



## City Council Meeting

Regular Session Minutes

March 24, 2025

### I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Liberty, Missouri was held in the Council Chambers at City Hall on March 24, 2025 with Mayor Greg Canuteson presiding. Mayor Canuteson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The invocation was given by Council Member Ponder, who then led the pledge of allegiance.

### III. ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Shelton Ponder, Ward I  
Kelley Wrenn Poziel and Adam Travis, Ward II  
Kevin Graham and Jeff Watt, Ward III  
Gene Gentrup and Michael Hagan, Ward IV

Council Members Absent: Harold Phillips, Ward I

Staff Present: Curt Wenson, City Administrator  
Sara Cooke, Assistant City Administrator  
Vicki McClure, Finance Director  
Andy Noll, Utilities Director  
BJ Staab, Parks and Recreation Director  
Tom Garland, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director  
Jason Norris, Police Sergeant  
Chris Young, Fire Chief  
Jason Whitteck, Assistant Fire Chief  
Katherine Sharp, Planning and Development Director  
Sherri McIntyre, Public Works Director  
Sarah Ranes, Deputy City Clerk

Public Present: Kellie Houx, Courier Tribune  
28 members of the public

### IV. EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

BJ Staab, Director of Parks and Recreation explained that LCHAT (Liberty Community Health Action Team) was awarded the 2025 Achievement in Partnership Award. Established in 2015, LCHAT is a collaborative effort led by Liberty Parks and Recreation and an extensive network of community partners. With a shared mission to enable healthy, active lifestyles for all residents, LCHAT has developed impactful programs with measurable community benefits. LCHAT creates opportunities and partnerships that enable Liberty residents to lead healthy and active lives.

V. PROCLAMATIONS

A. Tuskegee Airmen Commemorative Day

Mayor Canuteson read the Proclamation and presented it to Allen Roberson.

B. William Jewell Debate National Champions

Mayor Canuteson read the Proclamation and presented it to Patrick Terry and Trent Dixon.

VI. APPROVE MINUTES AND SUMMARIES

VII. MEETING SCHEDULE

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Motion to approve the purchase of two Ford F250 trucks from Gary Crossley Ford for the Fire Department to replace the command vehicle and administration vehicle in an amount not to exceed \$76,589.60

In preparation for the proposed 2025 purchase, the Fire Department submitted a Request for Bids to six automobile dealers for two 2025 ¾-ton pickups. Of the six dealers, only one responded with a bid. One of these vehicles will replace the current 600 command vehicle, which will be moved to replace the current Fire Marshal vehicle that is no longer operational. The second vehicle will replace one of the admin vehicles, which will be rolled back to replace the department's 2017 utility vehicle. Staff will be trading both the current Fire Marshall and utility vehicles to offset a portion of the cost. This will complete the changeover of all administration to ¾-ton trucks, which will provide more flexibility, durability, reliability and trade-in value.

Based on the sole bid that was received, staff recommends the purchase of two Ford F250 trucks from Gary Crosley Ford for the amount of \$108,589.60, less a trade-in allowance of \$32,000.00, for a total cost of \$76,589.60.

The department had originally budgeted for three vehicles to be replaced in 2025. However, staff chose to only replace two at this time to reduce costs this year.

**Action:** Council Member Watt moved to approve the purchase. Council Member Travis seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Motion passed 7-0-0

**Yes:** Council Members Ponder, Pozel, Travis, Graham, Watt, Gentrup and Hagan

**No:** None

**Abstain:** None

- B. Motion to approve the purchase of emergency equipment and command modules for the Fire Department from 911 Custom in an amount not to exceed \$20,726.35

In a separate proposal, the Fire department has requested funds to replace the current command and admin vehicles. With that approval, the new vehicles will need to be outfitted to respond to emergency scenes by installing emergency equipment and command modules.

The Fire Department will be using the same vendors as before for the equipment for continuity throughout the vehicles. The bedslide and command module were chosen from multiple sites as the lowest cost that provides the options that are needed.

The installation of this equipment will be completed by the Fire Department admin staff to help reduce costs.

