THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LIBERAL CITY COMMISSION
September 10, 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, September 10, 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, Fire Chief Kelly Kirk, 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 read a proclamation designating September 17-23, 2013 as Constitution Week to be presented to Bonnie Raff later in the meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda.
Mayor Harrison noted the agenda was to correct the resolution in Item 8(b) to read Resolution No. 2177. He requested approval of the amended agenda.
Commissioner Denoyer moved to approve the agenda, as amended, with Vice Mayor Willimon seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes.
Commissioner Denoyer moved to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2013 special meeting and the August 27, 2013 regular meeting, as presented. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Willimon 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. *No items were presented.*

6. Consent Agenda:
a. Acknowledge Receipt of Minutes:
    1. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, July 25, 2013.
    2. Liberal Memorial Library, August 20, 2013.
    3. Liberal Convention & Tourism Board, August 22, 2013.
b. Approval of Airport Leases:

1	# 24.00	Independent Inc/Humble Welding	$ 878.59	1 year
2.	# 41.07	Tanking Compressor Services, LLC	$ 752.40	1 year
3.	#137.02	Butch & Linny Dick	$1,174.75	1 year
4.	#142.00	ABC Self-Store-It	$3,744.18	1 year
5.	#164.00	David Falke	$1,317.75	1 year

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. USD 480 – Financing Request.

USD 480 Board of Education President Delvin Kinser thanked the Commission and City staff for allowing them to be on the agenda this evening to present an initiative that we have talked about in the past. He reminded them of the joint meeting with USD 480 Board of Education held last month where they presented the City with an opportunity - an opportunity to partner with the Liberal schools and to build a future for our kids and the community at large. He also made the following comments:

As you know that partnership involves the city being willing to forego a percentage of its sales tax authority for the purpose of partially funding the debt service on the school bond issue. We showed you how the partnership would not only benefit USD 480's efforts, but also enhance the city's ability to expand economically and to attract new business and industry. He recalled during the joint meeting, Mayor Harrison made the statement that they should bring them something to consider and that is what they are doing this evening.

On behalf of the USD 480 Board of Education, we call on the commission to allow the people of Liberal to vote to approve a half-cent sales tax to be earmarked for bond repayment. We also ask that the tax be in effect for the life of the bond, which we believe be no longer than 25 years – possibly smaller, a shorter amount of time, depending on the scope of the project.

He pointed out some charts were handed to the Commissioner earlier and noted they were from Piper Jaffrey their bond underwriting company, that advises them on bond issues. He noted there are three sets of charts; a pie graph and two sets of bar graphs. He noted there are several examples that used different colors: blue, red and green. On the front page, the breakdown with the bond was $150 million – we don't think we are going to be bringing a $150 million bond issue to the people of Liberal – we wanted to put a number on the top. And the last one is for a $50 million bond issue and then there are others in between. Look at the ones that have the three colors. The green represents property tax; the red represents the state contribution.

USD 480 President Kinser noted that right now, on a State contribution on a bond, the state would pay 51% of our bonds. Piper Jaffrey has also told them that if their school population projections come out as we anticipate, the State's contribution could even increase to as much as 55 %, but currently it's 51%. The blue would be the sales tax portion based on a half-cent allocation for the life of the bond. On the $150 million bond issue, on the $135 million, on the $100 million, on the $35 million, on every one of them you'll see that the sales tax portion will stay level. Sales tax portion will not increase significantly over the life of bond. So, what that half-cent will do is give us a baseline of funding that the rest be made up of our state contribution and our taxpayers, as well.

You can see that the overall size of the project really doesn't matter. At this point, we are having our vision committee meetings and formulating a plan as we speak, in fact they had a meeting today at noon and it was exciting because for one of the first times we are actually

starting to look at what kind of scope our community is interested in seeing done. We are not to the end of the work yet, we've still got some more work to do, but we're getting there. No matter the size of the project, the portion that would come from sales tax would stay at a consistent level.

If we don't have sales tax, this particular bar graph shows us what we're looking at. Again, you have the 50% match from the State and the rest would be taken up by USD 480 property owners, which would obviously affect the City of Liberal property owners.

