



## City Council Meeting

Regular Session Minutes

April 8, 2024

### 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 April 8, 2024 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 Phillips, who then led the pledge of allegiance.

### III. ROLL CALL

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

Council Members Absent: Shelton Ponder, Ward I  
Michael Hagan, 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  
Tom Garland, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director  
Jim Martin, Police Chief  
John Mills, Fire Chief  
Katherine Sharp, Planning and Development Director  
Sherri McIntyre, Public Works Director  
Sarah Ranes, Deputy City Clerk

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

### IV. APPROVE MINUTES AND SUMMARIES

### V. CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION

#### A. NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATOR'S WEEK PROCLAMATION

Mayor Canuteson read and presented the Proclamation to Dispatcher Jerri Clark.

B. NATIONAL ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER APPRECIATION WEEK

Mayor Canuteson read and presented the Proclamation to Animal Control Officers Samantha Lehman, Alyssa Kelley and Taylor Bryant.

Gieselle Fest – 1407 Lynette Street – Ms. Fest thanked City Council for the opportunity to speak and stated with all due respect, I ask the City Council to withdraw the lawsuit against Block 174 and the dead that lay there. Ms. Fest stated this lawsuit is being sponsored by the City, Mayor, City Council and the citizens of Liberty. Ms. Fest stated she believes local history is complicated and some of the primary facts have been diluted if not falsified. Ms. Fest said the dead buried here are the local Clay County dead and shouldn't have to bear the burden of another man's story or life. Ms. Fest stated she has three main issues of concern and the main one being that Block 174 is private property and that the government sold it January of 1900 and once you sell a piece of private property, you are done with it.

David Langston – 1920 Carter Court, Mr. Langston stated there was a vote that 77% of the people didn't like the plan for the proposed \$60M Activity Center. Mr. Langston said there were talks and people don't want a basketball facility, what they would like is something similar to the Gladstone Community Center. Mr. Langston stated it costs less to go to the Gladstone Community Center and Liberty residents will go there because it does cost less. Mr. Langston stated the Gladstone Community Center is opening a private basketball facility in June that will be located at 68<sup>th</sup> and Broadway and he feels that it could be a possibility to use this facility to fill the void that the City of Liberty may have and the need for basketball. Mr. Langston stated he has been to Johnson County a lot to watch his grandson play sports and the facilities have been private facilities not public. Mr. Langston suggested the City look at private enterprises so that tax payers don't have to pay for it.

Carrie Lonsdale – 1320 Huntington Drive, Ms. Lonsdale wanted to thank everyone for coming out to vote. Ms. Lonsdale stated she would like to be able to educate people on where to find information, upcoming elections and what is on the ballot for those individuals to make an educated decision. Ms. Lonsdale stated people don't know the difference between a sales tax versus a property tax and she encourages everyone to go the City of Liberty website at [libertymo.gov](http://libertymo.gov) where you can see the recordings of the City Council meetings of those representing individuals who live in the City of Liberty.

Dwayne Holtzclaw – 113 Kevin Street, Excelsior Springs, Mr. Holtzclaw stated he has family members buried in privately owned Block 174. Mr. Holtzclaw stated his uncle, John Will Hall, sold Block 174 on January 6, 1900. Mr. Holtzclaw stated he descends from Liberty's first-born child and he is from Liberty. Mr. Holtzclaw stated that no Christian would ever attack the grave of the dead. Mr. Holtzclaw asks City Council to please stop the revestment lawsuit as this has been an attack on his family for the past four years.

Myron Neth – 1826 Surrey Street, Kansas City, Mr. Neth stated he wants to encourage the effort of doing something. Mr. Neth said that for the type of city that Liberty is, our current facilities are lacking and he hopes something continues from here. Mr. Neth stated about 10 years ago, he helped to get legislation passed in the House regarding the creation of a Parks District which incorporates Liberty School

District. Mr. Neth asked City Council to not let the outcome of the vote discourage the City of Liberty from moving forward with a new activity center.

