THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LIBERAL CITY COMMISSION
March 8, 2016

The regular meeting of the Liberal City Commission was held at 5:30 p.m. in the Commission Chambers located at 325 North Washington on Tuesday, March 8, 2016.

Commissioners Present: Mayor Joe Denoyer, Vice Mayor Dean Aragon, Jack Carlile, Dave Harrison and Tony Martinez.

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, Transportation Operation Service Director Daniel Zuniga, Public Grounds Director Brad Beer, Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Kevin Kirk, LPD Lieutenant Jared Ratzlaff, LPD Sergeant Jason Ott, Recreation Director William Weber, Information Technology Supervisor Tim Lunceford, Chief of Police Al Sill and City Attorney Shirla McQueen.

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 by Dr. Jack Jacob of the First Southern Baptist Church.

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

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.
Vice Mayor Aragon moved to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2016 regular meeting, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Carlile 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. *No items were presented.*

6. Consent Agenda:
a. Acknowledge Receipt of Minutes:
1. Liberal Convention & Tourism Board, February 18, 2016.

b. Approval of Airport Lease Renewals:

1. # 14.01	Ranita Johnson	$880.00	1 year
2. #102.00	SIMCO, LC	$784.08	1 year

Mayor Denoyer inquired if the Commission wished to remove any items for further discussion.

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

7. Comprehensive Insurance Program Renewal - 4/1/2016.

Director of Finance Ford advised the City approved the risk management services of Charlesworth and Associates, LC out of Overland Park, Kansas to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the City's current insurance program. He noted Charlesworth and Associates would provide recommendations for improvements and coordinate a competitive quote process for our comprehensive insurance program, effective April 1, 2016. He referred to the summary of the results included in the packet and introduced Mr. Charlesworth.

- James Charlesworth of Charlesworth & Associates, LC appeared before the Commission and advised that in November 2015 a public notice was provided to interested parties and as a result three bid packets were sent out with two bids received from Al Shank Insurance through EMC and Arthur J. Gallagher & Company through Traveler's Insurance. He indicated there is a difference of $66,276 between Gallagher and Al Shank. Mr. Charlesworth noted the 10 year average for the EMC dividend was a little over $55,000, but it is certainly not guaranteed.
- Commissioner Carlile questioned the differences of the bids for the specific coverage areas of Inland Marine, aggregate, auto coverage, cyber liability, premium payment plan and property deductible.
- Vice Mayor Aragon questioned the dividend issue. It was noted that Traveler's does not offer a dividend.
- Charlie Herr with Traveler's Insurance out of Kansas City, advised their office wouldn't be local, but he could adequately service our account. He noted they would not be submitting the program if their agency isn't chosen. He noted their job as a broker is to work with their clients and noted they have no communities west of Hays.
- Al Shank with EMC, advised we have two local agents (Al Shank and Denise Yancey) that could offer Traveler's Insurance, but their sales manager wasn't interested in quoting the City's insurance coverage with either local agent. He advised he felt it was a little unfair that the Traveler's sales manager in Ohio offered it to Arthur J. Gallagher.
- Commissioner Carlile noted there is about $10,000 difference after taking the potential dividend into consideration. It was noted there is no guarantee that the City will receive a dividend.
- Commissioner Harrison stated he has struggled with this decision and felt in no way could he spend his money or the taxpayer’s money in this way.

C*ommissioner Carlile moved to approve the insurance bid with Al Shank Insurance for the EMC premium of $536,953 (inclusive of the comprehensive insurance program, liability, airport liability and cyber coverage) with a $25,000 deductible for wind and hail, as presented. Commissioner Martinez seconding the motion. The motion carried 3 to 2, with Commissioner Harrison and Mayor Denoyer against.*

- Commissioner Harrison stated that we need to keep in mind that if we are going with competitive bids and we have a $60,000 differential, that we might not get anyone interested in bidding again in the future.