So, we believe that the people of Liberal want to improve our school facilities. They want the needs of our children met, but they also want to take advantage of Liberal's uniqueness. By putting a mechanism in place to have those who come to Liberal to work, play, buy groceries and everything else, to help carry the load of funding our school improvements.

Your action tonight could possibly give us the opportunity to do something extraordinary for our kids and give the people of Liberal the opportunity to vote on that question as well. That is it, cut and dried, we are asking the City Commission to give them the authority to use a half-cent of the City's sales tax authority, and it would go to the retirement of the bonds, and just to clarify, there would be two questions on the ballot. One would be for the approval of the bond issue. The other would be for the approval of the sales tax portion. Should the sales tax portion pass and the bond issue fail, there would be no obligation on the city. The sales tax would only go into effect depending on the bond issue passing. If the bond issue would pass and the sales tax fails, then it would be up to the USD 480 to find other methods to pay for it. We believe it is a winning situation for all of us and that is our request for this evening.

Commissioner Denoyer questioned why there was such a rush?
Kinser: We are on a timeline, just because of the virtual process of getting an election together in time for April; we want to have this election soon. We studied this as a board, and we really believe this beneficial to us as a board, to our patrons and to everyone who lives in Liberal. We don't view it as rushing. In fact they are still in the process of formulating what it's going to be. We are asking if the City is willing to partner with us and they would love to see this happen, because it helps all of us.

Commissioner Denoyer noted there are a few statements that he has concerns with. 1) The statement about the "life of the bond", which could run up to 25 years. He noted he had questioned a League of Kansas Municipalities staff attorney at a recent meeting in Topeka and was told the sales tax for a special project could run for a maximum of ten years and a school building project is considered a special project.
2) The statement "life of the bond" is disturbing and questioned if the Cottonwood and Sunflower school projects were still set to sunset in 2015? U.S.D. 480 Director of Business & Finance Jerry Clay reported the bonds would mature in 2018 and noted they were refinanced about ten years into the issue. U.S.D. 480 President Kinser noted even if you refinance a bond issue, they will still retire on the same date.
3) Commissioner Denoyer also questioned where is the line when people stop shopping here and go elsewhere? He indicated he had spoken with several people on the Focus on the Future group who are concerned where is the line when people stop shopping here and go elsewhere. The City's sales tax issue is up for renewal in eight years and the Focus on the Future members he spoke to don't feel the one cent sales tax would renew with an additional (that we now know is ½ cent sales tax). They are afraid we are hitting that line. We are losing people because all

four taxing entities have raised the mill levy for next year. When you think about a high ticket purchase, such as a car and you add another one cent sales tax, because all four agencies have raised the mill levy for next year - car dealers are leery about another sales tax because they will lose the deal. Also, the question he had last time was regarding the capital outlay. You have increased the mill levy for adding an additional $2.5 million when historically you spend $800-900k each year and you had a rollover $1.9 million carryover – that brings it to a total of $4.4 million, you take $800,000 to $900,000 each year – no one could answer his question about this fund at the last meeting.

Mr. Clay advised their average spending is about $1 million per year in capital outlay and we budget $2.5 million for the total budget authority for capital outlay, because you can't tell him what is going to break; what air conditioning is going to go down, what is going to happen during the school year, so it gives the school district and Board of Education the authority to spend up to $2.5 million in capital outlay – if the Board did that they would be at zero dollars starting next year. We never want to or plan to, but it is there, so they don't have to come back and republish the budget in case of a major breakdown that they need to repair immediately during the school year. There is no mill levy that they associate that goes toward capital outlay.

Vice Mayor Willimon noted it seemed so sudden after we had just met with the school board a couple of weeks ago when we asked for a plan. Now you are asking tonight for one-half of a percent for the life of the bond without a project cost?

Kinser indicated they are still working on the scope of the project and don't know what it is going to be. It was his hope as it moves along, that they will know the scope sometime before the end of the year. What they are asking for is the City willing to give up just a portion of their sales tax authority to allocate that would go to the retirement of the bonds, no matter what the size of the project is. The sales tax total to pay off the bonds they would have it for the entire twenty-five year period, no matter if the whole thing is a $50 million bond or a $135 million, the dollar amount would be the same, no matter what the size of the project is. If it's a $50 million project and we finance it over 25 years, then their bond payments would be lower and sales tax would meet more of the obligation year in and year out. If it's a $135 million project the sales tax would be the same amount to take care of the bonds, and the school system and the State would have to fund the additional. We can talk about the scope of the project, and depending on how big it is or whether it is too ambitious or not, that is really a separate question. The question is can the City or do they feel like they can spare a half-cent of their sales tax authority? The half-cent sales tax won't cost the taxpayer anymore if it is a $50 million or $135 million project.

