory and after brief discussion of the bid tabulation, a motion was made to approve the purchase of various type transformers from T&R Electric in the amount of \$12,950.00 and from Solomon Corporation in the amount of \$22,085.00, for a total of \$35,035.00.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Transformer Bids (PDF)

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dennis Beasley, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Libby Simonson, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Jordan, Potetz, Simonson, Arnold

6. Council Action 2016-4

Consider an appointment to the Liberty County Economic Development Committee.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

A motion was made to nominate and appoint Councilperson Frank Jordan to the Liberty County Economic Development Committee.

RESULT:	APPROVED [6 TO 0]
MOVER:	Libby Simonson, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Dennis Beasley, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Potetz, Simonson, Arnold
ABSTAIN:	Frank Jordan

7. Council Action 2016-5

Discussion regarding Open Carry in the City Hall and Council Chambers, and take any action deemed necessary.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Gary Broz reported on the new open carry law, recommending that signage be placed (30.06 and 30.07) to prohibit open carry or concealed weapons during meetings of the Liberty City Council, Liberty Community Development Corporation and Municipal Court, and any meeting falling under the Open Meetings Act. Mr. Broz explained that the City cannot prohibit weapons in the remainder of the building. A motion was made to prohibit concealed or open carry weapons in the above-mentioned meetings and to display the appropriate signage.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Louie Potetz, Councilperson
SECONDER:	David Arnold, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Jordan, Potetz, Simonson, Arnold

8. Council Action 2016-6

Consider declaring various City equipment as surplus property, and take any action deemed necessary.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Gary Broz reported on various items the City would like to declare surplus property, to be sold in an online auction. After brief review of the list, a motion was made to declare the items as surplus property.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Auction List (XLSX)
- PD Vest List (PDF)

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Libby Simonson, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Frank Jordan, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Jordan, Potetz, Simonson, Arnold

9. Ordinance 2016-1

Consider adoption of an Ordinance authorizing participation with other Entergy Service Area Cities in matters concerning Entergy Texas, Inc. At The Public Utility Commission of Texas and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in 2016.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Mayor Pickett read the caption of the Ordinance into the record as follows:

"A ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LIBERTY, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION WITH OTHER ENTERGY SERVICE AREA CITIES IN MATTERS CONCERNING ENTERGY TEXAS, INC. AT THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS AND THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION IN 2016; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND DISPENSING WITH THE REQUIREMENT OF SECTION 3.10 OF THE HOME RULE CHARTER THAT THIS ORDINANCE BE READ ON TWO SEPARATE DAYS."

A motion was made to adopt the Ordinance as presented.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dennis Beasley, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Libby Simonson, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Jordan, Potetz, Simonson, Arnold

10. Council Action 2016-7

Consider granting Computer Solutions access for fiber installation in the Regency Place Subdivision right-of-way.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Attorney Brandon Davis reported that the proposed agreement gives Internet Management Services (Computer Solutions) the license to use the City's right-of-way in the Regency Place Subdivision. This document is a 5-year agreement with a fee of \$150.00 per year. A motion was made to approve the agreement.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Resolution & Agreement Internet Fiber (PDF)
- Regency Subd Map (PDF)

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Libby Simonson, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Frank Jordan, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Jordan, Potetz, Simonson, Arnold

B. Executive Session

Government Code §551.087

Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiation - Boomerang Tube, LLC.

At 9:10 p.m., Mayor Pickett closed the open meeting and opened the Executive Session as authorized above.

C. Reconvene into Regular Session

At 9:29 p.m., Mayor Pickett closed the Executive Session and reconvened the open meeting.

1. Council Action 2016-8

Consider and take action, if any, on the items as discussed in the Executive Session.

RESULT:	NO ACTION TAKEN
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VIII. ADJOURNMENT**A. Motion To:** Adjourn

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

There being no further business before the Council, Mayor Pickett adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

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Carl Pickett, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dianne Tidwell, City Secretary