

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LIBERAL CITY COMMISSION

August 27, 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, August 27, 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, Mid-America Air Museum Director Jim Bert, Golf Course Director Darrell Kennedy, 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 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 noted the agenda should be amended to change Item 7a to Ordinance No. 4413 and requested approval of the amended agenda.

Commissioner Denoyer moved to approve the agenda, as presented, with Commissioner Warren seconding the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 4 to 0, with Commissioner Aragon absent.

3. Approval of Minutes.

Vice Mayor Willimon moved to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2013 regular meeting, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Denoyer. The motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0, with Commissioner Aragon absent.

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.

Jack Taylor, representing SPIRIT and U.S. Highway 54, appeared before the Commission and noted it is nice to see the construction happening on Highway 54 and that he looked forward to construction near Liberal. He reported Pratt will be the host of the 18th SPIRIT conference to be held in late October or early November. He noted once the guest speakers are determined they will announce the date of the conference.

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. Mid-America Air Museum Advisory Board, Mary 14, 2013.

2. Liberal Housing Authority, July 10, 2013 Regular Meeting.

- 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 passed by a vote of 4 to 0, with Commissioner Aragon absent.

7. 2014 Budget:

a. Final Reading of Ordinance No. 4413 - Levying Tax Revenues for Budget Year 2014 in Excess of Limitation.

Mayor Harrison requested Commission consideration of the final reading of Ordinance No. 4413, entitled, "AN ORDINANCE ATTESTING TO THE LEVY OF TAX REVENUES IN EXCESS OF THE LIMITATION DURING BUDGET YEAR 2014 FOR THE CITY OF LIBERAL."

- Finance Director Ford advised he wanted to clarify an article that appeared in the *High Plains Daily Leader & Times*, where it stated the City's mill levy would be increased by 47.88 mills, however, he noted that is the total of the City's mill levy after the 4 mill increase.
- Mr. Ford noted this is the final reading of the budget ordinance. He noted this is required because the State's budget computation form indicates we have exceeded the mill levy limit.

Commissioner Denoyer moved to adopt Ordinance No. 4413, as presented, with Vice Mayor Willimon seconding the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0, with Commissioner Aragon absent.

b. Resolution No. 2176 – Adopting of the 2014 Budget.

Mayor Harrison requested Commission consideration of Resolution No. 2176, entitled, "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2014 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET, APPROVING THE 2014 PAY PLAN, AND APPROPRIATING BY FUND THE MAXIMUM AMOUNTS TO BE EXPENDED FOR THE BUDGET YEAR 2014".

Finance Director Ford noted the budget hearing notice was published on August 1 and the public hearing was held on August 13. He noted the resolution would adopt the budget and implement the 2014 pay plan.

Vice Mayor Willimon moved to adopt Resolution No. 2176, as presented, with Commissioner Warren seconding the motion.

- Commissioner Denoyer noted the City has reduced staff by 23 members over the last two years and has made as many cuts as possible, while leaving the reserves very low. He expressed appreciation to City staff and all the employees for making things last longer and hoped for continued public support.

The motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0, with Commissioner Aragon absent.

8. Urban Boundary Lines.

Public Works Director Sealey noted this is a housekeeping matter that is a result of changes in the federal guidelines. He noted the reclassification has to be where two highways intersect and will not have any effect on future funding.

Commissioner Denoyer moved to approve the proposed Urban Area and Functional Classification changes for Liberal and Seward County, as presented. Vice Mayor Willimon seconded the motion, which carried by a vote of 4 to 0, with Commissioner Aragon absent.

9. Air Museum:

a. Copier Lease.

Air Museum Director Bert requested Commission approval for the replacement of a six year-old leased copier. He noted they were informed in February that the copier could not be repaired as replacement parts were no longer available and they continued to use the copier for an additional several months. The new copier would serve the Museum's growing need for quality copies. *Commissioner Denoyer moved to approve the copier lease for the Air Museum, as presented, with Vice Mayor Willimon seconding the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 4 to 0, with Commissioner Aragon absent.*

b. Consideration of Winter/Spring 2015 Traveling Exhibit.