Jim Moores – 908 Scott Drive, Mr. Moores stated he wanted to thank all of the voters who came out for the last election, the turnout was huge and the results were good. Mr. Moores stated the results of the election didn't give the appearance of City Council reading the room. Mr. Moores stated the money spent on the election could have been used for something better than for an educational advertising campaign. Mr. Moores stated he respects what the City Council was trying to do but he doesn't believe there has ever been a tax election with such a significant defeat as this one and he has lived in Liberty for over 35 years. Mr. Moores thanked City Council for the opportunity to speak.

Deb Loomis – 1019 Ashton Terrace, Ms. Loomis stated she is the current President of the Liberty Parks Board and she is here tonight to bring a message to City Council from the Board. Ms. Loomis stated the Board was hoping for a different outcome, the Board will remain committed in bringing a new community center to our town for the seniors, youth and for all. Ms. Loomis stated the Board is aware that they have outgrown the current community center and that the other programs and enrichment activities the Parks and Recreation Department provide, are maxed out. Ms. Loomis stated a bigger facility would allow the Parks and Recreation Department to better serve patrons as well as promote growth in the City of Liberty. Ms. Loomis stated she hopes Liberty citizens can work together with city staff and city officials to build a much-needed new facility.

VI. MEETING SCHEDULE

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. MOTION TO CERTIFY MUNICIPAL ELECTION RESULTS OF APRIL 2, 2024

The Election Board has provided the results of the April 2, 2024 election as shown on the attached document.

A. MOTION TO CERTIFY MUNICIPAL ELECTION RESULTS OF APRIL 2, 2024

**Question on the Ballot:**

Shall the City of Liberty, Missouri, issue its general obligation bonds in the amount of \$60,000,000 for the purposes of acquiring, constructing, renovating, improving, and equipping the parks and park property in the City, including without limitation (1) acquiring, constructing, and equipping an Activity Center and (2) renovating and improving the existing Community Center? The general obligation bonds will be paid with a debt levy.

The proposed debt levy will be \$0.46 per \$100 assessed valuation.

**Votes**

Yes	1,365
No	4,644

**Action:** Council Member Watt moved to approve accept the election results. Council Member Phillips seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Motion passed 6-0-0

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

**No:** None

**Abstain:** None

**B. MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF WATER MAIN FITTINGS, VALVES & HYDRANTS FROM SCHULTE SUPPLY COMPANY FOR THE 16” WATERMAIN CONNECTION FROM NATCHEZ AVENUE TO SOUTH LIBERTY PARKWAY ALONG SOUTHVIEW DRIVE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$143,124.23**

The Utilities Department Water Master Plan has identified and recommends a 16” watermain connection from Natchez Avenue to South Liberty Parkway along Southview Drive. This will complete a loop and create a redundant water supply feed to South Liberty Parkway. This will greatly aid in supplying the whole system with water, In the event the main 24” transmission line to the water towers is out of operation for repairs or rehab.

The materials that will be purchased for the construction of the 16" watermain connection are fittings, valves and hydrants. Additional purchases of bedding rock, asphalt and concrete will be expensed to the Water Capital Fund line item for this project as well. The Utilities Department-Construction Distribution Division will construct the improvements in Summer/Fall 2024.

Bids were solicited from three local material suppliers by the Utilities Department Construction Distribution Division. Schulte Supply (Independence, MO) had the lowest bid of \$143,124.23 for the required materials list. Staff recommends purchasing the needed Phase II materials from Schulte Supply (Independence, MO). Bid prices are based on the required materials list of valves, hydrants and fittings.

Funding for this project would come from the 2024 Capital Fund Construction line item budget. The expenses related to the design and construction of the 16" water main will be reimbursed by Clay County as the project is part of the ARPA allocation that the county has allocated to the City of Liberty.

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

**Vote:** Motion passed 6-0-0

Yes: Council Members Phillips, Pozel, Travis, Graham, Watt and Gentrup  
No: None  
Abstain: None

VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

IX. ORDINANCES, CONTRACTS AND RESOLUTIONS

A. ORDINANCE ACKNOWLEDGING VENDOR PAYMENTS FOR THE PERIOD OF MARCH 15, 2024 TO MARCH 29, 2024

Document No. 9749 was read.

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

Roll Call

Vote: Motion passed 6-0-0

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 11914.

