

The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas, met in regular session on Thursday, July 23, 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
Councilman	-	Eddie Hernandez
Councilman	-	Chuck Rankin
City Manager	-	Donald Warschak
City Secretary	-	Linda Lakich

Other City Staff present included:

Police Chief	-	Bill Lattimore
Utilities Superintendent	-	Jody Ripper
Mun. Court Judge	-	Leonard Peters
Mun. Court Clerk	-	Kaylee Brune
Code Enforcement Off.	-	Ford Stein

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. Consent Agenda.

- a. Approval of Invoices.
- b. Approval of Minutes of July 6, 2015 Regular Meeting.
- c. Approval of May 2015 Financial Statements.
- d. Approval of Quarterly Investment Report for the Quarter Ended June 30, 2015.

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

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

4. Citizens' Presentations and Comments.¹

Rhonda Kuehn, with the Texas Court Clerk Association, presented Columbus Municipal Court Clerk, Kaylee Brune, with her Municipal Court Clerk Level III certificate. She stated that Kaylee is only the 63rd Court Clerk in the state who has attained this level.

Mandy Nevin, with Texas WIC, gave a presentation on the program and encouraged those in attendance to spread the word to those who might be eligible.

5. City Manager's Report Including Sales Tax, Aerator Project, and Auto Read Meter Project.

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 a water sample test positive for the presence of coliform bacteria. He stated that it has since tested negative, but the City will be required to increase testing and mail out a notice to water customers. He also stated that City crews will begin water line flushing the first part of August.

6. Consideration and Action to Approve a Manufactured Home Permit for 1317 Dewees St., as Requested by Jose Gonzales.

Code Enforcement Official Ford Stein stated that the permit request meets all City requirements.

Councilman Rankin made a motion to approve the manufactured home permit requested for 1317 Dewees St. Councilman Schonenberg seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

7. Consideration and Action to Approve a Manufactured Home Permit for 1526 Walnut St., as Requested by Joe Lester Toliver.

Ford Stein stated that this manufactured home is a replacement, which was at the location before the City's ordinance was enacted, and is therefore nonconforming. Because of the way the ordinance is written, if it is nonconforming it does not fall under the restrictions calling for only one replacement because that section only applies to conforming manufactured homes. Councilman Rankin stated that because of the inconsistency of the code section, that he would like to have it documented that this replacement would be considered the one replacement allowed at this location. It was stated that documentation could come in the form of an attachment of the meeting minutes to the approved permit.

Councilman Rankin made a motion to approve the manufactured home permit for 1526 Walnut St. with the stipulation that documentation be attached that this is a one-time replacement. Councilman Hernandez seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

8. Consideration and Action Regarding Animal Control Ordinance.

There was a discussion of various ordinances in surrounding cities concerning horses kept in the city limits. It was decided that council would review the various ordinances and then conduct a public hearing to get citizen input. Councilman Rankin suggested getting input from local veterinarians.

No action was necessary.

9. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, on the June 2015 Police Report.

Police Chief William Lattimore presented a copy of the June 2015 Police Report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

No action was necessary.

10. Discussion of Budget Workshop – General, Utility, and Hotel Occupancy Tax Funds.

The City Secretary stated that the Certified Taxable Value was not yet available. Council indicated that they would like to continue to cover debt service costs other than City Hall renovation with utility fund revenues. There was a discussion of Police Department computer replacement. The Fire Department

budget requests were discussed, and Councilwoman Gobert suggested adding a provision for a facility assessment to determine what needs to be done to correct the bat problem at the Fire Station. Council was given water and sewer rates for Columbus versus other cities in the area. Donald Warschak outlined five gas line improvement projects.

The next Budget Workshop is scheduled for August 6th.

11. Items from Councilmembers.²

Councilman Moore – no comment.

Councilwoman Gobert – no comment.

Councilman Schonenberg – no comment.

Councilman Hernandez – no comment.

Councilman Rankin – no comment.

Mayor Dungen – no comment.

12. Announcements.

There were no announcements.

13. Adjournment.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.



Mayor, Dwain K. Dungen

ATTEST:



Linda Lakich, 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.

