



City Council Meeting

Regular Session Minutes
September 23, 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 September 23, 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 Watt, 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
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
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
38 members of the public

IV. PROCLAMATIONS

V. APPROVE MINUTES AND SUMMARIES

A. Regular Session Minutes of August 12, 2024

Council Member Hagan moved to approve the minutes as distributed. Council Member Ponder seconded the motion, which carried 7-0-1. Council Member Travis abstained due to absence.

B. Regular Session Minutes of August 26, 2024

Council Member Gentrup moved to approve the minutes as distributed. Council Member Phillips seconded the motion, which carried 6-0-2. Council Members Graham and Hagan abstained due to absence.

VI. MEETING SCHEDULE

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Resolution Approving a Temporary Event Liquor License for the Soroptimist International Fall Fashion Show Fundraiser event at St. James Church, 309 S. Stewart Road, Liberty, MO on Saturday, October 19, 2024

Soroptimist International has applied for a temporary liquor license to serve alcohol for the Fall Fashion Show Fundraiser event on Saturday, October 19, 2024. Because the public will have access to the event, State statute and City ordinance require a license. The organization contacted the owners/occupants of all properties within one hundred eighty-five (185) feet of the event locations, notifying them of the proposed events and the time and place of the Council meeting at which the application will be considered.

Action: Council Member Watt moved to approve the resolution. 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

Inscribed in Resolution No. 3411.

VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Resolution of the City Council of the City of Liberty, Clay County, Missouri Adopting the Downtown Revitalization Vision Plan; Phase One, Infill Concept Plan for the City (P&Z Case 24-34A)

In April 2023, Mayor Canuteson created a Downtown Task Force to evaluate the potential for infill development in the downtown Liberty area. PGAV Planners was selected as the consultant for this project. The goal of this process was to create a plan that will promote and encourage the revitalization and growth of the downtown as a desirable mixed-use area that ensures a high degree of compatibility between new and existing uses. The plans and images in the Infill Vision section are meant to show development possibilities for these sites, and are for visualization purposes only.

The planning process included review of existing plans and initiatives. Existing conditions were cataloged: including zoning and land-uses, existing building age and condition, parking, traffic and walkability analysis for the area, and topographical constraints on the area such as slope and floodplain. A market analysis was included to understand the supply and demand dynamics, as well as a review of the existing residential and commercial 353 Property Tax Abatement programs and Downtown CID.

The process also included stakeholder engagement to understand the perspective of customers, business owners, and residents.

In addition to Downtown-wide recommendations regarding urban design, pedestrian accessibility, code revisions, and overall market opportunities, the final plan also provides specific recommendations for key infill development opportunities (pg. 32). The five infill sites were chosen following the existing conditions research and community engagement phases and in consultation with City Staff and the Downtown Task Force. Following the selection of sites, PGAV analyzed each site, performing additional analysis to determine the highest and best use given the broader Downtown environment. The site plans and precedent images included with the Infill Vision section of the report are intended to show what could fit well in these sites. However, with the exception of Site C, these are only concept plans and the site plans and images are merely for visualization purposes.

The plan provides the City with six revitalization goals and 24 strategies to achieve those goals. The plan is intended to assist city leaders, developers, and the community in visualizing quality residential, commercial, and office infill in and around the downtown area that is in keeping with the traditional downtown urban fabric, as well as clear strategies to utilize in achieving the goals set forth in the Plan.

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

Jamiel Yameen – 840 Scott Drive, Mr. Yameen stated he has been a resident of the City of Liberty for over 30 years and he is also a member of the Downtown Task Force. Mr. Yameen stated it's the City of Liberty's time as we have watched communities around us take initiatives to build opportunities within their community and Mr. Yameen believes this infill plan will do the same for the City of Liberty. Mr. Yameen feels strongly for this plan and he requests the City Council support it.

Craig Swanson – Mr. Swanson is also a member of the Downtown Task Force and has lived in the City of Liberty for over 20 years. Mr. Swanson said he has been on several task forces during those 20 years and it's pretty cool to see everything coming together in our community and he encourages the City Council to adopt this plan.

Daniel Tachman – Mr. Tachman told the City Council he really liked the Infill Concept Plan but he is concerned about Fall Festival and the carnival as there will be no place to put it. Mr. Tachman suggested to the City Council about relocating Fall Festival to Ruth Moore Park as there is lots of room in that area.

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

Action: Council Member Hagan 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. 3412.