Staff recommends the purchase of new lighting, sirens and command modules for installation in the replacement apparatus from 911 Custom for a total cost not to exceed \$20,726.35.

**Action:** Council Member Watt moved to approve the purchase. Council Member Travis seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion passed 7-0-0

Yes: Council Members Ponder, Pozel, Travis, Graham, Watt, Gentrup and Hagan

No: None

Abstain: None

- C. Resolution approving a temporary event liquor license for Historic Downtown Liberty, Inc. (HDLI) for the First Thursday-Let's Fla-Mingle event on August 7, 2025

Historic Downtown Liberty, Inc. (HDLI) has applied for a temporary liquor license to serve alcohol at the First Thursday - Let's Fla-Mingle event on August 7, 2025, from 5–9 p.m. The event will be held at HDLI located at 11 N. Gallatin Street.

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

Vote: Motion passed 7-0-0

Yes: Council Members Ponder, Pozel, Travis, Graham, Watt, Gentrup and Hagan

No: None

Abstain: None

Inscribed in Resolution No. 3446.

- D. Motion to approve the purchase of a new Caterpillar compact track loader for the Public Works Department from Foley Equipment in an amount not to exceed \$91,757.04

The purchase of critical equipment is necessary for the maintenance of infrastructure and delivery of services for the City. Public Works maintenance staff have identified a new Caterpillar Compact Track Loader to be added to the department's fleet. The loader will be on tracks and will allow staff the resources needed for yard restorations associated with storm projects and other groundwork. The department currently has a rubber-wheeled caterpillar compact track loader that will continue to be used for pavement repairs and other service needs, and includes existing attachments.

Public Works requested a quote through Sourcewell for a Caterpillar Compact Track Loader for \$91,757.04. This price included a Sourcewell discount of 21%.

**Action:** Council Member Watt moved to approve the purchase. Council Member Travis seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Motion passed 7-0-0

**Yes:** Council Members Ponder, Pozel, Travis, Graham, Watt, Gentrup and Hagan

**No:** None

**Abstain:** None

E. Motion to approve the purchase of a pothole truck from Doggett Freightliner for the Public Works Department in an amount not to exceed \$229,649.52

Public Works maintenance staff have identified the need to replace the 12-year-old pothole truck. The pothole truck is the most used vehicle in the department's fleet.

The pothole truck is a specialized vehicle that starts out as a specified chassis, which staff specifies as a Freightliner to match the department's dump trucks for maintenance consistency. The other items include an asphalt aggregate hopper with a 4.25 cubic yard capacity, an emulsion oil tank and heating system with a 100-gallon capacity, and dispensing systems for agitators, oil pump, hand sprayer and heating. The quote for the Freightliner Chassis with the City of Liberty specifications was \$108,034.52 and the outfitting of the asphalt repair part of the equipment is an additional \$121,615.00. This makes the total cost of a new pothole truck \$229,649.52.

The quote for the new pothole truck was quoted through a governmental consortium program of The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS), similar to Sourcewell, for a total price of \$229,649.52 from Doggett Freightliner of South Texas LLC.

The current pothole truck will be sold through an auction program by Purplewave, after delivery of the new truck. Staff have used them to sell other equipment and have found favorable sale prices on items.

**Action:** Council Member Watt moved to approve the purchase. Council Member Travis seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Motion passed 7-0-0

**Yes:** Council Members Ponder, Pozel, Travis, Graham, Watt, Gentrup and Hagan

**No:** None

Abstain: None

- F. Boards and Commissions Appointments/Reappointments
  - 1. Historic District Review Commission
    - a. Reappoint Linda Armstrong to a term expiring 7/1/2029.
    - b. Reappoint Katie Schmidt to a term expiring 7/1/2029.
  - 2. Liberty Arts Commission
    - a. Reappoint Garrett Brown to a term expiring 5/15/2027.
    - b. Reappoint Anna Knackstedt to a term expiring 5/15/2027.
    - c. Reappoint Karly Schieder to a term expiring 5/15/2027.
  - 3. Liberty Parks & Recreation Foundation
    - a. Reappoint Rebecca Birlingmair to a term expiring 1/1/2028.
    - b. Reappoint Jodi Capps to a term expiring 1/1/2028.
    - c. Reappoint Bob Saunders to a term expiring 1/1/2028.
  - 4. Planning and Zoning Commission
    - a. Appoint Douglass Noland to a term expiring 1/1/2028.
    - b. Appoint Josh Crawford to a term expiring 1/1/2028
  - 5. Public Safety Sales Tax Oversight Committee
    - a. Reappoint Linda Largent to a term expiring 8/31/2027