B. ORDINANCE APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH TREMCO/WEATHERPROOFING TECHNOLOGIES CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS GROUP FOR MAINTENANCE, REPAIRS AND A 5-YEAR WARRANTY RENEWAL ON THE ROOF AT THE LIBERTY COMMUNITY CENTER IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$18,100.00

The Liberty Community Center opened in February 1992. The current roof was installed in 2009 by Tremco who has held the warranty and performed maintenance since installation. The roofing system is a 4-ply built-up roof with a cold asphalt flood coated with gravel. The current warranty on roofs A, B, D1, D2, E, F, & G will expire on April 27, 2024. Below is a description of the roof line sections:

- A – Theater Stage
- B – Theater
- C – Meeting Rooms (not included)
- D1 – Gymnasium
- D2 – Natatorium
- E – Conference Room
- F – Small Pool
- G – Hallway

Staff contacted Tremco in July 2023 requesting a quote for a warranty extension. Tremco performed an inspection on the roof sections with the warranty expiring in April 2024. Those sections included roofs A, B, D1, D2, E, F & G in the fall of 2023. Roof C was installed in 2018 and is under warranty until 2033. Upon the results of the inspection, Tremco found the roofs to be in a condition to renew the warranty for an additional 5 years. An updated quote was received from Tremco in January 2024. Cost for a 5-year warranty renewal is \$8,025.00.

Prior to renewal of the warranty, Tremco will need to perform an infrared analysis to confirm there are no areas of wet materials within the roofing system and perform preventative maintenance on the roof. The cost of performing the infrared scan and preventative maintenance is \$10,075.00.

Tremco anticipates a warranty extension will extend the life of the roofs another 5 years and potentially longer if proactive maintenance is continued. Additionally, Tremco estimates that without the warranty extension and preventative maintenance, they would recommend roof restoration on the roofs within the next 3 years or roof replacement within the next 5 years. The estimated cost for roof restoration is \$525,000.00. The estimated cost for roof replacement is \$1,125,000.00.

The original 15-year warranty document issued for the new roof in April 2009 is attached. This new contract will extend the original warranty for an additional 5 years at the same terms excluding any ongoing inspections, housekeeping and preventative maintenance that was included in the original warranty. Those tasks will be completed in-house by parks and recreation maintenance staff.

Document No. 9750 was read.

**Action:** Council Member Phillips 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 6-0-0

**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. 11915.

C. ORDINANCE APPROVING A SAFE STREETS AND ROADS FOR ALL ("SS4A") GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LIBERTY, MISSOURI AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO PROVIDE FUNDING ASSISTANCE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SS4A ACTION PLAN, FEDERAL AWARD NO. 693JJ32440235 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$200,000.00

The City of Liberty applied for Safe Streets for All (SS4A) grant funding to support the development of an SS4A Action Plan. The City of Liberty has been awarded \$200,000.00 in SS4A funding for the development of an SS4A action plan.

The action plan will:

- Establish the commitment and goal of zero roadway fatalities from City Elected Officials and applicable Directorial Staff;

- Engage a dedicated oversight committee to develop, implement and monitor the final product;
- Conduct needed safety analysis of existing conditions and historical trends within locations of fatalities and other areas of concern;
- Engage and collaborate with the public and relevant stakeholders to allow for both community representation and feedback;
- Consider equity through an inclusive and representative process;
- Assess the current City policies, plans, guidelines, and standards to identify opportunities to improve how processes prioritize transportation safety;
- Identify a Capital Improvement Project list, shaped by data, as well as stakeholder input and equity considerations, that will address the safety problems identified within the Action Plan;
- Develop progress and transparency methods that measure progress over time.

The grant funds, which have been awarded, will be available as reimbursement for eligible plan development costs.

Document No. 9751 was read.

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

**Vote:** Motion passed 6-0-0

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

**No:** None

**Abstain:** None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 11916.

**D. ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LIBERTY AND FEDERAL SIGNAL TO INSTALL ONE NEW OUTDOOR WARNING SIREN IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$31,353.00**

The City currently has 12 outdoor warning sirens. With the growth that has happened over the last few years, there is a need for more coverage of the warning system on the south end of the city. There will be a new siren that will be installed in the area of Homestead Hills Road and South Withers Road. This was determined to provide the most coverage for the needed area. This siren will interact with the new system installed last year.

