



City Council Meeting

Regular Session Minutes

October 27, 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 October 27, 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: Harold Phillips and Shelton Ponder, Ward I
Kelley Wrenn Poziel and Adam Travis, Ward II
Kevin Graham and Jeff Watt, Ward III
Michael Hagan, Ward IV

Council Members Absent: Gene Gentrup, Ward IV

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
Jim Martin, Police Chief
Katherine Sharp, Planning and Development Director
Sherri McIntyre, Public Works Director
Sarah Ranes, Deputy City Clerk

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

IV. PROCLAMATIONS

V. APPROVE MINUTES AND SUMMARIES

A. Regular Session Minutes of September 8, 2025

Council Member Watt moved to approve the minutes as distributed. Council Member Hagan seconded the motion, which carried 6-0-1. Council Member Poziel abstained due to absence.

VI. MEETING SCHEDULE

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Motion to approve a blanket purchase order for road salt from Independent Salt Company in an amount not to exceed \$81,000.00

Due to the anticipated demand for road salt over the winter months, it is necessary to arrange for the purchase of the required salt material at this time. Authorization of this blanket purchase order will ensure delivery of materials as necessary to replenish the inventory of road salt utilized during the upcoming winter season. This purchase will be treated as a balance sheet inventory item. When quantities are consumed, the commodity will be charged to the expensed budget and the inventory balance replenished. The proposed remaining 2025 and 2026 budget includes adequate funds to cover expenses.

The City of Gladstone coordinated a cooperative bid process for the supply of road salt with agencies including Gladstone, Liberty, Excelsior Springs and Clay County. Prices received are as follows:

- Independent Salt Company - \$60.44
- Central Salt, LLC - \$65.79
- Agricultural Products Extension - \$76.50

The cost of salt has stayed close to the previous year's price of \$60.49 per ton, and was also contracted with Independent Salt Company. Based on the bid cost for the upcoming winter weather, we find that the proposed price is reasonable.

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

Vote: Motion passed 7-0-0

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

No: None

Abstain: None

B. Resolution approving a Liberty Community Center alcoholic beverages service application for a small private event to be held on November 8, 2025

Loren Brenton is hosting a small private event to be held at the Liberty Community Center on November 8, 2025, from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. The applicant has completed an LCC Alcoholic Beverages Service Application, requesting authorization to serve alcohol at the event. This is a small event, so a catering permit is not required. In accordance with the statute, written notice was provided to the Liberty School District (only property owner within 100 feet of the proposed location) on October 17, 2025, notifying them of the application and the meeting date that Council will consider the application. The staff have confirmed School District receipt of the notice and there are no other district events in the Community Center that day.

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

Vote: Motion passed 7-0-0

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Inscribed in Resolution No. 3499.

C. Special Session Minutes of August 25, 2025

Council Member Phillips moved to approve the minutes as distributed. Council Member Hagan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

D. Executive Session Minutes of August 25, 2025

Council Member Phillips moved to approve the minutes as distributed. Council Member Hagan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

E. Regular Session Minutes of August 25, 2025

Council Member Phillips moved to approve the minutes as distributed. Council Member Hagan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Ordinance approving the amended petition for Water Street Community Improvement District

A community improvement district is an entity that is separate from the City of Liberty, Missouri and is formed by the adoption of an ordinance by the City Council following a public hearing before the City Council regarding formation of the District. A CID may take the form of a political subdivision of the State of Missouri, or a nonprofit corporation that is formed and operated under Missouri corporation laws. CIDs are empowered to provide a variety of services and to construct and/or finance a number of different public improvements, and in a blighted area, to contract with a private property owner to demolish and remove, renovate, reconstruct, or rehabilitate any building or structure owned by such private property owner, all as set forth more particularly in the CID Act. CIDs derive their revenue from taxes and assessments levied within the boundaries of the CID. Such revenues are then used to pay for the costs of the services and/or improvements. A CID is operated and managed by a board of directors, whose members may be appointed or elected. Board members serve for a designated period of time, and the Board positions are again elected or appointed at the expiration of each term as provided in the petition creating such CID.

The District encompasses a 0.42 +/- acre plot of land located northeast of the intersection of Water Street and Kansas Street in Liberty, Missouri (the "Development"). The purpose of the District is to undertake certain improvements and

services within the District, as discussed below, and to use or make available its revenue to pay the costs thereof.

The original petition was approved via ordinance on January 13, 2025. The scope of the project has changed, which has changed the information in the petition. Changes from the original include the removal of the parking garage, reducing units from 16 down to 9 and adjusting the commercial square footage. All other fundamentals of the petition remain the same.

Mayor Canuteson opened the Public Hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak either in favor or in opposition of the ordinance. Seeing no one wishing to speak, the Mayor closed the Public Hearing.

Document No. 10032 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 Hagan seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion passed 7-0-0

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12196.

