



City Council Meeting

Regular Session Minutes

August 25, 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 August 25, 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 Graham, who then led the pledge of allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

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

Council Members Absent: None

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
Jim Martin, Police Chief
Chris Young, Fire Chief
Brandon Smith, Economic & Business Dev. Manager
Katherine Sharp, Planning and Development Director
Sherri McIntyre, Public Works Director
Sarah Ranes, Deputy City Clerk

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

IV. APPROVE MINUTES AND SUMMARIES

VI. MEETING SCHEDULE

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Amusement license for Fall Festival (Jones & Co. Carnival)

The Liberty Area Chamber of Commerce is planning its annual Fall Festival for September 26-28, 2025. Jones and Co. Carnival from Richmond, Missouri, has applied

for an amusement license to run a carnival during the three-day event. The company has participated in the Fall Festival for the last 25 years.

The Liberty City Code requires an amusement license to be issued by the City Council for a carnival to operate in the City. State background checks for the carnival operators are also required by the City Code as part of the amusement license review. Staff will review the insurance and background checks to ensure that all requirements as set out in the Code are met prior to issuing the license.

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

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-0

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

No: None

Abstain: None

- B. Resolution approving a temporary event liquor license for a St. James Do-Dads Club BBQ event at 309 South Stewart Road on Friday, September 19 and Saturday, September 20, 2025

The St. James Do-Dads Club has applied for a temporary liquor license to serve alcohol at the BBQ event to be held on September 19, 2025 to September 20, 2025, at St. James Church. Because the public will have access to the event, state statute and City ordinance require a license. The necessary certificate of liability insurance and authorization letter have been provided by the applicant. The application and necessary certificate of liability insurance have been reviewed by the appropriate staff and approval is recommended.

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

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-0

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Inscribed in Resolution No. 3479.

VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mayor Pro Tem Kevin Graham took over as Chair of the meeting.

- A. Resolution approving an amended Final Development Plan for 30,000 sq. ft. of additional building floor area, including a variance to pay a portion of the fee-in-lieu of tree replacement towards the Great Americans project at the Ford Plant at 2401 Plummer Road (P&Z Case 25-47FDP-A)

This application is amending the recently approved 400,000 square foot addition (PZ Case 25-01FDP). The applicant is requesting to add an additional 30,000 square feet of buildings and a variance to use a portion of the fee in-lieu of trees for public art.

The proposal consists of 30,000 square feet of additions to the existing Ford Motor Stamping Plant at 2401 Plummer Road. The proposed 30,000 square feet of additions are spread across three building areas, including one 5,000 square foot addition, one 2,500 square foot addition, and one 22,500 square foot addition. The overall use of the site would remain unchanged as part of this proposal.

The proposal would add 30,000 square feet of new building area to the structure. No alterations would be made to the existing circulation drives or parking areas, or those areas approved previously which have not yet been fully constructed. The site's access to public right-of-way would remain unchanged. The exterior of the new construction will match the design of the existing facility through the use of metal paneling.

The approved 400,000 square foot expansion plan (PZ Case 25-01FDP) identified that a fee-in-lieu of planting trees would be paid into the City tree replacement fund for trees which would not be planted on site. Ford is requesting to give a portion of the money toward The Great Americans Project instead of paying fully into the tree fund.

Mayor Pro Tem Kevin Graham opened the Public Hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak either in favor or in opposition of the resolution.