B. Resolution Granting a Certificate of Appropriateness for the Construction of a New Mixed-Use Building at 1-11 N. Water Street, Liberty Square Historic District

This prominent lot at the corner of E. Kansas Street and N. Water Street was the former site of a furniture store that was destroyed by collapse in May 2016. This building and adjacent buildings were subsequently deemed dangerous and demolished. The GM Peters Building, 11 N. Water, was approved for demolition by the City Council on March 11, 2024.

The applicant proposes to construct a mixed-use building, at the NE corner of North Water & East Kansas. Including lots 1-11 N. Water. The proposed three-story mixed-use building has 7,378 square feet of commercial space and 16 residential units/apartments on .43 acres. There is underground secured parking for residents with 25 parking stalls, with additional stalls in the rear alley of the building.

The architect Henry Klover, Klover Architects, 8813 Penrose Lane, Suite 400, Lenexa, KS 66219 had a presentation for City Council.

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

David Langston – 1920 Carter Court, Mr. Langston stated everyone's looked at that hole over the last seven years and he believes people are tired of it. Mr. Langston said there is a great opportunity here especially with a developer who is interested in putting their money into our community to help make it a better place. Mr. Langston said the new proposed building is beautiful and it would be hard to oppose this idea as it is going to make our City so much better.

Carly Riley – 402 W. Franklin Street, Ms. Riley wanted to discuss from the Master Plan the topography of the square. Ms. Riley states that on every corner of the square there are steep slopes and many citizens of all ages struggle with this on a daily basis. She was hoping to take this opportunity to speak to see if there is something that can be done with this plan to help with the topography? Secondly, Ms. Riley is concerned with the design concept. She has heard from several members of our community that they don't love it and she wants to make sure their voices are heard. Lastly, Ms. Riley wants to raise concern about the flat brick work and windows. She believes different depths of brick and a slight change in the scale of windows would make the appearance nicer.

Daniel Tachman said he loves this idea but he wants to make sure the remaining buildings don't get damaged during this process.

Charles Small – 1331 Wildbriar Lane, Mr. Small said he has been a building owner on the square since 1990. Mr. Small stated with all of the development going on within the City of Liberty, he believes this project to be the most complicated due to the terrain and the buildings surrounding it. Mr. Small agrees that this project just seems to fit and he requests City Council to approve it.

John Kennebeck owner of 3 Halves Brewing Company stated he likes the renderings and believes it is fitting for the location as he knows how difficult the topography is. Mr. Kennebeck is concerned with how this development may affect his business and parking with disruption from construction.

Jeanne Ralston – Ms. Ralston said she came into this meeting tonight with her own opinions and very little facts about this project but she has now been informed and she is completely in favor of the proposal as she thinks it's beautiful.

Ken Boschert stated he has lived in Liberty for over 45 years and he appreciates the opportunity to speak and he is in total support of this project. Mr. Boschert hopes the City Council approves this project so the ball can get rolling.

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

Action: Council Member Gentrup moved to approve the resolution. 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
Inscribed in Resolution No. 3413.

IX. ORDINANCES, CONTRACTS AND RESOLUTIONS

A. Ordinance Acknowledging Vendor Payments for the Period of August 30, 2024 to September 13, 2024

Document No. 9805 was read.

Action: Council Member Phillips moved to approve the vendor payments. Council Member Pozel 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. 11970.

B. Ordinance Establishing the 2024 Ad Valorem Tax Levies for City Operations for the 2025 Budget Year (2nd Reading)

The City of Liberty property tax is a vital component of the City's budget that helps to support police, fire /emergency medical services, street maintenance, building and project inspections, planning, senior citizen programs, park maintenance, recreation programs and more. Of the City's property tax levy, 85% supports general operations and 15% supports Parks & Rec. When compared to sales taxes, property taxes

typically provide a more consistent and stable funding source for budget planning, especially for ongoing operational costs.

Each year, the City Council has options when setting the Ad Valorem Levy Rate. According to the State of Missouri's Hancock Amendment, the City of Liberty is required to follow an established formula when calculating its maximum levy. Beyond small inflationary adjustments allowed by the formula, increases in revenue from the property tax are a result of new construction and/or increases in personal property in Liberty. Because property taxes provide a more stable and consistent funding source for ongoing City operations, staff typically recommends setting the annual levy rate based on the maximum allowed by the Hancock Amendment. The Hancock Maximum is the highest levy rate you can set in any given year based on the current year's assessed valuations and the prior year's levy rate. For the City of Liberty, this option allows revenue growth within the general fund and parks fund based on the Hancock Amendment.