Council Member Watt moved to approve the appointments. Council Member Travis seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

IX. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Ordinance Amending Chapter 30, "Unified Development Ordinance", of the Code of the City of Liberty, Clay County, Missouri (P&Z Case 25-07A) **{further postpone to April 14, 2025}**

Document No. 9889 was read.

**Action:** Council Member Hagan moved to postpone consideration of the Ordinance to April 14, 2025. Council Member Graham seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously.

IX. ORDINANCES, CONTRACTS AND RESOLUTIONS

- A. Ordinance acknowledging vendor payments for the period of February 28, 2025 to March 14, 2025

Document No. 9904 was read.

**Action:** Council Member Hagan moved to approve the vendor payments. Council Member Travis seconded the motion.

Roll Call

**Vote:** Motion passed 7-0-0

Yes: Council Members Ponder, Pozel, Travis, Graham, Watt, Gentrup and Hagan  
No: None  
Abstain: None  
Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12068.

- B. Resolution approving an amended final development plan for Fulkerson Cottages, to eliminate the gate from the entry at Reagan Circle and Fulkerson Circle, in Liberty, Clay County, Missouri (P&Z Case 25-04FDP-A) **{postponed from March 10, 2025}**

In 2023, this development received FDP approval to allow for the construction of 40 dwelling units, including five duplexes, six triplexes, and three fourplexes, in addition to a club house. The development was approved with a single public access at the northwest corner of the property onto W. Liberty Drive, with a gated emergency drive onto Fulkerson Circle. The applicant has filed this application to eliminate the gate from the drive onto Fulkerson Circle, creating a second public access into the development.

Action: Council Member Hagan requested to postpone consideration of the Resolution to the April 14, 2025 meeting. Council Member Pozel seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

- C. Ordinance accepting and approving a final plat for The Trails, a 30-lot single-family subdivision in the City of Liberty, Clay County, Missouri (P&Z Case 25-10FP)

This is a final plat for The Trails, a 30-lot single-family subdivision spanning 13.9 +/- acres. This subdivision proposes five common area Tracts (A through E) to be used for stormwater infrastructure and to meet certain open space and landscaping requirements prescribed by Code. All common area Tracts and associated open space would be maintained by a Homeowners Association (HOA).

Per UDO Sec. 30-94.1, all residential development must dedicate land or pay an equivalent fee-in-lieu of parkland dedication; however, none of the proposed Tracts containing open space meet the minimum size and location requirements applicable to such dedicated spaces. As a result, a fee-in-lieu of dedication totaling \$9,360.00 will be necessary.

Landscaping required as part of this proposal includes the buffer and berm described in UDO Sec. 30-93.6 (2). Per Code, a 100-foot, densely landscaped buffer and berm is required to be installed and maintained between an arterial street (in this instance, Flintlock Road) and the rear of residential lots (Lots 27 through 30). The applicant requested and received the approval of a variance to reduce the buffer width from 100 feet to 50 feet as part of the review of their Rezoning and Preliminary Development Plan (PZ Case 24-22R&PDP). Each lot will still be required to provide one tree, two perennials, and three shrubs (UDO Sec. 30-93.6 (9)).

Document No. 9905 was read.

**Action:** Council Member Hagan moved to waive the rules and consider the ordinance on first reading. Council Member Watt 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 7-0-0

**Yes:** Council Members Ponder, Pozel, Travis, Graham, Watt, Gentrup and Hagan

**No:** None

**Abstain:** None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12069.

- D. Resolution approving a final development plan for a 12,000 sq. ft. building in Northwyck Business Park at 550 Rush Creek Parkway, in Liberty, Clay County, Missouri (P&Z Case 25-11FDP)

The proposal is for a 12,000 square foot office building on 3.6 acres. This will be the third and final building in the Northwyck Business Center. The CO District permits offices by right.

