

**CITY OF LIBERTY WORK SESSION MEETING
MARCH 2, 2009 – 6:00 P.M.
ROSEWOOD CENTER
MINUTES**

This meeting was called to order by Mayor Deese. Mayor Deese welcomed everyone. Present were Council Members: Josh Harrison, Michael Sheriff, Dwight Yates and Brian Petersen.

Absent: Rick Clark, Walt McJunkin

Mayor Deese welcomed everyone and the meeting started at precisely 6:00 p.m.

ORDINANCE NO. 09-0301, AN ANNEXATION ORDINANCE FOR ANNEXATION OF 243 BLACK BOTTOM ROAD, 248 BLACK BOTTOM ROAD AND 322 BLACK BOTTOM ROAD, 100 PER CENT PETITION METHOD.

1st Reading of Ordinance No. 09-0301, An Annexation Ordinance for Annexation of 243 Black Bottom Road, 248 Black Bottom Road and 322 Black Bottom Road, 100 Per Cent Method.

- *CM Michael Sheriff made motion to approve Ordinance No. 09-0301*
- *CM Brian Petersen seconded the motion*
- *Vote: All in favor*

ORDINANCE NO. 09-0302, AN ANNEXATION ORDINANCE FOR ANNEXATION OF 91.2 ACRES, E/SIDE RUHAMAH ROAD, PLAT BOOK 57, PAGE 83, 100 PER CENT PETITION METHOD.

1st Reading of Ordinance No. 09-0302, An Annexation Ordinance for Annexation of 91.2 Acres, E/Side Ruhamah Road, Plat Book 57, Page 83, 100 Per Cent Petition Method.

- *CM Brian Petersen made motion to approve Ordinance No. 09-0302*
- *CM Josh Harrison seconded the motion*
- *Vote: All in favor*

RESOLUTION: A RESOLUTION THAT ALL LOAN, LEASE. OR GRANT APPLICATIONS MUST BE PRESENTED TO COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL

CM Petersen brought the motion that this resolution be put back on the table. CM Josh Harrison seconded the motion and the vote was all in favor. CM Petersen stated he has had some opportunities to attend some meetings such as the eCivis Grant Locator meeting and has decided this resolution may need to be revised somewhat. CM Petersen stated his intent was to amend this resolution. He stated he intended to revise the grant to “any grant that required matching funds would have to be presented to council with a proposal. CM Sheriff stated his concern was not tying the hands of the city or the people

out there who write grants. Mayor Deese stated he would be working with CM Petersen on revisions.

DISCUSSION: SHOVEL READY PROJECTS

Mayor Deese stated the shovel ready projects are going to be discussed at our work retreat on Saturday. He stated we have some engineer's drawings on the sewer project. CM Sheriff stated the landscape project for the Rosewood Center is in part a shovel ready project also.

DISCUSSION: ECIVIS GRANT LOCATORS OPPORTUNITY

CM Petersen explained he and the City Clerk attended the meeting for eCivis. CM Petersen stated this is a nationwide company that has a regional research tank for grants. They are dedicated to nothing but grant research twenty four hours a day. These are Federal, State and local grants. Our instructor, Scott Provencher, compared their website to that of Grants.gov which is commonly used. In his demonstration, Scott typed in "firefighter" and turned up a couple of grants on the website grants.gov compared to maybe forty grants on the ecivis website. CM Petersen explained ecivis has several different ways to search for grants such as State, Federal or local, matching funds or no match. Once you find a grant you can set it aside and you will receive updates on that particular grant. It allows you to research, learn and manage the grant. CM Petersen explained different ways of researching these grants. CM Petersen stated that the Municipal Association put in \$50,000, a one time cost, to buy down the costs of ecivis for municipalities. They have a four year contract, which means they have bought the costs down for municipalities for four years. They then went through and figured what the cost would be for each municipality based on their revenue. Our annual fee is \$750.00. CM Sheriff asked what \$750 bought us. CM Petersen stated that buys the city one seat in the company. Meaning only one person has access to all the details and information. CM Petersen recommended that the city clerk be the person designated to have the seat in this program. She would be responsible for researching the grants and sending them to the department heads to see if they were interested in certain grants. CM Petersen stated this program comes with training tools also, but the training program on writing grants has a small additional fee. CM Petersen stated it is his recommendation that the city move forward with this and establish the city clerk to be the contact and the grants person. CM Petersen stated in speaking with the Mayor and the City Clerk, she is willing to work on writing grants and to go through the classes and so forth. CM Sheriff had some questions as to the time the City Clerk had to dedicate to this project. They also discussed the contract and other aspects of this project. It was decided that this was a good investment and would be on the agenda for Monday night's council meeting.

