

The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in regular session on Thursday, November 12, 2009 at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 1538 Hwy 71 S, Columbus, Texas, with the following present:

Mayor	-	Dwain Dungen
Mayor Pro Tem	-	Curtiss Schonenberg
Councilman	-	Charles Richardson
Councilman	-	John Axel
Councilman	-	Bruce Tesch
Councilman	-	John Wagner
Interim City Manager	-	Patti Glaeser
Assist. City Secretary	-	Linda Lakich
Utility Superintendent	-	Wayne Karstadt

1. **Call to Order.**

Mayor Dungen called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

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 October 19, 2009 Special Meeting**
- c. **Approval of Minutes October 22, 2009 Regular Meeting**

After discussion of various invoices, Councilman Schonenberg moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilman Tesch seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Richardson, Axel, Schonenberg, Tesch, and Wagner

The motion passed.

4. **Consideration and Action to Approve Invoice from Curtiss Automotive.**

Councilman Tesch moved to approve the invoice from Curtiss Automotive. Councilman Richardson seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Richardson, Axel, Tesch, and Wagner
Abstain: Councilman Schonenberg

The motion passed.

5. **Citizen's Presentations and Comments.**¹

Steve Woodall told Council that he has an issue at his home with his sewer. He stated that he had Leon's Plumbing look at it and that they said that a line is collapsed and that it is the City's problem. He stated that he had given Patti Glaeser a letter to give to Council and that he wanted them to be aware of the problem. Ms. Glaeser passed copies of the letter to Council.

6. **City Update including City Hall Renovation, FEMA Map Update, Colorado County Courthouse, Water Leaks, Grease Trap Ordinance, Meeting Times, Sales Tax, Revenue Updates.**

Interim City Manager, Patti Glaeser, presented her City Update, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

7. Discussion and Action Regarding 2009 Hotel Occupancy Taxes.

Council was given a worksheet showing the status of the past year's Hotel Occupancy Tax grants. Patti Glaeser said that most of the grant money approved was spent by the grantees. She said that HOT grants for the current year will be awarded in December.

No action was taken.

8. Consideration and Action to Approve Purchase of Christmas Lights.

Patti Glaeser told Council members that the current wreaths that the City has been putting up are 20 years old and that some are unusable and that the rest are in bad shape. It was proposed that Hotel Occupancy Tax funds be used to purchase new Christmas Lights. A lighted pole mounted candle with a poinsettia was the decoration that was being considered as a replacement. The supplier has said that they can deliver them around Thanksgiving. Ms. Glaeser said that a candle was picked because the Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a candle light homes tour in December. The decorations will go on the electric poles where the wreaths have been placed, and there are 28 of them.

Councilman Schonenberg made a motion to approve the purchase of the presented Christmas decorations. Councilman Axel seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Richardson, Axel, Schonenberg, Tesch, and Wagner

The motion passed.

9. Consideration and Action to Approve Budget Amendment for Christmas Lights.

Councilman Richardson made a motion to approve a budget amendment for the purchase of the Christmas decorations approved in Item 8. Councilman Axel seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Richardson, Axel, Schonenberg, Tesch, and Wagner

The motion passed.

10. Consideration and Action to Approve Budget Amendment for Ford Ranger.

Ms. Glaeser explained that this was the Ford Ranger that was ordered last year and was in last year's budget. It just was delivered this month.

Councilman Axel made a motion to approve a budget amendment for a Ford Ranger pickup. Councilman Schonenberg seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Richardson, Axel, Schonenberg, Tesch, and Wagner

The motion passed.

11. Consideration and Action Initializing Process for Grease Trap Ordinance.

Ms. Glaeser said that the City has been having difficulties with grease traps at some restaurants. She said that the grease trap ordinance included in the council packets was an example from another city. Mayor Dungen suggested that it be forwarded to the City Attorney, Ty Prause, and that the council members take time to look it over. Councilman Schonenberg made a motion to move the process of preparing a possible Grease Trap Ordinance to the City Attorney, Ty Prause. Councilman Richardson seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Richardson, Axel, Schonenberg, Tesch, and Wagner

The motion passed.

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12. Executive Session: In accordance with Texas Government Code, Subchapter D, Section 551.071- Consultation with Attorney Regarding Sewer Service to Glidden Fresh Water District.

Mayor Dungen closed the regular session and entered into executive session at 7:04 pm. The executive session closed at 8:32 pm.

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13. Reconvene into Regular Session and Consider Action, if Any, Regarding Executive Session – Sewer Service to Glidden Fresh Water District.

Mayor Dungen reconvened into regular session at 8:35 pm. with the same council members present. Mayor Dungen stated that not action would be taken by Council at this time.

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14. Executive Session: In Accordance with Texas Government Code, Subchapter D, Section 551.074, Personnel Matters regarding Hiring a City Manager.

Mayor Dungen closed the regular session and entered into executive session at 8:36 pm. The executive session closed at 9:14 pm.

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15. Reconvene into Regular Session and Consider Action, if Any, Regarding Executive Session – Hiring a City Manager.

Mayor Dungen reconvened into regular session at 9:15 pm with the same council members present. He stated that no action would be taken by Council on this agenda item at this time.

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16. Discussion and Action Regarding Meetings for November and December.

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Ms. Glaeser stated that because of the upcoming holidays, regular meetings in both November and December would need to be rescheduled. She also said that a special meeting would need to be scheduled for November 17th. It was decided to schedule the special meeting at 6:30 pm on November 17th. The second regular meeting in November was rescheduled for November 30th at 6:30 pm. The second regular meeting in December was rescheduled for December 22nd at 12:00 noon. Councilman Tesch made the motion to schedule the meetings as stated above. Councilman Axel seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Richardson, Axel, Schonenberg, Tesch, and Wagner

The motion passed.

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17. Items from Council Members.

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Councilman Wagner – no comment.

Councilman Schonenberg – no comment.

Councilman Axel – asked the Interim City Manager to check the status of the Safe Routes to Schools program.

Councilman Richardson – no comment.

Councilman Tesch – no comment.

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18. Announcements.

Ms. Glaeser announced that the Annual City Awards Party will be held on December 15th.

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19. Adjournment.

The mayor adjourned the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Mayor, Dwain K. Dungen

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ATTEST:

Linda Lakich, Assistant 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.

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.

²Limited to statements. Issues raised by council members 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.