The existing site is 3.6 acres. Proposed is a 2 story, 12,000 square foot office building. There is one existing access point from Rush Creek Parkway. The parking and drive aisles were installed with the construction of the original 2 buildings and were designed to accommodate the third building at that time. There will be 53 parking stalls adjacent to the building with 3 ADA designated stalls per UDO Section 30-84.1. This meets the city code of 1 stall per 250 sq. ft. of building area, UDO Section 30-83.2. A 5ft wide sidewalk will also be installed along the north portion of the site and connect to the existing sidewalk on Rush Creek Parkway.

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

**Vote:** Motion passed 7-0-0

**Yes:** Council Members Ponder, Pozel, Travis, Graham, Watt, Gentrup and Hagan

**No:** None

**Abstain:** None

Inscribed in Resolution No. 3447.

- E. Ordinance approving a contract for services with Tandem Paving Co, Inc. for repairs and overlay of sections of the trail at Capitol Federal Sports Complex in an amount not to exceed \$42,103.50

The Capitol Federal Sports Complex Trail provides a connection throughout the park for pedestrians to access the other sports zones, playgrounds, ponds, and other park recreational areas. The trail is just short of a half-mile long and is in poor condition and needs repair work and an overlay. Asphalt trails require maintenance of crack sealing

and seal coating to prolong the life of the material. Trail overlays reset the life cycle of the trail. With proper care, asphalt trails can last 10 years between overlays.

As part of the FY2025 parks operations budget, funds were allocated for trail overlay. The Capitol Federal Sports Complex Trail is next on the list for repairs. Staff met with several paving contractors and found Tandem Paving to be the most capable contractor for the work, plus they participated in a cooperative price agreement for asphalt trail work with the City of Lee's Summit, allowing staff to utilize their services as they have competitive pricing.

In an effort to improve trails in existing parks, the City of Liberty Parks and Recreation Master Plan (Goal 1, Objective 1.3) recommends developing new walking and biking trail opportunities and promoting non-motorized transportation alternatives to improve the health and well-being of Liberty residents. These repairs will extend the life of this trail and meet the objectives of this goal.

Document No. 9906 was read.

**Action:** Council Member Pozel 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 Hagan moved to approve the ordinance. Council Member Watt seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Motion passed 7-0-0

**Yes:** Council Members Ponder, Pozel, Travis, Graham, Watt, Gentrup and Hagan

**No:** None

**Abstain:** None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12070.

- F. Ordinance approving a contract with BHC Civil Engineering for FEMA study and trail design for the south trail connection between Canterbury Park and Homestead Greenway in an amount not to exceed \$43,000.00

In 2017, Vireo provided a preliminary trail route to connect Canterbury Park south to the newly constructed trail in the Homestead Greenway. With the primary design completed, staff worked with the developers of Homestead subdivision to extend the 2017 trail further west to connect Buckingham Drive with a pedestrian trail over Little Shoal Creek to Campbell Road. The developer agreed to build the trail in 2023 as part of Homestead Hills' second phase if the city would cover the cost for the bridge over Little Shoal Creek. In the spring of 2024, the bridge was installed and the trail pavement completed. Parks staff are looking to complete a new trail segment to connect the gap between Homestead and Canterbury Park trails. This 1700-foot section of trail is planned to cross the creek twice and also will need to cross South Wales Road.

BHC will review the preliminary route and model how the trail will affect any flooding that occurs along the creek. A flood study is required for two creek crossings to

determine the best options. They will provide some basic cost estimates but Parks staff are planning to use maintenance staff for clearing brush, trail grading and possibly laying rock to save on the total project costs.

Parks staff reviewed qualifications from three engineering firms and are recommending the City to enter into a contract with BHC for an amount not to exceed \$43,000.00.

Document No. 9907 was read.

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

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously.

