



City Council Meeting

Special Regular Session Minutes

November 18, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

A special session meeting of the City Council of the City of Liberty, Missouri was held in the Council Chambers at City Hall on November 18, 2024 with Mayor Greg Canuteson presiding. Mayor Canuteson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. 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
Ashley Comer, Assistant Finance Director
Andy Noll, Utilities Director
BJ Staab, Parks and Recreation Director
Jim Martin, Police Chief
Nathan Mulch, Police Captain
Chris Young, Fire Chief
Sherri McIntyre, Public Works Director
Sarah Ranes, Deputy City Clerk

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

III. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Motion to approve the purchase of Replacement Bunker Gear from Dinges Fire in an amount not to exceed \$42,500.00

Using the current recommendations from the NFPA and the Collective Bargaining Agreement with Local 42, staff have established a 5-year bunker gear rotation that provides a firefighter with a new set of gear and leaves their current bunker gear as a second set of gear that is available if a call results in their primary gear being contaminated (i.e. structure or car fire or a hazardous chemical call).

Action: Council Member Hagan moved to approve the purchase. Council Member Phillips 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 Announcing Date for Municipal Election and Dates for Filing by Candidates for Municipal Office

The dates for filing by candidates for municipal office are set by state statutes and local ordinance. The filing period for the April 8, 2025 Municipal Election, will begin at 8 a.m. on December 10, 2024, and close at 5 p.m. on December 31, 2024. Municipal offices included in this election is: Mayor, Ward I Council Member; Ward II Council Member; Ward III Council Member; Ward IV Council Member; and honorary positions of City Clerk; City Treasurer, City Constable and City Auditor.

Action: Council Member Hagan moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Phillips 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. 3425

C. Temporary Event Liquor Licenses for Historic Downtown Liberty, Inc.

Historic Downtown Liberty, Inc. (HDLI) has applied for temporary liquor licenses to serve alcohol at the Let's Wine About Winter event on February 15, 2025 from 10:30 a.m.- 5 p.m.; and the KC Wide Open Block Party event on April 19, 2025 from 5 p.m.- 9 p.m. The events will be held within the shops and around the square (Main, Kansas, Water and Franklin Streets) and extending two blocks beyond (in all directions). As the event location incorporates both indoor and outdoor areas, the organization contacted the owners/occupants of all properties within one hundred eighty-five (185) feet of the event location, notifying them of the proposed events and the time and place of the Council meeting at which the applications will be considered. In addition, HDLI has submitted a map of the event location and will provide security personnel for these events.

1. Resolution Approving a Temporary Event Liquor License for Historic Downtown Liberty, Inc. Let's Wine About Winter Event on Saturday, February 15, 2025

Action: Council Member Hagan moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Phillips 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. 3426

- 2. Resolution Approving a Temporary Event Liquor License for Historic Downtown Liberty, Inc. KC Wide Open Block Party Event on Saturday, April 19, 2025

Action: Council Member Hagan moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Phillips 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. 3427

- D. Resolution Appointing Directors to the Crossroads Shopping Center Community Improvement District Board of Directors

Director	Term Expiration
Taylor Stephen	December 14, 2026
Cheryl Marshall	December 14, 2026
David Johnson	December 14, 2024
Stuart Woody	December 14, 2024
Ryan Snyder	December 14, 2024

Action: Council Member Hagan moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Phillips 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. 3428

- E. Resolution Appointing Directors to the Liberty Triangle Shopping Center Community Improvement District (Crowley) Board of Directors

Director	Term Expiration
Cheryl Marshall	December 17, 2025
Taylor Stephen	December 17, 2025
Adam Fletcher	December 17, 2026
Greg Crowley	December 17, 2026
Stuart Woody	December 17, 2026

Action: Council Member Hagan moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Phillips 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. 3429

IV. ORDINANCES, CONTRACTS AND RESOLUTIONS

A. Ordinance Acknowledging Vendor Payments for the Period of October 18, 2024 to November 8, 2024

Document No. 9835 was read.

Action: Council Member Watt 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. 12000.

