

The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in regular session on Thursday, March 28, 2013 at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 605 Spring St., Columbus, Texas, with the following present:

Mayor	-	Dwain Dungen
Mayor Pro Tem	-	Curtiss Schonenberg
Councilman	-	Steve Woodall
Councilman	-	John Axel
Councilman	-	Bruce Tesch
Councilman	-	Chuck Rankin (Absent)
City Manager	-	Donald Warschak
City Secretary	-	Linda Lakich

Other City Staff present included:

Police Chief	-	Bill Lattimore
City Attorney	-	Pat Gillespie
Animal Control Officer	-	Rudy Schmidt

**1. Call to Order.**

Mayor Dwain Dungen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.**

Mayor Dungen led the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

**3. Consent Agenda.**

- a. Approval of Invoices.
- b. Approval of Minutes of March 14, 2013 Regular Meeting.

Councilman Schonenberg made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilman Tesch seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Woodall, Axel, Tesch, and Schonenberg

The motion passed.

**4. Citizens' Presentations and Comments.<sup>1</sup>**

Everyone signed up for citizens' comments wanted to speak during a later agenda item.

**5. City Manager's Report including Columbus Garden Club Spring Trash Off, Hazardous Waste Collection Event, Cross Walk at Baseball Fields on Montezuma Street, TxDOT Sidewalk Project, Cardinal Hill Elevated Storage Tank, and 2012 Water System Improvements.**

City Manager, Donald Warschak, presented his City Manager's Report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. He also reported that the City had received word from the Governor's office concerning the application for the Texas Capital Fund Grant. A special meeting for the week of April 1-5 will be needed to approve the resolution authorizing the submission of the application for the Texas Capital Fund Grant.

The Mayor moved to Item 8 on the Agenda.

**8. Consideration and Action to Approve Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for 2012.**

Paula Lowe with Pattillo, Brown, and Hill, LLP told Council that her firm had completed the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the City for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2012. She reviewed key aspects of the report and told council that her firm had issued an unqualified or

clean opinion on the CAFR. She pointed out that the 2011 CAFR had been awarded a Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association and that the 2012 CAFR will also be submitted for the award. She told Council that the audit went well and that there were no compliance issues encountered during the audit.

Councilman Axel made a motion to approve the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for 2012. Councilman Tesch seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Woodall, Axel, Tesch, and Schonenberg

The motion passed.

The Mayor moved to Item 6 on the Agenda.

**6. Public Hearing Regarding Dangerous Dogs and Animal Care.**

The Mayor opened the public hearing at 6:45 p.m.

Mayor Dungen explained that an updated draft of the animal ordinance was available, and that he would like to give citizens the opportunity to look it over. Brenda Howard said that she is concerned because the animal control officer goes home at 4:30 p.m. She said that she would like to hire another animal control person and asked how money collected by issuing City tags would be used. Mayor Dungen explained that these would be budget issues. Councilman Woodall said that the City would need to look at not only what the costs would be for increased animal control, but also where the required funds would come from. Woody Moore said that he was concerned about how close dogs are kept to the easements, and what to do about people who let dogs run loose in the evenings. He said that he would like to see more community education. Council asked City Attorney, Pat Gillespie, to make changes to the proposed ordinance to address the maximum number of animals to be allowed, penalties for dogs running at large, how often animals need to be registered, and penalties for failure to register animals. Mayor Dungen also said that Council needed to think about what should be done with cats.

The Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:20 p.m.

**7. Consideration and Action Regarding Dangerous Dogs and Animal Care.**

Mayor Dungen explained that there would be no action at this time.

The Mayor moved to Item 9 on the Agenda.

**9. Consideration and Action to Award Administrative Services Contract for the HOME Investment Partnership Program of the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA).**

City Manager, Donald Warschak, explained that the only bid received for the administrative services for this grant was from GrantWorks, Inc. City Secretary, Linda Lakich, explained that the award for the contract was presented in the form of Resolution 122-13 as required by the grant.

Councilman Schonenberg made a motion to approve resolution 122-13 awarding the administrative services contract for the HOME Investment Partnership Program to GrantWorks, Inc. Councilman Tesch seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Woodall, Axel, Tesch, and Schonenberg

The motion passed.

**10. Consideration and Action to Accept Donation of Funds for the Columbus Police Department.**

Police Chief, Bill Lattimore, told Council that the Police Department has received two donations from area businesses to be used for police equipment purchases. Highway 71 Shell donated \$501 and Columbus Television donated \$150. He expressed his thanks to the businesses for the donations and to Lieutenant Ramirez for his work in soliciting donations.

Councilman Schonenberg made a motion to accept the donations to the Columbus Police Department of \$501.00 from Highway 71 Shell and \$150.00 from Columbus Television. Councilman Axel seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Woodall, Axel, Tesch, and Schonenberg

The motion passed.

**11. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, on the February 2013 Police Report.**

Police Chief, Bill Lattimore, presented the February 2013 Police Report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. He also reviewed additional Police Department activities for February and congratulated Officer Jeremy Castleberry for earning his intermediate TCLEOSE certification.

No action was necessary.

**12. Items from Councilmembers.<sup>2</sup>**

Councilman Woodall – no comment.

Councilman Axel – no comment.

Councilman Schonenberg – reminded everyone of the upcoming Spring Trash-Off on April 6<sup>th</sup>.

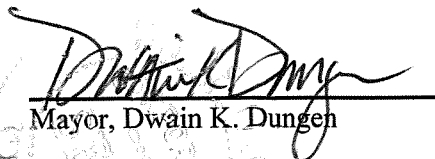
Councilman Tesch – expressed his congratulations on the CAFR.

**13. Announcements.<sup>2</sup>**

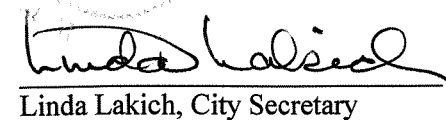
There were no announcements.

**14. Adjournment.**

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Dwain K. Dungen

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Linda Lakich, City Secretary

<sup>1</sup>During this agenda item, citizens may comment for the record on items, which are not on the agenda. However, the Council may not participate in discussion or deliberation on any item that is not on the agenda. Citizens may request that a topic be added to a future agenda.

Citizens who wish to comment on a posted agenda item may do so when that item is addressed by the Mayor. Citizen's comments are limited to five minutes.

<sup>2</sup>Limited to statements. Issues raised by councilmembers under this item cannot be deliberated by Council. The Open Meetings Act does not allow Council to deliberate items that don't appear on the agenda.