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

**Vote:** Motion passed 7-0-0

**Yes:** Council Members Ponder, Pozel, Travis, Graham, Watt, Gentrup and Hagan

**No:** None

**Abstain:** None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12071.

- G. Ordinance approving a contract with Realm Construction, Inc. for the construction of City of Liberty Project 22-003, M-291/Blue Jay Traffic Signal and Stewart/M-291 intersection improvements (Federal Aid Project STBG-3392(407) in an amount not to exceed \$1,774,567.36

The Highway 291 corridor is a major commercial corridor adjacent to the Liberty Triangle commercial center. Highway 291 is also a major State highway route providing arterial traffic flow for motorists and freight through the City of Liberty.

In 2022, the City contracted professional consulting firm TranSystems Corporation to design intersection and multimodal improvements along M-291, resulting in a designed construction plan set. The design improvements include:

- Signalization of the intersection of Blue Jay Drive and M-291;
- Modification of the intersection of N. Stewart Road and M-291 with the installation of a median to eliminate dangerous left-turning movements onto and out of N. Stewart Rd;
- ADA sidewalk improvements from Kansas St. to the North Havens Center commercial development.

The project was publicly advertised for bid and construction bids were opened on February 11, 2025. There was a total of 3 bidders as follows:

- Leavenworth Excavating & Equipment Company Inc. - \$1,876,017.95
- Mega KC Corporation - \$2,681,229.32
- Realm Construction, Inc. - \$1,774,567.36

It should be noted that the City will receive reimbursement for construction and construction inspection/engineering costs from both the Federal Government and the State of Missouri. The Federal government will be providing up to \$800,000 through a Surface Transportation Block Grant. The State of Missouri will be providing up to \$1,107,500 through a Cost Share agreement. All funding support will be provided as reimbursements for costs accrued. Reimbursable funding allocated to construction totals \$1,795,000, meaning up to \$1,795,000 can be reimbursed throughout the life of the project.

The City is seeking to award a construction contract to Realm Construction, Inc. for improvements along M-291 as designed by TranSystems Corporation.

Document No. 9908 was read.

**Action:** Council Member Pozel 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 Hagan moved to approve the ordinance. Council Member Watt seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Motion passed 7-0-0

**Yes:** Council Members Ponder, Pozel, Travis, Graham, Watt, Gentrup and Hagan

**No:** None

**Abstain:** None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12072.

- H. Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 11672 approving an agreement for City of Liberty Project 22-003, M-291/Blue Jay Traffic Signal and Stewart/M-291 intersection improvements (Federal Aid Project STBG-3392(407)) with TranSystems Corporation to incorporate construction inspection services by increasing the agreement amount by \$194,435.00 from \$502,101.00 to an amount not to exceed \$696,536.00

The City is seeking to amend the existing design contract for the M-291 improvements with TranSystems to include construction inspections. The improvements to be constructed include:

- Signalization of the intersection of Blue Jay Drive and M-291;
- Modification of the intersection of N. Stewart Road and M-291 with the installation of a median to eliminate dangerous left-turning movements into and out of N. Stewart Rd;
- ADA sidewalk improvements from Kansas St. to the North Havens Center commercial development.

The existing design contract with TranSystems included the option to incorporate construction inspections as an addendum to the existing contract. The City has negotiated Supplement No. 3 to the existing contract with TranSystems for the inclusion of construction inspections/engineering in the amount of \$194,435.00.

It should be noted that the City will receive reimbursement for construction and construction inspection/engineering costs from both the Federal Government and the State of Missouri. The Federal government will be providing up to \$800,000.00 through a Surface Transportation Block Grant. The State of Missouri will be providing up to \$1,107,500.00 through a Cost Share agreement. All funding support will be provided as reimbursements for costs accrued. Reimbursable funding allocated to construction inspection/engineering totals \$97,500.00, meaning of the \$194,435.00 scoped \$97,500.00 can be reimbursed throughout the life of the project.

City staff recommend approving an ordinance that will authorize an agreement amendment with TranSystems Corporation, thereby incorporating construction inspections/engineering in the amount of \$194,435.00 for a total revised contract amount of \$696,536.00.

Document No. 9909 was read.

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

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously.

