

**CITY OF LIBERTY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 8, 2007 - 6:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

Call to Order

Mayor Deese called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: CM Walt McJunkin, CM Brian Petersen, CM Rick Clark, CM Lewis Wilson, CM Dwight Yates, CM Michael Sheriff and Mayor Brian Deese

Invocation

CM Petersen gave the invocation.

Comments: Mayor Deese congratulated and thanked the City Police Department and the Fire Department for their great response and work during the tornado which touched down Friday at the elementary school parking lot. He stated how thankful we all were that it did not cause any fatalities and that the citizens that were taken to hospitals were not seriously injured. He thanked everyone for their team work in that situation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Dean Thomas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of December 11th, 2006 Council Meeting Minutes

- CM Dwight Yates made motion to approve 11/13/06 minutes.
- CM Michael Sheriff seconded the motion.
- Vote: All in favor

Approval of January 3rd, 2007 Work Session minutes

- CM Michael Sheriff made motion to approve 12/04/06 WS minutes
- CM Walt McJunkin seconded the motion
- Vote: All in favor

Topics from the Public:

Pam Gibson, coach of the Junior Competitive Cheer White Team, presented her team along with trophies they have won to council. A picture was taken of the team with the Mayor and council members. Ms. Gibson stated to council how hard the team has worked and how successful they have been. She also stated she would like to see Liberty have its own tumbling team and they could use new Velcro strips.

Old Business

2nd Reading of Ordinance No. 06-1201, An Ordinance to Adopt Changes to the City Zoning Ordinance regarding Portable Signs, Freestanding Signs and Candidate Signs

- CM Michael Sheriff made motion to pass Ordinance No. 06-1201
- CM Lewis Wilson seconded the motion
- Vote: All in favor

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2nd Reading of Ordinance No. 06-1202, An Ordinance to Repeal and Establish Water User Rates

CM Rick Clark made motion to pass Ordinance No. 06-1202
CM Lewis Wilson seconded the motion

Discussion: Mayor Deese explained that the City had an approximately 10% increase from the Greenville Water System. CM McJunkin asked if the 10 % increase would affect the regular rate charge for the minimum amount of water (2000 gallons)? CM Clark explained that it would affect the rate charge for the 2000 gallons approximately .40 cents. CM McJunkin stated he thought the City should keep the minimum what it is due to people who are on social security and such and some people did not use 1000 gallons. CM Clark stated he agreed with CM McJunkin's view, but unfortunately the City has not raised the rates when we could have and now we need to spend 10 million dollars on our system and we can't go back any further. The .40 cents per person I don't believe will be too great a burden, but you start to add those .40 cents up over the years and it really hurts our water system. Therefore, the City has no other choice but to pass these rate increases on to the customer.

Vote: 6 in favor
Opposed: CM Walt McJunkin

New Business

1st Reading of Ordinance No. 07-0101, An Ordinance establishing the minimum regulations governing the conditions and maintenance of all property, buildings and structures; by providing standards for supplied utilities and facilities and other physical things and conditions essential to ensure that structures are safe, sanitary and fit for occupancy and use and the demolition of such structures; known as the International Building Code.

CM Brian Petersen made motion to pass Ordinance No. 06-1201
CM Michael Sheriff seconded the motion
Vote: All in favor

1st Reading of Ordinance No. 07-0102, an Ordinance Rezoning Property From Residential to General Commercial;

CM Michael Sheriff made motion to pass Ordinance No. 07-0102
CM Dwight Yates seconded the motion
Vote: All in favor

Discussion: Vision 2025

**THE CITY OF LIBERTY COMPLIES WITH THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT IN
SCHEDULING AND CONDUCTING MEETINGS.**

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Mayor Deese stated this program had been discussed in work session as to the City becoming a member and they were now ready to vote. He explained the program again and after answering some questions regarding the program, it was decided that they would pay the \$2600 fee in increments of two payments; \$1600 this year and \$1000 to be in next year's budget.

CM Rick Clark made motion to join Vision 2025
CM Michael Sheriff seconded the motion
Vote: All in favor

Discussion: Appointment to Planning and Zoning Commission and Board of Appeals

Mayor Deese stated he had appointed Channing Maddox to the Planning and Zoning Commission to take the place of Danny Parsons. He stated Mr. Parsons would be serving on the Board of Appeals as would new appointee Kelli Dodgens.

Department Head Reports

Police Department

Assistant Police Chief Rampey reported the following:

August	
Warnings Issued:	93
Citations Issued:	64
Calls for Service:	185
Auto Accidents:	8
Juveniles Housed:	16
Arrests	5

Assistant Police Chief Rampey gave a breakdown of the December monthly totals. He stated one of the department's officers was leaving, Bill Elmore, to serve in Iraq. They have an ad running in the papers and would begin an interview process soon to replace this officer.

Fire Department

October	
City:	5
County:	17

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Chief Sargent gave a breakdown of the calls the fire department had received and updated council regarding the department's training. He stated the department was continuing to do fire inspections and re-inspections when violations are found. He stated they have also inspected several new businesses and approved them for business license. The Department has tested all the hose on the trucks and in the hose racks during the month of December. This process took over 40 hours to test and pack all the hose back on the trucks and in the racks. The Department has received the Rescue 42 Strut System and these have been divided and placed on two trucks. These were donated by Champion Aerospace.

Public Works Department

Mr. Clark reported the department had 32 cutoffs, 20 new accounts and 3 new taps. He reported there was a leak in the main line that caused some people to be without water for some time.

Recreation Department

Mr. Boiter was attending a basketball game. Mayor Deese stated the recreation department was going well. We would soon have three information stations located at the three ball parks and one located at the Crowe Memorial Park gazebo. The irrigation of the fields starts in the morning.

City Council Reports

CM Walt McJunkin

CM McJunkin reported that when you go off Hwy. 93 onto Kay Holcombe Road right at Ingles and turn right on Lakeview Drive, there are no sidewalks at all. There are some lights but they are scattered. People walk in that curve at night and you cannot see them. I would like for each one of you to take a look at it because it is a hazardous situation. I have requested the speed be reduced to 25 MPH in that area. Mayor Deese stated he would ride over there.

CM Michael Sheriff

CM Sheriff did not have anything to report at this time.

CM Brian Petersen

CM Petersen congratulated the Police Department and the Fire Department for their quick response and the quality service provided during the tornado.

CM Dwight Yates

CM Yates did not have anything to report at this time.

CM Rick Clark

CM Clark stated he met with ACOG Friday morning and we will be starting on our household surveys for income to see if we can qualify for grants. They think the grants will be at least \$500,000 to \$1,000,000. CM Clark thanked the competition cheerleading team for being here

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and for all their hard work. He thanked the Police Department and the Fire Department for their work.

CM Lewis Wilson

CM Wilson gave his personal congratulations to CM Sheriff for the great job he did on Panchos Restaurant. He thanked CM Sheriff for his vision and ability to see what kind of things can be done. That is one of the reasons our town is going to continue to progress.

Mayor Deese echoed the congratulations to CM Sheriff that CM Wilson had stated. Mayor Deese stated committees have been appointed for the Rosewood Community Center and the Pedestrian Park and he wanted everyone to stay proactive on these projects. He congratulated the Junior Competition White Cheer team and stated how proud Liberty was of them. Mayor Deese thanked each one for their hard work during this past year and stated he looked forward to the upcoming year.

Adjourn

- CM Michael Sheriff made motion to adjourn.
- CM Dwight Yates seconded the motion.
- All voted in favor.

V. Sue Woods, Clerk

Approval Date

Verification/Mayor