

City Council Meeting

Special Regular Session Minutes

December 21, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

A special session meeting of the City Council of the City of Liberty, Missouri was held via Zoom video conference on December 21, 2020 with Mayor Lyndell Brenton presiding. Mayor Brenton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Harold Phillips and Paul Jenness, Ward I
Greg Duncan and Rae Moore, Ward II
Kevin Graham and Jeff Watt, Ward III
Michael Hagan and Gene Gentrup, Ward IV

Council Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Curt Wenson, City Administrator
Dan Estes, Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director
Vicki McClure, Assistant Finance Director
Shawanna Funderburk, Asst. to the City Administrator
Andy Noll, Utilities Director
Sherri McIntyre, Public Works Director
BJ Staab, Parks and Recreation Director
James Simpson, Police Chief
John Mills, Fire Chief
Katherine Sharp, Planning Director
Sara Cooke, Assistant City Administrator
Janet Pittman, Deputy City Clerk

Note: The meeting was held electronically via Zoom in accordance with Mayor Brenton's Health and Safety State of Emergency Proclamation for Liberty, Missouri, declared March 19, 2020 due to the existence and spread of the COVID-19 virus. The meeting Agenda was posted on the City's website in accordance with the Sunshine Law, and included information on how the public could view the meeting and provide public comment.

III. CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Resolution Modifying the Monthly Utility Infrastructure Repair and Maintenance Fee

The \$2.00 monthly utility infrastructure repair and maintenance fee is utilized for the purpose of rehabilitating the water and sewerage systems.

Action: Council Member Watt moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Moore seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-0
Yes: Council Members Phillips, Jenness, Moore, Hagan, Graham, Watt, Duncan and Gentrup
No: None
Abstain: None
Inscribed in Resolution No. 3148

B. Resolution Appointing Directors to the North Haven Center Community Improvement District Board of Directors

The following individuals were nominated to serve four (4) year terms expiring on 12/3/2024: Adam Brown, Matthew Wolesky and Alexandra (Alex) J. Brown. The following individuals were nominated to serve four (4) year terms expiring on 4/12/2025: Heather Wolesky and Christopher Brown.

Action: Council Member Watt moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Moore seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-0
Yes: Council Members Phillips, Jenness, Moore, Hagan, Graham, Watt, Duncan and Gentrup
No: None
Abstain: None
Inscribed in Resolution No. 3149

C. Resolution Appointing Directors to the Homestead Community Improvement District Board of Directors

The following individual was nominated to serve a four (4) year terms, commencing August 1, 2020 and expiring on July 31, 2024: Mary Jane Duffey. The following individuals were nominated to serve four (4) year terms, commencing February 7, 2021 and expiring on February 6, 2025: Joe Duffey, Dan Carr and John Davis.

Action: Council Member Watt moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Moore seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-0
Yes: Council Members Phillips, Jenness, Moore, Hagan, Graham, Watt, Duncan and Gentrup
No: None
Abstain: None
Inscribed in Resolution No. 3150

V. ORDINANCES, CONTRACTS AND RESOLUTIONS

A. Ordinance acknowledging vendor payments for the period of December 4, 2020 through December 11, 2020

Document No. 9148 was read.

Action: Council Member Phillips moved to approve the vendor payments. Council Member Moore seconded the motion.

Roll Call

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-0

Yes: Council Members Phillips, Jenness, Moore, Hagan, Graham, Watt, Duncan and Gentrup

No: None

Abstain: None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 11336.

B. 2021 Annual Budgets [AR 152-20]

1. Ordinance adopting the Annual Budget for the City of Liberty, Clay County, Missouri for the Fiscal Year 2021

Document No. 9142 was read.

Action: Council Member Watt moved to approve the ordinance. Council Member Phillips seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-0

Yes: Council Members Phillips, Jenness, Moore, Hagan, Graham, Watt, Duncan and Gentrup

No: None

Abstain: None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 11337.

2. Ordinance adopting the Annual Park and Parks Sales Tax Budgets for the City of Liberty, Clay County, Missouri for the Fiscal Year 2021

Document No. 9143 was read.

Action: Council Member Gentrup moved to approve the ordinance. Council Member Phillips seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-0

Yes: Council Members Phillips, Jenness, Moore, Hagan, Graham, Watt, Duncan and Gentrup

No: None

Abstain: None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 11338.

C. Ordinance approving a Contract Extension with BKD CPA's & Advisors to provide Audit Services for the City of Liberty in an amount not to exceed \$54,095.

With the disruptions to routine 2020 work schedules and complications created by the COVID pandemic, staff is recommending the extension of our current contract with BKD for auditing services through 2021. The City has been with BKD for the last five years and they have provided benefits in more ways than just the annual audit of our financial statements. Staff discussed with the Budget Committee these

issues/conditions and they agreed with staff's recommendation. BKD CPA's & Advisors provided a one-year contract extension and the proposed fee for the year ending December 31, 2020 is \$54,095, which is included in the 2021 Budget.

Document No. 9149 was read.

Action: Council Member Phillips moved to waive the rules and consider the ordinance on first reading. Council Member Hagan seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Action: Council Member Watt moved to approve the ordinance. Council Member Gentrup seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-0

Yes: Council Members Phillips, Jenness, Moore, Hagan, Graham, Watt, Duncan and Gentrup

No: None

Abstain: None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 11339.