DISCUSSION: ROSEWOOD LANDSCAPE

CM Sheriff stated he was working on the RFT for the Rosewood Landscaping and would be getting it to the Clerk for her to distribute. There was some discussion on the lighting.

DISCUSSION: WOODSIDE PARK

Mayor Deese updated everyone as to the progress made on the bathrooms for Woodside Park. He stated they are laying the block now and everything seems to be going according to plan.

DISCUSSION: VISION RETREAT

Mayor Deese reminded council that the Work/Vision Retreat was scheduled for this Saturday. He asked council to be thinking along the lines of subjects they would like discussed at the retreat.

DISCUSSION: WORLD WAR II VET TRIP

Chief Miller discussed with council a program to send a World War II vet from Liberty to Washington DC to see the World War II Memorial. \$500 will send one veteran to Washington. They will be looked after on the plane by doctors and nurses. When they reach Washington there will be people there to escort them to the memorial and stay with them. After deciding to find out how many World War II vets are in Liberty, council asked that it be put on the agenda next Monday night for a vote. CM Yates made a motion for this subject to be on the agenda for Monday night. CM Petersen seconded the motion. Vote was all in favor.

DISCUSSION: PRICES SET TO SELL TWO POLICE VEHICLES

Mayor Deese stated in reading the rules on using Hospitality Funds, if we collect over \$50,000, which we do, we are suppose to take \$25,000 of the money and put it back into the general fund. Mayor Deese stated we can certainly take that money and allocate it for two new vehicles for the police department. CM Petersen stated the total for the vehicles overall is \$44,000 at 3.2 per cent on a three year loan, around \$16,500 per year. Mayor Deese stated we have two vehicles that the transmission is going in and they have over 100,000 miles on them. It was decided this would be on the agenda for Monday night's council meeting. Mayor Deese stated the \$25000 added to the general budget will more than compensate for this year's payment of \$16,500. Mayor Deese stated he would not take anything out of Hospitality Tax until July. Mayor Deese asked for any more discussion, he told Chief Miller to go get his cars.

CM Petersen stated they are getting some updated pricing tomorrow on painting the police cars. CM Petersen stated Chief Miller has already stated the department wants to upgrade to the 45 caliber guns. The department would have to purchase the holsters and the ammunition which would cost us around \$800 to \$1,000 which would be outside of the current budget. It was decided by council to allow for these costs. CM Sheriff made a motion to allow for the police department to upgrade their weapons and for the city to pay the \$800 to \$1,000 for the ammunition and holsters. CM Yates seconded the motion. The vote was all in favor.

CM Petersen stated he and Chief Miller discussed a non-matching grant today which would supply us with one officer for three years and pay all the expense. Chief Miller is going to make this officer a traffic officer. After the three years, the obligation of the grant is that we would then pick up the expenses for this officer. CM Petersen stated we need to make a decision whether we want Chief Miller to pursue this grant. After some discussion, recommendation was made for Chief Miller to pursue this grant.

CM Yates stated the Local Government Funds matter is coming up for a vote soon which could cost the city around \$44,000. This would cost the city around 6 to 7 mills to make up. Mayor Deese stated he and several councilmen have addressed this issue with our legislators. It was encouraged for everyone to contact our legislators on this issue. Mayor Deese stated he has also asked them to remove the cap on our millage. CM Petersen stated he and Chief Miller discussed the fees we pay the State from traffic tickets and so forth which is mandated. I asked him if there was any way we could do something there. Chief Miller is doing research on this now and we will be getting back to you on this with what he finds out. CM Yates stated two houses on East Beattie and Mills Avenue trash problems need to be addressed immediately. He also stated there were limbs that needed to be picked up. Mayor Deese stated he would see that those problems were addressed.

Mayor Deese stated the sealed bids were opened this afternoon for the two police cars that were advertised. Steve Bryant of Taylors submitted the highest bid. There were only two sealed bids submitted.

- *CM Brian Petersen made a motion that the cars be awarded to the high bidder, Steve Bryant of Taylors.*
- *CM Yates seconded the motion.*
- *Vote was all in favor.*

Mayor Deese stated he has received three bids on the sidewalks and will be sending those to Ed Martin with C-Funds as before that committee meets again. He also gave an update on the new ball field.

Adjourn

- CM Sheriff made motion to adjourn
- CM Petersen seconded the motion
- Vote: All in favor

Sue Woods, City Clerk

Verification/Mayor

Approval Date