Greg Canuteson acting as a personal representative on behalf of the Great Americans Project, wanted to take this time to thank Ford Motor Company for their generous support of the Great Americans Project over the years. Mr. Canuteson, said there have been three installations to date which include George Washington, Mark Twain and Susan B. Anthony. This year Ford Motor Company has made a payment in lieu of replacement trees on this property and have directed money to be used for the planting of 250 trees as part of their fee. Mr. Canuteson informed the City Council that he and Council Member Phillips have gone to the Tree Board as part of the America 250th Celebration in 2026. Mr. Canuteson said that one of the components of the America 250th Celebration will be to plant 250 trees in celebration of the 250th anniversary of our country. Mr. Canuteson stated the Tree Board will be given \$100,000.00 to plant 250 trees and they have asked the Tree Board as to what types of trees they would like to plant throughout the community and what trees will last another 250 years to be celebrated on the 500th anniversary of our country. Mr. Canuteson acknowledged the Tree Board is in full support of the planting of 250 trees for the 250th celebration of our country in 2026.

In addition to the planting of trees, Ford Motor Company will be donating another \$150,000.00 for the Great Americans Project. Mr. Canuteson stated the next Great Americans Project Sculpture unveiling will be July 4, 2026.

Karen Ridder, 325 E. Arthur Street, stated she is a member of the Tree Board and Mayor Canuteson presented this idea to the Tree Board along with a suggestion that in honor of the 250th Celebration of our country, the Ford Stamping Plant money be used to plant 250 trees in celebration of our country's anniversary. Ms. Ridder states the money being used here has to go towards the planting of trees as this is a special variance request related to the project. Ms. Ridder states that \$100,000.00 isn't going to be enough money for the Tree Board to plant 250 trees. Ms. Ridder indicated the

Tree Board has done the math and it looks like they are going to be \$50,000.00 short. Ms. Ridder asked the City Council if this variance request is approved, can the City Council allot additional money so the Tree Board can make sure 250 trees get planted? Ms. Ridder stated with \$100,000.00 there will not be enough money to plant the trees, maintain the trees, etc. Ms. Ridder also stated there isn't very much funding for the replanting of trees when you have development.

Seeing no one else wishing to speak, the Mayor Pro Tem closed the Public Hearing

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

Vote: Motion passed 7-0-0

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Inscribed in Resolution No. 3480.

- B. Ordinance of the City of Liberty, Missouri, approving the Liberty Municipal Redevelopment Corporation (LMRC) development plan for the redevelopment of Downtown Liberty pursuant to Chapter 353 of the revised statutes of Missouri, declaring the redevelopment area described therein as a blighted area, and approving the Chapter 353 property tax abatement redevelopment incentive policy.

The program was previously active for a 10-year period from 2015 to 2024. This ordinance is the renewal of the previous existing plan. To renew the program, staff had to identify blight through a blight analysis that was completed in March 2025. This plan will allow for commercial and residential abatement within the boundaries provided. The renewal of the program will not allow previously approved projects to come back and seek an incentive on an already approved and abated project. Commercial projects will be heard by the LMRC Board and a recommendation will be made by that Board to the City Council. The City Council will determine the approval of those commercial projects and residential projects will be heard by the LMRC Board and approved for redevelopment requiring City Council approval, just like the previous plan. If the properties are located within a Historic District, it will require approval from HDRC.

Mayor Canuteson opened the Public Hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak either in favor or in opposition of the Ordinance.

Karen Ridder, 325 E. Arthur Street, informed the City Council that she has been a beneficiary of this program for the last ten years. Ms. Ridder stated the program is a great program that has allowed her to add to her home a driveway and a garage. Most importantly, Ms. Ridder stated the program helps keep improvements affordable to a home owner. However, Ms. Ridder was under the impression when she first signed up that she would be able to take advantage of this program for a second time but was recently told owners applying with the same address, cannot apply twice. Ms. Ridder informed the City Council that she has been planning her next improvement project knowing her first tax abatement was almost completed and then to be later told it's not acceptable to apply twice. Ms. Ridder asked the City Council to please keep in

mind of how beneficial it would be for homeowners to be able to apply twice for this tax abatement program.

Seeing no one else wishing to speak, the Mayor closed the Public Hearing

Document No. 9987 was read.

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

Vote: Motion passed 7-0-1

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

No: None

Abstain: Council Member Phillips

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12150.

