

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LIBERAL CITY COMMISSION

November 22, 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, November 22, 2016.

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

City Staff Present: City Manager Mark Hall, Finance Director Chris Ford, City Clerk Alicia Hidalgo, Public Grounds Director Brad Beer, Transportation Services Director Daniel Zuniga, Human Resources Director Sheena Schmutz, Airport Manager Debbie Giskie, Chief of Police Al Sill and City Attorney Shirla McQueen.

Mayor Denoyer declared the meeting called to order, and City Clerk Hidalgo read the roll call and declared a quorum present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and Dr. Jack Jacobs of the First Southern Baptist Church gave the invocation. He also invited the public to attend a musical/drama and enjoy a meal at the Activity Center and 6:30 p.m.

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.

Commissioner Carlile moved to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2016 regular meeting, as presented. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Aragon 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.

Janell Kulow, Liberal, KS. Ms. Kulow wanted to thank the Fire Department as they helped put in her fire extinguisher. She also had some complaints about Southwest Medical Center. She does know the hospital is the County not the City but she felt others should know what happened. She explained the two occasions she was hospitalized and the problems that arose both during and after being admitted. Problems she listed were walking, medication, how she was admitted and other issues. She stated she has spoken to everyone including the hospital board. She is going to the County Commission next.

The Commission suggested she speak to the Hospital Board and Seward County.

Gary Cherry, Liberal, KS. Mr. Cherry is checking on the status of the pit bull ordinance.

City Manager Hall stated Staff is still researching the issue and checking with other cities. Once all the information is collected, Staff will meet with Chief Sill and legal counsel to discuss options. Staff will also set up a meeting with him after that.

Mayor Denoyer explained it is still in the information gathering process as they want to make an informed decision.

Mr. Cherry questioned what kind of other information is needed.

City Manager Hall stated Staff is checking into what other cities have done as the County does not have as many risks as in the City. In the City, pit bulls are in close proximity to other individuals. Staff is checking with other cities to see what regulations and laws have been adopted.

Mr. Cherry stated Garden and Dodge overturned theirs laws along with other cities.

City Manager Hall noted Staff is looking at other cities and will sit down and talk to you once information is gathered.

The Commission thanked him and appreciates him coming in.

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: No items were presented.

7. Charter Ordinance No. 36 - Election of Commissioners.

Mayor Denoyer requested Commission consideration of Charter Ordinance No. 36, entitled, "A CHARTER ORDINANCE EXEMPTING THE CITY OF LIBERAL, KANSAS, FROM THE PROVISIONS OF K.S.A. 2015 Supp. 12-1040, RELATING TO THE CITY MANAGER FORM OF GOVERNMENT AND REPEALING CHARTER ORDINANCE NO. 4."

- Discussion was held regarding the change in election dates. This Charter Ordinance will repeal Charter Ordinance No. 4.

Commissioner Harrison moved to adopt Charter Ordinance No. 36, as presented, with Commissioner Carlile seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Carlile moved to repeal Charter Ordinance No. 4, as presented with Vice Mayor Aragon seconding. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Beautification and Downtown Connectivity Projects.

A. 3rd Street Fountain

Discussion was held regarding the fountain and repairs needed.

Commissioner Carlile moved to repair the fountain by Schwindt Stone and Masonry in the amount of \$3,780.00 from the Beautification Portion of the One-Cent Sales Tax, as presented, with Commissioner Martinez seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

B. 3rd Street Parking Lot.

- Discussion was held regarding the parking lot and the repairs needed.

Commissioner Carlile moved to approve the repairs to the parking lot by LeySon Management & Construction in the amount of \$30,179.00 from the Beautification Portion of the One-Cent Sales Tax, as presented, with Commissioner Harrison seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

C. 3rd Street Parking Lot Lighting.

- City Manager Hall explained that back when the City was looking at projects, an allotment was approved by the downtown connectivity. The lighting would come from the funds which were already approved. Staff may be able to perform the project. With either B&B Electric doing the work or the work done in-house, the amount is \$1,500 to repurpose the lights. Staff will try to

fix it in-house first. If the lights and wire are good, then Staff can do it in-house. Updating the lights will allow for future decorations in that area. Lighting will be LED.