8. Crushed Concrete.

- Public Works Director Sealey advised with the Phase III Airport project to complete this year, the City has an opportunity to grind a stock pile of concrete for future use. He explained the material is used for subgrade stabilization, street repair, alley upgrades, sidewalks, street subgrade, parking lots and other uses. Mr. Sealey advised we have identified about 700 to 800 tons use in the near future and based on what we have used in the past, we could use another 4,000 tons over the next 10 years.
- Mr. Sealey advised the Airport contractor's quote is $10 per ton of crushed concrete and we can get 4,700-4,800 tons ground for $50,000. He noted this compares to the virgin material we were using at $20 per ton, plus freight. He further noted that crushed concrete is selling for $16-$18 per ton.
- Commissioner Harrison questioned if there is a way to get more material crushed as there are a number of lots that need material and the City could make it available at a fair rate. He noted the areas that have been identified include Southern Pioneer, the Grand Buffet Restaurant, Toot'n Totum, and others around town.
- Commissioner Harrison also noted we have alleys that are a problem. Transportation Operation Service Director Zuniga advised they currently use millings but felt crushed concrete would be a good idea.
- City Manager Hall advised if the Commission chooses, we could increase the amount to $100,000 of crushed concrete and we could recoup the cost of this extra material back into the sales tax fund. He indicated crushed concrete is in demand.

Commissioner Harrison moved to approve the concrete crushing project in an amount not to exceed $100,000, as discussed. Vice Mayor Aragon seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

9. Street Seal Bid Award.

- Transportation Operation Service Director Zuniga advised bids were opened on March 1st and noted invitations to bid were sent to nine vendors, with two requesting packets and only one bid was received. He explained the bid was from B & H Paving, Scott City for $1.29 per square yard, which is lower than last year's bid of $1.30 per square yard.
- Mr. Zuniga reported the area to be improved this year is west of Kansas Avenue and from Eleventh Street north for a total of 250,000 square yards. He recommended accepting the bid of B & H Paving in an amount not to exceed the budgeted amount of $272,291. Mr. Zuniga explained they will finish up the remaining area next year if needed.

Commissioner Harrison moved to approve the bid of B & H Paving in the amount of $1.29 per square yard for an amount not to exceed $272,291, as presented. Commissioner Martinez seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

10. Mosquito Fogger

- Public Grounds Director Beer requested approval for an additional truck mounted mosquito fogger. He referred to the memorandum in the packet provided by Parks Director Bill Houk which has all the details. He noted two quotes were received were: Chemquest, Topeka for a Curtis Dyna-Fog Maxi Pro 145 for $9,162 and VanDiest Supply, McCook, Nebraska for a Grizzly SmartFlow in the amount of $9,385. Mr. Beer advised City staff recommends approval of the quote received from Chemquest as this is the same unit that we now have in service.

- Commissioner Carlile questioned if the parts would be interchangeable. Parks Director Houk advised they are the same machine and noted there are only a couple of different manufacturers for this equipment.
- Mayor Denoyer questioned if there were plenty of pickups to accommodate this equipment. It was noted this was not be a problem.

Commissioner Carlile moved to approve the purchase of the Curtis Dyna-Fog Maxi Pro 145 truck mount ULV Mosquito Fogger from Chemquest in the amount of $9,162, to be funded from the Equipment Reserve Fund, as presented. Commissioner Harrison seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

11. Final Plat of Meadowlark Elementary School District.

Zoning Administrator Kirk noted on February 25, 2016, the Planning Commission reviewed the Final Plat of the Meadowlark Elementary School Addition. He advised the owner of this property requests approval of the Final Plat of this property to allow the construction of the school that meets all of the requirements of the City of Liberal.

- Mr. Kirk noted after review of the plat and discussion among the Planners, it was the recommendation of the Planners to forward this final plat, Meadowlark Elementary School Addition, to the City Commission for acceptance of this Plat. He further noted it is the recommendation of City staff for the City Commission to accept the Meadowlark Elementary School Addition Plat.
- Mayor Denoyer requested identification of the owner of the property. Mr. Kirk advised it is USD 480.

Mayor Denoyer called upon interested members of the audience wanting to address this issue to come forward and state their name and address for the record.