IX. ORDINANCES, CONTRACTS AND RESOLUTIONS

A. Ordinance acknowledging vendor payments for the period of August 1, 2025 to August 15, 2025

Document No. 9988 was read.

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

Roll Call

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-0

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12151.

B. Ordinance accepting and approving a final plat for Clay Meadows, 12th Plat, 25 single-family lots on 12.5 acres (P&Z Case 25-37FP)

The applicant proposes to subdivide 12.5+/- acres of land for residential development. The subdivision will consist of 25 lots that are similar in size and orientation as previous plats of Clay Meadows.

The site currently consists of one large parcel with access to public water, public street network and public sanitary sewer. Tract A is proposed to be established as a Drainage/Facilities Easement and no development is proposed directly next to the existing lake.

At time of development, each lot proposed will have direct access to public water and sanitary sewer, to be extended from the north and west. Each proposed lot will front a public street. All single-family homes constructed on these lots shall conform to area and setbacks required in the R-1C district. All lots will be required to have 5-foot sidewalks with a minimum 4-foot planting strip. For all residential districts, a minimum of one street tree is required within the planting strip for each lot created and in the case of corner lots, a minimum of two street trees, one per street, is required. Additionally, residential lots in zoning districts R-1C through R-4 inclusive shall contain within the front yard a minimum of one tree, which may be large- or small-growing; two perennials; and three shrubs per dwelling unit.

All proposed residential development is required to dedicate park land or an equivalent fee-in-lieu of dedication for public use. If no area of parkland is identified, a fee-in-lieu of parkland dedication at a rate of \$12,000 per acre is applied.

One acre of park land is required within a development for every one hundred residents of the development. Using a base standard of 2.6 persons per dwelling unit, staff calculates the minimum land dedication by multiplying the number of lots proposed by 2.6 and dividing by one hundred. The requirement in this case is approximately .65 acres of park land.

As no area has been identified on this plat, a fee-in-lieu of parkland dedication of \$7,800 is required with the recording of this plat.

Document No. 9989 was read.

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

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-0

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12152.

C. Ordinance authorizing the re-establishment of a procedure to disclose potential conflicts of interest and substantial interests for certain municipal officials and employees

The State of Missouri allows political subdivisions with annual operating budgets of greater than one million dollars to adopt their own financial disclosure regulations. This ordinance must be re-adopted every other year by September 15th in order to remain in effect. The certified ordinance is filed with the Missouri Ethics Commission, the same agency with which annual personal financial disclosure statements are filed.

Since 1991, the City has adopted language as first proposed by the city attorney, with the minimum requirements dictated by 105.485.4 RSMo. The City's ordinance requires the Mayor, Council Members, City Administrator and Finance Director to disclose personal and business entity transactions with the City over five hundred dollars. (This does not include salary and reimbursement for expenses incurred while conducting City business.) The City Administrator is considered the Chief Administrative Officer and the Finance Director is the Chief Purchasing Officer, requiring them to file the annual disclosure.

Without its own regulations regarding financial disclosure and conflict of interest, the City follows the state's requirements. Unless the City retains an ordinance, in addition to the Mayor, Council members, City Administrator, Finance Director, all elected officials (including honorary positions), candidates for City elective office, and all other City officials or employees who are authorized to make or vote on the adoption of rules and regulations with the force of law (including members of City boards and commissions) would be required to file personal financial disclosure statements. The "long" form, which requests the most information, is completed by all individuals associated with a political subdivision not operating under an established ordinance.

Document No. 9990 was read.

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

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-0

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12153.

D. Ordinance approving an artwork commission and purchase agreement for the acquisition of a custom sculpture from Farris Wheel Studios, LLC to be used for public exhibition in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00

In January 2025, the City of Liberty's Arts Commission (LAC) invited artists to reply to a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to submit a concept for a commissioned sculpture to be permanently placed in front of City Hall, near the Kansas Street entrance. The RFQ was published on a well-regarded public call for artists platform, "Café Call for Entry," and was open to professional artists across the United States. The deadline to submit was March 20, 2025.