B. Ordinance Approving a Memorandum of Understanding with Clay County Senior Services to provide grant funding for reimbursement of senior memberships to the Liberty Community Center in an amount not to exceed \$60,000.00

Beginning in 2008, the Parks and Recreation Department began receiving \$8,000 in grant funding for Liberty Community Center physical activity classes. The City continued to apply for and receive \$8,000 grants annually through 2013. Amounts provided in subsequent years were increased:

- In 2014, the grant funding was raised to \$31,600 and facility memberships were added to encourage more physical activity in senior adults.
- In 2015, the allocation to the Liberty Community Center was increased to \$36,000.
- In 2016, the allocation was increased to \$48,000.
- 2017, \$96,000 was requested with \$60,000.00 approved. At that time, information from the Clay County Senior Services board indicated funding in the future was anticipated to remain at \$60,000.
- 2018, \$60,000 requested; \$60,000 granted.
- 2019, \$60,000 requested; \$54,000 granted.
- 2020, \$60,000 requested; \$48,600 granted.
- 2021, \$60,000 requested; \$57,600 granted.
- 2022, \$60,000 requested; \$60,000 granted.
- 2023, \$60,000 requested; \$60,000 granted.
- 2024, \$60,000 requested; \$60,000 granted.

- 2025, \$60,000 requested; \$60,000 granted.

In 2025, the Liberty Community Center senior annual (paid in full) rates will be \$350.00 and the monthly (bank draft) rate will be \$32.50/month. With the CCSS grant funding applied, the senior annual (paid in full) rate will be \$230.00/year and the senior monthly (bank draft) rate will be \$22.50/month. All group exercise classes are included.

Document No. 9836 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 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

Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12001.

C. Ordinance Accepting a Storm Water Maintenance Covenant for Fulkerson Cottages

To facilitate the Fulkerson Cottages residential development, located south of Liberty Dr. and west of Fulkerson Ct., storm water quality facilities have been constructed on the property. Per the City of Liberty's storm water discharge permit from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, an agreement between the City and post development landowner(s) is required to designate the responsible party(s) and the type/frequency of maintenance activities for continued performance of storm water detention and storm water quality facilities. In response to the requirement, the Covenant to Maintain Storm Water Management System associated with the Fulkerson Cottages residential development has been executed by the property owner. This covenant is the City's standard requirement where storm water detention and storm water quality facilities are required. The Covenant was obtained at no cost to the City. City Council acceptance is required prior to recording the covenant document.

Document No. 9837 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 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
Approved by the Chair and inscribed in Ordinance No. 12002.

D. Ordinance Approving a Funding Agreement between the City of Liberty and the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) for the Development of a Region Wide Comprehensive Safety Action Plan in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00

The City of Liberty is part of the Mid-America Regional Councils (MARC's) Destination Safe Region, which is overseen by the Destination Safe Coalition (DSC). The DSC unites federal, state, regional and local agencies to improve transportation system safety for 13 counties in Greater Kansas City. It is governed by a committee with representatives from local, regional, state, and federal agencies, emergency response, law enforcement, public health and nonprofit groups dedicated to transportation safety. MARC and the DSC are committed to reducing transportation-related fatalities and serious injuries in our region. To further that commitment, MARC was awarded FY2023 Safe Streets & Roads for All (SS4A) funds to develop a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP), crash data dashboard, and conduct a Vulnerable Road User Assessment (VRU).

The City of Liberty supported MARC's SS4A application as a sub-applicant. As a sub applicant, Liberty's portion of the \$400,000.00 project is \$10,000.00.

The project looks to facilitate the following objectives:

- Maximize resources and efficiency by reducing duplicative efforts and avoiding discrepancies with other local action plans.
- Establish consensus and shared responsibility among decision-makers and responsible parties to support and expand aligning objectives for improving transportation safety within the Destination Safe Region.
- Think futuristically. This project seeks to establish continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative partnerships, programs, and initiatives that thrive after the conclusion of this grant project.
- Identify coordination efforts and opportunities among DOT's and local jurisdictions for implementing and funding transportation safety initiatives.

Document No. 9838 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 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. 12003.

