

The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in regular session on Thursday, March 24, 2016 at 7:30 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 (absent)
Councilman	-	Woody Moore
Councilwoman	-	Lori An Gobert
Councilman	-	Eddie Hernandez
Councilman	-	Chuck Rankin
City Manager	-	Donald Warschak
City Secretary	-	Bana Schneider

Other City Staff present included:

Police Chief	-	Bill Lattimore
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1. Call to Order.

Mayor Dwain Dungen called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

Dungen led the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

3. Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of Invoices
- b. Approval of Minutes of March 10, 2016 Regular Meeting

Councilwoman Gobert made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilman Hernandez seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen Rankin, Hernandez and Moore; Councilwoman Gobert
Absent: Councilman Schonenberg

The motion passed.

4. Citizens' Presentations and Comments.¹

The citizens signed in chose to speak during agenda item 8.

5. City Manager's Report Including Gas Line Project and Water System Evaluation Study Updates, Water Distribution System Flushing, and Spring Trash Off Event.

City manager, Donald Warschak, gave the City Manager's report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

Warschak stated the approval for the pipeline adjustment for the bore at Radio Lane had been received from Union Pacific. B & D is now waiting for the steel pipe to arrive in order to proceed.

Regarding the water system evaluation study, he stated O'Malley will be able to finish once they have received the test data samples which should be taken on Monday. They should have lab results in 2-3 days, and a preliminary report may be available in 8-10 days.

Warschak commented that City crews should begin routine water system flushing on April 4th, with an approximate time frame of 3 weeks to complete.

Regarding the upcoming Trash-Off event, Warschak stated roll-off containers would be available for the community to bring in bulk items for disposal. He indicated that no tires or hazardous items

would be accepted. The week following the 2nd, the City will be doing limb chipping for those citizens who call in and ask for the service.

6. **Consideration and Action to Authorize the Closure of Travis Street from Walnut Street to Spring Street on Saturday, April 9, 2016 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for the Columbus Farmers Market.**

Dungen stated, in anticipation of the construction of the Visitor's Center, the farmers market has received permission from the Commissioners' Court to use the Courthouse circle drive for the vendors. They are asking for closure of the street for pedestrian traffic.

Councilwoman Gobert made a motion to approve the closure of Travis Street from Walnut Street to Spring Street on Saturday April 9th from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for the Columbus Farmers Market. Councilman Rankin seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen Rankin, Hernandez and Moore; Councilwoman Gobert
Absent: Councilman Schonenberg

The motion passed.

7. **Consideration and Action to Approve the Columbus Golf Association's Equipment Lease Agreement with Wells Fargo.**

The Mayor asked for authorization to sign the agreement once the City Attorney completes the required letter attachment. He also stated the agreement was essentially a co-obligor agreement. Councilman Rankin asked if the Council had agreed to take over if the Association could not make the payments. Dungen stated the new equipment was almost a "wash" with the current equipment lease. Discussion ensued regarding the Non-Appropriations Addendum" portion of the agreement, which Dungen stated the City must inform the lender if ever it was decided to defund the golf course.

Councilwoman Gobert made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement upon completion of the attorney opinion letter. Councilman Hernandez seconded the motion

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen Rankin, Hernandez and Moore; Councilwoman Gobert
Absent: Councilman Schonenberg

The motion passed.

8. **Discussion and Action to Authorize the Operation of a Private Ambulance Service for Specified Nonemergency Calls.**

The Mayor stated the letter has not been completed, and that the item would need to be tabled. Mr. Fleming asked if it would be approved once the letter from the attorney is ready. Dungen indicated the letter would have to be approved by Council once it is executed. Rankin stated he wanted to make sure the County Judge sees the letter to give his blessing before Council approves it.

Councilwoman Gobert made a motion to table the authorization of private ambulance service operations within the City until a later date. Councilman Rankin seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen Rankin, Hernandez and Moore; Councilwoman Gobert

Absent: Councilman Schonenberg

The motion passed.

9. **Consideration and Action to Approve the Appointment of Larry McWherter to the Library Advisory Board for a Term Ending April 1, 2018.**

Councilman Rankin stated his concern that the appointees to the Library Board were not City residents. The mayor stated he did not believe city residency was a requirement for the Library Board. Councilwoman Gobert stated Mr. McWherter had been a resident of the county for a long time.

Councilman Rankin made a motion to approve the appointment of Larry McWherter to the Library Board for a term ending April 1, 2018. Councilwoman Gobert seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen Rankin, Hernandez and Moore; Councilwoman Gobert
Absent: Councilman Schonenberg

The motion passed.

10. **Consideration and Action to Approve the Appointment of Glenda Lambert to the Library Advisory Board for a Term Ending October 1, 2019.**

Councilwoman Gobert made a motion to approve the appointment of Glenda Lambert to the Library Advisory Board for a term ending October 1, 2019. Councilman Hernandez seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen Rankin, Hernandez and Moore; Councilwoman Gobert
Absent: Councilman Schonenberg

The motion passed.

11. **Consideration and Action to Declare Police Department Vehicle – 2008 Ford Crown Victoria, VIN 2FAFP71V28X135024 – as Surplus Property.**

Councilwoman Gobert made a motion to declare the 2008 Ford Crown Victoria as surplus property. Councilman Hernandez seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen Rankin, Hernandez and Moore; Councilwoman Gobert
Absent: Councilman Schonenberg

The motion passed.

12. **Consideration and Action to Declare Police Department Viewu and Digital Alley Camera Equipment as Surplus Property.**

Police Chief, Bill Lattimore, stated, while this system is not high end, it may be useful to some other agency.

Councilwoman Gobert made a motion to declare the Police Department Viewu and Digital Alley Camera Equipment as Surplus property. Councilman Rankin seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen Rankin, Hernandez and Moore; Councilwoman Gobert
Absent: Councilman Schonenberg

The motion passed.

13. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, on the February 2016 Police Report.

Police Chief, Bill Lattimore, gave his report to Council, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

Additionally, Chief Lattimore stated Administrative Assistant, Emily Guidry- Lewis had completed 4 hours of ethics training, and Sergeant Kevin Daniel completed 40 hours of child abuse prevention training.

No action was required.

14. Items from Councilmembers.²

Councilman Moore – None

Councilwoman Gobert – None

Councilman Schonenberg – Absent

Councilman Hernandez – None

Councilman Rankin – None

Mayor Dungen – None

15. Announcements.

Warschak reminded everyone of Trash-off on Saturday, April 2nd.

16. Adjournment.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.



Mayor, Dwain Dungen

ATTEST:



Bana Schneider, City Secretary

¹During 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.

²Limited 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.