Looking to the future, beyond current funding needs, property taxes will be vital as continued residential and commercial growth increases the demand for City services across all departments.

Levy Calculations

The County has provided the City with preliminary June 2024 assessments for all categories of property exclusive of the State-assessed railroad and utilities. State assessed railroad and utility values are obtained from the State of Missouri. The Public Hearing notice was published using a preliminary assessment and is as follows:

Impact of City Operating and Parks Funds and Illustration of Impact on Bills: Based on the average individual real estate property assessment value of \$299,103 for 2024. Individual property assessments will vary from average, some higher and some lower.

Residential Impact - Hancock Maximum	Current 2024 Levy	Proposed Levy	Annual Difference
	0.8751	0.8751	
Home Value	300,000	299,108	
19% Assessment Factor	57,000	56,831	
Taxes	498.81	497.32	(1.48)

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Residential Impact - Revenue Neutral	Current 2024 Levy	Proposed Levy	Annual Difference
	0.8751	0.8592	
Home Value	300,000	299,108	
19% Assessment Factor	57,000	56,831	
Taxes	498.81	488.29	(10.52)

Document No. 9806 was read.

Action: Council Member Phillips moved to amend the ordinance by choosing a revenue neutral option. Council Member Ponder seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion passed 5-4-0

Yes: Council Members Phillips, Ponder, Pozel, and Gentrup

No: Council Members Travis, Graham, Watt and Hagan

Abstain: None

Mayor Canuteson voted yes on the amendment, breaking the tie vote.

Action: Council Member Hagan moved to approve the ordinance as amended. Council Member Ponder 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. 11971.

C. Ordinance Approving an Agreement for the City of Liberty Project 24-009, Liberty City Park Sidewalk Network Project with Transystems Corporation in an amount not to exceed \$408,818.00

City Park is a high-volume, high-visibility recreational center along the M-291 corridor. City Park currently has zero connections to sidewalk/pedestrian facilities, thereby requiring all users to either arrive by vehicle or walk along unimproved roadways.

In April 2024, City staff developed a project Scope of Work for the design of sidewalk connectivity emanating from City Park. The scope of work was divided into two distinct sub-projects, to be completed under one contract, as follows:

- Project I consider a sidewalk going north along Moss Avenue to Liberty Drive and north along South Terrace Avenue to Rebecca Street. This project is planned to be done without any federal funding assistance and is therefore controlled by City design standards.
- Project II consider a sidewalk going south and then east along M-291 to W. Murray Road and S. Skyline Drive. This project will be submitted for State and Federal funding assistance and is therefore controlled by State and Federal design standards.

These projects will provide City of Liberty residents with dedicated, safe, ADA compliant pedestrian routes of travel to and from City Park. To facilitate the survey and design for the project, a Request for Design Consultant Qualifications was publicly advertised between May 6, 2024 and June 3, 2024. A total of ten qualification submissions were received from the following firms:

Alfred Benesch & Co. (Benesch)
Cook, Flatt and Strobel, Inc. (CFS)
Crawford, Murphy & Tilly, Inc. (CMT)

Great River Engineering, Inc. (GRE)
JEO Consulting Group (JEO)
McClure Engineering Co. (McClure)
OWN, Inc. (OWN)
TranSystems Corporation
Veenstra & Kimm, Inc.
Walter P Moore. Inc.

City staff reviewed and assessed the responsive RFQ submissions with TranSystems being selected for the project. During contract negotiations, it was decided to break each sub-project into two phases. Tasks associated with each phase are as follows:

Phase I:

- Surveys and Utilities
- Conceptual Plans and Site Visit
- Environmental Tasks
- Public Outreach Activities
- Coordination with BNSF
- Preparation of Right-of-Way Engineering and Plans
- Meetings
- Project Management

Phase II:

- Legal Descriptions and Tract Maps
- Right-of-Way Acquisitions
- Final Design and Bid Documents
- Plans Specifications and Estimates Deliverable
- Support through obligation
- Construction Services
- Construction Engineering Review

Phasing is required to split funding for the project into two separate fiscal cycles to determine whether State and/or Federal funding will be obtained and ensure stakeholder support for Phase II prior to authorizing work on it.

It should be noted that while this contract awards Phase I and Phase II of Project I and II to TranSystems, it only obligates funding and authorizes work for Phase I of Project I and II. Phase II of Project I and II will require separate authorization from the City Council to obligate funding and authorize work. Phase I of Project I and II is not to exceed \$408,818.00.