Commissioner Martinez moved to repair and replace the lights by B&B Electric Inc. in the amount of \$11,954.45 from the Downtown Connectivity Project fund, as presented, with Vice Mayor Aragon seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Depot Parking Lot.

- City Manager Hall stated this is an ongoing project and thanked UPRC for the relocation of the railcars. The area still needs additional beautification and the funds have already approved.

Commissioner Harrison moved to approve the beautification of the Depot parking lot in the amount not to exceed \$10,000 from the Downtown Connectivity Project fund, as presented, with Vice Mayor Aragon seconding the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 3-0, with Commissioner Carlile and Commissioner Martinez abstaining.

E. Blue Bonnet Gazebo.

- City Manager Hall stated the gazebo has historical significance as it is the sight to represent the well dug by Seymour Rogers. It is in disrepair. J. Thaddeus is the construction supervisor for self help housing. The gazebo currently has safety tape around it and would like to fix it as soon as possible.

Commissioner Harrison moved to allow J. Thaddeus Construction Services, LLC to repair the gazebo in the amount of \$4,750.00 from the Beautification portion of the One-Cent Sales Tax, as presented, with Commissioner Martinez seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

9. Airport.

Acquisition of Snow Removal Equipment.

- Airport Manager Debbie Giskie discussed the grant match, requirements, process and FAA rules. Staff is asking for approval of the project, allocation of the matching funds and to approve the Agreement for services subject to legal counsel.

Commissioner Harrison moved to approve the moved to approve the Acquisition of Snow Removal Equipment Project, as presented with Commissioner Carlile seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Carlile moved to moved to approve the Agreement for services with H.W. Lochner, Inc., subject to legal counsel approval, as presented with Commissioner Martinez seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice Mayor Aragon motioned to allocate the 5% match, \$42,222 from the Land Sale Fund or the Economic Development Portion of the One-Cent Sales Tax, as presented with Commissioner Carlile seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Police Department - Donation from Milk Source.

- Police Chief Sill stated Milk Source, LLC donated \$2,000 to the LPD for the purchase of any unbudgeted items. The Police Department would like to accept the donation for the purchase of three office chairs. Milk Source said it is fine to purchase chairs for \$1,935 from Southern Office Supply

Commissioner Harrison moved to accept the donation of \$2,000 from Milk Source, LLC, as presented, with Commissioner Martinez seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Carlile moved to approve the purchase of three chairs from Southern Office at for a total of \$1,935. Commissioner Martinez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

11. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT.

- City Manager Hall thanked City Staff for doing a tremendous job of putting the new light decorations up. The pool is also getting ready for Christmas.
- Several projects are kicking off and the Lambert land donation is looking different. Staff is getting fill in and getting things ready for concrete and metal lights. The project will start progressing with the final touches of getting everything in and ready to seed and water. It will be a winter project and weather permitting, a lot will get done there. Staff is doing their final edging and mowing and preparing the parks for winter. All the departments are doing fantastic work. Winter will be a busy time and help get ahead of things and prepare for spring. Thanks to all staff for all their hard work.
- The next meeting will be in three weeks on December 13.

12. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS.

Commissioner Martinez stated he was coming home late Sunday night and he saw Staff getting the Christmas lights up and it looks great. The dirt is moving at the soccer fields. He wishes everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and safe travels.

Commissioner Carlile thanked Daniel Zuniga and the Street Department for getting 15th Street open. They did a great job and it looks good. He appreciates Staff. He wishes everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and safe travels.

Commissioner Harrison agrees with everything Commissioner Carlile and Commissioner Martinez mentioned. Happy Thanksgiving.

Vice Mayor Aragon stated he appreciates Staff and has heard good comments about 15th Street. Happy Thanksgiving and safe travels if you go out of town.

Mayor Denoyer wishes everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Thank you to the Senior Citizen Center for the invite to their dinner. He thanked City Staff for everything they do. He also thanked the locals for investing and making things happen in Liberal.

18. VOUCHERS.

\$921,951.96, dated November 17, 2016. *Vice Mayor Aragon moved to approve the vouchers, as presented, with Commissioner Martinez seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

The meeting was adjourned by motion of Commissioner Harrison.

Joe Denoyer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Alicia Hidalgo, City Clerk