



LIBERTY HILL

F R E E D O M T O G R O W

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2020 – 6:30 PM 2801 Ranch Road 1869 – Liberty Hill (Council Chambers)

June 8, 2020, City Council convened in Council Chambers at 2801 Ranch Road 1869. The meeting was video streamed and available via telephone.

CALL TO ORDER

Liberty Hill City Council was called to order at 6:30 PM by Rick Hall – Mayor on Monday, June 8, 2020 at Council Chambers located at 2801 Ranch Road 1869. Invocation was given by Steve Snell, followed by reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge.

Council Members present were Mayor Rick Hall, Mayor Pro Tem Liz Rundzieher, Kathy Canady, Gram Lankford, and Steve McIntosh. Others present were Tad Cleaves – City Attorney, Lacie Hale – Chief Operating Officer, Wayne Bonnet – Public Works Director, Tracy Ventura – Court Administrator, David Stallworth – Director of Planning via phone, Becky Wilkins – Finance Director, Curtis Steger – Steger & Bizzell, and Nancy Sawyer – City Secretary. Tony DeYoung – Councilmember, was not in attendance.

The meeting was open to the public via conference call, GoToMeeting, and in person. Access instructions for the meeting were posted on the City Bulletin Board at Municipal Court and www.LibertyHillTX.gov. Instructions on submitting public comments were also posted with the agenda as referenced above.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Steve Snell, LHISD Superintendent spoke, thanking Council for their service to the City. In particular, he wanted to provide his gratitude to Mayor Hall and City Staff, including Casey Cobb, Katie Amsler, and Lacie Hale for being champions for the district. He provided championship coins as a token of appreciation from the school district.

CONVENE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

City Council was convened to Executive Session at 6:34 PM by Mayor Hall for Consultation with Legal Counsel pursuant to Texas Government Code §551.072 – Real Property and §551.071 – Consultation with Legal Counsel and as referenced below. No action was taken in Executive Session.

- **Section 551.071: Consultation with Legal Counsel**
City Attorney will advise Council regarding former City Secretary.
- **Section 551.072: Deliberation about Real Property**
Consultation with Legal Counsel regarding real property owned by the City of Liberty Hill and potential acquisitions.

RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION

At 7:27 PM City Council reconvened to Regular Session for discussion / action of the following:

- **Section 551.071: Consultation with Legal Counsel**
City Attorney will advise Council regarding former City Secretary.
- **Section 551.072: Deliberation about Real Property**
Consultation with Legal Counsel regarding real property owned by the City of Liberty Hill and potential acquisitions. **OUTCOME:** On motion by Kathy Canady and second by Gram Lankford, Council authorized Mayor Hall to negotiate a contract with Liberty Hill Development Foundation for the purchase of Lions' Foundation Park. Motion passed on vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- **Discuss and Take Action to approve minutes of the Regular City Council meeting held Monday – May 26, 2020.**
- **Discuss and Take Action to approve recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission on the final disposition of the application for the Wildleaf Phase 4 Final Plat.**
- **Discuss and Take Action to approve recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission on the final disposition of the application for the Stonewall Ranch North – Section 9 Final Plat.**
- **Discuss and Take Action to approve Professional Services Agreement between Matt Powell – individual Consultant and the Liberty Hill Economic Development Corporation, as approved by the Liberty Hill Economic Development Corporation.**
- **Discuss and Take Action to approve recommendation from the Liberty Hill Economic Development Corporation on the Façade Grant Application submitted from Clint DeBusk for GCDHT.**

OUTCOME: On motion by Kathy Canady and second by Liz Rundzieher, Council approved the Consent Agenda. Motion passed on vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

REGULAR AGENDA

Discuss and Take Action to approve recommendation from the Liberty Hill Economic Development Corporation on the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Grant Program submittals. **OUTCOME:** Kathy Canady abstained from voting and left the room during the discussion and vote. On motion by Liz Rundzieher and second by Steve McIntosh, Council approved the following applications for the Economic Development Corporation COVID-19 Emergency Relief Grant Program:

- Quick Service Garage in the amount of \$5,000
- Margarita's Restaurant in the amount of \$5,000
- Royal Bliss Salon in the amount of \$5,000

- Liberty Hill Pharmacy in the amount of \$5,000
- Liberty Hill Beer Market in the amount of \$5,000
- Malted Grains in the amount of \$5,000
- Happy Wok in the amount of \$5,000
- Grand Donuts in the amount of \$4,000
- Hair Stop in the amount of \$4,500

Motion passed on vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays, and 1 abstention.

