

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LIBERAL CITY COMMISSION
May 14, 2013

The regular meeting of the Liberal City Commission was held at 6:30 p.m. in the Commission Chambers located at 325 North Washington on Tuesday, May 14, 2013.

Commissioners Present: Mayor Dave Harrison, Vice Mayor Janet Willimon, Dean Aragon, Joe Denoyer and Ron Warren.

City Staff Present: City Manager Mark Hall, Public Works Director Joe Sealey, Finance Director Chris Ford, City Clerk Debbie Giskie, Human Resources Director Sheena Schmutz, Economic Development Director Jeff Parsons, Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Kory Krause, Housing & Community Development Director Karen LaFreniere, Chief of Police Al Sill and City Attorney Shirla McQueen.

Mayor Harrison declared the meeting called to order and City Clerk Giskie read the roll call declaring all members present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the invocation was given by Ann Holman of the Risen Glory Church.

1. Awards/Proclamations/Presentations. *Mayor Harrison presented a proclamation designating Liberal as a Kaboom! Playful City USA Community.*

2. Approval of Agenda. Mayor Harrison requested approval of the amended agenda. *Commissioner Denoyer moved to approve the agenda, as amended by adding Item 10(c) - Resolution No. 2171. Vice Mayor Willimon seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.*

3. Approval of Minutes.

Commissioner Denoyer moved to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2013 regular meeting, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Warren and carried unanimously.

4. Items from Citizens.

Mayor Harrison read the rules of the Commission and requested members of the audience approach the podium to address the Commission. *No items were presented.*

5. Items from Groups.

Mayor Harrison read the rules of the Commission and requested members of the audience approach the podium to address the Commission.

Jack Taylor, representing SPIRIT, reported the Commissioners will receive an invitation regarding the KDOT meeting at 4:00 p.m. on May 22, 2013 at the Depot to brief local officials about the U.S. 54 Expansion Project. He noted this involves the 10 miles of 4-lane highway going east of Liberal. He explained the phasing of the project and advised they would like to encourage some changes involving the Cimarron River Bridge.

6. Consent Agenda:

a. Acknowledge Receipt of Minutes:

1. Parks & Recreation Board, March 21, 2013.
2. Liberal Memorial Board, April 18, 2013.

Mayor Harrison inquired if the Commission wished to remove any items for further discussion. *Commissioner Denoyer moved to approve the consent agenda, as presented, with Vice Mayor Willimon seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

7. Truancy Presentation.

Ivanhoe Love, Jr., Director of Adolescent Services, appeared before the Commission and reported on how the program became a reality and explained the program, which makes the student accountable for their attendance, behavior and attitude. He introduced the three truant officers who worked closely with the students; Jennifer Harvey, Will Ponder and Kayla McCroskey. Each of the officers presented one of their students who spoke to the Commission about the program, including what they've learned throughout the process and about their future goals. *The Commission applauded the group for their presentations and thanked the leadership for their success.*

8. First Reading of Ordinance No. 4410 – Vacating a Utility Easement in Block 11 at the Airport.

Mayor Harrison requested Commission consideration of the first reading of Ordinance No. 4410, entitled, "AN ORDINANCE VACATING A CERTAIN EASEMENT IN THE CITY OF LIBERAL, KANSAS".

- Airport Manager Giskie referred to the map in the packet and advised there are no utilities in the easement and there is no need to retain it. She recommended the ordinance be advanced to a second reading.

Commissioner Denoyer moved to advance Ordinance No. 4410 to a second reading, as presented, with Vice Mayor Willimon seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

10. Housing:

a. SAFE at Home Program

Housing & Community Development Director LaFreniere reported they have run out of smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors. She referred to the quotes in the packet and noted that the products quoted are exactly the same. She thanked the Fire Department for assisting in the storage of the products and getting them out the public.

Commissioner Denoyer moved to approve the purchase of 200 smoke detectors and 200 carbon monoxide detectors from Mead Lumber in the amount of \$6,196.00, as presented, with Commissioner Aragon seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

b. First-Time Homebuyer Program.

Housing & Community Development Director LaFreniere reported the first-time homebuyer program, which has been in effect since 2009, helps the first-time homebuyer to come up with the down payment and is very beneficial. She advised the City's guidelines are in the line of moderate income, not low income. Ms. LaFreniere reported they have distributed the monies allocated for 2013, which assisted thirty (30) homebuyers. She requested Commission consideration of allocating an additional \$30,000 to the program for 2013, which will allow ten (10) more grants to be distributed. She advised there are ample funds are available.

Commissioner Denoyer moved to allocate an additional \$30,000 for the First-Time Homebuyer Program for 2013, as presented. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Willimon and carried unanimously.

c. Resolution No. 2171 – Rural Housing Incentive District.

Housing & Community Development Director LaFreniere referred to the resolution and map in the packet and explained this will include an additional tract, not amend the RHID. She noted the property is located on Edwards Street, west of Light Park, where an out-of-town developer is interested in building.

Commissioner Denoyer moved to approve Resolution No. 2171 establishing an additional RHID, as presented. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Willimon and carried unanimously.

10. Board Appointments:

a. Diversity Council.

Housing & Community Development Director LaFreniere referred to the resume from Sara Carrillo for the Diversity Council. City Manager Hall noted the City is in the process building an official Diversity Council board.

Commissioner Denoyer moved to appoint Sara Carrillo to the Diversity Council, as presented, with Commissioner Aragon seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Planning Commission & Board of Zoning Appeals Board.

Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Krause advised the Planning Commission & Board of Zoning Appeals has a vacancy on the Board created by the resignation of George Roldan. He noted only one applicant has submitted a resume, and noted Mr. Frauli is well versed in carpentry and drafting. He reported the Board recommends the appointment of Kevin Frauli for a four-year term ending December 31, 2016.

Vice Mayor Willimon moved to appoint Kevin Frauli to the Planning Commission & Board of Zoning Appeals, as recommended. Commissioner Warren seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

c. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board.

City Clerk Giskie referred to the information in the packet and explained the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board has a vacancy created by Brian McMullen's expired term. She also noted Jane Harding and Lydia Hook-Gray need to be re-appointed to the Board. She noted the Board recommends the appointment of Michael Aichele Jr. to a four year term ending December 31, 2017, and to reappoint Jane Harding for a term ending September 30, 2015 and Lydia Hook-Gray to expire on December 31, 2016. She noted this will stagger the terms on the Board.

Commissioner Denoyer moved to appoint Michael Aichele, Jr. to a four-year term ending December 31, 2017 and to reappoint Jane Harding to a term ending September 30, 2015 and Lydia Hook-Gray for a term ending December 31, 2016 on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, as recommended. Vice Mayor Willimon seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

11. Police Department:

a. Purchase of Bullet Resistant Concealable Vests.

Police Captain Antrim referred to the information in the packet and advised the Police Department applied for a grant that reimburses the City for 50% of the cost of bullet proof vests. He noted the current grant will expire at the end of August and they are in the process of applying for a new grant for the next year.

Commissioner Denoyer moved to approve the purchase of nine (9) bullet resistant vests in the amount of \$5,625, as presented, with Vice Mayor Willimon seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Taser Purchase.

Police Captain Antrim referred to the information in packet and noted they started carrying tasers in 2004. He explained they are currently carrying the X26E tasers and have some that can't be repaired. He reported they are recommending the purchase of an improved version, X2 tasers, which are more accurate and have a better design.

Following further discussion, Commissioner Denoyer moved to approve the purchase of five (5) X2 tasers in the amount of \$5,760, including transfer of funds from the AR15's, as presented. Commissioner Aragon seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

12. Mower Purchase – Airport.

Airport Manager Giskie reported the Airport has a 15' Rhino mower that is in need of repair. She noted this equipment has been budgeted for several years and there are adequate funds to purchase a new mower for use in the industrial park and runway areas. She referred to the quotes received and recommended the purchase of the Rhino 15' mower from Keating Tractor in the amount of \$12,690.

Commissioner Denoyer moved to approve the purchase the Rhino 15' mower from Keating Tractor & Equipment in the amount of \$12,690, as presented, with Vice Mayor Willimon seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

13. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT.

City Manager Hall referred to the pictures of the dedication plaques marking the location where the old girl scout building was. He advised the improvements at the pool continue to move along everyday and reported it was City staff's intention to have it open for Memorial Day.

- Mr. Hall referred to the 3% price increase notice provided by Zito Media to customers for cable service. He advised his office is setting up a meeting to discuss housing issues.
- He reported City staff has been doing a great job getting ready for the warmer weather and gearing up for mowing season. He also advised the Director of the Kansas Sampler expressed how everyone appreciated the City of Liberal's efforts. He expressed appreciation to everyone for their hard work and thanked the many volunteers who helped make the Sampler Festival a success.
- Commissioner Denoyer questioned the status of the Leete Family Park. Mr. Hall advised the irrigation system has been installed and grass has been planted. He noted the work is completed in the fields and the backstop will be coming very soon.
- Mr. Hall advised the start date for the 15th Street Expansion is unknown at this time. He also noted that Animal Shelter improvements should begin in the near future.

14. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS.

Vice Mayor Willimon expressed appreciation to City Manager Hall and City staff for putting together the Sampler Festival. She looked forward to new exciting things coming in the future and thanked City staff for all they do.

Commissioner Denoyer thanked all involved for a tremendous Sampler Festival and noted CVB Director Fuller put together a great team of volunteers. He also noted the Cinco de Mayo

celebration was a wonderful event this year. Commissioner Denoyer advised he was told the Dinosaur Exhibit was well attended with over 21,000 visitors.

- *Commissioner Aragon* thanked City staff for the efforts in making the Sampler Festival a success. He advised the Car Show was a great event and that the Cinco de Mayo celebration is growing each year and he sees it becoming better each year with a more diverse crowd.
- Commissioner Aragon advised he appreciated the opportunity to meet with the County Commission and U.S.D. 480 Board to communicate on mutual issues.

Commissioner Warren echoed the comments made and commended City staff for how wonderful the Park looked for the Sampler Festival.

Mayor Harrison advised the Sampler Festival was great and that he heard over and over again how helpful City staff was. He also noted the Cinco de Mayo celebration was the biggest event held so far. He noted the Dinosaur Exhibit was a great contribution to the City and he thanked City staff, volunteers and the Air Museum Foundation for making it an amazing event.

- Mayor Harrison reported the Yellow Brick Car Show this past weekend was a great event for the community with over 200 cars entered and that 17 of the vehicles had been featured in the *Hot Rod Magazine* in the past.
- He thanked all the volunteers in our community for making these events possible and taking pride in our community. He also expressed appreciation to the City employees for making our City shine.

15. VOUCHERS.

\$707,714.83, dated May 14, 2013. *Commissioner Denoyer moved to approve the vouchers, as presented, with Vice Mayor Willimon seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

The meeting was adjourned by motion of Commissioner Denoyer.

Dave Harrison, Mayor

ATTEST:

Debra S. Giskie, CMC, City Clerk