Document No. 9807 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 Phillips moved to approve the ordinance. Council Member Pozel 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. 11972.

D. Ordinance Disclaiming and Abandoning of a Public Water Easement for Withers Farms Senior Living

The developer of Withers Farms Senior Living Apartments requested a portion of the public water main easement to be vacated. The new public water main extension was realigned, so there are not any City facilities within the area to be disclaimed and vacated. A new monument sign for the senior living apartments will be constructed within the area.

There are no City water main facilities or other utilities within this public water main easement. The City of Liberty has relinquished their rights to the easement.

Document No. 9808 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 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. 11973.

E. Ordinance Accepting a Public Water Main Easement for Withers Senior Living Located at 2187 South Withers Road in Liberty, Missouri

To facilitate the construction of the Withers Farms Senior Living Apartments, a public water main extension was constructed. A portion of the water main was realigned and a new public water main easement needs to be dedicated over the realigned segment. The area of the public water main easement that is no longer needed since it does not contain a public water main due to the realignment, will be disclaimed and vacated under a separate action.

The public water main easement was acquired from Withers Farms Senior Apartments, LLC at no cost to the City. Easements for public water mains allow for their construction and maintenance.

Document No. 9809 was read.

Action: Council Member Pozel 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 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. 11974.

F. Ordinance Approving a Reimbursement Agreement for Preliminary Engineering Services with Union Pacific Railroad Company for the Birmingham Road Bridge and Railroad Grade Separation Project in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00

On November 14, 2022, City Council approved a design task order with HDR Engineering for preliminary design of the Birmingham Road Bridge and Railroad Grade Separation project.

The proposed Whitehorse residential development requires full street improvements to Birmingham Road from Ruth Ewing Road to Lauren Street. Since there is an existing at-grade railroad crossing at Birmingham Road approximately 400 feet south of Holt Drive, the City is requiring re-alignment of approximately 2,250 feet of Birmingham Road to allow for a future flyover bridge over the existing railroad approximately 420 feet northeast of the existing crossing. The bridge will span two railroad lines owned and operated by Union Pacific Railroad Company (UPRR) and Canadian Pacific Kansas City Railroad (CPKC). The City intends to partner with the railroads to pursue funding opportunities through federal grant programs focused on removing railroad street intersections. CPKC has already reviewed the project and provided a letter of support.

In order for HDR to proceed with the bridge design, UPRR requires a reimbursement agreement to review plans for public works projects that impact the railroad right of way. The reimbursement agreement is established at an amount of up to \$25,000.00 and will be billed according to the actual review time. The actual cost may or may not reach the total agreement amount.

Document No. 9810 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 Pozel 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. 11975.

G. Ordinance Approving an Agreement for Phase 1 of the City Hall Police and MEP Study and Design Project (#PW-24-020) with Hoefer Welker, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$215,900.00

The current City Hall is facing significant challenges due to the Police Department being housed in inadequate space, which hampers operational efficiency and staff morale. To address this, an expansion of City Hall is being considered to provide the necessary additional space for the Police Department. Simultaneously, the building's aging and maintenance intensive HVAC (heating, ventilation, air conditioning) system is in dire need of an upgrade to a more efficient and modern system. This upgrade would not only improve the comfort and energy efficiency of the existing facility but also ensure that any proposed addition is adequately served, making it a crucial component of the overall project.

This project will include Architectural, Structural, MEP (Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing which includes HVAC), Fire Protection, Landscape, and Civil design services required to develop concept plans for a proposed addition to City Hall. City staff worked with Hoefer Welker architects to define the project scope, which will involve a two-phase design process.

Phase 1 scope will include pre-design services such as site survey, existing building and systems assessment, cost range estimate, community engagement, 50% schematic conceptual design, and a detailed cost estimate.

Phase 2 scope will include detailed design services such as 100% schematic design development, construction documents, bidding and permitting, and construction administration.

City staff negotiated scope and fees with Hoefer Welker, LLC architects for the project. The estimated cost of the entire two-phase architectural design project is expected to be \$1,019,020. The two phases are broken out as follows:

- Phase I Design: Fall 2024 through Spring 2025
- Phase II Design: Spring 2025 through late Fall 2025
- Bid and Construction: Winter 2026 through Spring 2027 (not under this agreement)

Document No. 9811 was read.

Action: Council Member Phillips 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 7-1-0

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

No: Council Member Watt

Abstain: None

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 11976.

