

The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas, met in regular session on Thursday, May 28, 2015 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	-	Woody Moore
Councilwoman	-	Lori An Gobert (absent)
Councilman	-	Eddie Hernandez
Councilman	-	Chuck Rankin
City Manager	-	Donald Warschak
City Secretary	-	Linda Lakich

Other City Staff present included:

Police Chief	-	Bill Lattimore
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**1. Call to Order.**

Mayor 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. Administer the Oath of Office to Newly Elected Officials.**

The City Secretary administered the oath of office to Mayor Dungen and Councilman Moore.

**4. Consideration and Action to Appoint a Mayor Pro Tem.**

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to reappoint Councilman Schonenberg to the position of Mayor Pro Tem. Councilman Rankin seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

**5. Consent Agenda.**

- a. Approval of Invoices.
- b. Approval of Minutes of May 14, 2015 Regular Meeting.
- c. Approval of April 2015 Financial Statements.

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

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

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

All citizens' comments related to item number 8.

**7. City Manager's Report Including Swimming Pool, East River Bridge, and Auto Read Meter Project.**

City Manager, Donald Warschak, presented his City Manager's Report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

**8. Consideration and Action Regarding Application for Hotel Occupancy Grant Funds Submitted by the Columbus Chamber of Commerce.**

Chamber Director, Nancy Stiles, gave a presentation outlining what they hope to include in this year's July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration. They are making it a two day event and would like to have funds to market it as an overnight destination. The grant application also included funds for other event costs. It was explained that only the \$3,100 requested for advertising would qualify for Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) funds. It was suggested that the Chamber request CCIDC community grant funds for those other costs. The Chamber also requested \$5,225 for a Cal Ripken Baseball tournament, which will be held in Columbus July 16-20<sup>th</sup>. The funds requested would be used for hotel rooms, game balls, security, and sanitary expenses. They would all qualify for HOT funds.

Councilman Rankin made a motion to amend the Hotel Occupancy Tax award to the Columbus Chamber of Commerce to add \$8,325 for tourism expenses. Councilman Schonenberg seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

**9. Consideration and Action to Authorize Closure of Bowie Street from Jackson Street to Houston Street for the Colorado County Circus of Health on Saturday, July 25, 2015 from 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

The Mayor explained that this is the second year that the hospital will be holding this event in front of the elementary school.

Councilman Schonenberg made a motion to approve the closure as requested. Councilman Hernandez seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

**10. Consideration and Action on the Mayor's Appointment of Five Members and Two Alternate Members to the Board of Adjustments.**

Mayor Dungen stated that he would like to appoint Whitney Werland and Elizabeth Flint to the Board as new members and to reappoint Patti Hill, Modina Mangini, and Mark Warner. He also wished to nominate Mike Craddock and John Brown as alternate members.

Councilman Schonenberg made a motion to approve the Mayor's appointments of Whitney Werland, Patti Hill, Modina Mangini, Elizabeth Flint, and Mark Warner as members; and Mike Craddock and John Brown as alternate members of the Board of Adjustments. Councilman Rankin seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

**11. Consideration and Action on the Mayor's Appointment of Seven Members to the Planning and Zoning Commission.**

The Mayor said that he would like to appoint Josh Werland and Brenda Wilson as new members and to reappoint Tracy Lilie, Robin Garcia, Henry Potter, Judy Barrett, and Chris Arthur to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Councilman Schonenberg made a motion to approve the Mayor's appointments of Josh Werland, Tracy Lilie, Robin Garcia, Brenda Wilson, Henry Potter, Judy Barrett, and Chris Arthur as members of the Planning and Zoning Commission. Councilman Hernandez seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

**12. Consideration and Action on the Mayor's Appointment of City Attorney.**

The Mayor stated that his appointment for the office of City Attorney was Michael Trefny.

Councilman Rankin made a motion to approve the Mayor's appointment of Michael Trefny as City Attorney. Councilman Schonenberg seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

**13. Consideration and Action on the Mayor's Appointment of Associate Prosecutor.**

The Mayor stated that his appointment for the office of Associate Prosecutor was Pat Gillespie.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve the Mayor's appointment of Pat Gillespie as Associate Prosecutor. Councilman Schonenberg seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

**14. Consideration and Action on the Mayor's Appointment of the City Engineer.**

The Mayor stated that he would like to reappoint John D. Mercer & Associates as the City Engineer.

Councilman Schonenberg made a motion to approve the Mayor's reappointment of John D. Mercer and Associates as the City Engineer. Councilman Rankin seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

**15. Consideration and Action on the Mayor's Appointment of the City Fire Marshall.**

The Mayor asked to reappoint Ford Stein as the City's Fire Marshall.