Per the City of Liberty's Art Selection & Acquisition Policy, the Public Art Panel (PAP) was appointed by the LAC Chair and included representatives of LAC, an independent artist, an arts professional/educator, a citizen from the neighborhood, a conservator, an architect, a member of a city board, city staff, and an elected official. Fifteen citizens were appointed, representing various areas of expertise and aspects of the community. Members of the panel hosted virtual informational sessions for interested artists to ask questions and interact with City staff. They then independently evaluated and scored 117 applications based on each applicant's qualifications, experience in like projects, and their overall body of work. The panel selected five finalists who were invited to submit original concept proposals in line with the vision and goals for the project as outlined in the RFP.

In June 2025, each of the five finalists presented their concept proposals to the PAP. The panel scored each proposal and presentation according to the RFP criteria, which stated that the sculpture will be iconic, conversational, welcoming, timeless, and sturdy. Additionally, the RFP noted that the concept should not attempt to depict Liberty, a landmark, or anything political. Throughout the process, City staff from the Planning, Parks, and Public Works departments were available to consult with the artists and the PAP. The panel agreed that all five concept proposals were outstanding, and all were given serious consideration. Ultimately, the panel selected the concept titled "Stop and Smell the Roses" by Farris Wheel Studios, LLC. The artist responded favorably to questions and feedback from the panel, resulting in slight modifications to the concept proposal. The LAC approved the final proposal at their August 14, 2025, meeting and joined the PAP in recommending approval of the agreement in the amount of \$100,000.00 as budgeted from the Transient Guest Tax. The Transient Guest Tax is authorized under RSMo 94.837 and was approved by Liberty voters on November 4, 2014, at 5%. The Transient Guest Tax is a tax on the charges for all sleeping rooms paid by the transient guests of hotels and motels situated in the City of Liberty and was intended to be used in part for public art.

Document No. 9991 was read.

Action: Council Member Phillips 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 Graham seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-0

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12154.

- E. Ordinance approving a contract with Sport Court Kansas City, Inc. for the installation of a sport court at Ruth Moore Park basketball court in an amount not to exceed \$47,000.00

Planned as part of the FY2025 Parks operations budget is the renovation of the Ruth Moore basketball court. Through conversations with the Garrison District Task Force and the Smith family, the Sport Court® basketball surface is the best option.

The quote is a turn-key project including: outdoor sport court surface tiles, painting of game lines, surface prep with crack filler, court security edging, and two new basketball goals. The sports court product has a 15-year limited warranty from the date of installation. The first five years are 100% guaranteed with no charge.

Connor Sport Court International, Inc. (CSCI/Manufacturer) has offered multipurpose flooring systems since 1974. The Sports Court is the only modular floor endorsed by the NCAA, USA Volleyball, FIBA and other top sporting organizations.

Parks staff and the family of Will Smith reviewed multiple options for repairs, reconstruction, and overlay of the basketball court and found the Sport Court product to be the best option.

Document No. 9992 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 Phillips moved to approve the ordinance. Council Member Gentrup seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-0

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12155.

- F. Ordinance approving a contract with BHC Civil Engineering for Little Shoal Creek Trail design from Old Campbell Road to Liberty Drive in an amount not to exceed \$72,385.00

In 2017, Vireo provided a preliminary trail route to connect to Campbell Road where the Homestead trail terminates west to Liberty Drive. 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 bridge 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 applied for the Missouri Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) funds through the Mid-America Regional Council's Transportation Emissions Committee and were successful. This connection will provide alternative routes for bicyclists and pedestrians to connect to schools and shopping west of the Flintlock flyover spanning I-35. This section of trail is planned to cross the creek twice and will need to connect to Liberty Drive near the Flintlock Roundabout. The initial step is to complete a final trail design and floodplain permit.