Discuss and Take Action to approve Liberty Hill Economic Development Corporation COVID-19 Emergency Relief Grant Program submittal from Vizionz Hair Salon. OUTCOME: Mayor Hall stated there was some confusion as to whether this business lies within City limits. It has been determined that it is within City limits. On motion by Kathy Canady and second by Gram Lankford, Council approved Vizionz Hair Salon application requesting \$5,000 upon approval from the Liberty Hill EDC. Motion passed on vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

Discuss and consider a request from ‘Opportunities for Williamson & Burnet Counties’ (OWBC) for a monetary donation of \$5,000 from the City of Liberty Hill toward the ongoing support and services to the elderly in the county by OWBC. OUTCOME: On motion by Liz Rundzieher and second by Gram Lankford, Council approved a monetary donation in the amount of \$5,000 from the City of Liberty Hill toward the ongoing support and services to the elderly in the county by Opportunities for Williamson and Burnet Counties. Motion passed on vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

Discussion and possible action to approve removal of Barbara Zwernemann from the City’s bank and investment accounts signature cards. OUTCOME: On motion by Kathy Canady and second by Gram Lankford, Council approved the removal of Barbara Zwernemann from the City’s bank and investment accounts signature cards. Motion passed on vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

Discussion and possible action to approve addition of Nancy Sawyer to the City’s bank and investment accounts signature cards. OUTCOME: On motion by Kathy Canady and second by Gram Lankford, Council approved the addition of Nancy Sawyer to the City’s bank and investment accounts signature cards. Motion passed on vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

Discussion and possible action to amend / add to Social Media Policy. OUTCOME: Lacie Hale – Chief Operating Officer addressed Council stating the new policy addresses who the users are, provides guidelines, and tightens up our current policy and procedures. On motion by Liz Rundzieher and second by Kathy Canady, Council approved the Social Media Policy as presented. Motion passed on vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

Discussion and possible action related to Change Order #5 for the South Fork Wastewater Treatment Plant 1.2 MGD Expansion contract with Cunningham Constructors & Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$72,573.90. OUTCOME: Curtis Steger – Steger & Bizzell addressed Council stating the Change Order is actually in the amount of \$75,511.40. On motion by Liz Rundzieher and second by Kathy Canady, Council approved Change Order #5 for the South Fork Wastewater Treatment Plant

1.2 MGD Expansion contract with Cunningham Constructors & Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$75,511.40. Motion passed on vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

Discussion and possible action related to Change Order No. 3 for the Downtown Street & Utility program. OUTCOME: Curtis Steger – Steger & Bizzell addressed Council stating this change order is related to an error in calculation of the area involved. On motion by Gram Lankford and second by Liz Rundzieher, Council approved Change Order No. 3 for the Downtown Street & Utility program in an amount not to exceed \$59,744.64. Motion passed on vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

Discussion and possible action on Task Order SB 020-58 for design and construction services associated with extending Stonewall Parkway across State Highway 29 to intersect with Liberty Way. OUTCOME: Curtis Steger – Steger & Bizzell addressed Council stating this task order is related to the extension of Stonewall Parkway to Liberty Way. Exhibit C included in Council's packets is a cost estimate. Mayor Hall stated the County Commissioner said there is some money allocated from the last bond that will cover approximately 45% of the total cost of the project. On motion by Steve McIntosh and second by Gram Lankford, Council approved Task Order SB 020-58 for design and construction services associated with extending Stonewall Parkway across State Highway 29 to intersect with Liberty Way. Motion passed on vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

Update regarding BioDaf System for the South Fork Wastewater Treatment Plant. OUTCOME: Mayor Hall stated the BioDaf sample system will be added to the wastewater treatment plant to make the effluent even cleaner and at no charge to the City. The City attorney has reviewed the contract. Wayne Bonnet – Director of Public Works stated his department is working on a pad for placement of the system. No action is required at this time, and the TCEQ has provided a release for the system.

