

Liberal City Commission meets

The Liberal City Commission met Tuesday night at 6:30pm in the City Commission Chambers for their final meeting of 2009. The meeting started off with Police Chief Al Sill making two presentations. The first award went to Sgt. Mark West who won the honor of Officer Of The Year. The second award went to Lisa Macias who was the police departments Employee Of The Year for 2009. In items of action the Liberal City Commission approved the second reading of Ordinance 4378 which is a franchise agreement with Southern Pioneer Electric. The city also approved year end budget amendments, 2009 transfers, fee structure changes, 2010 Financing Limitations, and delinquent accounts receivable and utilities classifications. The City Commission approved the continuation of housing programs for the city which include The Builders Incentive Program, First Time Home Buyer Program, Safe At Home Program, Senior Housing Program, Paint the Town Program, and the Home Rehabilitation Program. The city made slight increases in the Building Incentive Program, raising the House Cost portion to encourage the building of more affordable homes. The commission also entered into an agreement with Bucher, Willis and Ratliff Corporation for engineering services for the acquisition of snow removal equipment for Liberal's Municipal Airport. The city received a \$225,000 Grant for this purchase. Also on the agenda, the commissioners approved the purchase of a sewer line camera unit, and awarded the bid to Mid-Plains Construction of Plains Kansas for the construction of a Community Building to be built in Mahuron Park. The bid was for \$74,750.00 with the total cost of the project around \$185,000.00. The commission in keeping with its goal of continuing to move the City forward also approved several Economic Development Programs to encourage City growth, and revitalization. Among the programs approved were the Industrial Park Incentive Program, Economic Incentive Program, Downtown Office Relocation Grant, Downtown Mixed-Use Building Conversion Grant, Downtown Connectivity Program, Downtown Building Conversion Grant, Facade Improvement Program, South Kansas Ave. Enhancement, North Kansas Ave. Enhancement, and Highway 54 Enhancement. For more details on these programs interested parties can visit with Jeff Parsons, Economic Development Director for the City Of Liberal. The next meeting of the Liberal City Commission is scheduled for January 12, 2010