Mayor Harrison questioned how did the school board arrive at the one-half percent versus one-eighth percent?

Kinser advised they worked with Piper Jaffray and looked at different scenarios, in fact they gave lots of different scenarios to the City at the joint meeting where they displayed a graph showing what a one percent sales tax would do on a $50 million bond issue, compared to a half, compared to a three-quarter, compared to a quarter percent sales tax. Then they looked at what it would do on a $100 million dollar bond issue. Looking at this as a board, they felt the one-half cent percent was fair. They didn't want to come and say, "Hey, give us all your taxing authority", because you're going to have needs in the future.

Mayor Harrison questioned what they meant by fair?

Kinser indicated, we felt that if we have a half cent, we can manage then. They believed we can manage a bond issue on a half-cent sales tax with what else they are going to raise and what we are going to get from the State. The Board felt it was manageable. There were some board members that wanted to ask for a whole cent. And some hadn't said a lot about the percentage. As they discussed it, they all agreed on the one-half percent sales tax.

Commissioner Aragon wanted to be clear on something; you indicated that it was mentioned the sales tax would be for the life of the bond issue which is 25 years, while Commissioner Denoyer has been given information that the sales tax can only go for 10 years. Is there any way it can't be refinanced to go beyond that time, if it's 10 years?
Kinser advised our bond will be 20 to 25 years, regardless. I think what Commissioner Denoyer said is that the City would only be able to commit themselves for the 10 years, not the whole 25 years, and if the lawyers are telling the City that, it may be the case. They have been advised that it can be done for the life of the bonds and they will need to work that out, but the one-half percent is the central question that we are asking.

Commissioner Denoyer noted once it is built, it will have to be maintained and staffed and where will that money come from? He recalled that Mr. Larkin indicated at the last meeting that you receive State funds per pupil, but he didn't think that was going to cover the extra expenses.
Kinser: That may be the case. We believe Liberal is a growing community and with new schools we will attract new business. We believe the future of this town is through expansion and growth and so if we build new schools and they ask how your schools are and what kind of school system do you have; we offer that to new businesses. If they use the school system as a determining factor that they will come to Liberal then that will increase the tax base and help the community to continue to grow.

Commissioner Denoyer noted it has been said that this is the largest Kindergarten class that USD 480 has ever seen. He inquired if there had ever been a study done to track a class, such as the class of 2014, to see the size that graduate as opposed to the size that started? He noted he had visited with folks in the district that monitor incoming and outgoing students and this person said that 856 new students enrolled in the district this year but this person also said that for the numbers that go in, relatively the same numbers go out. We are on an upswing, but has anyone done a tracking study?
School Superintendent Paul Larkin indicated they have had a demographer look at the data and we do lose some kids. He noted this morning there were 487 kindergartners in the system and we know we won't have that number of students when they are seniors. The demographer shows the trend is that we are going to continue to grow in the next five to ten years.
Kinser noted we are falling behind not catching up even when you consider the dropout rate, attrition through people moving in and out of town, the trends are showing that we are not gaining. We as a community need to act and work together to find an equitable solution for the community.

Commissioner Warren noted he believes there is a definite need for more schools, but explained as a taxpayer, he would like to see the project and see how the dollars affect the project, because the City is facing some challenges in the coming years. He felt there needs to be some studying done on how to best use the sales tax. He believed the challenge is to consider the taxpayers and

he believes they see the need. He wanted to see the real need, what the project includes and how the costs will affect the City and the school district, if we are truly going to work together. He noted the City will have some needs in the future and we will need the sales tax. He voiced concern that we will meet that line when the public isn't willing to do it anymore.
Kinser again noted they are determining the scope of the project with the assistance of DLR Architects, who are guiding them through a process that has worked in many communities through vision meetings, where people from the community come together and talk about the needs. He noted this is not a wish list, but determining the needs, what can we afford to do and what will our community accept. The whole purpose is that when the bond issue goes before the taxpayers, it will be something they want.