- B. Resolution of the City Council of the City of Liberty, Clay County, Missouri adopting the Transportation Master Plan for the City (P&Z Case 25-52A) **(postpone to November 10, 2025)**

Action: Council Member Watt requested to postpone for consideration of the Resolution to the November 10, 2025 Regular Session. Council Member Hagan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

- C. Resolution of the City Council of the City of Liberty, Clay County, Missouri adopting the South Liberty Parkway Roundabout Study for the City (P&Z Case 25-54A) **(postpone to November 10, 2025)**

Action: Council Member Watt requested to postpone for consideration of the Resolution to the November 10, 2025 Regular Session. Council Member Hagan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

- D. Ordinance amending Chapter 30, "Unified Development Ordinance", of the Code of the City of Liberty, Clay County, Missouri regarding the Transportation Master Plan references (P&Z Case 25-53A) **(postpone to November 10, 2025)**

Action: Council Member Watt requested to postpone for consideration of the Ordinance to the November 10, 2025 Regular Session. Council Member Hagan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

IX. ORDINANCES, CONTRACTS AND RESOLUTIONS

A. Ordinance acknowledging vendor payments for the period of October 3, 2025 to October 17, 2025

Document No. 10033 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 Phillips, Ponder, Pozel, Travis, Graham, Watt, and Hagan

No: None

Abstain: None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12197.

B. Ordinance approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Mid-America Regional Council Solid Waste Management District for participation in the 2026 Regional Household Hazardous Waste Program in an amount not to exceed \$35,619.30

Participation in the program allows Liberty residents to use permanent collection facilities located at 4707 Deramus, Kansas City, MO and 210 S.E. Hamblen Road, Lee's Summit, MO, and to participate in mobile collection events throughout the metropolitan area without additional charges.

The City of Liberty has participated in the regional Household Hazardous Waste program since it started in 1997. Through the second quarter of 2025, 267 Liberty residents safely disposed of 27,012 lbs. of material at the permanent sites and mobile collection events.

Materials accepted for safe disposal include paint and paint-related products, automotive fluids, batteries, lawn and garden chemicals, house cleaners, fluorescent bulbs, and other items such as nail polish, bug spray, and oven cleaners.

The cost to participate in the program in 2026 is \$35,619.30, which has increased from the 2025 payment of \$34,797.22. The 2026 participation cost is based on an estimated 2024 population (Liberty pop. 31,245) and a charge of \$1.14 per resident. In 2025, the participation cost was \$1.13 per resident with a population of 30,794.00.

Document No. 10034 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 Phillips seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion passed 7-0-0

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12198.

- C. Resolution accepting the City of Liberty Project (24-021) design build construction of 427 Mill St. City Records & Storage Facility Project with Gardner Construction Co. Inc.

City Project 24-021 Design Build Construction of 427 Mill St. City Records & Storage Facility was awarded to Gardner Construction Co. Inc. on October 28, 2024 (Ordinance No. 12165).

All contract work has been completed by Gardner Construction Co. Inc. in accordance with City standards, specifications and contract requirements. This action accepts the City of Liberty Project 24-021 Design Build Construction of 427 Mill St. City Records & Storage Facility, thus allowing release of retainage which has been held per the project contract.

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

Vote: Motion passed 7-0-0

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Inscribed in Resolution No. 3500.

- D. Resolution modifying the liquor dispensing permit fee listed in the schedule of fees

All individuals selling, serving or dispensing intoxicating liquor and/or beer (intoxicating and non-intoxicating), in any place licensed to sell same, must obtain a Liquor Dispensing Permit. Effective May 1, 2023, the state increased the cost of the Criminal History Check required for issuing a permit from \$14.00 to \$15.00. Staff recommends modifying the fee for a Liquor Dispensing Permit from \$29 to \$30 to reflect the increase in cost in obtaining the Criminal History Check.

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

Vote: Motion passed 7-0-0

Yes: Council Members Phillips, Ponder, Pozel, Travis, Graham, Watt, and Hagan
No: None
Abstain: None
Inscribed in Resolution No. 3501.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

XI. CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION

David Sallee – Kansas City, MO. Mr. Sallee informed the City Council that approximately 656,000 Missourian's rely on SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistant Program) and as of November 1, 2025, those benefits will be withheld by the Federal Government. Mr. Sallee mentioned a few months ago that In As Much Food Pantry served 625 families. To date, Mr. Sallee stated they are serving 747 families and will likely end up serving over 900 families and it's not even November yet. Mr. Sallee stated the numbers are shocking but the people are inspiring. Mr. Sallee's job at In As Much Food Pantry is to be what you call a personal shopper answering questions and helping when needed. Mr. Sallee thanked the City Council for all of their help in helping Liberty citizens who experience food insecurities.

Melanie Wibbenmeyer – Kansas City, MO. Ms. Wibbenmeyer asked the City Council if they would be interested in opening a community fridge? Ms. Wibbenmeyer recognized the wonderful food banks in the area and hopes that smaller localized efforts could be a great addition where community members can donate fresh produce, milk, yogurt and items of high protein. Ms. Wibbenmeyer stated this could be volunteer based and the only two things needed would be a refrigerator and a location provided by the City. Ms. Wibbenmeyer asked the City Council for their consideration and also stated this could be very beneficial to the community of Liberty.

Theresa Byrd – Liberty, MO. Ms. Byrd stated she stands before the City Council tonight with great appreciation. Ms. Byrd said she drove up Main Street a few nights ago and as she looked around, she stated, "my heart felt full of pride" as she looked at the new lighting installed and the beauty they project. Ms. Byrd thanked the City Council for listening to the citizens group and secondly, doing something that is anesthetically appealing to the eye.

XII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR

XIII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS FROM MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Greg Canuteson, Mayor

Attest:

Deputy City Clerk