- John Smith, manager of adjacent property, owned by Tree Street Development, advised he had received a call a little while ago from legal counsel asking him to register an objection for the record. He stated the thing he would like to bring to the Commission's attention to is the.... Mr. Smith stated that in fact he had been called by the counsel for the property which is Martindell Swearer, out of Hutchinson.
- Commissioner Harrison asked who told asked him to come to the meeting. Mr. Smith advised it was counsel for the land owner. Mr. Smith advised it was legal counsel for the adjacent or abutting property owned by Tree Street Development, not USD 480.
- Mr. Smith advised the thing he wanted to call to their attention, as reported, which was presented to the Planning Commission, there are some issues in both the process and procedure that this plat had gone through, this is the Meadowlark Plat before you. He advised it has raised some concerns with the abutting property owner, it has created some blocked utility services, particularly the sanitary sewer, it has created some non-compliant areas in both zoning and lot sizes, and it has created some circulation and access problems that we do not believe have been adequately addressed or considered in the procedure.
- Mr. Smith advised he was asked to call that to your attention and to ask that according to the procedures that are allowed, that the counsels have been trying to effectuate some kind of an agreement because of City requirements, that would address these issues of access and utility services. He noted the regulations do allow for the Commission to delay for, he believed for 30 days, an opportunity to consider some of those things, and that on behalf of the counsel, he is asking that this be delayed for 30 days, so that both the property owners on both sides and the City can both address these issues that he mentioned.

- Commissioner Carlile asked Mr. Smith if he was telling the Commission that if they approve the Final Plat, as requested, you can't get into that property?
- Mr. Smith advised there are access problems that have been created that they do not think have been resolved. It noted it involves circulation and access to the whole area adjacent to what the School - the 14.5 acres that they have taken for the site, it is a just a boundary, kind of like an island that was by the School and what is left is not desirable and they don't feel meets the codes.
- Commissioner Harrison questioned if his counsel was present at the Planning Commission meeting.
- Mr. Smith advised yes he was and he registered an objection. He has requested copies of the minutes and the procedure followed, but he hasn't received the information yet, and based on that, he was asked to be present and register an objection. He hoped it could be resolved and that is why they would like an effort to do. He knows they have been in contact with USD's legal counsel and have exchanged things and as of five minutes before the meeting started, he wasn't aware that this had been resolved.

- Rick Yoxall general counsel for USD 480, thanked the Commission and City staff for their time to address this issue. He explained how they got to this point; he noted on April 8, 2014, a bond issue and sales tax election was held and it overwhelmingly passed for the purpose of constructing some much needed schools in the City of Liberal. He noted two schools have some significant completion. He noted one of the projects to be considered was a new elementary school called Meadowlark Elementary School. He advised through discussions with the contractor, architect and citizens committees, it was determined that the location at Eleventh and Calvert, which is where the property is located and is included in the packet, would be property that would be appropriate to put this elementary school. He explained it is approximately fourteen (14) acres on what was platted as part of Park Properties Fourth Addition.
- Mr. Yoxall advised he didn't know that he would agree with Mr. Smith that it is an island, but never the less, he noted the School District did acquire part of Park Properties Fourth Addition. He noted there is still some of the platted property to the north and west of the property that they are asking to be platted.
- Mr. Yoxall stated they started negotiating for the purchase for a number of tracts of land prior to the election, and contracts were contingent upon the bond issue passing, but they wanted to get started. He noted the same thing was true for Tree Street Development, Mr. Smith is the representative and he was always the representative they dealt with. He noted they entered into negotiations with Mr. Smith and it took a number of months and of course they weren't able to reach an agreement. Mr. Yoxall distributed some information to the City Commission and City staff.
- Mr. Yoxall advised that on June 16, 2014, we received from Earles Engineering, the City's engineer, a preliminary plat, which was handed out to the Commission and City staff. He pointed out that a copy was provided to Mr. Smith, as well as to Mr. Smith's attorney, which at that time was Wayne Tate. He pointed out that that preliminary plat was in the possession of John Smith as of that date of June 16, 2014. Again he noted the Plat was prepared by the City's engineer. Mr. Yoxall noted the outline that you see was based on prior discussions between John Smith and a local realtor, who was assisting the School District in purchasing various properties that they needed. He noted this wasn't something that they came out of

the blue and sprung it on Mr. Smith and Tree Street Development. He explained in any event they weren't able to reach an agreement and they were required to file eminent domain. Mr. Yoxall noted they acquired the property which is in the boundary of the Plat before the Commission. He described the eminent domain proceeding, so they know how it works, which involved the appointment of three appraisers, the appraisers hold a hearing and then they determine the value of the property and the compensation owed to them, in this case is Tree Street Development, LLC.