Air Museum Director Bert noted last year we saw an extraordinary event when the City and Museum Foundation came together to do a wonderful thing and he was pleased to have Don and Nancy Parsons and Don Rash in the audience who were champions in the success of the Dinosaur Exhibit.

- Mr. Bert requested consideration to explore a traveling prehistoric sharks exhibit produced by the University of Southern Florida and the Florida Museum of Natural History, as they want to see things done for children. He noted the cost of the exhibit will be the same \$10,500 and would be here for three months instead of five weeks. He noted they have experience and a learning curve on putting it together and asked for the support to pursue this project in principle.
- Commissioner Denoyer questioned if this exhibit will be in the area in the near future. Mr. Bert explained it will be in Amarillo next spring and they will study and learn from visiting the exhibit.

Commissioner Denoyer moved to enter into an Agreement with the Mid-America Air Museum Foundation and the Florida Museum of Natural History to produce "Megalodon: Largest Shark That Ever Lived" traveling exhibit for winter/spring 2015, as presented. Vice Mayor Willimon seconded the motion, which carried by a vote of 4 to 0, with Commissioner Aragon absent.

- Commissioner Denoyer thanked all those who worked tirelessly on the Dinosaur Exhibit and recognized Don and Nancy Parsons and Don Rash, who were present in the audience.
- Air Museum Director Bert expressed appreciation to city administration for their assistance.

10. Pull Behind Rotary Mower – Golf Course.

- Golf Course Director Kennedy referred to the quotes in the packet and requested Commission consideration to purchase an 8' pull behind rotary mower to be used in the non-irrigated rough areas and retention areas. He explained the current mower is 20-25 years old and he has already expended \$1,800 to repair it earlier this year and now the repairs will be an additional \$1,500.
- Mr. Kennedy recommended the quote from Keating Tractor of \$4,500 after the government discount.

Vice Mayor Willimon moved to approve the purchase of the eight foot rhino mower in the amount of \$4,500 from Keating Tractor, as presented, with Commissioner Denoyer seconding the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 4 to 0, with Commissioner Aragon absent.

11. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT.

- City Manager Hall referred to information contained in the packet from the Truancy Program and also reminded the Commission of the Council of Governments meeting on Thursday at 7:00 a.m. at SCCC.
- City Manager Hall reported this will be the last weekend for the pool to be open. He also advised the 15th Street project started this week and it will be completed in phases. He noted they will keep the public informed regarding alternative routes to be used and they hope to have it completed as soon as possible.

12. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS.

Commissioner Warren thanked City staff for their work on the budget and noted it has been tough, but it was a necessity to raise the mill levy. He also complimented golf course staff for the condition of the facility and noted he has received many good comments.

Commissioner Denoyer thanked City staff for the hard work on the budget and noted the mill levy affects each and every one of us. He noted the City hasn't increased the mill levy since 2006 and it has been tough to maintain, especially since costs have increased. He also expressed appreciation to the Air Museum Foundation for their work over the years and noted it is an exciting time with the direction the Museum is taking.

- Commissioner Denoyer encouraged everyone to go to the Coronado Museum to look and appreciate the art collection on display by the Rash family. He thanked Mr. Rash for loaning his collection to the Museum.

Vice Mayor Willimon thanked City staff for their efforts. She noted she usually receives negative comments from the public but in the last two weeks she has receive two compliments for work done by the water departments. She thanked the Air Museum and all the volunteers for everything that is happening and being planned for the future.

Mayor Harrison advised he agreed with everything that has been said and expressed appreciation to the Air Museum Foundation members present for their efforts and terrific results.

Commissioner Aragon was absent.

15. VOUCHERS.

\$652,706.23, dated August 27, 2013. *Commissioner Denoyer moved to approve the vouchers, as presented, with Vice Mayor Willimon seconding the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 4 to 0, with Commissioner Aragon absent.*

The meeting was adjourned by motion of Commissioner Denoyer.

Dave Harrison, Mayor

ATTEST:

Debra S. Giskie, CMC, City Clerk