Commissioner Denoyer indicated what he is hearing is just what Commissioner Warren touched on; that the public wants to see a plan. He didn't deny that the DLR group has been successful and that through their history they have only lost two bond elections; Arkansas and Liberal, Kansas and this would be a feather in their cap to get this one back onboard. He noted he has talked to citizens of every walk of life who feel this is being rushed and want more details and specifics of the project. He noted the last time there was a bond question, both he and Dr. Dunn were told at a meeting that two questions wouldn't fly.
Kinser indicated the two questions would the sales tax as explained and of course the bond question. Again, should the voters have the opportunity to vote on using a one-half cent sales tax to fund these improvements and they support it, but vote against the bond issue, the City would still have the sales tax wouldn't be obligated, but if it went the other way, the school system would have to come up with a way to make the payments. He knows there were questions on the survey, but based on the survey results and people he has talked to, people are really interested and like the idea of using sales tax on the project that way we do not have to do it all. All the folks that come to our community, stay in our motels and eat in restaurants, those folks would help for our schools.

Commissioner Denoyer noted then there is that line where they will go on down the road to make the purchase, such as going to Perryton, Texas where there is 0% sales tax. We are going to lose citizens because it is too expensive to live here. The cost of things is getting so expensive and the mill levy continues to grow and we are getting close to that line – all four taxing entities raising the mill levy for next year. You also need to look at the outflow, because we could be losing those purchases as people may be looking at moving out of our community because they can't afford to live here.
Kinser indicated he doesn't see people moving out of town; they are seeing increases in the school system and they need to help find housing for teachers and the City knows about the housing shortage. Everyone has had to make adjustments in their budgets, because the oil and gas has been down and there are other factors. He noted new and improved schools is a tool that the City can use to encourage people to open businesses in Liberal and expand industry, in addition to the boost to the economy that the construction of new facilities would bring, such as hotels and restaurants.

Mayor Harrison noted in fairness, we would have the same outcome with or without the sales tax; the workers will still come here and the construction will still happen. The school system

would still have the new schools to bring folks to town and the City could still have the opportunity to raise the sales tax to ease the burden of property taxpayers.
Kinser noted the school system is talking about reducing the mill levy for taxpayers too.
Mayor Harrison said we are talking about the same thing, but there are two different ways of going about it. With another penny sales tax, based on the figures we are showing today, the City could actually reduce the mill levy by 22 mills to the taxpayer and that is real; we would go back from 47 mills to 25 mills and that is actually possible. We know those are facts.
Kinser suggested if the City would like to do that, the City should do a one-cent sales tax and they will take a half-cent, and leaves you a half-cent authority, but noted we would be at that line limit that was mentioned by Commissioner Denoyer. We didn't come together tonight to negotiate and those discussions can be held at a later date.

Commissioner Denoyer noted enrollment numbers are up and down with this year's number up about 30 students over last year at this time.

Mayor Harrison noted he certainly supports the school system and he too believes something should be done. If we can work together, he felt we should. He personally noted he would like to know before he commits the City of Liberal to be a partner into anything, exactly what the plan is and that is what he meant when he told them to bring something for the Commission to consider.
Kinser questioned if the Commission was saying, that if their vision group, made up community members, comes up with a plan and it isn't what the City Commission feels they should do, is it the concern of the Commission that the school system has come up a plan that won't work and then you have already put this on the ballot.
Mayor Harrison noted it wasn't that he didn't think it won't work; it's just that he didn't have any idea what you are asking for.
Kinser noted yes they did.
Mayor Harrison noted the school system gave the City between $50 million and $150 million and asking for a one-half sales tax for 25 years, and it is still debatable whether or you can have it for 25 years.
Kinser noted they aren't asking them to pay $150 million and not asking you to pay for $35 million. All they are asking for is one-half cent sales tax to retire the bond issue, whatever the project is.