The City's 12 sirens are manufactured by Federal Signal Corporation. The sole provider, in the metropolitan area, of the Federal Signal siren is Blue Valley Public Safety, Inc. in Grain Valley, Missouri. Blue Valley Public Safety also currently provides the maintenance of our outdoor warning sirens.

The price to purchase and install one warning siren is \$31,353.00.

Document No. 9752 was read.

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

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously.

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

**Vote:** Motion passed 6-0-0

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

**No:** None

**Abstain:** None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 11917.

E. **ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH VEENSTRA & KIMM, INC. FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES RELATED TO THE REPLACEMENT OF THE FILTER MEDIA AT THE WATER TREATMENT FACILITY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$30,800.00**

There are 16 filters that are utilized in the drinking water production process at the water treatment facility. The filters are the last step in the production process before the drinking water is ready to be distributed to the community. The filters consist of sand of various sizes, under drains and a backwash system. The sand in the filter is referred to as media. The media has met the end of its useful life and needs to be replaced, which requires engineering drawings to be produced and approved by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources before the project can proceed.

Staff has completed the replacement of the filter media in one of the 16 filters as a test to determine the level of difficulty in removing the filter media and to also determine if the under drains in the filter would need repair or replacement. The first media replacement project revealed that the under drains are in good condition and only need cleaned, and replacement is unlikely. Staff is more confident that the media replacement can move forward with fewer potential issues that might arise during the construction process due to unknown existing conditions.

Document No. 9753 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 Travis seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Motion passed 6-0-0

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 11918.

F. ORDINANCE APPROVING A NINE-MONTH KANSAS CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (KCATA) CONTRACT FOR IRIS (ZTRIP) FLEX TRANSPORTATION SERVICE PILOT PROGRAM WITHIN THE CITY OF LIBERTY, EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2024 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$126,000.00

The IRIS service is an on-demand transportation solution with a service from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week. The service includes para-transit services. The contract is for a nine-month extension of the IRIS (zTrip) pilot program effective beginning April 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, for \$14,000 monthly. During the nine-month pilot program extension, trips within the boundaries of the City of Liberty will have a fare of \$3. The entire City of Liberty will be included within the program during the additional one-month trial period. Trips leaving or coming from borders outside of Liberty will follow the IRIS pricing structure within Kansas City, MO. The KCATA will retain all fare revenues.

WHC (zTrip) contracts with KCATA to provide IRIS transportation services in the Kansas City region. According to WHC (zTrip), the IRIS service has steadily seen increasing ridership with a 25% + increase since the program was implemented; the average ride rating is 4.73 stars out of 5 stars; and IRIS drivers have a 95% average on-time performance. WHC (zTrip) has been servicing the Kansas City region since 1987 with trained, professional and courteous drivers; branded, clean and safe vehicles; with ADA-Compliant operators and vehicles.

The goals of the IRIS (zTrip) service are to expand access to public transportation within KCMO and surrounding communities in areas currently underserved by transit; and to create, deploy and operate an innovative mobility system that maximizes transit accessibility by incorporating dynamic, on-demand flex service to complement traditional transit services. Data will continue to be gathered during the nine-month pilot program and such data will be used to create an ongoing IRIS (zTrip) service for the City of Liberty, if approved by the City Council. The cost of an annual on-going contract for IRIS (zTrip) service with the KCATA will be dependent upon rider demand, service scope, ride fare structure, etc.

Riders can schedule trips through the "IRIS" App (RideCo, Inc.) which can be downloaded for free on Apple iOS and GooglePlay. The "IRIS" App enables riders to make on-demand and pre-scheduled ride reservations. Riders can pay electronically through the "IRIS" App. Riders not using smart phones can also call a traditional customer service center to schedule an IRIS (zTRip) ride, and arrange payment methods at that time.

Document No. 9754 was read.

**Action:** Council Member Phillips moved to waive the rules and consider the ordinance on first reading. Council Member Graham 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 6-0-0

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

**No:** None

**Abstain:** None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 11919.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

XI. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR

XII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS FROM MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

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Mayor

Attest:

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Deputy City Clerk