

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LIBERAL CITY COMMISSION

January 14, 2014

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, January 14, 2014.

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, Recreation Director William Weber, 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 and declared a quorum present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the invocation was given by Ann Holman of the Risen Glory Church.

1. Awards/Proclamations/Presentations. *No items were presented.*

2. Approval of Agenda. Mayor Harrison requested approval of the agenda.
Commissioner Denoyer moved to approve the agenda, as presented, with Vice Mayor Willimon seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes.
Vice Mayor Willimon moved to approve the minutes of the December 23, 2013 regular meeting, January 2, 2014 special meeting and January 6, 2014 special meeting, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Denoyer 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.

- Rozelle Webb, Liberal Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, invited the Commission to attend several events happening the next few months, including: January 27 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Night Out in Topeka at the Capital Plaza Hotel; March 15, the annual Chamber of Commerce Bash; and March 23-25, the Western Kansas delegation to Washington, DC.

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. Diversity Council, Oct. 1, 2013 and Jan. 7, 2014.
 2. Liberal Memorial Library, December 17, 2013.
- b. Ratify Approval of Cereal Malt Beverage License:
 1. Mac's Tavern 925 South Kansas Avenue

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 Commissioner Aragon seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

7. USD 480 Project Update.

- USD 480 Board of Education President Delvin Kinser reported the School Board was presented a plan by the selection committee at their meeting last night. He reviewed the process taken to receive input from the public and noted they attempted to implement those ideas. He noted the School Board would make the decision on Monday whether to put the plan for the school bond issue on the ballot this spring.
- President Kinser advised the plan being considered would be a \$127 million dollar bond issued to build five new elementary schools, two new middle schools and the renovation of west middle school. He reviewed the funding options, including State funding for about 49% and a question on the ballot to approve the use of sales tax for this project.
- Mr. Kinser advised it would be up to U.S.D. 480 to campaign on this issue and he thanked the Commission for allowing the use of sales tax.
- Discussion was held on the pending Supreme Court decision on public education, the State funding and proposed State funding for all-day Kindergarten.

The Commission thanked Mr. Kinser for coming.

8. Recreation:

a. Building Lighting Update.

- Recreation Director Weber explained they have been working on upgrading the Recreation Center with the first phase completed. He noted the second phase is updating the lighting grid that has been in place since it was built in 1971. The improvements include new fixtures, wiring, components and ceiling tiles and will be installed by City departments.
- Mr. Weber reported a donation has been received in the amount of \$6,235.31 for this project.

Commissioner Denoyer moved to accept the grant and allow the recreation department to expend the funds for building lighting update, as presented, with Commissioner Aragon seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Teen Computer Center.

- Recreation Director Weber reported a donation has been received in the amount of \$2,106.04, to create a teen computer center at the Recreation Center. He noted the project would include two desktop computer systems and would be installed by the City's IT Department.
- The Commission thanked Mr. Weber and his staff for all the programs they provide during the year.

Commissioner Denoyer moved to accept the grant and allow the recreation department to expend the funds for the teen computer center, as presented. Commissioner Warren seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

9. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT.

- City Manager Hall reported City staff is working hard and taking advantage of the nicer weather to get some work done outside. He expressed appreciation for their efforts.

10. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS.

Commissioner Warren thanked the City departments for their efforts last year and noted he was looking forward to another good year.

Commissioner Aragon thanked Rozelle for attending the meeting and advised he looks forward to the Chamber Bash. He also thanked USD 480 for making their presentation and wished them good luck. He expressed appreciation to City staff for their hard work.

- Commissioner Aragon advised the Cinco de Mayo committee is working on a different celebration this year by bringing the Little Britches Rodeo.

Commissioner Denoyer thanked City staff for their efforts even during the inclement weather. He advised he looked forward to the meeting with the department heads on Thursday night at 5:00 p.m. at the Girl Scout Building. He also expressed appreciation to his fellow commissioners.

- Commissioner Denoyer advised he went to Amarillo on the closing day of their Megalodon Exhibit and looked forward to a great exhibit at the Air Museum in 2015.

Vice Mayor Willimon advised she spent part of the day on Saturday attending a workshop at the Air Museum for the robotics program in preparation for the February 22 robotics completion where they anticipate more than 400 people to attend. She complimented the Museum for their efforts the past few years and looked forward to new things coming in the future.

Mayor Harrison reported the sales tax collection of \$4,290,217.24, is the highest it has been over the past 18 years and about \$400,000 more than last year. He looked forward to even greater things to come in the next few years. He expressed appreciation to City staff for their efforts even in the extreme cold weather.

11. VOUCHERS.

\$478,448.56, dated January 14, 2014. *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