

The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in regular session on Thursday, June 10, 2010 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 (Absent)
Mayor Pro Tem	-	Curtiss Schonenberg
Councilman	-	Charles Richardson
Councilman	-	John Axel
Councilman	-	Bruce Tesch
Councilman	-	Chuck Rankin
City Manager	-	Donald Warschak
Assist. City Secretary	-	Linda Lakich

Other City Staff present included:

Police Chief	-	Danny Jackson
Utilities Superintendent	-	Wayne Karstadt

1. Call to Order.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtiss Schonenberg called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

Mayor Pro Tem Curtiss Schonenberg led the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

3. Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of Invoices.
- b. Approval of Minutes of May 27, 2010 Regular Meeting.
- c. Approval of April 2010 Financial Statements.

After receiving clarification on several invoices, Councilman Richardson moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilman Rankin seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Richardson, Axel, Schonenberg, Tesch, Rankin

The motion passed.

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

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

Ayes: Councilman Richardson, Axel, Tesch, Rankin
Abstain: Councilman Schonenberg

The motion passed.

5. Citizen's Presentations and Comments.¹

Nancy Stiles asked to speak on item 7.

Elizabeth Flint reported on two upcoming programs at the Nesbitt Memorial Library. The first is a presentation on organic gardening by Pamela Walker on June 17th at 7:00pm. The second is on July 3rd at 7:00pm and is a program on the Piney Woods Fire by Virgil Thompson.

6. City Manager Report including Charter Street Water Improvements, EECBG Grant Application, Economic Indicators, Ground Storage Tank Cleaning, Austin Street Railroad Crossing, Harris County Radio System access Agreement, City Secretary.

David Sheblak with Mercer Engineering presented an update on the progress of the current water project. He said that the Charter Street portion will be completed in 1 to 1½ weeks and then the project will move to the area by the high school.

City Manager, Donald Warschak, presented his City Manager's Report which is attached to these minutes. In addition, he stated that TXDOT has a project coming up to improve drainage in front of WalMart and Jack in the Box. He also reported that the City has applied for a COPS grant which would allow it to hire 2 new police officers with the grant paying for three years and the city paying for one.

7. Consideration and Action to Approve Closure of Spring Street From Travis to Milam and Travis Street from Spring Street to Walnut Street for a Children's Patriotic Parade sponsored by the Columbus Chamber of Commerce on Saturday July 3, 2010, from 9:30 am until 12:00 pm.

Nancy Stiles, a Chamber of Commerce Director, spoke to the Council concerning the Children's Patriotic Parade. She said that it was a great success last year and invited Council to march this year. She said that they have requested a route change this year so that businesses on Milam Street will not be interrupted. She also requested that the streets be closed from 8:00 am until noon.

Councilman Tesch moved to approve the closure of Spring Street from Travis to Milam and Travis Street from Spring Street to Walnut Street for a Children's Patriotic Parade on Saturday, July 3, 2010 from 8:00 am until 12:00 pm. Councilman Richardson seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Richardson, Axel, Schonenberg, Tesch, Rankin

The motion passed.

8. Consideration and Action to Approve an Interlocal Agreement with Harris County, Texas for Use of Public Safety Radio System.

City Manager, Donald Warschak, explained that this agreement would allow the City Police Department to access Harris County's communications systems using the new Mobile Digital Terminals. Additionally the Police Department is considering the purchase of an additional Incode software module which would allow the officers to file their reports from their vehicles also. This will allow officers to spend more time in their vehicles patrolling and less time in the office.

Councilman Tesch moved to approve an Interlocal Agreement with Harris County, Texas, for use of Public Safety Radio System. Councilman Rankin seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Richardson, Axel, Schonenberg, Tesch, Rankin

The motion passed.

9. Discussion and Action to Appoint Representatives to Market Potential Gas Services to Quickrete.

Councilman Schonenberg explained that Quickrete is planning an expansion. They are currently using waste oil, but in the past have used city gas. With the expansion, they are exploring the possibility of switching back to City gas. He would like to have Council authorize him and the City Manager to negotiate and market the City's gas to Quickrete. Councilman Rankin asked about any availability issues, and Mr. Warschak said that 10psi is currently the maximum, but the option of having a second gate is being explored. Councilman Rankin said that since this involves economic development that CCIDC might be involved.

Councilman Rankin moved to authorize Donald Warschak and Councilman Schonenberg to approach Quickrete in order to market the City's gas. Councilman Axel seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Richardson, Axel, Schonenberg, Tesch, Rankin

The motion passed.

10. Consideration and Action to Appoint Three Members to the Columbus Community and Industrial Development Corporation Board for a Two-Year Term Ending May 31, 2012.

Councilman Schonenberg stated that the Columbus Community and Industrial Development Corporation (CCIDC) Board had three openings. Mayor Dungen's recommendations to fill these three vacancies were to reappoint James Weishuhn, and to appoint Steve Woodall and John Mau. Mr. Woodall is the owner of Raumonda and owns a business in Houston, and Mr. Mau is a commercial pilot and owns Big Tex in Columbus.

Councilman Tesch moved to appoint James Weishuhn, Steve Woodall and John Mau to the CCIDC board for a two-year term ending May 31, 2012. Councilman Rankin seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Richardson, Axel, Schonenberg, Tesch, Rankin
The motion passed.

11. Items from Councilmembers.²

Councilman Richardson – no comment.

Councilman Axel – no comment.

Councilman Schonenberg – thanked Patti Glaeser for 5 ½ years of service to the City.

Councilman Tesch – no comment.

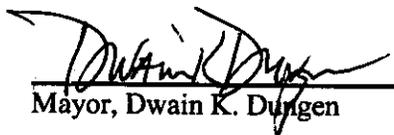
Councilman Rankin – no comment.

12. Announcements.

There were no announcements.

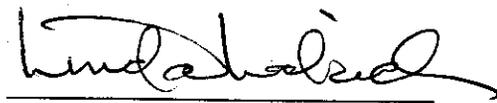
13. Adjournment.

The mayor pro tem adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.



Mayor, Dwain K. Dungen

ATTEST:



Linda Lakich, Assist. 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 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.