- Mr. Yoxall noted after they made their award, the School District paid to the District Court the full amount of the appraisers award and then by Statute, they become the owner automatically. He further noted that money was paid out to Tree Street Develoment and subsequently they have filed an appeal to that. He reiterated that the value determined by the appraisers, were deemed appropriate to be paid, the School District paid it in and it was paid out to Tree Street Development.
- Mr. Yoxall noted that on January 14, 2016 they presented to the Planning Commission a preliminary plat that was also prepared by our City Engineer - Earles Engineering. He noted that Thad Reynolds of Earles Engineering is present tonight in case the Commission has any questions. Mr. Yoxall noted that Mr. Smith was present at that Planning Commission as well and he voiced his objections to the preliminary plat. He noted never the less, the Planning Commission approved the preliminary plat. He noted the final hearing of the Final Plat was held by the Planning Commission on February 25, 2016 and again the final plat was prepared by the City's Engineer - Earles Engineering. He noted if you compare the final plat which is in the packet and compare it to the preliminary plat that was hand-delivered to Mr. Smith on June 16, 2014, you will see that the outline is exactly the same, the angles are the same, the length of all the different legs of the description are the same, absolutely down to the degrees, minutes and seconds and the measurements and feet. So, Mr. Yoxall stated that Mr. Smith, on behalf of Tree Street, has been well aware of what our property, that they are asking you to plat, has looked like since June 16, 2014.
- Mr. Yoxall referred to the Final Plat in the packet, that shows some utility easements on USD 480's property. City Manager Hall noted these are increased levels. Mr. Yoxall noted the utility easements are for water. He pointed out on the plat, there are two legs that go over to the west boundary and one that goes up to the north boundary of their property. He noted those are there so Tree Street Development can tie into that waterline for the rest of its development in Park Properties Fourth Addition. He noted they are allowing them, to tie in there, the architect calls it a tee and flow, but he felt it was a tee basically. He noted that if and when Tree Street Development develops the remainder of Park Properties Fourth Addition, they will be able to tie in on three different locations to the waterline that is on the School District's property.
- Mr. Yoxall noted that he has talked to the City Engineer and City staff and they recommend approval of this plat. He noted that Mr. smith has raised rather generically in this hearing about the process and procedure. He noted again that he has talked to the City Engineer and City staff and they feel they have followed the procedure. He explained the School District would like to get this approved, Earles Engineering is ready to complete the mylar of this Plat and they have the other two mylars of the previous Final Plats passed earlier this year ready and they would like to get them all signed at the same time
- Mr. Yoxall noted that Mr. Smith has talked about blocked utilities and he has no idea what he is talking about, nor does the City Engineer know. He had complained at a prior hearing

about not being able to tie into the sewer line in some fashion; basically what it amounts to is that he would rather be able to tie in our property because it would be cheaper than having to do it on his own. He noted that he has talked to the City Engineer and he has a map showing all the places that are available for the remainder of Park Properties Fourth Addition showing all sorts of sewer manholes on their property.

- City Manager Hall noted it is his understanding that the sewer has not changed at all. He noted the water is being made more, but the sewer is still the same.
- Mr. Yoxall agreed there is a 21" sewer line running along Eleventh Street and there is one that is running along Fifteenth Street.
- Mr. Yoxall noted that Mr. Smith has talked about this Plat has creating some sort of non-compliant zoning and lot size and noted that actually is not true. He explained that the only non-compliant zoning and lot size that he is aware of, is that part of that property was platted for mobile homes. He explained he was told by the City Manager that those properties can no longer be used for mobile homes since the City doesn't allow that. He noted that regardless, this re-plat doesn't affect his use of this property and if the City allows him and he still wants to the use property for mobile home lots, he can do so and this doesn't affect him whatsoever.
- Mr. Yoxall noted that finally Mr. Smith made a statement that counsels have been trying to work out some agreement. He noted he did receive a proposal at 2:48 p.m. yesterday afternoon from his attorney on how we could possible resolve this. Mr. Yoxall noted there isn't any resolution. He noted their Plat complies with all the City's regulations and rules, the City Engineer prepared it and City staff has recommended approval. He noted that they ask for approval to proceed with the work and get that school completed. Mr. Yoxall advised that any further delay won't get you anywhere as there is no valid objection to this.
- City Manager Hall stated the Plat technically lies on condemned property that the School District owns. Mr. Yoxall advised that was correct and noted they acquired the property through the eminent domain proceeding.
- Mayor Denoyer inquired if at any time during the previous negotiation before the eminent domain condemnation, was any concern raised about the sewer line at that time. Mr. Yoxall noted that from June 16, 2014 until January 14, 2016, Mr. Smith never communicated nor contacted the School District to express a concern about the preliminary plat which he received on June 16, 2014, which ended up to be the same diagram as the Final Plat. He noted the first time they were aware of any concerns, was when he showed up at the February 25, 2016 Planning Commission meeting.