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

**Vote:** Motion passed 7-0-0

**Yes:** Council Members Ponder, Pozel, Travis, Graham, Watt, Gentrup and Hagan

**No:** None

**Abstain:** None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12073.

- I. Ordinance Approving an Agreement for the City of Liberty Project 24-023, Glenn Hendren Reconstruction Study Project, with George Butler Associates, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$214,305.00

The Glenn Hendren corridor in Liberty, Missouri, is the former eastern outer road for I35. In the Liberty Comprehensive Plan, this corridor is identified as a priority for future improvements to transform the former outer road into a local street that serves all transportation users regardless of their preferred mode. In addition to increased transportation choices, the corridor should integrate green infrastructure improvements such as stormwater improvements. The study will be instrumental in influencing City staff, elected officials, developers, the public and grant administration organizations in the future when analyzing future developments and obtaining funding for the proposed improvements.

In December 2024, City staff advertised a corridor study of the Glenn Hendren corridor from Missouri Highway 291 to N. Lightburne St. The project will promote concepts consistent with sustainable communities and the advancement of site-specific and project-specific activities within the centers and corridors planning framework.

The project will meaningfully engage the community in a collaborative dialogue. The objective of the study is to engage the local community and assess the future requirements of the corridor to ensure seamless pedestrian, bicycle, BMP improvements, and vehicular connectivity along the corridor. Deliverables would be a comprehensive study that supports sustainable and complete street concepts and initiatives, including recommendations for infrastructure improvements to the corridor conducive to responsible development and service connections along the corridor.

Qualifications and Proposals were opened on January 13, 2025. There was a total of 4 applicants:

- Affinis
- Brungardt Honomichl & Company (BHC)
- GBA
- TranSystems Corporation (TranSystems)

After a review of qualifications by a selection committee, comprising staff from 3 departments, the top 3 firms (Affinis, GBA and TranSystems) were invited for interviews. After interviews, GBA was selected for the project.

During Scoping and Contract discussions/negotiations, the project scope was broken into the following tasks:

- Project Management
- Discovery
- Public and Stakeholder Engagement
- Scenario Planning
- Draft Concept
- Final Report & Presentations

Document No. 9910 was read.

**Action:** Council Member Pozel 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 Hagan moved to approve the ordinance. Council Member Pozel seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Motion passed 7-0-0

**Yes:** Council Members Ponder, Pozel, Travis, Graham, Watt, Gentrup and Hagan

**No:** None

**Abstain:** None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12074.

- J. Ordinance approving a contract with C&C Environmental Services Inc. for the water plant filter media replacement project in an amount not to exceed \$297,800.00

Staff contracted for the replacement of filter media consisting of gravel, sand and anthracite in one of the 16 filters at the water treatment plant in 2022 to determine the degree of difficulty and full scope of services that would be necessary to complete the project on all the filters at the water treatment plant. The trial of replacing the filter media went well and staff used the information gathered from the initial project to prepare plans and specifications for the replacement of the filter media of the remaining 15 filters at the water treatment plant. The contractor will replace all of the gravel, sand and anthracite in 15 of the 16 filters and will ensure that the underdrain openings are not clogged. They will also repair or rebuild the distributor arms that are part of the backwash system of the filters. The contractor will stage the media replacement of the filters two at a time so as not to impair the capacity of the plant.

Staff received three bids from contractors. The bid tab is listed below:

1. C&C Environmental Services Inc - \$297,800.00
2. David E. Ross Construction Co. - \$463,800.00
3. S4 Water Sales & Services, LLC - \$525,506.25

Staff recommends approving the ordinance to approve a contract with C&C Environmental Services Inc in an amount not to exceed \$297,800.00.

Document No. 9911 was read.

**Action:** Council Member Watt moved to waive the rules and consider the ordinance on first reading. Council Member Pozel seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously.