Commissioner Warren noted what we are talking about is the fact that your project will dictate what the mill levy will be to the taxpayer. If you are talking about a $150 million bond issue, well then we have raised the sales tax and also the mill levy. It is important to know the needs and size of the project, because in order to be able to make a decision on sales tax, it will be affected by the size of the project. There are ways to decrease the mill levy to the taxpayers. He believed they won't ask for more than what they need, but that is what the taxpayer demands, so let's bring them a project about what the needs are. Let's look at the numbers to see who would the sales tax benefit; who does the sales tax benefit and what are the tradeoff's and the effect of the mill levy. We need to know the number to know how the taxpayer will be affected.
Kinser noted the taxpayer will be effected to meet the needs of the school district, but with the assistance of the sales tax though, we could lessen that effect, because we are not relying solely

on the mill levy if the voters have that option to choose the sales tax. This is such an important part of the effect and it will help us all as our community grows and continues to thrive.
Vice Mayor Willimon referred to the attachments for between $50 million and $150 million and asked if they have a scope for each proposal shown on the attachments.
Kinser noted they are examples on the funding breakdown. He noted they are not to the point of determining the scope of the project yet. They are going through the process right now and we are about one-third into the process of determining what the plan will be.
He noted one of the things that hurt us in the last bond issue was the public perception, even though there were public meeting held, that the school district came up with a plan and then the taxpayer felt they could either take it or leave it. That offended a bunch of folks, including taxpayers, teachers that thought that they weren't getting something at their school. It offended some folks who thought it should benefit only education and not involve any sports programs that were involved in that. He noted they made a lot of mistakes and they paid for it and then, unfortunately, that Board double-downed on those mistakes and did the athletic things anyway. So, then as a new school board member coming aboard (he and board member Helm came on at the same time) they felt they couldn't trust them with anything, so they have spent the last two and a half years trying their best to do things responsibly and rebuilding the trust building the trust of the community and they knew they needed to approach it completely different and build it from the bottom up. This is the purpose of the vision group; to have the community involved in the plan and have a positive outcome.

Commissioner Denoyer noted the vision group is 60% school and 40% community at large and he knows DLR is asking for more community involvement.
Kinser felt we have a good cross section of the community and noted there are a lot of school staff members there and that some of the community members have not been able to attend.
Vice Mayor Denoyer questioned how much is left on Redskin Field.
Mr. Clay noted it would be paid off in 2017 with an annual payment of approximately $350,000 and that Sunflower and Cottonwood schools would be paid off in 2018.
Vice Mayor Denoyer advised he and the public was of the understanding that Redskin Field was paid for when it was built.

Mayor Harrison noted there have been a lot more questions than answers right now. He wasn't sure if anyone here is ready to go forward with the funding request and questioned if anyone wanted to make a motion tonight.
Vice Mayor Willimon advised she wasn't comfortable making a motion and agreed this has been a very vital dialogue, but we need to have a project or proposal. She noted she was not comfortable with the one-half percent sales tax or the life of the bonds or 25 years, as presented. She referred to the need to gain the trust of the public and would entertain tabling discussion on this funding issue at a later date. She indicated she would try to attend some of the vision meetings.
Commissioner Aragon noted he agreed with the rest of the Commission and that he supports the schools and that he has been in most of them. They are on the right track, but not quite ready.
Commissioner Denoyer voiced his support of the schools and noted 23 years ago his son started McKinley and now his 6 year-old is attending the same school. He noted he needed more specifics on the project.

U.S.D. 480 President Kinser thanked the Commission for their time and consideration and looked forward to further discussion on this issue.

8. 2013 USDA Mutual Self-Help Housing Application.

a. Public Hearing. *Mayor Harrison declared the Public Hearing open and City Clerk Giskie advised the proper legal notice had been given.*

City Manager Hall noted Director LaFreniere couldn't be here tonight. He explained this is the process for applying for the USDA self-help housing funding program should Congress take action on the program. He noted they will consider our application, but there is no guarantee that the program will be continued. He noted the resolution would authorize the submittal of the grant application.

There being no further questions or comments from the City Commission, City staff or audience, Mayor Harrison declared the Public Hearing closed.

b. Resolution No.2177 – Authorizing the Submittal of a 2013 USDA Section 523 Mutual Self-Help Housing Technical Assistance Grant.

Mayor Harrison requested Commission consideration of Resolution No. 2177, entitled, "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF A 2013 USDA SECTION 523 MUTUAL SELF-HELP HOUSING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT".