- E. Ordinance approving a contract with Clay County Senior Services grant funding for operational expenses pertaining to Liberty Access Transportation, Glenaire Transportation Expansion and the Liberty Silver Center in an amount not to exceed \$165,000.00

Since 2010, the City of Liberty has been awarded operating contracts from Clay County to support senior services including transportation services and senior center administration. In 2024 (for 2025) staff applied for \$80,000 in grant funding for the Liberty Access bus service as well as \$118,798.14 in grant funding for the Liberty Silver Center for a total of \$198,798.14. For 2025, Clay County Senior Services awarded funding for:

- \$70,000 for Liberty Access Bus (an increase from \$63,000 received in 2024)
- \$88,000 for Liberty Silver Center (an increase from \$80,000 received in 2024)

The grant is reimbursed quarterly upon receipt of required documentation submitted by Liberty Parks and Recreation Department staff and approval by the Executive Director of Clay County Senior Services per the funding agreement.

In addition to increased funding for the Liberty Access Bus and Liberty Silver Center for 2025, Clay County Senior Services also has included additional funding to support a pilot program to expand transportation services for residents of the city of Glenaire.

Glenaire Transportation Expansion Pilot Program

In late February 2024, the Mayor of Glenaire, Frankie Petty, reached out to Mayor Canuteson and City Administration to talk about a potential agreement for Glenaire residents to use the Liberty Access Bus Transportation service. Following, Ms. Petty, City Administration and Liberty Parks and Recreation met in person to talk about opportunities and ask Ms. Petty to provide estimated usage. After a community survey with the residents of Glenaire, it was determined that there was a low demand for daily rides, with one resident requesting weekly rides, and 3–4 residents needing occasional or monthly transportation. Liberty staff later consulted with Clay County Senior Services (CCSS) and determined an amendment to the Liberty contract requesting \$7,000 in additional transportation funds was appropriate to support a portion of a new pilot transportation program for Glenaire residents. Those funds were awarded in this contract and will be reimbursed based on ridership.

Using current CCSS, MARC, and KCATA ridership formulas, it is determined that each one-way trip has a cost of \$27.50. MARC will reimburse \$2.89 per trip and CCSS will reimburse \$24.61 per trip. Costs generally include fees to administer the program, driver wages, per mile charges, fuel, maintenance and insurance. This grant will cover up to 284 one-way trips or 142 round trips to be reimbursed on a monthly basis by invoice from Liberty Parks and Recreation to CCSS and MARC. At this time, at the direction of CCSS, a "trip" is only defined as transportation from a resident's home to the Silver Center and or from the Silver Center to the resident's home. This pilot program currently will not support trips to appointments, shopping, restaurants or other personal errands. There is not an avenue for this pilot program to extend beyond the \$7,000 grant. When the funds run out, it is understood by all parties that the service will cease. City staff have requested the City of Glenaire to help with additional funds.

Document No. 9839 was read.

Action: Council Member Watt moved to waive the rules and consider the ordinance on first reading. Council Member Gentrup 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. 12004.

- F. Ordinance Approving a Funding Agreement Between the City of Liberty and the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) for the Development of a Planning Sustainable Places Program (PSP) Project Along Leonard/Lightburne St. in an amount not to exceed \$37,675.00

In the summer of 2024, the City of Liberty applied for funding through the Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC's) Planning Sustainable Places (PSP) program. The PSP program provides local governments with financial support to advance detailed planning and project development activities in support of Connected KC 2050s activity centers and corridors framework. The City application involved conducting a Multimodal and Reconstruction Study along Leonard/Lightburne Street from Missouri Route 291 to Missouri Hwy 69. As a result of the application, the City was awarded \$142,500.00 in federal funding. As part of the Federal Funding award, the City is required to provide \$36,250.00 as a match and an additional 1.0% (\$1,425.00) to MARC as is the typical agreement for any federal funding awarded through a MARC section process. The total dollar amount required by the City is \$37,675.00.

The City program looks to facilitate the following objectives:

- Support the development and implementation of local activity center plans consistent with the Creating Sustainable Places principles, identified regional activity centers, and the land use policy direction outlined in Connected KC 2050.
- Support localized public engagement and community consensus building.
- Support the identification and conceptualization of transportation projects, land use strategies, and related sustainable development initiatives that help to realize and advance the objectives identified in the Creating Sustainable Places initiative, Connected KC 2050, and the MARC Board's adopted policy statement on regional land use direction.

Document No. 9840 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 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. 12005.

OTHER BUSINESS

V. CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION

VI. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR

VII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS FROM MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Mayor

Attest:

Deputy City Clerk