Commissioner Harrison moved to accept the Final Plat of the Meadowlark Elementary School District, as presented, with Vice Mayor Aragon seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

12. Police Department:

a. Purchase of 2016 Ford Interceptor SUVs.

LPD Lieutenant Ratzlaff noted they maintain a full slate of readiness for patrol vehicles and budgeted for three new patrol vehicles at a cost of $87,975.00. He noted two vehicles with over 100,000 miles will be traded off and three other vehicles will be transferred to other divisions within the police department.

- Lt. Ratzlaff noted the department sought bids from local dealers, as well as dealers across the State that participate in the State contract and all the companies bid on a police package SUV. He referred to the six bids and trade-in values received, as listed in the packet.
- Discussion was held on the differences and various options available between the Chevrolet Tahoe and Ford Interceptor SUV, including the phone sync capability which allow the officer to operate the phone hands-free at an additional cost of $421 per vehicle, the light bars won't be interchangeable, no bid from Davis-Moore who had the State contract, history of the use of the Interceptors, the black and white color scheme, 2 wheel drive versus all-wheel drive, getting officers opinions, more leg room and comparable differences on cargo space and gas mileage.
- Vice Mayor Aragon asked if Foss Motors was asked to match Shawnee Mission's bid. Lt. Ratzlaff advised he didn't ask.
- City Manager Hall advised the Tahoe's have been great, but noted the only problem is that the price keeps increasing.
- Commissioner Carlile questioned how many officers and cars are in the police fleet and inquired why he has observed eight vehicles outside the department. Lt. Ratzlaff advised they are allotted/budgeted for 42 officers and there are 12 cars in the fleet.

Commissioner Harrison moved to approve Foss Ford's low bid of $78,763, plus $1,263 for the phone sync option, including the trade-ins, as presented. *Vice Mayor Aragon seconded the motion, which carried by a vote of 4 to 1, with Commissioner Carlile against.*

a. Cellbrite Cellular Phone/Tablet Forensics.
Sergeant Ott reviewed the memorandum in the packet regarding the ability to process cellular phones as a result of the need to perform a forensic search. He advised the Cellbrite software offers devices to process cellular phones and tablets through extraction.

- Sgt. Ott requested the purchase of the UFED 4PC Ultimate Plus kit from Cellbrite at a cost of $10,999, plus shipping, and a computer and no training, for a grand total of $14,084. He noted this equipment was budgeted and noted training for one person would be done on-line instead of a classroom setting.

Commissioner Harrison moved to approve the purchase of the Cellbrite UFED 4 PC Ultimate Plus Kit, including shipping, on-line training, a computer and annual maintenance in the total amount of $14,084, as presented. Vice Mayor Aragon seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

13. Recreation Department:
a. Batting Cage Structure and Net System.
Recreation Director Weber reported the batting cage structure and net system were damaged with over 8 inches of wet snow on December 13, 2015 and noted there was no insurance coverage.

- Finance Director Ford advised he has checked on this and found the nets have to be covered separately.
- Mayor Denoyer felt this was the time to move the batting cages to the ball complex.
- Mr. Weber noted the 2016 budget includes some replacement provisions and in addition, he has submitted a request for additional funding.

- Commissioner Carlile questioned how many kids that aren't in the Cal Ripken league utilize the batting cages. Mr. Weber wasn't sure of that number, but noted the Batting Cage/Concession facility is the host of parties and it piggy-backs with Grif Golf activities.
- Commissioner Harrison questioned why we are waiting so long to get it repaired. Mr. Weber noted we normally open the batting cages about Memorial Day when they have summer staff to work the concession stand.
- Mayor Denoyer questioned if there was room to add a batting cage at the ball complex. Mr. Zuniga felt there was enough room to accommodate this system.

Commissioner Carlile moved to approve the repair of the damaged structure and netting system for the batting cages in the amount of $18,611, as presented. Commissioner Harrison seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

b. Nets and Climbing Accessories for Arkalon Assault.
Recreation Director Weber noted at the first Arkalon Assault last year they had 163 runners and he felt the event would be bigger for this year's event scheduled for June 11, 2016. He noted the Arkalon Park is a great location for the event and everyone was happy last year.