Commissioner Warren noted there is no guarantee from the federal government that the program will be continued and asked if there is anything being brought to the floor that would change the definition of rural to change. He explained the current definition of rural is communities less than 20,000 population, and noted that Liberal exceeded that number by 500 in the 2010 Census.

- Vice Mayor Willimon noted the grant is for $317,000 and asked what the local grant match is for the program. City Manager Hall explained the employee's cost and equipment is paid by the USDA and there is no local cost.

Commissioner Denoyer moved to adopt Resolution No. 2177, as presented, with Vice Mayor Willimon seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

9. Sale of Used Equipment – Fire Department.

Fire Chief Kirk requested approval to sell a used thermal imaging camera to the Turpin Fire Department. He explained over last couple of years they have been able to upgrade their thermal imaging equipment with grant monies and the old unit is being stored on a shelf and only needs two batteries at a cost of $350 each to be operational.

- Chief Kirk advised they have been working with the Turpin Fire Department recently and found that they don't have this type of equipment. Chief Kirk explained he visited with City Manager Hall about donating the equipment and it was determined that we should sell it to them for one dollar.

Commissioner Denoyer moved to sell the used imaging camera to the Turpin Fire Department for $1.00, as presented. Commissioner Warren seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

10. Board Appointment – Convention & Visitors Bureau.

City Manager Hall noted the Convention & Tourism Bureau has two openings for members from the lodging industry, as a result of Jeff Granger who left the industry and Sam Bhakta who chose not to reapply.

- He noted the CVB board recommends Tyler Payne, general manager of the Holiday Inn Express, be appointed to fill the unexpired term of Jeff Granger that expires November 2014. In addition, the CVB Board recommends that Vivek Bhakta, general manager of the Hampton Inn and Suites, be appointed to a 4-year term ending October 2017.

Vice Mayor Willimon moved to appoint Tyler Payne to fill the unexpired term ending November 2014 and to appoint Vivek Bhakta to a four-year term ending October 2017 to the Convention & Tourism Bureau Board, as recommended. Commissioner Aragon seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

11. League of Kansas Municipalities Voting Delegates.

City Manager Hall noted the annual League meeting is coming up on October 12 and the business meeting will be held on October 14. He noted the City is afforded four voting delegates to vote on action at the business meeting.

- Mayor Harrison advised he wouldn't be able to attend.
- Commissioner Denoyer asked that City staff check to see if he has a vote as a member of the League's governing body board.

Commissioner Denoyer moved to designate Vice Mayor Willimon, Commissioners Aragon, Denoyer and Warren, as voting delegates and City Manager Hall as an alternate voting delegate to the upcoming annual meeting of the League of Kansas Municipalities. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Willimon and carried unanimously.

12. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT.

City Manager Hall reported City staff is moving into another season and is continuing to work on the Leete Family Park. He noted they are keeping busy and thanked them for their efforts. He referred to a letter in the packet from a young man from South Carolina that hit his head at Adventure Bay and thanking the lifeguards for their assistance.

- He noted progress is continuing on the Fifteenth Street extension project.

13. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS.

Vice Mayor Willimon thanked City staff and the departments for their work all year long making improvements to the City. She noted when family members come back to Liberal to visit; they are very complimentary on the appearance of the community and noted we have a lot further to go. She advised tonight was not an easy night with the school issue and hoped with due diligence we will figure out a solution. She thanked City staff for all their dedication and hard work.

Commissioner Denoyer encouraged the public to get involved in the vision process for the school building improvements and let your voice be heard. He noted they meet every two weeks on Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the basement at First National Bank. He hoped we can continue the dialogue between all the entities.

Commissioner Aragon advised he was excited about the communication this evening. He hoped the vision committee comes up with a plan and we can find some way to work and support the school system.

Commissioner Warren advised he also has family that has come back to Liberal and they see the improvements made. He noted the one-cent sales tax has done so much for the community. He noted we have challenges we have to face and need to make difficult decisions.

Mayor Harrison advised he had nothing further to add and except to thank City staff and his fellow commissioners for their efforts.

14. VOUCHERS.
$618,392.86, dated September 10, 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.

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Dave Harrison, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Debra S. Giskie, CMC, City Clerk