**Action:** Council Member Hagan moved to approve the ordinance. Council Member Pozel seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Motion passed 7-0-0

**Yes:** Council Members Ponder, Pozel, Travis, Graham, Watt, Gentrup and Hagan

**No:** None

**Abstain:** None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12075.

- K. Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 11864, approving an agreement with OpenGov for the purchase and implementation of core financial, utility billing and asset essentials enterprise software, increasing the agreement amount by \$348,736.00 from \$500,000.00 in an amount not to exceed \$848,736.00

On December 18, 2023, the City Council approved Ordinance No. 11864, authorizing a contract for a new Financials, Utility Billing and Asset Management cloud-based software. Ordinance No. 11864 was approved for the first year and contingencies only, and didn't include the amounts for years two and three.

The City has been with OpenGov, Inc. since 2017. Utilizing the OpenGov Reporting & Transparency module along with their Budgeting & Planning Module, the staff are very

familiar with how OpenGov works. With nightly integration of the City's current financial system, staff were able to see real-time data in reports and create budgets, as well as streamline the budget book. Staff created the payroll budget in OpenGov's workforce planning in 2023. Staff are looking forward to adding the Core Financials, Utility Billing and Asset Management modules that will all communicate with each other and create efficiencies between departments' workflows.

OpenGov Financials is a comprehensive, cloud-based financial management software designed for local governments. As part of the industry's only modern cloud ERP for accounting, budgeting and community development, OpenGov Financials unifies and automates the many mission-critical financial processes of public administration, now and for the future. OpenGov Financials offers the most complete and easy-to-use reporting and transparency platform, with out-of-the-box capabilities to help you better understand organizational performance, maintain central and accurate reporting, and communicate clearly and effortlessly with the public. OpenGov Financials includes Core Financials (General Ledger, A/P, A/R, Purchasing, Fixed Assets, Cash Receipts and Bank Reconciliation), Utility Billing and Budgeting and Planning. By upgrading to the OpenGov platform, it will allow staff to sign in anywhere, work efficiently by reducing manual work and ease analysis, minimize paperwork, improving safety and centralizing data.

OpenGov Enterprise Asset Management is a full and comprehensive operations and capital planning solution that can meet the specific needs of individual departments across the City of Liberty that are responsible for managing and maintaining infrastructure and other high-value assets. OpenGov's asset management functionality lets the City track any asset type ranging from streets and signs to water mains, trees, and anything else the City is responsible for. That means understanding what condition your assets are in, the ability to assign work and create preventative maintenance schedules, and being able to plan for the future. At the same time, the solutions are specifically designed to be as easy to use as pen and paper for field and office staff.

As part of the 2024 Budget process, funds were allocated within the Finance Department's operational budget (10.30.130.36.7201) for this software.

Year One Total Cost \$469,424.00

- Less credit for Budget & Planning 1/1/24-7/31/24 (\$23,596.21)  
(portion of OpenGov we already subscribe to)
- Contingencies - \$54,172.21
- Annual – Year Two - 2025 \$170,115.00
- Annual – Year Three - 2026 \$178,621.00
- Total: \$848,736

Staff recommends approving the amendment to Ordinance No. 11864 to include year's two and three by increasing the agreement amount by \$348,736.00 from \$500,000.00 in an amount not to exceed \$848,736.00.

Document No. 9912 was read.

**Action:** Council Member Pozel 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 Hagan moved to approve the ordinance. Council Member Pozel seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Motion passed 7-0-0

**Yes:** Council Members Ponder, Pozel, Travis, Graham, Watt, Gentrup and Hagan

**No:** None

**Abstain:** None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12076.

L. Ordinance approving a collective bargaining agreement between the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) Local 42 and the City of Liberty, Missouri

The City and IAFF Local 42 have been under contract since 2009. Staff and Local 42 began negotiations in August 2024 at the request of Local 42. Most language in the proposed CBA is standard language and aligns with current City policies, current departmental procedures and current CBA language. Departmental procedures, methods and standards will continue to be monitored through a joint labor/management committee. Items that have financial impact on the City were negotiated in detail and prioritized. The Proposed CBA requires a three-year commitment to stated language and policies within the document.

Document No. 9913 was read.

