

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LIBERAL CITY COMMISSION

November 11, 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, November 11, 2014.

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

City Staff Present: City Manager Mark Hall, Public Works Director Joe Sealey, Finance Accounting Supervisor Sally Yates, City Clerk Debbie Giskie, Human Resources Director Sheena Schmutz, Zoning Administrator Kory Krause and legal counsel James Dodge.

Mayor Denoyer declared the meeting called to order, and City Clerk Giskie read the roll call declaring a quorum present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the invocation was given Joe Denoyer.

1. Awards/Proclamations/Presentations.

Mayor Denoyer presented Daniel Minde, LNEA President, with a proclamation designating the week of November 17 to 21, 2014 as American Education Week.

Mr. Minde advised they have numerous events planned for next week, including recognition of teachers, parents, support staff, substitute teachers and highlight what it takes to run the school system every day.

2. Approval of Agenda.

Mayor Denoyer requested approval of the agenda.

Commissioner Harrison moved to approve the agenda, as presented, with Vice Mayor Aragon seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes.

Commissioner Willimon moved to approve the minutes of the October 28, 2014 regular meeting, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Warren and carried unanimously.

4. Items from Citizens.

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

- Jack Taylor, representing SPIRIT, advised they held the 19th annual SPIRIT conference last week in Dalhart, Texas. He distributed copies of the program book and advised they had some great speakers.

6. Consent Agenda. No items were presented.

7. Final Reading of Ordinance No. 4439 - Rezone portion of Block 39, Original Town, from 'C2' to 'R3'.

Mayor Denoyer requested Commission consideration of the final reading of Ordinance No. 4439, entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 'OFFICIAL ZONING DISTRICT MAP' OF THE CITY OF LIBERAL, KANSAS, BY REZONING THE SOUTH HALF OF LOT 11 AND ALL OF LOTS 12, 13, 14, 15 AND 16, BLOCK 39, ORIGINAL TOWN (NOW CITY) OF LIBERAL, SEWARD COUNTY, KANSAS, FROM 'C2' GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT, TO 'R3' MULTI-FAMILY DWELLING DISTRICT".

- Zoning Administrator Krause reported this is the final reading of an ordinance rezoning the property from "C2" commercial to "R3" multi-family dwelling district. He advised he had received no comments on this rezoning and recommended the ordinance be adopted.

Commissioner Harrison moved to adopt Ordinance No. 4439, as presented, with Vice Mayor Aragon seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

8. First Reading of Ordinance No. 4440 - Annexing Land to the City of Liberal, Kansas.

Mayor Denoyer requested Commission consideration of the first reading of Ordinance No. 4440, entitled, "AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING LAND TO THE CITY OF LIBERAL, KANSAS".

- Zoning Administrator Krause noted a request for annexing 10.62 acres on Western Avenue for the Eisenhower Middle School has been received from U.S.D. 480. He referred to the map showing the property to be annexed and noted this is a formality.

Commissioner Harrison moved to advance Ordinance No. 4440 to a second reading, as presented, with Commissioner Warren seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

9. KDOT Project 88 K-9809-01 (6 Points Intersection).

- City Manager Hall advised this project has been on-going for several years and noted Public Works Director Sealey has been in continual talks with KDOT to understand where they are and explained what the City can and cannot do financially.
- Mr. Sealey explained the project originally received a bid of \$2.23 million and it was rejected and the scope of work was revised. He noted the second bid came back at \$1.8 million and the City had agreed to fund \$975,000 and KDOT advised we would pay all the final engineering costs. He advised KDOT has found some additional funds and will fund up to \$1,275,000 and the City's match will be \$897,000.
- Mayor Denoyer questioned if the scope was to turn the 6 points into 4 points. Mr. Sealey advised that was correct with Bluebell Road and Second Street/Railroad to be diverted.
- Commissioner Harrison questioned when the project would start. Mr. Sealey advised he estimates it will be in February and that J-A-G is the contractor. It was noted there is no funding included for signalization.

Commissioner Willimon moved to approve the Project with construction commencement to be approved by KDOT, as presented. Vice Mayor Aragon seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

10. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT.

City Manager Hall reported the departments are working hard and are shifting to winter projects. He updated the Commission on the ball field construction progress and advised the backstops would be arriving next week and that sod will be installed around Thanksgiving. He also noted City staff has developed some strategies for Girls softball play and Cal Ripken practice at Rosel

Field next spring in a worst-case scenario and advised at this time everything is on schedule. He reported the Christmas decorations would be put up very soon and it will be a busy and productive winter season.

- Mr. Hall updated the Commission on the mobile USCIS unit that was in Liberal the last two weeks after many years of work by the Coalition and federal government. He noted the immigration representatives the first week performing biometrics testing and the second week involved interviews. He advised the process went very smooth and the representatives advised the atmosphere was very professional and clients were seen by appointment.

11. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS.

Commissioner Willimon commended City staff for their dedication and patience on the 6 Points intersection project. She also thanked all the Veteran's who have fought for our country's freedom.

Commissioner Warren also thanked the Veteran's for all they've done for our country. He expressed appreciation for the work done on the ball fields.

Vice Mayor Aragon advised the approval on the 6 points project is long overdue and he also thanked all Veteran's for serving to protect our country.

Mayor Denoyer expressed appreciation to those staff members who willingly were inconvenienced for the USCIS visit and noted it was great to see it finally come to fruition and wished Garden City success as well. He noted it is exciting to see construction will begin soon on the 6 Points intersection and he thanked City staff members who performed the dirt work for the ball fields.

- Mayor Denoyer noted it is great to see new businesses starting up and he looked forward to seeing new things happening in the future.

Commissioner Harrison had no items to present.

12. VOUCHERS.

\$511,851.57, dated November 11, 2014. *Commissioner Warren* moved to approve the vouchers, as presented, with *Commissioner Willimon* seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned by motion of Commissioner Harrison.

Joe Denoyer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Debra S. Giskie, CMC, City Clerk