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 all creek crossings to determine the best options. They will provide cost estimates and Parks staff will bid out the project and manage construction of the project.

Parks staff reviewed qualifications from three engineering firms listed on the Missouri Department of Transportations preferred vendor list and is recommending the City to enter into a contract with BHC for an amount not to exceed \$72,385.00.

Document No. 9993 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 Watt moved to approve the ordinance. Council Member Hagan seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-0

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12156.

G. Ordinance approving an agreement for service with Zipco Contracting, Inc. for office renovations at the Utilities Operations Center in an amount not to exceed \$29,845.00

The Utilities Operations Center requires office renovations to accommodate additional staff and improve operational efficiency. The current layout includes a single office adjacent to a storage room. To meet current staffing needs, the project will remove the wall between the office and storage room and construct a new wall to create two dedicated office spaces. A new storage room will be built in another area of the facility to replace the one being repurposed. Bids from three construction companies were solicited and are as follows:

- Zipco Contracting - \$29,845.00
- Diamond Contractors - \$34,974.50

- Dynamic Construction Group - \$54,000.00

This renovation is necessary to provide dedicated office space for the Utilities Capital Improvements Manager, who is responsible for planning, coordinating and managing infrastructure projects. The new office will support efficient workflow, facilitate coordination with staff and contractors and provide a private and professional space for meetings and project planning. Zipco Contracting has successfully completed similar renovation work for the City in the past, demonstrating reliability, quality workmanship and responsiveness.

Document No. 9994 was read.

Action: Council Member Hagan moved to waive the rules and consider the ordinance on first reading. Council Member Phillips 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, Ponder, Pozel, Travis, Graham, Watt, Gentrup and Hagan

No: None

Abstain: None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12157.

- H. Ordinance approving a contract for professional engineering services with AGC Engineers, INC. for engineering services related to High Street and Maple Street water and sewer improvements in an amount not to exceed \$64,225.00

AGC Engineering has been selected due to their expertise in municipal infrastructure design, proven track record with similar projects, and ability to deliver cost-effective, regulatory-compliant solutions. Their services will include system evaluation, design, easements, and permitting.

The existing 1½ inch water line on Maple Street has been in service for around 75 years and is prone to corrosion, flow restriction and leaks, resulting in reduced service reliability. Upgrading to a 6" C-900 PVC pipe and looping the new main to High Street will improve system capacity and pressure in that area, along with improved fire protection with a new fire hydrant.

Several homes on Maple Street and High Street are currently connected to the City's sewer system via a small, shared private sewer line that is undersized, aging, and not designed to handle current usage. This configuration poses risks of backups and maintenance issues. Extending a properly sized public sewer main will provide each property with a reliable and code-compliant connection. Constructing an 8" PVC public sewer main to replace the existing small, shared line will significantly benefit property owners. Homes connected to modern, municipally maintained sewer infrastructure are generally more desirable, marketable and valuable rather than those relying on shared or outdated systems.

Document No. 9995 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 Watt moved to approve the ordinance. Council Member Hagan seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-0

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12158.

- I. Ordinance approving an agreement between the City of Liberty, Missouri and Cummins for the purchase and installation of a replacement generator at Fire Station No. 3 in an amount not to exceed \$37,140.00

Each fire station within the City has a standby generator as a secondary power source should there be a loss of power. The unit currently located at Fire Station No. 3 was originally utilized at Fire Station No. 1 and then later moved and installed at Fire Station No. 3.

The generators are scheduled to run at a set day and time each month and are maintained quarterly by an outside third party. During the last quarterly maintenance, it was noted that the unit was not running and not able to be started. The main sensing board for the unit was found to be bad and needed to be replaced. However, due to the age of the unit, the board is not available and needs to be upgraded. The cost to upgrade the sensing board is \$13,372.69. Due to this cost, staff have chosen to upgrade the entire unit. Currently, the generator is out of service.