- Mr. Weber advised the Recreation Department is asking to expend $5,913.10 to purchase nets, ropes and obstacle items for the Arkalon Assault and noted this expense will be paid by donations received.
- It was pointed out that registration is now open for this year's event.

Commissioner Harrison moved to approve the purchase of nets and climbing accessories for the Arkalon Assault in the amount of $5,913.10, as presented, with Vice Mayor Aragon seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

14. Technology:

a. Equipment Upgrade.

- IT Supervisor Lunceford reviewed the 2016 equipment purchases to upgrade the network infrastructure at the Police Department, City Hall, Fire Department, Golf Pro Shop, Water Plant and the Channel 15 network. He noted this would increase network speed with fiber links. He recommended the approval of Quote Number #GTRZ036 from CDWG, as included in the packet.

Commissioner Carlile moved to approve the purchase of Quote Number #GTRZ036 in the amount of $24,302.46 from CDWG for equipment upgrades and a new microphone, as presented. Commissioner Martinez seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

b. Livestream Update.

- IT Supervisor Lunceford advised the City has been streaming the Commission meetings from Channel 15 to YouTube and noted it is not working the way it should. He recommended the purchase of the Livestream HD54 Studio Broadcast switcher that will interface with the existing equipment.

Vice Mayor Aragon moved to approve Quotes Number 591224320 and 591557890 from B & H Photo, in the amount of $7,562.50 for the Livestream Update, to be funded out of equipment reserve fund, as presented. Commissioner Martinez seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

15. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT.

- City Manager Hall reported staff is preparing for change of seasons and performing preventative weed control. He expressed appreciation for what staff and the departments are doing.
- Mr. Hall announced the State of the City Address is scheduled for March 17, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at Seward County Community College in Room 229.
- Commissioner Carlile advised he didn't receive the monthly sales tax report and advised he obtained the figures and found they are down $90,000 from last year. He questioned what we are doing for the economy.
- City Manager Hall noted there was a deduction of $62,000 included and noted the second one isn't known at this time. He did point out that traditionally February is the largest collection of the year as there is a two month spread from the time it is collected until reported.
- Commissioner Carlile noted sales are down 20-25% and we need to make a change of some sort as oil and gas has gone down to almost nothing and agriculture if feeling is also. He also noted the State numbers are down too.
- City Manager Hall noted on a positive note, the City conservatively budgets and noted last year was the second highest sales tax collection of $2.5 million and we are above what is budgeted and we are watching what the economy is doing.
- Commissioner Harrison noted the City gets beat up regularly on economic development and we listen to it every day. He advised the don't have the power to say no to keep a business from coming to Liberal and we offer incentives that are unparallel to anyone. He further noted if there is an idea from a company wanting to put forth some money, the City will look at what incentives we can offer.
- Discussion was held on the benefit of being a member of WKREDA, the increased construction supply shipping costs in Liberal versus Garden City, the impact of the oil and gas industry, as well as agriculture and the processing plant.
- Commissioner Harrison noted we have planned for times like these and the City is being prudent with our spending, with every penny counting and he commended City staff for trying to get the most out of a dollar. He noted the Commission will do everything they can to encourage growth.

16. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS.

Vice Mayor Aragon thanked City staff for everything they do.

Commissioner Harrison advised he and Vice Mayor Aragon had a conversation with a member of the National Guard and then a fellow with the *Washington Post* and noted it was interest to see and hear what people think of Liberal. He noted they felt we have a clean community and offer amenities that they don't always find. Commissioner Carlile said that he has been told that Liberal has friendly people.

Commissioner Martinez congratulated the Liberal Redskins for making it to the State Tournament. He also expressed appreciation to the street crew that he saw were fixing some potholes.

Mayor Denoyer congratulated the Liberal Redskins. He expressed appreciation to City staff for working with the County to get an issue resolved.

- Mayor Denoyer encouraged everyone to come to the State of the City address next week and noted the Chamber of Commerce Banquet is this weekend and spring break is next week.

Commissioner Carlile had no items to present.

17. VOUCHERS.
$891,466.91, dated March 8, 2016. *Vice Mayor Aragon moved to approve the vouchers, as presented, with Commissioner Carlile seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

The meeting was adjourned by motion of Commissioner Harrison.

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Joe Denoyer, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Debra S. Giskie, CMC, City Clerk