



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, July 9, 2019

6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

I. CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Carl Pickett	Mayor	Present	
Diane Huddleston	Mayor ProTem	Present	
Dennis Beasley	Council Member	Present	
Libby Simonson	Council Member	Present	
David Arnold	Council Member	Present	
Chipper Smith	Council Member	Present	
Neal Thornton	Council Member	Present	
Tom Warner	City Manager	Present	
Chris Jarmon	Asst. City Manager	Present	
Naomi Herrington	Asst. City Manager	Present	
Dianne Tidwell	City Secretary	Present	
Brandon Davis	City Attorney	Present	

II. INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by Youth Minister David Shaw, Heights Baptist Church.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge to the American and Texas flags was led by Police Chief Gary Martin and Fire Chief Brian Hurst, respectively.

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 those individuals wishing to address the Council. There were no comments.

V. PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS

A. Information Item (ID # 4498)

City Manager's Report - City Mgr. T. Warner

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Tom Warner reported on various City projects and activities including;

- Success of the July 3rd Fireworks Celebration
- HVAC and Lighting contractor still working at several City facilities
- Wastewater Project status
- Proposed layout for the site of new water well, tower pump station and ground storage tank is being reviewed by the U.S. Corp of Engineers to ensure the adjacent wetlands are not impacted
- Contractor for sewer line extension on Hwy. 146 should be completed by mid-July
- Other projects and status of each.

ATTACHMENTS:

- City Manager's Report July 9 2019 (DOCX)

B. Information Item (ID # 4499)

Department Reports

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

There were no comments regarding the Department Reports.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Department Reports (PDF)

C. Information Item (ID # 4500)

Sam Rayburn Municipal Power Agency - Mayor Pickett

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Mayor Pickett, President of the Sam Rayburn Municipal Power Agency, reported the next meeting of the Agency is July 16, and that the current bonded indebtedness will be paid in full in 2021, providing flexibility in setting future electrical rates due to no bond indebtedness.

D. Information Item (ID # 4501)

Mayor, Council and Staff Comments

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Secretary Dianne Tidwell reported on the upcoming Texas Municipal League Annual Conference to be held in San Antonio, October 9 - 11.

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:	Libby Simonson, Council Member
SECONDER:	Dennis Beasley, Council Member
AYES:	Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Simonson, Arnold, Smith, Thornton

A. Minutes Approval

1. Tuesday, June 11, 2019
2. Tuesday, June 25, 2019

VII. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Regular Session

1. Public Hearing (ID # 4502)

Public Hearing on the 2018 Drinking Water Quality Report.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

At 6:23 p.m., Mayor Pickett opened the Public Hearing on 2018 Drinking Water Quality Report. City Manager Tom Warner reported that this report is required to be provided to the City's water system customers on an annual basis, as a part of the Safe Drinking Water Act. The report summarizes various information regarding legal limits of contaminants in the water, compliance issues, and other information. This report reflects that the City has no violations, that the City met or exceeded all Federal drinking water requirements.

Mayor Pickett closed the Public Hearing at 6:27 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 2018 Drinking Water Quality Info (PDF)

2. Council Action 2019-52

Consider the purchase of a 2019 Pierce Ladder Truck for the Liberty Fire Department.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Tom Warner reported on the proposed purchase of a Ladder Truck through the Houston-Galveston Area Council Purchasing Cooperative. Mr. Warner reported on a 2016 Rosenbauer and a 2019 Pierce, regarding mileage, size, cost, and other pertinent information. Additionally, the vendor for the Pierce vehicle will reduce the cost by \$20,000, if the City pays in advance. After lengthy discussion regarding the two vehicles, a motion was made to authorize

the purchase of the Pierce Ladder Truck to be paid for with Cambridge Funds.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Libby Simonson, Council Member
SECONDER:	Dennis Beasley, Council Member
AYES:	Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Simonson, Arnold, Smith, Thornton

B. Executive Session

Gov. Code §551.071 - Private Consultation with Attorney - To seek advice regarding contemplated / pending litigation.

- Discussion of the Humphreys Cultural Center.
- Discussion of FEMA and Hurricane Ike related issues.
- Discussion with city attorney regarding contemplated litigation.

Gov. Code §551.072 - Deliberation Regarding Real Property - To discuss the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property.

- Discussion regarding real property.

At 6:41 p.m., Mayor Pickett closed the open meeting and opened the Executive Session as authorized above.

C. Reconvene into Regular Session

At 7:55 p.m., Mayor Pickett closed the Executive Session and reconvened the open meeting.

1. Council Action 2019-53

Consider and take action, if any, on the Humphreys Cultural Center as discussed in the Executive Session.

RESULT:	NO ACTION TAKEN
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2. Council Action 2019-54

Consider and take action, if any, on FEMA and Hurricane Ike related issues as discussed in the Executive Session.

RESULT:	NO ACTION TAKEN
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3. Council Action 2019-55

Consider and take action regarding litigation related to a personnel issue.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

A motion was made to move forward with litigation against Chase Zweck.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Libby Simonson, Council Member
SECONDER:	Dennis Beasley, Council Member
AYES:	Pickett, Huddleston, Beasley, Simonson, Arnold, Smith, Thornton

4. Council Action 2019-56

Consider and take action, if any, on the deliberation regarding real property as discussed in the Executive Session.

RESULT:	NO ACTION TAKEN
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VIII. WORK SESSION**1. Work Session (ID # 4507)**

The Liberty City Council will conduct a Work Session regarding the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

City Manager Tom Warner presented a power point presentation on issues related to the proposed Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget. Mr. Warner addressed:

- The General Fund revenues and expenditures, and other related funds
- City's Organizational Chart
- Personnel and new Salary Schedule
- Possible health care increase and impact on various funds
- Capital, Non-Capital, and Capital Outlay requests
- Payments to Fleet Rotation Account by department
- Fleet Rotation Fund and fleet requests funded
- No increase in Property Tax
- Other related issues.

Lengthy discussion was held regarding these topics and other information related to the FY 2019-2020 Proposed Budget.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

A. Motion To: Adjourn

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

There being no further business before the Council, Mayor Pickett adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

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Carl Pickett, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dianne Tidwell, City Secretary