While this was not budgeted in the 2025 budget, there are funds available in the Emergency Management budget line for the replacement. The bid staff received for the replacement was from a Sourcewell company.

Document No. 9996 was read.

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

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-0

Yes: Council Members Phillips, Ponder, Pozel, Travis, Graham, Watt, Gentrup and Hagan
No: None
Abstain: None
Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12159.

J. Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 11957 approving a CRP funding agreement between the City of Liberty, Missouri and the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission to provide funding assistance for the construction of the Liberty Dr. sidewalk missing link connection project Federal Aid Project CRP-3392(408)

The Liberty Drive corridor is a crucial minor arterial within the City of Liberty. Liberty Drive is characterized by an extensive sidewalk network connecting Kansas Street to Flintlock Road. However, this connectivity is broken by a large gap between Wilshire Boulevard and Red Oak Lane, which effectively severs citizens from the rest of the City's sidewalk network. This project would fill in that gap with ADA-compliant sidewalks and crossings.

The City of Liberty applied for and received funds through the Federal Carbon Reduction Program for the following improvements:

- ADA-compliant sidewalk and crossings along the south side of Liberty Drive between Wilshire Boulevard and Red Oak Lane.

The project is currently in the process of ongoing right-of-way negotiations to acquire two temporary construction easements necessary for further MoDOT/Federal approval. As the project cannot move forward without all MoDOT/Federal approvals, the City has requested an extension to the agreement stipulating deadlines for bid opening and construction contract award. This action seeks to amend the agreement, thereby extending the bid opening date to June 5, 2026 and the construction contract award date to August 1, 2026 to allow for the continuation of the funding.

Document No. 9997 was read.

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

Vote: Motion passed 8-0-0

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12160.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

XI. CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION

David Sallee – 9531 N. Laurel Street, Kansas City, MO. Mr. Sallee stated he had a colonoscopy done last year and while preparing for it, he went almost two days without food. Mr. Sallee said his wife said he was irritable and not functioning at his best. Mr. Sallee stated that going without food for almost two days, gave him a glimpse of what it might be like to be hungry. Mr. Sallee stated this year marks the 37th anniversary of the founding of In as Much Food Pantry where he volunteers. In addition to In as Much Food Pantry, there are five Liberty churches, Liberty Hospital and the Clay County Health Department. Mr. Sallee stated it is sad that we need eight food pantries in a city that is a successful middle-class American city. Mr. Sallee stated that eleven percent of Clay County residents suffer food insecurities. In as Much Food Pantry currently serves 625 families a month, providing 40,000 pounds of food each month and about \$1.8M worth of meals into the community each year. Mr. Sallee is grateful to be a part of this community as they demonstrate teamwork on solving the food insecurity problem as well as many other issues within the community. Mr. Sallee thanked the City Council for everything they do to support In as Much Food Pantry.

Karen North – 1115 Elizabeth Street. Ms. North told the City Council that she would like to talk about the abandoned property at 1125 Elizabeth Street. Ms. North stated the house has been abandoned for over two years and no one has physically lived in the house for over five years. Ms. North's understanding is that a company purchased this two years ago to go in and flip it and there hasn't been any work done to it for over an entire year. Mr. North stated this year the windows were boarded up and she had to call the Codes Department to get the grass mowed. Ms. North informed the City Council there are rodents running around the neighborhood and that the property at 1125 Elizabeth Street is full of poison ivy. Ms. North is concerned and she is here tonight to talk to the City Council to see what can be done to get this property cleaned up.

Rudy Garcia, President of the Liberty Ministerial Alliance invited Council Members to attend the second annual meet and greet to talk about things that are important in the religious community in the Liberty area.

XII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR

XIII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS FROM MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Greg Canuteson, Mayor

Attest:

Deputy City Clerk