H. Resolution Accepting the Storm Sewer, Sanitary Sewer and Water Main Improvements for the Withers Farm Senior Living Project

The Withers Farms Senior Living Apartments development is located at 2187 S. Withers Road. The development constructed public storm sewers, public sanitary sewer mains, and public water mains to facilitate the construction of apartment buildings and a clubhouse. The public improvements were constructed by Excel Constructors, Inc. in accordance with City plans and specifications.

Action: Council Member Phillips moved to approve the resolution. 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

Inscribed in Resolution No. 3414.

I. Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Rehabilitation Agreement with the Liberty Commons Community Improvement District

The Liberty Commons Community Improvement District may exercise its powers to provide or contract for cleaning, maintenance and other services to public and private property located within the District. The City and the District have determined that certain improvements within the development have fallen into disrepair and that rehabilitation of the area will benefit the public by improving the streetscape and other publicly enjoyed esthetics within the District.

Under this agreement, the City will work to rehabilitate improvements within the District as fully outlined in the agreement.

The City will have until June 30, 2025, to complete work under this agreement. Once all possible work is completed, the City shall request reimbursement of actual costs from the District up to a maximum of \$200,000.00.

Action: Council Member Graham moved to approve the resolution. 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
Inscribed in Resolution No. 3415.

J. Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of a Financial Assistance Agreement with The Missouri Department of Natural Resources for the Reimbursement of Cost for Use of Recycled Materials for the Playground Safety Surface at the Playground off of Park Lane in Westboro/Canterbury Park

In 2025, the Park staff plans to upgrade the playground surface at the playground off of Park Ln. in Westboro/Canterbury Park from mulch to a recycled scrap tire safety surface. This recycled pour-in-place surface is preferred because it makes the playground more inclusive, and frees up funds from the labor and supplies used to remulch playgrounds each year.

The City of Liberty Parks and Recreation Master Plan (Goal 3, Objective 3.4) recommends making all parks inclusive and accessible. According to the associated community survey, having accessible and safe playgrounds in parks was rated a "High Priority" item. This rating indicates that any improvements in this area are likely to have a positive impact on the greatest number of households. Safety surface replacement in this playground is highly desirable and has been requested from citizens that use the park. This project meets that neighborhood request.

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources has an annual grant opportunity to apply for a reimbursement grant for scrap tire playground surfaces. Staff applied for a \$40,000.00 grant, which will cover the majority of the project expenses. Staff anticipate the project will cost around \$43,000.00 total. Funding required over the grant reimbursement amount will be covered by the 2025 Parks & Recreation budget.

Action: Council Member Hagan moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Watt 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. 3416.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Boards and Commissions Reappointments

1. Enhanced Enterprise Zone Board
 - a. Reappoint Ralph Boots to a term expiring 8/1/2028.
 - b. Reappoint Wes Blanton to a term expiring 8/1/2029.

- c. Reappoint Kenan Radar to a term expiring 8/1/2029.
- 2. Liberty Preservation & Development Commission
 - a. Reappoint Don Altis to a term expiring 9/1/2027.
 - b. Reappoint Dail Hobbs to a term expiring 9/1/2027.
- 3. Planning & Zoning Commission
 - a. Reappoint Walter Holt to a term expiring 1/1/2027.
 - b. Reappoint Donald Summers to a term expiring 1/1/2027.
 - c. Reappoint Judith Dilts to a term expiring 1/1/2027.
- 4. Tax Increment Financing Commission
 - a. Reappoint Kevin Graham to a term expiring 10/31/2028.

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

Vote: Motion passed 7-0-1

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

No: None

Abstain: Council Member Graham

XI. CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION

Gieselle Fest – 1407 Lynette Street, Ms. Fest thanked the City Council for the opportunity to speak. Ms. Fest stated all of the families of those buried in Block 174, want it to be left alone so their family members can rest quietly and peacefully. Ms. Fest asks that the City Council acknowledge the past and move on.

Dwayne Holtzclaw – 113 Kevin Street, Excelsior Springs, Mr. Holtzclaw stated he descends from Liberty's first-born child and he has a couple centuries or more of family history in the City of Liberty. Mr. Holtzclaw stated the meaning of revestment means to take back property you previously owned and that the City of Liberty doesn't have a deed for Block 174. Mr. Holtzclaw informed the audience that there is a deed recorded in Book 120, Page 36 over at the Clay County Recorder of Deeds Office. Mr. Holtzclaw stated this is his 98th City Council Meeting and Liberty's history is his family's history and he asks the City Council to please stop the revestment lawsuit.

XII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR

XIII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS FROM MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Mayor

Attest:

Deputy City Clerk