D. Resolution Approving the 2021-2026 Street Capital Improvement Plan for the City of Liberty, Missouri

The CIP contemplates the spending of approximately \$45.44 million in street infrastructure improvements, equipment purchases, maintenance projects, public building improvements and associated debt service expense.

- Projects to be accomplished from the Transportation, Capital and Economic Development Sales Funds are:
 - \$12.22M - Street Restoration/General Transportation Improvements/Street Maintenance Supplies
 - \$2.81M - Public Works Equipment – Building Maintenance
 - \$2.26M - Storm Water Improvements
 - \$1.27M – Capital Engineer/Street Maintenance Workers
 - \$0.45M – Transportation Enhancement Projects
 - \$0.34M – KCATA (\$49K annual commitment)
- \$23.28M – Debt Service/Loan Costs
- \$2.81M – Transfers Out

Action: Council Member Watt moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Moore seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-0

Yes: Council Members Phillips, Jenness, Moore, Hagan, Graham, Watt, Duncan and Gentrup

No: None

Abstain: None

Inscribed in Resolution No. 3151

- E. Resolution approving City of Liberty Establishing a 2021 General Fund Reserve in the Amount of Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars for Possible 2021 COVID-19 Related Expenditures and Maintain Said Reserve until June 30, 2021

CARES Act funding ends 12/30/2020. COVID-19 will not. Staff had already decided to track COVID-19 related expenses in 2021. In the event no additional Federal funds are forthcoming, it was recommended that \$250,000 be reserved from fund balance and held as a reserve for future unreimbursed COVID-19 expenses. This reserve would be held until 6/30/2021, if not used before that date. Such an action will reduce the 2021 fund balance percentage, but will not increase budgeted expenses at this time.

Action: Council Member Gentrup moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Moore seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-0

Yes: Council Members Phillips, Jenness, Moore, Hagan, Graham, Watt, Duncan and Gentrup

No: None

Abstain: None

Inscribed in Resolution No. 3152

- F. Resolution approving Task Order No. 6 with HDR Engineering, Inc. for the Withers and Holt Traffic Signal Project in an amount not to exceed \$99,915.00

The City is experiencing increasing traffic volumes with increasing delay and degrading safety at the intersection of Withers Road and Holt Drive. This intersection is adjacent to Liberty Middle School and the Community Center and experiences significant peak hour traffic volume surges due to ingress / egress to the school. The goal is to upgrade the existing 4-way stop intersection with a traffic signal to address the peak traffic delays and provide an ADA compliant, signal-protected crossing of S. Withers Road for pedestrians.

This project has been awarded \$275,000 in 2022 Missouri Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality Program (CMAQ) funds through MARC's Missouri STP Priorities Committee in July 2018. The grant funds will be available as reimbursement for construction costs in October 2021 and will require coordination and an agreement with the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) that will be considered by the City Council in a future action.

Public Works Engineering staff has worked with the on-call engineering firm of HDR Engineering to develop a Task Order to evaluate the intersection and design the traffic signals and geometric improvements. This task order will allow for survey, design, development of construction plans, MoDOT request for Environmental Services review, and preparation of bidding documents and final as-built drawings.

The project is funded in the Transportation Sales Tax Fund. Project design will occur in 2021 with the goal of bidding for construction in 2022. Funding in the amount of \$125,000 is budgeted in 2021 for this project component. Funding for construction of

the project is earmarked in the 2022 Transportation Sales Tax forecast totaling \$425,000 in local match funds plus \$275,000 in CMAQ reimbursement grant funds.

Action: Council Member Watt moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Moore seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-0

Yes: Council Members Phillips, Jenness, Moore, Hagan, Graham, Watt, Duncan and Gentrup

No: None

Abstain: None

Inscribed in Resolution No. 3153

G. Resolution Insisting on the Timely and Equitable Distribution of COVID-19 Vaccines to Hospitals in Clay County, Missouri

To date and for the next week Liberty Hospital and North Kansas City Hospital are not scheduled to receive any COVID-19 vaccines from the State of Missouri to begin safeguarding health care, public safety and other front line workers. Virtually all other hospitals in the Kansas City metropolitan area have already received their first shipments of the vaccine. This resolution is a request to the State of Missouri for the equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines to hospitals in Clay County.

Action: Council Member Graham moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Moore seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-0

Yes: Council Members Phillips, Jenness, Moore, Hagan, Graham, Watt, Duncan and Gentrup

No: None

Abstain: None

Inscribed in Resolution No. 3154

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

2020 Civic Leadership Award - Mayor Brenton announced the recipient of the 2020 Civic Leadership Award is the Liberty Education Foundation (LEF). Although there was no formal banquet hosted by the Western Division of the Missouri Municipal League this year due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, the Mayor and City Council wanted to continue the annual tradition of honoring a Civic Leader in the community.

For 25 years the LEF has been fulfilling their mission to enrich educational experiences for students by mobilizing community resources and financial support. They believe investing in students today means a brighter tomorrow for everyone.

Since 1995, the LEF has invested \$2,000,000 in Liberty education:

- 620 classroom, building and student grants to enrich education
- 78 scholarships awarded for over \$80,000
- 1,375 HOPE award recipients (24 years of awards ceremonies)
- Support for dozens of education initiatives

- VII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR
- VIII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS FROM MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
- IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Mayor

Attest:

Deputy City Clerk