**Action:** Council Member Hagan moved to waive the rules and consider the ordinance on first reading. Council Member Travis 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 7-0-0

**Yes:** Council Members Ponder, Pozel, Travis, Graham, Watt, Gentrup and Hagan

**No:** None

**Abstain:** None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12077.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

XII. CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION

David Langston – 1920 Carter Court. Mr. Langston stated he has done some research on property ownership and that he has asked Mayor Canuteson what properties he owns around town. Mr. Langston stated he was reviewing county records and came across property owned by Mayor Canuteson that is listed under Canuteson Town Square Properties. Mr.

Langston stated this is a great business move by Mayor Canuteson with the redevelopment that is going on directly next to property that Mayor Canuteson owns. Mr. Langston said that his discoveries lead to one big problem, Mayor Canuteson failed to disclose to him that he owned property on the square and that it is not a requirement by the City but it's a requirement on the State and Federal levels. Mr. Langston said oddly in five years, Mayor Canuteson stands to make millions off of his investments.

Dwayne Holtzclaw – 113 Kevin Street, Excelsior Springs, Missouri. Mr. Holtzclaw stated his uncle John Will Hall sold Block 174 on January 6, 1900. Mr. Holtzclaw said Block 174 has been privately owned for over 125 years. Mr. Holtzclaw stated Judge Chamberlain appointed an attorney for the families buried in Block 174 so they could have a say in this matter. Mr. Holtzclaw informed Mayor Canuteson and the City Council they are cowards for attacking the graves of combat military veterans.

Daniel Tajchman – 1028 Broadmore Lane. Mr. Tajchman stated if you want to speak during Citizen Participation can you at least say something kind. Mr. Taichman stated he doesn't enjoy paying taxes but the City needs to be competitive when it comes to Police and Fire salaries and that he is in favor of the 1% Sales Tax Ballot Question. Mr. Taichman stated he loves the direction the City of Liberty is going.

Gieselle Fest – 1407 Lynette Street. Ms. Fest complimented the City of Liberty Finance Director and Deputy City Clerk for meeting with her for over an hour to go over the 2024 Budget. Ms. Fest states there are a lot of good people involved in the budget process but she believes the process needs to be relooked at. Ms. Fest states she comes here to speak for families, to speak for the people of the past, families of the now and families for the future. Ms. Fest states she believes the 1% Sales Tax being proposed is the wrong tax.

Carrie Lonsdale – 1320 Huntington Drive. Mrs. Lonsdale informed the audience of the rate increases citizens will be seeing from Evergy and the City of Liberty Utilities Department. Mrs. Lonsdale stated she is also concerned with the upcoming tariffs. Mrs. Lonsdale also stated if this 1% Sales Tax was needed last year, why was the Community Center ballot question placed before this question?

Max Garrison – 138 N. Missouri Street. Ms. Garrison thanked the Mayor, City Council and City of Liberty staff including Police and Fire for all of their positive efforts in making Liberty a vibrant community. Ms. Garrison said she intends show her support by voting for Mayor Canuteson and the 1% Sales Tax.

Jane Boswell – 208 Rex Road. Ms. Boswell informed the City Council she is proud to be part of a community that is forward thinking. Although she lives in Glenaire now, Ms. Boswell stated she was a long-time resident of Liberty. Ms. Boswell said the community sees the good things the City Council has done and to keep up the great work.

Theresa Byrd – 431 E. Franklin Street. Ms. Byrd informed the City Council she was born and raised in Liberty and she plans to stay in Liberty and will continue to be a die-hard fan. Ms. Byrd apologized to the City Council for the abuse they have endured for a number of years now. Ms. Byrd states the City Council's integrity, belief in Christ and religious beliefs have all been put in question. Ms. Byrd states the City Council has been called liars and thieves and all of that isn't fair. Ms. Byrd said she sees how the City Council has continued to be professional during these attacks. Ms. Byrd informed the City Council she will continue to respect, appreciate and admire the City Council and to keep up the good work.

Anna Bedinger – Ms. Bedinger thanked the City Council, City Administrator and City staff for always being accessible and friendly. Ms. Bedinger also thanked the Mayor for his strength in leadership.

XIII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR

XIV. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS FROM MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

XV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

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Mayor

Attest:

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Deputy City Clerk