Councilman Rankin made a motion to approve the Mayor's reappointment of Ford Stein as the City Fire Marshall. Councilman Schonenberg seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

**16. Consideration and Action on the Mayor's Appointment of the City Public Health Officer.**

The Mayor stated that his nominee for the City Public Health Officer was Dr. David Neisner.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve the Mayor's reappointment of Dr. David Neisner as the City's Public Health Officer. Councilman Schonenberg seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

**17. Consideration Action on the Mayor's Appointment of the Municipal Court Judge.**

The Mayor asked to reappoint Leonard Peters as the Municipal Court Judge.

Councilman Rankin made a motion to approve the Mayor's reappointment of Leonard Peters as Municipal Court Judge. Councilman Moore seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

**18. Consideration and Action on the Mayor's Appointment of the Associate Municipal Court Judge.**

The Mayor stated that he would like to reappoint Francis Truchard as the Associate Municipal Court Judge.

Councilman Schonenberg made a motion to approve the Mayor's reappointment of Francis Truchard as Associate Municipal Court Judge. Councilman Hernandez seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

**19. Consideration and Action to Approve Resolution 148-15, a Resolution Consenting to a Change in Columbus Community & Industrial Development Corporation Bylaws.**

Curtiss Schonenberg stated that the previous Columbus Community & Industrial Development Corporation (CCIDC) bylaws limited the number of board directors who can reside outside of the city to

two, which is not consistent with the Texas Local Government Code, which allows all members to be residents outside of the city. He stated that the CCIDC Board had made changes to the bylaws to align them with the Texas Local Government Code, and that this would enlarge the pool from which board members could be drawn.

Councilman Schonenberg made a motion to approve Resolution 148-15 as presented.

Councilman Rankin stated that he was not aware that it was a problem to find directors, but that he would not like to see a board that had no members from inside the city. He suggested that CCIDC consider changing the bylaws to allow three members to be from outside the city.

After further discussion, the Mayor asked if there was a second for Councilman Schonenberg's motion. The motion died for the lack of a second.

There was a recommendation that the CCIDC Board consider amending their bylaws to allow 3 members to reside outside of the City limits. No action was taken.

**20. Consideration and Action on the Mayor's Appointment of Four Members to the Columbus Community and Industrial Development Board.**

The Mayor stated that his nominations for CCIDC Board of Directors were Curtiss Schonenberg, Lori An Gobert, and Byron Marburger. This would leave one vacant position on the Board.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve the Mayor's reappointment of Curtiss Schonenberg, Lori An Gobert, and Byron Marburger to the Board of the CCIDC. Councilman Rankin seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

**21. Consideration and Action to Approve Authorization to Advertise for Bids for 2015 Street Seal Coating.**

The City Manager presented a map of the proposed area for 2015 seal coating. He stated that his estimate for the cost would be around \$92,000 for the area, and that \$100,000 was budgeted for seal coating.

Councilman Rankin made a motion to authorize the advertisement for bids for the 2015 Street Seal Coating. Councilman Schonenberg seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

**22. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, on the Planning and Zoning Committee Report.**

Councilman Rankin stated that he would like to have the Planning and Zoning Commission review the Commercial Corridor Overlay District and report to Council regarding management and development. It was the general consensus that the sign ordinance still needed work and that it would be dealt with at a later time.

Councilman Rankin made a motion to present the proposed Commercial Corridor Overlay District draft to the Planning and Zoning Commission for review. Councilman Schonenberg seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

**23. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, on the April 2015 Police Report.**

Police Chief, Bill Lattimore, presented a copy of his April 2015 Police Report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

No action was necessary.

**24. Executive Session: In Accordance with Texas Government Code, Subchapter D, Section 551.072 – Deliberations about Real Property.**

The Mayor closed the regular session to enter into executive session at 7:30 p.m.

**25. Reconvene into Regular Session and Consideration and Action, if Any, Regarding Executive Session – Deliberations about Real Property.**

The Mayor reopened the regular session at 7:41 p.m. with all members present who were present before.

No action was taken.

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

Councilman Moore – no comment.

Councilman Schonenberg – thanked the Mayor and Councilman Moore for their continuing service to the community.

Councilman Hernandez – no comment.

Councilman Rankin – no comment.

Mayor Dungen – recognized this year's graduates.

**27. Announcements.**

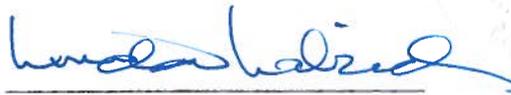
There were no announcements.

**28. Adjournment.**

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

  
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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.