Discussion and possible action repealing 20-O-09 and increasing the exemption from ad valorem taxes on the appraised value of a residence homestead for individuals who are disabled and over 65 years of age. [20-O-34] OUTCOME: Tad Cleaves – City Attorney addressed Council stating Council approved a couple of exemptions in January of this year. These were written into one single ordinance. However, the County needs them to be two (2) separate ordinances. This ordinance repeals the previous ordinance 20-O-09 and replaces it with one associated with the homestead exemption for individual who are disabled and over 65 years of age. On motion by Kathy Canady and second by Liz Rundzieher, Council approved Ordinance 20-O-34 repealing Ordinance 20-O-09 and increasing the exemption from ad valorem taxes on the appraised value of a residence homestead for individuals who are disabled and over 65 years of age. Motion passed on vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

Discussion and possible action approving an additional homestead exemption from ad valorem taxes of 1% of the appraised value with a minimum exemption of \$5,000. [20-O-35] OUTCOME: On motion by Steve McIntosh and second by Liz Rundzieher, Council approved Ordinance 20-O-35 approving an additional homestead exemption from ad valorem taxes of 1% of the appraised value with a minimum exemption of \$5,000. Motion passed on vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

Consider and possible action to remove Kathy Canady – Commissioner from the Planning and Zoning Commission. Consider and possible action to appoint Steve McIntosh to the Planning and Zoning Commission. OUTCOME: On motion by Liz Rundzieher and second by Gram Lankford, Council approved removing Kathy Canady from the Planning and Zoning Commission and appointing Steve McIntosh to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Motion passed on vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

Consider and possible action to remove Steve McIntosh – Director from the Parks and Recreation Board of Directors. Consider and possible action to appoint Kathy Canady to the Parks and Recreation Board of Directors. OUTCOME: On motion by Liz Rundzieher and second by Gram Lankford, Council approved removing Steve McIntosh from the Parks and Recreation Board and appointing Kathy Canady to the Parks and Recreation Board. Motion passed on vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

Consider and possible action to adjust the speed limit on Loop 332. OUTCOME: Kathy Canady addressed Council stating she would like to see Council look at Loop 332 to see if the speed limit might need to be raised. Following discussion, Kathy Canady made a motion to authorize the City's engineer to begin a traffic study of Loop 332. Liz Rundzieher seconded the motion. Motion passed on vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

ITEMS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL

- Next Council meeting is scheduled for Monday – June 22, 2020 at 6:30 PM
- Updates from Mayor on any COVID-19 related news:
Mayor Hall addressed Council stating all businesses are now free to be open at 50% capacity with no other restrictions. Mayor Hall said the governor stated last week cities can go ahead with Independence Day celebrations. We will have some modifications to keep things safe, including working to reduce the number of gathering areas as much as possible. School buses will still transport attendees. There will be fireworks and food trucks. However, the number of vendors will be reduced.
- Request for items to future agendas; announcements:
 - Liz Rundzieher thanked everyone involved in the clean-up project of the previous week.
 - She reminded everyone of the rodeo this Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.
 - Charles Canady signs are up for two ends of the road. The one downtown will be set up soon.
 - Entrance signs should be erected soon.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Liz Rundzieher and second by Gram Lankford, Council adjourned at 8:04 pm. Motion passed on vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

PASSED and APPROVED by the CITY COUNCIL of the CITY OF LIBERTY HILL, TEXAS on MONDAY – JUNE 22, 2020 on vote of _____ AYES, _____ NAYS, and _____ ABSTENTIONS.

Rick D. Hall – Mayor

[seal]

Nancy Sawyer – City Secretary