The City of Liberty

City Council

Special Called Meeting

~ Minutes ~

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

Dianne Tidwell
City Secretary
(936) 336-3684

Tuesday, May 20, 2008 | **6:00 PM** | **City Council Chambers**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order on May 20, 2008 at the City Council Chambers, 1829 Sam Houston, Liberty,TX at 6:02 PM by Mayor Carl Pickett.

II. INVOCATION

Mayor Pickett dispensed with the Invocation for this meeting.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pickett dispensed with the Pledge for this meeting.

IV. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GUESTS AND VISITORS / PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no guests or visitors.

V. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Regular Agenda Items

1. Council Action 2008-17

Consider Adoption of Resolution for TxDOT STEP Grant (CIOT) Program.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Council voted to approve a Resolution authorizing support of a Selective Traffic Enforcement Grant (S.T.E.P.) in the amount of $4505.29, that is fully funded/reimbursed by the Texas Department of Transportation. This 100% grant will fund the overtime for enforcement of seat belt laws through the "Click It or Ticket, Buckle Up Texas" Safety Program.

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

"A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF LIBERTY POLICE DEPARTMENT TO SUPPORT A SELECTIVE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT GRANT (S.T.E.P.) FOR CLICK IT OR TICKET, BUCKLE UP TEXAS, IN THE AMOUNT OF $4505.29, THAT IF FULLY FUNDED/REIMBURSED BY STATE OF TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PER CONTRACT NO. 588XXF6062 AND CHARG NO. 8OP0G1CJ."

RESULT:	**APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Mike McCarty, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Dennis Beasley, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, Beasley, McCarty, Simonson, Potetz, Jordan
ABSENT:	Diane Huddleston

2. Ordinance 2008-6

Consider Adoption of an Ordinance Prohibiting Certain Digital Signs in the City of Liberty.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Council voted to adopt the ordinance, as written, prohibiting the placement of off premise signs, to include changeable electronic variable message signs within the City of Liberty. Section 1 of the ordinance prohibits new off premise signs, which includes digital variable signs as well as any other sign that is installed and maintained (billboards), while Section 2 prohibits the use of changeable electronic variable signs on premise.

Additional discussion included the possibility of variances to this ordinance and consideration of amendments that could include lumens levels and other related topics.

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

"AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY, TEXAS REGARDING THE PLACING OF OFF PREMISES SIGNS AND CHANGEABLE ELECTRONIC VARIABLE MESSAGE SIGNS WITH THE CITY OF LIBERTY; AND DISPENSING WITH THE REQUIREMENT OF SECTION 3.10 OF THE HOME RULE CHARTER THAT THIS ORDINANCE BE READ ON TWO SEPARATE DAYS."

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [5 TO 1]**
MOVER:	Mike McCarty, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Louie Potetz, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, McCarty, Simonson, Potetz, Jordan
NAYS:	Dennis Beasley
ABSENT:	Diane Huddleston

3. Resolution 2008-13

Consider Approval of a Resolution Regarding a Moratorium on Mobile Home And/Or Manufactured Home Permitting, Placement or Relocation Within Specified Flood Zone Areas.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Council voted to approve a Resolution ordering a 120 day moratorium on mobile/manufactured home permitting within specific flood zone areas. Candice Parker, Inspection Department, reported on the issues and problems with the placement of these structures in flood prone areas, specifically Zone AE. This moratorium will allow time to complete an appropriate permanent ordinance addressing special flood hazard areas as described by the Flood Insurance Rate Map of Liberty County.

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

"A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LIBERTY, TEXAS, ORDERING A 120 DAY MORATORIUM ON THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS FOR MOBILE OR MANUFACTURED HOMES IN CERTAIN AREAS AT SUBSTANTIAL RISK FOR FLOODING."

RESULT:	**APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Louie Potetz, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Al Simonson, Councilperson
AYES:	Pickett, Beasley, McCarty, Simonson, Potetz, Jordan
ABSENT:	Diane Huddleston

4. Information Item 2008-24

Presentation By, and Discussion With, the Airport Advisory Board Members Regarding Various Airport Issues.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Airport Advisory Board Chairman Linda Street-Ely was present to address the Council regarding plans and objectives for the Liberty Municipal Airport. Various issues discussed relative to the Airport and improvements to this facility included:

1. creation of a Joint Airport Zoning Board,
2. security Issues and gate access codes,
3. airport expansion and funding sources,
4. wetland issues,
5. routine airport maintenance,
6. aviation tax, and other related topics.

Ms. Ely also requested that the Council consider, at a future meeting, the appointment of Dale Clawson to the Airport Advisory Board. Ms. Ely thanked the Council for their time and interest in the Board's plans to make the airport the best that it can be.

B. Executive Session

Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations. Gov. Code §551.087.

Prior to closing the open meeting, City Attorney Randy Gunter addressed the Council regarding the utility cut-off date (Monday, May 26) for Liberty-Dayton Hospital. As that day is a holiday, Mr. Gunter stated that he understood the intent of the Council to give the hospital a full day to make a payment, therefore he instructed the City Manager that to change that day to the next day (Tuesday) would not go beyond the intent of the Council. Therefore, the current deadline for full payment is Tuesday, May 27, 2008.

At 7:30 p.m., Mayor Pickett closed the open meeting and opened the Executive Session, as authorized by Gov. Code §551.087 for deliberation regarding economic development.

C. Reconvene into Regular Session

At 8:53p.m., Mayor Pickett closed the Executive Session and reconvened the open meeting.

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

There was no action taken on the items discussed in the Executive Session.

VI. COUNCIL MEAL

Council shared an evening meal.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion To: Adjourn

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

RESULT:	**APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Dennis Beasley, Councilperson
SECONDER:	Frank Jordan, Councilman
AYES:	Pickett, Beasley, McCarty, Simonson, Potetz, Jordan
ABSENT:	Diane Huddleston

____
Carl Pickett, Mayor

ATTEST:

____
Dianne Tidwell, City Secretary